

MEETING	Joint Planning Policy Committee
DATE	21 June, 2013
NAME	Delivery Agreement – revised timetable
PURPOSE	To inform the Committee about the need to revise the timetable for preparing the Joint LDP and to propose a revised timetable for public consultation
RECOMMENDATION	That the Joint Planning Policy Committee approves the revised timetable for public consultation; That a report on the public consultation is presented to the Councils in September 2013 for approval of the revised Delivery Agreement.
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1. Background

- 1.1 The process of preparing the Gwynedd and Anglesey Joint Local Development Plan started in 2011.
- 1.2 The Delivery Agreement (DA) notes how the two Councils are going through the process of preparing the Joint LDP, including a timetable for its completion and how and when communities could contribute towards the work. Anglesey County Council and Gwynedd Council approved the Delivery Agreement on 13 September and 20 October 2011 respectively. It was submitted to the Welsh Government and supported by the Government in November 2011. The Delivery Agreement was published during November 2011, and can be found on the following web pages:

<http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/upload/public/attachments/1178/DeliveryAgreementApproved.pdf>

<http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/Journals/2013/05/08/z/o/u/Delivery-Agreement.pdf>

- 1.3 A great deal of work has been done since we started on the journey but it is clear by now that a little more time is needed to prepare a full version of the Joint LDP, i.e. the Deposit Plan, that is 'sound'. In order for the Deposit Plan to be 'sound' it

is important to ensure that it is based on compelling evidence and that sufficient time has been given to communities and other stakeholders to contribute to the process. If not enough time is set aside now, there is a risk that the rest of the process at the post-Deposit Plan stage will take longer and create a lot more work to deal with comments and or objections that could be avoided in the first instance.

- 1.4 The current Delivery Agreement foresaw that the two Councils would be in a position to approve the Deposit Plan for statutory public consultation between September and October 2013. The Councils must monitor the way they adhere to the Delivery Agreement, and make changes if necessary.
- 1.5 There are many reasons why more time is needed. Appendix 6 of the current DA identifies some risks that could have an impact on the timetable, and some risks have come to fruition. Appendix 1 to this report discusses more about those risks. It can be seen that a combination of these factors (additional work that could not be avoided, the ability of some stakeholders to respond within a specified timeframe, an 'unexpected' local election and a more complex reporting procedure than anticipated) has led to the need for more time in order to make sure that a 'sound' Deposit Plan is prepared.

2 The Proposal

- 2.1 Table 1 below, which has been taken from section 3.3.1 of the 2011 DA, shows the original timetable and the revised timetable. The timetable changes are highlighted in bold in the last column of the table.
- 2.2 It is anticipated that the statutory consultation period for the Deposit Plan (step 6 in the Table) will be reached in May/ June 2014 after approval by both Councils by March 2014. It is anticipated that the stage of adoption will be reached in May 2016. The original timetable had provided more than enough time to get background documents in place for submission to the Government. Many of those documents are already in place and the programme to get the rest ready is already in place. Only an addendum to some of the original documents will be needed to document more recent evidence. The timetable shown in the last column of Table 1 is sufficient to achieve this.
- 2.3 The LDP Regulations note that delivery agreements must be subject to achieving Council's decision before submission to the Government for its support. It is noted that the process of making changes to the delivery agreement must follow the same procedure that was used to prepare the delivery agreement in the first place. So there will be a need to consult with the public before the revised Delivery Agreement can be presented to Gwynedd Council and Anglesey County Council.

- 2.4 If the revised Delivery Agreement is approved by both Councils and then supported by the Government, it will be published on the website of the two Councils and placed in public places, like local public libraries and Council offices. The next newsletter will also inform all stakeholders.
- 2.5 We do not know how many comments we will receive during the public consultation on the Deposit Plan. Therefore in accordance with the Government's expectations, the dates for the post-Deposit Plan stages in Table 1 (7 – 13) remain indicative. The post-Deposit Plan timetable can be considered in more detail within 3 months after the end of the consultation period in order to confirm the timetable. There will be no need to re-consult on this, or to present the revised Delivery Agreement to the Government. The information in public places will be updated and everyone who has commented on the Deposit Plan will receive information directly from the Councils.

Table 1 Timetable for preparing the original and revised Joint LDP

Stage in the preparation process		Timetable	Revised timetable
1.	Preparation and publication of the final Delivery Agreement (<i>Regulation 5 - 10</i>)	January to November 2011	January to November 2011
2.	Review and develop the evidence base	July 2010 - July 2012	July 2010 - October 2012
3.	Participation Pre-deposit – prepare the pre-deposit documents that will outline the key objectives and preferred strategy (<i>Regulation 14</i>). This will not be a full draft of the Joint LDP	January 2011- July 2012	January 2011 - October 2012
4.	Pre-Deposit Consultation - 6 week period (<i>Regulation 15</i>). Formal consultation on the pre-deposit documents and the sustainability appraisal report	September 2012 - October 2012	May - June 2013
5.	Participation - further develop the evidence base and prepare the Deposit Joint LDP (full draft plan) which is based on the evidence base, including the response to the pre-deposit documents	November 2012 - September 2013	July 2013 - March 2014
6.	Placing the Joint LDP and associated documents on	October 2013 - November 2013	May - June 2014

	deposit - 6 week consultation period (<i>Regulation 17</i>)		
	Indicative timetable		
7.	Consideration of comments about the Deposit Joint LDP (<i>Regulations 18 & 19</i>)	December 2013 - June 2014	July 2014 - January 2015
8.	Publish comments on alternative sites, consulting upon them - a period of 6 weeks (<i>Regulations 20 & 21</i>)	January 2014 - February 2014	September - October 2014
9.	Submitting the Joint LDP to the Welsh Government for Examination (<i>Regulation 22</i>)	November 2014	February 2015
10.	Independent Public Examination (<i>Regulation 23</i>)	April 2015	June 2015
11.	Publication of the Inspector's Report (<i>Regulation 24</i>)	January 2016	March 2016
12.	Adoption of the Joint LDP (<i>Regulation 25</i>)	April 2016	May 2016
13.	Monitoring and Reviewing	Annual report	Annual report

3 Conclusions

- 3.1 The Councils drew up a timetable in 2011 for going through the process of preparing the Joint LDP. In doing so, a number of potential risks were identified and unfortunately some of those were realized. In addition there was the need to cope with the effects of a local election in Anglesey held at a different time to the local election in Gwynedd and the need to report to both Authorities more frequently than envisaged.
- 3.2 The revised timetable which has been identified in this report for the preparation of the Deposit Plan is realistic. Councils are not expected to put a final timetable in place for the stages after the consultation on the Deposit Plan (7 – 13). However it is believed that the timetable set out in the Table for those stages gives as accurate a picture as is possible.
- 3.3 From the information available, there is unquestionably a need for more time to prepare the Deposit Plan. The Regulations allow councils to agree on a revised timetable.

4 Recommendation

- 4.1 The Joint Planning Policy Committee approves the revised timetable for public consultation;
- 4.2 That the report on the public consultation is presented to the Councils in September 2013 for approval of the revised Delivery Agreement.