

Bridgend Local Development Plan 2018-2033

Statement of Common Ground, between Bridgend County Borough Council and Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Between

Bridgend County Borough Council

And

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Statement Date: 2nd August 2022



**Statement of Common Ground, Between
Bridgend County Borough and Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council**

- 1.1 This is a joint statement produced by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and Bridgend County Borough Council regarding the Bridgend Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP).
- 1.2 The Council is legally required to prepare a LDP under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Part 6. The LDP must be determined 'sound' by the examination Inspector in order to be adopted (section 64 of the 2004 Act). The LDP Regulations identify specific consultation bodies (LDP Regulation 2). LPAs must consult these bodies to ensure compliance with the Regulations.
- 1.3 The Development Plan Manual prepared by Welsh Government states that specific consultation bodies have a key role in the development plan and it is essential the specific consultation bodies are involved as early as possible in the plan making process to shape/influence the selection of sites and the plan's strategy. Involvement should be undertaken in a focussed approach to maximise resources and efficiencies, ensuring the right information is available, at the right time.
- 1.4 As per the requirements of soundness Test 1 'Does the plan fit? The Council must be able to demonstrate that the RLDP is consistent with other plans, (is it compatible with the plans of neighbouring LPAs? And has the LPA demonstrated it has exhausted all opportunities for joint working and collaboration on both plan preparation and the evidence base?)
- 1.5 Neath Port Talbot Council is a 'specific consultation body' in the plan process and as such both parties have worked in collaboration throughout the different stages of the RLDP preparation. Neath Port Talbot Council has no objections or concerns regarding the RLDP and its supporting evidence base. Additionally, both parties agree that due to the different plan preparation timelines, it was not appropriate to prepare a joint formalised plan or evidence base.

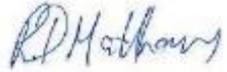
Signatories

Bridgend County Borough Council

Richard Matthams

Strategic Planning and Transportation Manager

Date: 04/08/2022

Signature: 

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Name: Lana Beynon, Planning Policy Manager

Date: 04/08/2022

Signature: 