

Consultation response – Replacement Local Development plan 2018-2033  
 Paper 1 – Priority issues, vision and objectives

1. Do you agree that the RDLP structure should be aligned to reflect the obligations of the WFG Act and the subject areas set in Draft PPW (Edition 10) that being as set out above in Table 1?

Yes, we agree that the RDLP structure should be aligned to reflect the obligations of the WFG Act and we agree with the subject areas set in Draft PPW (Edition 10).

The new well-being duty and requirements provide opportunities to improve population-level health and Paper 1 & 2 clearly demonstrate the obligation to improve health and wellbeing alongside 'place making' and sustainable environments. Carrying out sustainable development through the well-being duty as well as the planning function is the core underlying principle.

Paper 1 references the Wellbeing Delivery plan 2018-2023 of the Conwy & Denbighshire Public Service Board. We support the 'importance' placed on links between the LDP and PSB Wellbeing plan

The 'Planning for better health and wellbeing in Wales' <sup>1</sup> guidance recommends the local wellbeing plan should 'underpin future Local Development plans, which will act as the delivery mechanism of spatial elements of the wellbeing plan'.

There is scope to support this recommendation as the Wellbeing objectives within the Wellbeing Delivery plan do contain elements relevant to the built and natural environments. The Welsh Government Draft Planning Policy Wales : Edition 10 suggests that the themes can 'draw out the inter linkages between planning policies' to make it explicit in how they contribute to a particular aspect of placemaking.

2. Do you think that this is the right vision for the Conwy RLDP?

Yes. The vision is well written, focusses on the assets within Conwy and demonstrates the many factors that combine that can affect the health of individuals and communities. There is strong evidence linking health and wellbeing outcomes with the quality of the built and natural environment and this is summarised in the vision.

3. Do you think the vision is well placed to deliver sustainable places in Conwy?

Yes. The vision describes the intention for the future. However, the local population also make places sustainable. A place needs to have meaning for the people for whom it is designed. The development of the LDP in Conwy does include local engagement with communities, and the toolkit provides the opportunity for communities to write their own Place plan.

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<sup>1</sup> Town & Country Planning Association with WHIASU & PHW (2016) Planning for better health and wellbeing in Wales [http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/522/FINAL%20%20HWWBWB\\_Briefing.pdf](http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/522/FINAL%20%20HWWBWB_Briefing.pdf)

#### 4. Do you agree with the Objectives?

Yes, we agree with the Objectives. In relation to the 'Healthy Places and Wellbeing' issue (page 17). Public Health Wales developed a tool (2017) showing historic and projected trends for health indicators. The projected trends indicate what would happen if historic patterns continue and the population changes in line with the forecast.

The projection suggests a steady increase in the estimated percentage of adults in Conwy who report being overweight/obese ; this is over half the population. Males and females living in the most deprived areas experience a reduction of 15 years in healthy life expectancy when compared to those living in the least deprived areas of Conwy. These projections may represent what is to be avoided rather than what is to be planned for. (The projections should not be taken as facts for planning purposes, rather indicative of the direction of travel if nothing changes).

Evidence suggests mixed land use, higher population densities and highly connected street layouts are associated with a greater likelihood of walking, between 25% and 100%. Walking friendly neighbourhoods are good value for money. Evaluations of the cost benefit impact of a number of walking friendly neighbourhood projects shows positive ratios of value for money.<sup>2</sup>

To achieve the vision, and the intention of the WCFG there is a need to support behaviour change techniques in the population to encourage and support usage of the active travel infrastructure. The Wellbeing plan of the Public Service Board provides an opportunity to support such actions eg providing information, promotional events, incentives and supportive measures for the whole population to use the active travel infrastructure to ensure that usage includes those that don't already cycle and walk in their day to day life.

Question 5 Are there any other objectives that should be considered

No

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Paper 2 – Strategic growth and spatial distribution options

1. Which settlement hierarchy option do you consider to be the best option

We don't believe Option 1 would be the best option. Further discussion may be beneficial to support the assessment of options however, we feel Option 5 as a hybrid of option 3 & 4 may provide the best option.

2. Are there any other settlement hierarchy options you would like to put forward?

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<sup>2</sup> Town & Country Planning Association with WHIASU & PHW (2016) Planning for better health and wellbeing in Wales [http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/522/FINAL%20%20HWBW\\_Briefing.pdf](http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/522/FINAL%20%20HWBW_Briefing.pdf)

The location of Primary and Community services could be an additional consideration eg GP, Community pharmacy. The land use plans could be vital to considering the estate for community facilities in its broadest sense.

3-8. Do you agree with the figures and rationales for Growth 1-8

We have no particular comments in relation to section 3-8.

9. What is your preferred growth option as detailed in the options above

Suggest Option 4 is the preferred spatial growth option.

10. Are there any other options we should include?

We are not aware of any other options to include