



JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Joint Local Development Plan Panel

24 June 2016 (pm)

Isle of Anglesey County Council Chamber, Llangefni

Present:

Isle of Anglesey County Council

Cllr Richard Dew
Cllr John Griffith
Cllr John Arwel Roberts

Gwynedd Council

Cllr Gwen Griffith
Cllr Dafydd Meurig
Cllr Dyfrig Jones

Officers:

Rhun ap Gareth	Senior Solicitor (GC)
Nia Haf Davies	Manager - JPPU
Gareth Jones	Senior Manager, Planning Service, Environment and Public Protection (Temporary)(GC)
Dylan Williams	Head of Regulatory and Economic Development (IACC)
Eirian Harris	Planning Support Assistant - JPPU

Apologies:

Cllr John Brynmor Hughes (GC)
Cllr John Pughe Roberts (GC)
Cllr Michael Sol Owen (GC) - Substitute

1. APOLOGIES

As noted above.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. URGENT ITEMS

No urgent items were submitted.

4. MINUTES

It was confirmed that the minutes of the Panel held on 29 January 2016 were correct.

5. UPDATE REPORTS

An update was presented regarding the Joint Local Development Plan as follows:

- The Public Examination
- Consultation on Chances and Focus
- Development and the Welsh language
- Additional work programmed 2016-2017

Public Examination

It was explained that the Plan had been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and that Inspectors had been appointed to undertake the Public Examination. Also, copies of all documents had been sent to the Programme Officer, who is contact point. In addition, the documents could be seen on both Councils' websites.

A Pre-hearing Meeting had been held on 14 June 2016 and reference was made to guidance prepared by the Inspector.

Also, reference was made to the timetable for holding the 'Hearings' along with the subjects for them. The hope was to complete the 'Hearings' by 6 October 2016 unless there was a delay. It was expected that the Councils and the objectors (who had chosen to attend Hearings) submit statements to the Inspector by 16 August 2016.

Consultation on Focussed Changes

An explanation of the process and outcome of the consultation was given and an overview of the number of observations relating to each chapter of the Deposit Plan provided.

It was noted that an analysis of the observations received had highlighted some possible changes to the Focussed Changes. It was explained that the observations were minor changes and not fundamental changes to the Plan. The possible changes were a matter for the Inspector to consider. It was noted that the suggested changes would be the subject of a public consultation following the Hearings provided that the Inspector agreed that there were sufficient grounds to include them in the Plan.

Development and the Welsh language

An explanation of the decisions made by Gwynedd Council associated with monitoring and assessing the impact on the well-being of the Welsh language was given. It was noted that a number of inter-related activities had been programmed (that did not undermine the decision made by the Joint Planning Policy Committee to submit the Deposit Plan and 'Focussed Changes' to Welsh Government):-

- Refining the Supplementary Guidance
- Update our understanding of communities and the Welsh language
 - It was explained that a questionnaire had been sent to relevant organisations and individuals to obtain their input into the work of shaping the new SPG. In addition, a first meeting had been held with officers from both Councils, along with representatives from Hunaniaith, Menter Iaith Môn and the University.

In response to Gwynedd Council's second decision, reference was made to correspondence with the Isle of Anglesey County Council to inform it of the decision to consult on matters relating to the well-being of the Welsh language and to Gwynedd Council's aspiration to ensure that the work also referred to the Island.

Points raised:

- It was asked how much collaboration (Gwynedd and Anglesey) currently took place.
- In terms of measuring the impact on the Welsh language - would we measure from this point forward or look to the past?
- A point was raised regarding the methodology and the need to ensure guidance on 'how' to respond to questions, the expectations, and so forth, so as to ensure that the applicant did not give a positive score to the proposed development without providing any logic for its score and avoiding reasons that were not robust.
- A desire to be a part of the work of refining the supplementary planning guidance was expressed.

In response:

- It was explained that the work of gathering views regarding the current supplementary planning guidance provided an opportunity for organisations working in both Counties to make observations. A meeting had been held with language promotion officers from both Counties. As the Joint Planning Policy Unit worked on behalf of both counties and prepared planning policy and guidance for the two areas, collaboration was an integral part of the project;
- No decision had been made yet regarding the methodology to ensure that the information regarding communities and the Welsh language was up-to-date. The Plan would be monitored annually against specific indicators following its adoption, which included various ones that would measure success in terms of maintaining communities. In addition, the information regarding the area needed to be maintained, including noting whether or not significant changes were taking place that could affect the implementation of policies. The work taking place in response to Gwynedd Council's decision would come to a conclusion regarding how to keep the picture alive in an effective way. Reports on the work's conclusions would be submitted to the Panel.
- Observations regarding the methodology were noted.
- It was agreed to share information regarding the questionnaire that had been sent to the shareholders.

Additional work programmed 2016-2017

Reference was made to the programme to prepare a first series of supplementary planning guidance that would support the relevant policies of the Plan. Some that had policy or financial implications to the Plan were chosen. Others would follow. The intention, subject to the availability of resources and work associated with the Examination, would be to have the first series of guidances ready to be adopted as soon as possible following the adoption of the Plan.

Reference was also made to the need to revisit the agreement between both Counties in terms of the planning policy service. The current agreement would end during 2017. It was noted that the intention was to submit a report on the matter to a Panel meeting before the end of 2017.