
STRATEGIC PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER 2026

TITLE: Relationship between the Strategic Development Plan and Local Development Plans

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1. To share advice provided to Denbighshire County Council by the Corporate Joint Committee, responding to a number of questions relating to the relationship between the emerging Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and its emerging Local Development Plan (LDP) review.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

- 2.1. That Members note the content of this report.

3. REASON FOR THE DECISION

- 3.1. To assist Members to understand the respective positions of the SDP and their LDPs.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1. The CJC was recently asked by Denbighshire County Council if it would provide advice in response to a series of questions relating to the respective position of the emerging SDP and their review of their LDP. Denbighshire are currently considering the need to potentially begin their review afresh, following new and higher housing need projections published by Welsh Government.
- 4.2. The Questions were posed by Cllr Merfyn Parry who a Member of Denbighshire's Planning Committee is and also is Chair of their Development Plan Panel. The questions are well worded and highly relevant not only to the specific position that Denbighshire are in but will hopefully resonate with all Local Planning Authority Lead Members and help set the context between the emerging SDP and where they are with their LDP reviews.
- 4.3. The response note to Denbighshire is attached as appendix 1 and the CJC is grateful to Cllr Parry and Paul Mead the Development Manager for agreeing to share this with the wider committee. Members are asked to consider the note and provide feedback or raise queries of their own at the forthcoming meeting.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Costs will be drawn from existing North Wales CJC budgets where provision has been made to support this work, with the necessary support from the CJC's Legal and Finance teams. The CJC will also seek to secure all opportunities for further funding support from Welsh Government.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. The specific requirements and steps to produce a Strategic Development Plan are set out in The Town and Country Planning (Strategic Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2021.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Response to Denbighshire CC on the relationship between the emerging SDP and LDPs

STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. Monitoring Officer:

“The CJC has a statutory duty to prepare a Strategic Development Plan and the statutory framework has been considered by this Committee. The recommendations are for noting only and do not approve any substantive policy position, preferred strategy, site allocation or consultation document.

As the SDP progresses, future reports will need to further identify the relevant statutory stage, consultation requirements, assessment duties, etc. Informal Member workshops may assist the development of the SDP, provided they are used for engagement and discussion only, with any material outputs fed into the formal reporting and decision-making process.”

ii. Statutory Finance Officer:

“I have no objection to the decision sought and the estimated costs of delivering the Strategic Development Plan is under continuous consideration. It will be included in our work as part of the regular budget reviews, annual budget process as well as in the medium-term financial plan.”