

APPENDIX 6a – Assessment of Spatial Options

Assessment of Spatial Options

Significance Assessment

Symbol	Description
PP	Option is likely to have a significant positive effect
P	Option is likely to have a minor positive effect
?	Option is likely to have an uncertain effect
0	Option is likely to have a neutral effect
N	Option is likely to have a minor negative effect
NN	Option is likely to have a significant negative effect

2012 Spatial Options

Option 1 (2012): One Powys with a Settlement Hierarchy

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Biodiversity	1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on any sites designated for nature conservation through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of actual area? Direct damage/loss to any designated feature(s)? Indirect damage/loss arising from disturbance (noise, human, animal, material deposition, etc.) or altered hydrology/nutrient status/shelter or fragmentation from adjacent and nearby habitats etc.? 	0	Directing growth which largely reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise impacts on sensitive habitats and species, but the dispersal of development could mean that nature conservation interests are compromised in specific locations, particularly through indirect effects such as loss of habitat connectivity.
	2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on species' range or population size? (For example through disturbance or loss of habitat connectivity). Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the total area and quality of existing habitats? Will the LDP have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the amount and quality of existing connectivity between habitats? 	0	
Population and Human Health	3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young working age population).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the provision of and accessibility (other than by car) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local community services and facilities (including community, leisure, educational, health and religious facilities)? Housing (including affordable housing and residential homes)? Employment opportunities? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision? 	0	Development allocated according the settlement hierarchy can help to balance development with local needs, but potentially fails to realise opportunities for the protection and enhancement of service provision and employment growth in strategic locations associated with infrastructure provision (notably the central corridor).
	4. Promote improvement in community safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	5. Promote improvement in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, 	0	Existing patterns of service provision

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	human health and opportunities for healthy living.	<p>negative or neutral effect on crime levels or transport safety?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on levels of exposure to nuisance and risk to human health? (For example through proximity to “bad neighbour” uses). 		are likely to be reinforced, perhaps to the detriment of some groups, notably those experiencing relative deprivation, although Powys generally has relatively low levels of deprivation compared to other areas of Wales ¹⁵ .
	6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Soil	7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality agricultural land? Soil important for carbon storage? Amount of contaminated land? 	P	Directing growth to the existing settlement pattern should help to maximise use of brownfield land and minimise loss of greenfield land. However, site-specific issues will determine the extent of this effect across the Plan area.
	8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.		P	
Water	9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quality? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quantity? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Air	10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on NO2 levels in the Newtown Air Quality Management Area? 	0	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of good and poor air quality. Particular attention will have to be paid to the impact of additional car-based travel associated with development at Newtown.
Climatic Factors	11. To reduce flood risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on flooding? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of flood risk which is a significant issue in some of the major settlements in the Plan area

¹⁵ Welsh Assembly Government (November 2014) Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014 at: <http://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2014/141126-wimd-2014-en.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
				(Newtown, Llanidloes and Builth Wells for example) ¹⁶ . Significant new investment in flood defences may be required in some areas.
	12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on greenhouse gas emissions? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of greenhouse gas emissions (which in Powys have seen greatest % rise in Wales ¹⁷) which will rise given the high dependence on car-based travel associated with two-thirds of the population living in a rural location.
Material Assets	13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral Resources (existing mineral sites)? Utilities (known sites and infrastructure)? Transport Routes (trunk roads/national trails – those that are mapped)? Specific Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sennybridge Training Area? Montgomery Canal? Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Cultural Heritage	15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on buildings, sites and areas at risk / vulnerable? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed buildings? Scheduled Ancient Monuments? Conservation areas? 	P	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise impacts on heritage assets.

¹⁶ Powys County Council (2012) Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment at: http://pstatic.powys.gov.uk/fileadmin/Docs/Planning/LDP/Powys_Stage_1_SFCA.pdf

¹⁷ Welsh Assembly Government (February 2013) Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Wales at:

<http://www.assembly.wales/Research%20Documents/Greenhouse%20Gas%20Emissions%20in%20Wales%20-%20Research%20paper-06022013-242880/13-006-English.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Historic Parks and Gardens? ○ LANDMAP cultural landscape areas? 		
	16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Welsh language and culture? 	P	Development spread across the settlement hierarchy will help to maintain and enhance the viability of smaller settlements.
Landscape	17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Powys' natural landscapes? 	0	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern could compromise landscape quality through over-development in some locations, but this is location-specific.
Geodiversity	18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) from incompatible development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on RIGS sites? 	P	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise impacts geodiversity assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations.

Option 2 (2012): Character Areas/Travel to Work Areas

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Biodiversity	1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on any sites designated for nature conservation through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of actual area? - Direct damage/loss to any designated feature(s)? - Indirect damage/loss arising from disturbance (noise, human, animal, material deposition, etc.) or altered hydrology/nutrient status/shelter or fragmentation from adjacent and nearby habitats etc.? 	0	Directing the majority of development to 'growth areas' (Newtown and Welshpool) and a 'wider area for growth' (settlements along the central spine from Llanfyllin in the north to Llanwyrtyd Wells in the south), complemented by areas of carefully controlled (Cambrian Mountains and the Berwyns) and restricted development (Brecon Beacons) should help to minimise impacts on sensitive habitats and species. However, because of the complex and extensive distribution of protected habitats and species across the plan area, nature conservation interests could be compromised in specific locations, particularly through indirect effects such as loss of habitat connectivity. The scale of individual developments associated with specific settlements will be proportionate to their size and it is assumed that appropriate buffer zones will be maintained between development sites and protected areas.
	2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on species' range or population size? (For example through disturbance or loss of habitat connectivity). • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the total area and quality of existing habitats? • Will the LDP have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the amount and quality of existing connectivity between habitats? 	0	
Population and Human Health	3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the provision of and accessibility (other than by car) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local community services and facilities (including community, leisure, educational, health and religious facilities)? - Housing (including affordable housing and residential homes)? 	0	Development allocated through character areas/TTWAs is likely to reinforce existing strengths and weaknesses, especially in respect of service provision. This is likely to have both positive and negative consequences, according to location, with some areas losing out on

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	working age population).	- Employment opportunities?		opportunities for beneficial growth.
	4. Promote improvement in community safety.	• Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision?	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	5. Promote improvement in human health and opportunities for healthy living.	• Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on crime levels or transport safety? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on levels of exposure to nuisance and risk to human health? (For example through proximity to “bad neighbour” uses).	0	Existing patterns of service provision are likely to be reinforced, but perhaps to the detriment of some groups in areas outside the specified ‘growth areas’ and ‘wider area for growth’.
	6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Soil	7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture.	• Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: - High quality agricultural land? - Soil important for carbon storage? - Amount of contaminated land?	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Water	9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	• Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quality? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quantity?	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Air	10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	• Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on NO2 levels in the Newtown Air Quality Management Area?	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of good and poor air quality. Additional car-based travel associated with development at Newtown (which with Welshpool is the focus for a TTWA) is likely to have a negative effect on the AQMA.
Climatic	11. To reduce flood risk.	• Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of flood risk which is

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Factors		or neutral effect on flooding?		a significant issue in some of the major settlements in the Plan area (Newtown, Llanidloes and Builth Wells for example) ¹⁸ . Significant new investment in flood defences may be required in some areas.
	12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on greenhouse gas emissions? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of greenhouse gas emissions (which in Powys have seen greatest % rise in Wales ¹⁹) which will rise given the high dependence on car-based travel associated with two-thirds of the population living in a rural location.
Material Assets	13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mineral Resources (existing mineral sites)? o Utilities (known sites and infrastructure)? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Transport Routes (trunk roads/national trails – those that are mapped)? o Specific Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sennybridge Training Area? - Montgomery Canal? - Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Cultural Heritage	15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on buildings, sites and areas at risk / vulnerable? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Listed buildings? o Scheduled Ancient Monuments? 	P	Directing the majority of development to 'growth areas' (Newtown and Welshpool) and a 'wider area for growth' (settlements along the central spine from Llanfyllin in the north to Llanwrtyd Wells in the south),

¹⁸ Powys County Council (2012) Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment at: http://pstatic.powys.gov.uk/fileadmin/Docs/Planning/LDP/Powys_Stage_1_SFCA.pdf

¹⁹ Welsh Assembly Government (February 2013) Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Wales at:

<http://www.assembly.wales/Research%20Documents/Greenhouse%20Gas%20Emissions%20in%20Wales%20-%20Research%20paper-06022013-242880/13-006-English.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation areas? ○ Historic Parks and Gardens? ○ LANDMAP cultural landscape areas? 		complemented by areas of carefully controlled (Cambrian Mountains and the Berwyns) and restricted development (Brecon Beacons) should help to minimise impacts on heritage assets, although the scale of development in some areas could comprise character and setting.
	16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Welsh language and culture? 	P	Opportunities to maintain Welsh language and culture through ensuring vibrant character areas.
Landscape	17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Powys' natural landscapes? 	0	Directing the majority of development to 'growth areas' (Newtown and Welshpool) and a 'wider area for growth' (settlements along the central spine from Llanfyllin in the north to Llanwrtyd Wells in the south), complemented by areas of carefully controlled (Cambrian Mountains and the Berwyns) and restricted development (Brecon Beacons) should help to minimise impacts on natural landscapes.
Geodiversity	18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) from incompatible development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on RIGS sites? 	0	Directing the majority of development to 'growth areas' (Newtown and Welshpool) and a 'wider area for growth' (settlements along the central spine from Llanfyllin in the north to Llanwrtyd Wells in the south), complemented by areas of carefully controlled (Cambrian Mountains and the Berwyns) and restricted development (Brecon Beacons) should help to minimise impacts on geodiversity assets but some interests could be compromised in

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
				specific locations.

Option 3 (2012): Central Transport Corridor

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Biodiversity	1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on any sites designated for nature conservation through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of actual area? - Direct damage/loss to any designated feature(s)? - Indirect damage/loss arising from disturbance (noise, human, animal, material deposition, etc.) or altered hydrology/nutrient status/shelter or fragmentation from adjacent and nearby habitats etc.? • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on species' range or population size? (For example through disturbance or loss of habitat connectivity). • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the total area and quality of existing habitats? • Will the LDP have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the amount and quality of existing connectivity between habitats? 	P	Directing growth along a transport-based growth corridor with specific towns as the focus for growth (Newton, Llandrindod Wells, Brecon) is unlikely to impact on Natura 2000 sites which (apart from rivers) generally lie outside the central corridor. And The scale of individual developments associated with specific settlements will be proportionate to their size and it is assumed that appropriate buffer zones will be maintained between development sites and protected areas.
	2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.		P	
Population and Human Health	3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young working age population).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the provision of and accessibility (other than by car) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local community services and facilities (including community, leisure, educational, health and religious facilities)? - Housing (including affordable housing and residential homes)? - Employment opportunities? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on crime levels or transport safety? 	0	Development along a growth corridor will greatly benefit service provision in specific locations (such as Welshpool and Newtown which are relatively deprived) ²⁰ , although peripheral areas could find themselves excluded from more/better quality provision.
	4. Promote improvement in community safety.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
	5. Promote improvement in human health and		0	Existing patterns of service provision are likely to be reinforced, but

²⁰ Welsh Assembly Government (November 2014) Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014 at: <http://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2014/141126-wimd-2014-en.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	opportunities for healthy living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on levels of exposure to nuisance and risk to human health? (For example through proximity to “bad neighbour” uses). 		perhaps to the detriment of some areas and groups in remoter areas to the east and west of the growth corridor.
	6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Soil	7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality agricultural land? Soil important for carbon storage? Amount of contaminated land? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Water	9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quality? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quantity? 	?	Likely effects uncertain, although a water resources zone is forecast to be in deficit to the south of Powys around Brecon ²¹ although this is addressed through Welsh Water’s 2014 WRMP.
Air	10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on NO2 levels in the Newtown Air Quality Management Area? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of poor air quality, exacerbated through concentration along a specific corridor, particularly in the Newton AQMA which is identified as a focus for growth.
Climatic Factors	11. To reduce flood risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on flooding? 	N	Significant new investment in flood defences may be required in some areas, particularly where towns which are a focus for growth are already at

²¹ Welsh Water (2014) Water Resources Management Plan 2015-2040 at: <http://www.dwrcymru.co.uk/en/Environment/Water-Resources/Water-Resource-Management-Plan.aspx>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
				risk of flooding (Newtown, Llanidloes and Builth Wells for example) ²² .
	12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on greenhouse gas emissions? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of greenhouse gas emissions (which in Powys have seen greatest % rise in Wales ²³) which will rise given the high dependence on car-based travel associated with two-thirds of the population living in a rural location.
Material Assets	13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral Resources (existing mineral sites)? Utilities (known sites and infrastructure)? Transport Routes (trunk roads/national trails – those that are mapped)? Specific Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sennybridge Training Area? Montgomery Canal? Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.		P	Concentrating development through a transport corridor is likely to support the protection and improvement of key infrastructure, ensuring that development is compatible with it.
Cultural Heritage	15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on buildings, sites and areas at risk / vulnerable? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed buildings? Scheduled Ancient Monuments? Conservation areas? Historic Parks and Gardens? LANDMAP cultural landscape areas? 	0	Directing growth along a specific corridor should help to minimise impacts on heritage assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations where there is development pressure. These are likely to be the towns identified as foci for growth (Brecon and Llandrindod Wells) and to a lesser extent smaller settlements in the corridor (Llanidloes,

²² Powys County Council (2012) Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment at: http://pstatic.powys.gov.uk/fileadmin/Docs/Planning/LDP/Powys_Stage_1_SFCA.pdf

²³ Welsh Assembly Government (February 2013) Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Wales at:

<http://www.assembly.wales/Research%20Documents/Greenhouse%20Gas%20Emissions%20in%20Wales%20-%20Research%20paper-06022013-242880/13-006-English.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
				Rhayader, Builth Wells) where the focus of development would be on the existing town.
	16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Welsh language and culture? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Landscape	17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Powys' natural landscapes? 	N	Directing growth along a specific corridor could compromise landscape quality through over-development in some locations, notably in the vicinity of towns identified as foci for growth (Newtown, Llandrindod Wells and Brecon), but also along the corridor more generally where infrastructure works are likely to be required.
Geodiversity	18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) from incompatible development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on RIGS sites? 	0	Directing growth along a specific corridor should help to minimise impacts geodiversity assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations.

Option 4 (2012): High School Catchments with Planning Areas

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Biodiversity	1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on any sites designated for nature conservation through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of actual area? - Direct damage/loss to any designated feature(s)? - Indirect damage/loss arising from disturbance (noise, human, animal, material deposition, etc.) or altered hydrology/nutrient status/shelter or fragmentation from adjacent and nearby habitats etc.? • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on species' range or population size? (For example through disturbance or loss of habitat connectivity). • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the total area and quality of existing habitats? • Will the LDP have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the amount and quality of existing connectivity between habitats? 	P	Using school catchments/planning areas as the basis for the allocation of new development will reinforce the existing settlement pattern with opportunities to avoid effects on biodiversity through the concentration of development in specific areas.
	2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.		P	
Population and Human Health	3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young working age population).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the provision of and accessibility (other than by car) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local community services and facilities (including community, leisure, educational, health and religious facilities)? - Housing (including affordable housing and residential homes)? - Employment opportunities? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on crime levels or transport safety? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on levels of exposure to nuisance and risk to 	0	Development allocated according to existing patterns of service provision is likely to have both positive and negative consequences, according to location, with the optimum solution not always provided. Settlements without secondary schools may be disadvantaged.
	4. Promote improvement in community safety.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
	5. Promote improvement in human health and opportunities for healthy living.		0	Existing patterns of service provision are likely to be reinforced, but perhaps to the detriment of some groups which are marginalised

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
		human health? (For example through proximity to “bad neighbour” uses).		because of limited transport choices, for example.
	6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Soil	7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality agricultural land? Soil important for carbon storage? Amount of contaminated land? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Water	9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quality? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quantity? 	P	A more dispersed pattern of growth should help to ameliorate water supply and disposal issues which could be associated with more concentrated development.
Air	10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on NO2 levels in the Newtown Air Quality Management Area? 	0	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of good and poor air quality.
Climatic Factors	11. To reduce flood risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on flooding? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of flood risk which is a significant issue in some of the major settlements in the Plan area (Newtown, Llanidloes and Builth Wells for example) ²⁴ . Significant new investment in flood defences may be required in some areas.

²⁴ Powys County Council (2012) Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment at: http://pstatic.powys.gov.uk/fileadmin/Docs/Planning/LDP/Powys_Stage_1_SFCA.pdf

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on greenhouse gas emissions? 	0	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of greenhouse gas emissions, which will rise given the high dependence on car-based travel. This is balanced by opportunities to reduce the need to travel through service provision in key settlements.
Material Assets	13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral Resources (existing mineral sites)? Utilities (known sites and infrastructure)? Transport Routes (trunk roads/national trails – those that are mapped)? Specific Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sennybridge Training Area? Montgomery Canal? Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Cultural Heritage	15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on buildings, sites and areas at risk / vulnerable? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed buildings? Scheduled Ancient Monuments? Conservation areas? Historic Parks and Gardens? LANDMAP cultural landscape areas? 	0	Directing growth to areas which reinforces the existing pattern of service provision should help to minimise impacts on heritage assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations where development needs to be directed as a result of the strategy.
	16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Welsh language and culture? 	P	Directing the distribution of development according to catchment areas is likely to help reinforce support for the Welsh language through strengthening patterns of provision.
Landscape	17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative 	0	Directing growth to areas which reinforces the existing pattern of

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	landscape	or neutral effect on Powys' natural landscapes?		service provision could compromise landscape quality through over-development in specific locations where development needs to be directed as a result of the strategy.
Geodiversity	18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) from incompatible development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on RIGS sites? 	0	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise impacts geodiversity assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations.

Option 5 (2012): Functional/Character Areas

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Biodiversity	1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on any sites designated for nature conservation through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of actual area? - Direct damage/loss to any designated feature(s)? - Indirect damage/loss arising from disturbance (noise, human, animal, material deposition, etc.) or altered hydrology/nutrient status/shelter or fragmentation from adjacent and nearby habitats etc.? • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on species' range or population size? (For example through disturbance or loss of habitat connectivity). • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the total area and quality of existing habitats? • Will the LDP have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the amount and quality of existing connectivity between habitats? 	P	Using functional/character areas as the basis for the allocation of new development will reinforce the existing settlement pattern with opportunities to avoid effects on biodiversity through the concentration of development in specific areas.
	2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.		P	
Population and Human Health	3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young working age population).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the provision of and accessibility (other than by car) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local community services and facilities (including community, leisure, educational, health and religious facilities)? - Housing (including affordable housing and residential homes)? - Employment opportunities? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on crime levels or transport safety? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on levels of exposure to nuisance and risk to 	0	Development allocated according to existing function/character is likely to have both positive and negative consequences, according to location, with the optimum solution not always provided, with some areas failing to change for example.
	4. Promote improvement in community safety.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
	5. Promote improvement in human health and opportunities for healthy living.		P	Existing patterns of service provision are likely to be reinforced.

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.	human health? (For example through proximity to “bad neighbour” uses).	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Soil	7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality agricultural land? Soil important for carbon storage? Amount of contaminated land? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Water	9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quality? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quantity? 	P	A more dispersed pattern of growth should help to ameliorate water supply and disposal issues which could be associated with more concentrated development.
Air	10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on NO2 levels in the Newtown Air Quality Management Area? 	0	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of good and poor air quality.
Climatic Factors	11. To reduce flood risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on flooding? 	N	New investment in flood defences may be required in some areas, particularly where settlements are a focus for growth are already at risk of flooding (Newtown, Llanidloes and Builth Wells for example) ²⁵ .
	12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on greenhouse gas emissions? 	0	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of greenhouse gas

²⁵ Powys County Council (2012) Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment at: http://pstatic.powys.gov.uk/fileadmin/Docs/Planning/LDP/Powys_Stage_1_SFCA.pdf

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
				emissions (which in Powys have seen greatest % rise in Wales ²⁶) which will rise given the high dependence on car-based travel associated with two-thirds of the population living in a rural location.
Material Assets	13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mineral Resources (existing mineral sites)? o Utilities (known sites and infrastructure)? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Transport Routes (trunk roads/national trails – those that are mapped)? o Specific Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sennybridge Training Area? - Montgomery Canal? - Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Cultural Heritage	15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on buildings, sites and areas at risk / vulnerable? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Listed buildings? o Scheduled Ancient Monuments? o Conservation areas? o Historic Parks and Gardens? o LANDMAP cultural landscape areas? 	0	Directing growth to areas which reinforces the existing pattern of service provision should help to minimise impacts on heritage assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations where development needs to be directed as a result of the strategy.
	16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Welsh language and culture? 	P	Development spread according to character areas should help to reinforce Welsh language and culture through supporting existing settlements.

²⁶ Welsh Assembly Government (February 2013) Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Wales at:

<http://www.assembly.wales/Research%20Documents/Greenhouse%20Gas%20Emissions%20in%20Wales%20-%20Research%20paper-06022013-242880/13-006-English.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Landscape	17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Powys' natural landscapes? 	P	Directing growth to functional/character areas will help maintain landscape quality in sensitive areas as their special qualities can be respected.
Geodiversity	18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) from incompatible development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on RIGS sites? 	P	Attention to the specific interests of character areas is likely to benefit the interests of RIGS.

Option 6 (2012): Settlement Hierarchy with Transport Corridor

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Biodiversity	1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on any sites designated for nature conservation through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of actual area? - Direct damage/loss to any designated feature(s)? - Indirect damage/loss arising from disturbance (noise, human, animal, material deposition, etc.) or altered hydrology/nutrient status/shelter or fragmentation from adjacent and nearby habitats etc.? Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on species' range or population size? (For example through disturbance or loss of habitat connectivity). Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the total area and quality of existing habitats? Will the LDP have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the amount and quality of existing connectivity between habitats? 	P	Directing growth along a transport-based growth corridor with specific towns as the focus for growth (Newton, Llandrindod Wells, Brecon) is unlikely to impact on Natura 2000 sites which (apart from rivers) generally lie outside the central corridor. And The scale of individual developments associated with specific settlements will be proportionate to their size and it is assumed that appropriate buffer zones will be maintained between development sites and protected areas.
	2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.		P	
Population and Human Health	3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young working age population).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the provision of and accessibility (other than by car) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local community services and facilities (including community, leisure, educational, health and religious facilities)? - Housing (including affordable housing and residential homes)? - Employment opportunities? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on crime levels or transport safety? 	P	Development along a growth corridor will greatly benefit service provision in specific locations (such as Welshpool and Newtown which are relatively deprived) ²⁷ , balanced by provision across the settlement hierarchy to meet settlement-specific needs.
	4. Promote improvement in community safety.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
	5. Promote improvement in human health and		0	Existing patterns of service provision are likely to be reinforced, but

²⁷ Welsh Assembly Government (November 2014) Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014 at: <http://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2014/141126-wimd-2014-en.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	opportunities for healthy living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on levels of exposure to nuisance and risk to human health? (For example through proximity to “bad neighbour” uses). 		perhaps to the detriment of some areas and groups in remoter areas to the east and west of the growth corridor.
	6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Soil	7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality agricultural land? Soil important for carbon storage? Amount of contaminated land? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Water	9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quality? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quantity? 	?	Likely effects uncertain, although a water resources zone is forecast to be in deficit to the south of Powys around Brecon ²⁸ although this is addressed through Welsh Water’s 2014 WRMP.
Air	10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on NO2 levels in the Newtown Air Quality Management Area? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of poor air quality, exacerbated through concentration along a specific corridor, particularly in the Newton AQMA which is identified as a focus for growth.
Climatic Factors	11. To reduce flood risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on flooding? 	N	Significant new investment in flood defences may be required in some areas, particularly where towns which are a focus for growth are already at

²⁸ Welsh Water (2014) Water Resources Management Plan 2015-2040 at: <http://www.dwrcymru.co.uk/en/Environment/Water-Resources/Water-Resource-Management-Plan.aspx>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
				risk of flooding (Newtown, Llanidloes and Builth Wells for example) ²⁹ .
	12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on greenhouse gas emissions? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of greenhouse gas emissions (which in Powys have seen greatest % rise in Wales ³⁰) which will rise given the high dependence on car-based travel associated with two-thirds of the population living in a rural location.
Material Assets	13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral Resources (existing mineral sites)? Utilities (known sites and infrastructure)? Transport Routes (trunk roads/national trails – those that are mapped)? Specific Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sennybridge Training Area? Montgomery Canal? Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.		P	Concentrating development through a transport corridor is likely to support the protection and improvement of key infrastructure, ensuring that development is compatible with it.
Cultural Heritage	15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on buildings, sites and areas at risk / vulnerable? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed buildings? Scheduled Ancient Monuments? Conservation areas? Historic Parks and Gardens? LANDMAP cultural landscape areas? 	0	Directing growth along a specific corridor should help to minimise impacts on heritage assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations where there is development pressure. These are likely to be the towns identified as foci for growth (Brecon and Llandrindod Wells) and to a lesser extent smaller settlements in the corridor (Llanidloes,

²⁹ Powys County Council (2012) Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment at: http://pstatic.powys.gov.uk/fileadmin/Docs/Planning/LDP/Powys_Stage_1_SFCA.pdf

³⁰ Welsh Assembly Government (February 2013) Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Wales at:

<http://www.assembly.wales/Research%20Documents/Greenhouse%20Gas%20Emissions%20in%20Wales%20-%20Research%20paper-06022013-242880/13-006-English.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
				Rhayader, Builth Wells) where the focus of development would be on the existing town.
	16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Welsh language and culture? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Landscape	17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Powys' natural landscapes? 	N	Directing growth along a specific corridor could compromise landscape quality through over-development in some locations, notably in the vicinity of towns identified as foci for growth (Newtown, Llandrindod Wells and Brecon), but also along the corridor more generally where infrastructure works are likely to be required.
Geodiversity	18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) from incompatible development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on RIGS sites? 	0	Directing growth along a specific corridor should help to minimise impacts geodiversity assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations.

2014 Spatial Options

Option 1 (2014): Focus Allocations in Towns

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Biodiversity	1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on any sites designated for nature conservation through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of actual area? Direct damage/loss to any designated feature(s)? Indirect damage/loss arising from disturbance (noise, human, animal, material deposition, etc.) or altered hydrology/nutrient status/shelter or fragmentation from adjacent and nearby habitats etc.? 	P	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise impacts on sensitive habitats and species. However, because of the complex and extensive distribution of protected habitats and species across the plan area, nature conservation interests could be compromised in specific locations, particularly through indirect effects such as loss of habitat connectivity. The scale of individual developments associated with specific settlements will be proportionate to their size and it is assumed that appropriate buffer zones will be maintained between development sites and protected areas.
	2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on species' range or population size? (For example through disturbance or loss of habitat connectivity). Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the total area and quality of existing habitats? Will the LDP have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the amount and quality of existing connectivity between habitats? 	P	
Population and Human Health	3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young working age population).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the provision of and accessibility (other than by car) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local community services and facilities (including community, leisure, educational, health and religious facilities)? Housing (including affordable housing and residential homes)? Employment opportunities? 	N	Focusing development on the 15 towns will help to reinforce service provision in those settlements but this is likely to be the detriment of lower order settlements and will therefore not meet the needs or residents across these 88 communities.
	4. Promote improvement in community safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	5. Promote improvement in human health and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on crime levels or transport safety? 	N	Existing patterns of service provision are likely to be reinforced, but to the

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	opportunities for healthy living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on levels of exposure to nuisance and risk to human health? (For example through proximity to “bad neighbour” uses). 		detriment of groups who have limited transport choices.
	6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Soil	7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality agricultural land? Soil important for carbon storage? Amount of contaminated land? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Water	9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quality? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quantity? 	?	Likely effects uncertain, although a water resources zone is forecast to be in deficit to the south of Powys around Brecon ³¹ although this is addressed through Welsh Water’s 2014 WRMP.
Air	10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on NO2 levels in the Newtown Air Quality Management Area? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of good and poor air quality, which in the case of Newtown could worsen the state of the AQMA.
Climatic Factors	11. To reduce flood risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on flooding? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of flood risk which is a significant issue in some of the major settlements in the Plan area (Newtown, Llanidloes and Builth Wells for example) ³² . Significant new investment in flood defences may be required in some areas.

³¹ Welsh Water (2014) Water Resources Management Plan 2015-2040 at: <http://www.dwrcymru.co.uk/en/Environment/Water-Resources/Water-Resource-Management-Plan.aspx>

³² Powys County Council (2012) Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment at: http://pstatic.powys.gov.uk/fileadmin/Docs/Planning/LDP/Powys_Stage_1_SFCA.pdf

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on greenhouse gas emissions? 	P	Focusing development on the towns is likely to help reinforce service provision which could include more sustainable modes of transport.
Material Assets	13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral Resources (existing mineral sites)? Utilities (known sites and infrastructure)? Transport Routes (trunk roads/national trails – those that are mapped)? Specific Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sennybridge Training Area? Montgomery Canal? Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Cultural Heritage	15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on buildings, sites and areas at risk / vulnerable? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed buildings? Scheduled Ancient Monuments? Conservation areas? Historic Parks and Gardens? LANDMAP cultural landscape areas? 	0	Directing growth to the towns should help to minimise wider impacts on heritage assets in smaller settlements, but some interests could be compromised in specific locations where there is development pressure.
	16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Welsh language and culture? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Landscape	17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Powys' natural landscapes? 	0	Directing growth to the towns should help to minimise wider impacts on landscapes across the Plan area but some interests could be compromised in specific locations where there is development pressure.
Geodiversity	18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on RIGS sites? 	0	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern should

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	(RIGS) from incompatible development			help to minimise impacts on geodiversity assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations.

Option 2 (2014): Focus Allocations in Towns and Large Villages

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Biodiversity	1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on any sites designated for nature conservation through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of actual area? - Direct damage/loss to any designated feature(s)? - Indirect damage/loss arising from disturbance (noise, human, animal, material deposition, etc.) or altered hydrology/nutrient status/shelter or fragmentation from adjacent and nearby habitats etc.? Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on species' range or population size? (For example through disturbance or loss of habitat connectivity). Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the total area and quality of existing habitats? Will the LDP have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the amount and quality of existing connectivity between habitats? 	0	Directing growth which largely reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise impacts on sensitive habitats and species, but the dispersal of development could mean that nature conservation interests are compromised in specific locations, particularly through indirect effects such as loss of habitat connectivity.
	2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.		0	
Population and Human Health	3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young working age population).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the provision of and accessibility (other than by car) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local community services and facilities (including community, leisure, educational, health and religious facilities)? - Housing (including affordable housing and residential homes)? - Employment opportunities? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on crime levels or transport safety? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on levels of exposure to nuisance and risk to 	0	Development allocated according the settlement hierarchy is likely to reinforce existing strengths and weaknesses, especially in respect of service provision and the supply of affordable housing. This is likely to have both positive and negative consequences, according to location, with the optimum solution not always provided.
	4. Promote improvement in community safety.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
	5. Promote improvement in human health and opportunities for healthy		P	Existing patterns of service provision are likely to be reinforced.

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	living. 6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.	human health? (For example through proximity to “bad neighbour” uses).		Likely effects uncertain.
Soil	7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture. 8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality agricultural land? Soil important for carbon storage? Amount of contaminated land? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Water	9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quality? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quantity? 	?	Likely effects uncertain, although a water resources zone is forecast to be in deficit to the south of Powys around Brecon ³³ although this is addressed through Welsh Water’s 2014 WRMP.
Air	10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on NO2 levels in the Newtown Air Quality Management Area? 	0	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of good and poor air quality, which in the case of Newtown could worsen the state of the AQMA.
Climatic Factors	11. To reduce flood risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on flooding? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of flood risk which is a significant issue in some of the major settlements in the Plan area (Newtown, Llanidloes and Builth Wells for example) ³⁴ . Significant new investment in flood defences may be required in some areas.

³³ Welsh Water (2014) Water Resources Management Plan 2015-2040 at: <http://www.dwrcymru.co.uk/en/Environment/Water-Resources/Water-Resource-Management-Plan.aspx>

³⁴ Powys County Council (2012) Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment at: http://pstatic.powys.gov.uk/fileadmin/Docs/Planning/LDP/Powys_Stage_1_SFCA.pdf

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on greenhouse gas emissions? 	0	Focusing development on the towns and large villages is likely to help reinforce service provision which could include more sustainable modes of transport. Equally, this distribution of development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of greenhouse gas emissions (which in Powys have seen greatest % rise in Wales ³⁵) which will rise given the high dependence on car-based travel associated with two-thirds of the population living in a rural location.
Material Assets	13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral Resources (existing mineral sites)? Utilities (known sites and infrastructure)? Transport Routes (trunk roads/national trails – those that are mapped)? Specific Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sennybridge Training Area? Montgomery Canal? Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Cultural Heritage	15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on buildings, sites and areas at risk / vulnerable? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed buildings? Scheduled Ancient Monuments? Conservation areas? Historic Parks and Gardens? 	0	Directing growth to the towns should help to minimise wider impacts on heritage assets, particularly in more sensitive smaller settlements. However, some interests could be compromised in specific locations where there is development pressure.

³⁵ Welsh Assembly Government (February 2013) Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Wales at:

<http://www.assembly.wales/Research%20Documents/Greenhouse%20Gas%20Emissions%20in%20Wales%20-%20Research%20paper-06022013-242880/13-006-English.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o LANDMAP cultural landscape areas? 		
	16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Welsh language and culture? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Landscape	17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Powys' natural landscapes? 	0	Directing growth to the towns should help to minimise wider impacts on landscapes, but some interests could be compromised in specific locations where there is development pressure.
Geodiversity	18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) from incompatible development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on RIGS sites? 	P	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise impacts on geodiversity assets but some interests could be compromised in specific locations.

Option 3 (2014): Focus Allocations in Towns, Large Villages and Small Villages

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Biodiversity	1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on any sites designated for nature conservation through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of actual area? - Direct damage/loss to any designated feature(s)? - Indirect damage/loss arising from disturbance (noise, human, animal, material deposition, etc.) or altered hydrology/nutrient status/shelter or fragmentation from adjacent and nearby habitats etc.? • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on species' range or population size? (For example through disturbance or loss of habitat connectivity). • Will the LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the total area and quality of existing habitats? • Will the LDP have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the amount and quality of existing connectivity between habitats? 	0	Directing growth which largely reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise impacts on sensitive habitats and species, but the dispersal of development could mean that nature conservation interests are compromised in specific locations, particularly through indirect effects such as loss of habitat connectivity.
	2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.		0	
Population and Human Health	3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes (e.g. the ageing population and the need to retain the young working age population).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the provision of and accessibility (other than by car) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local community services and facilities (including community, leisure, educational, health and religious facilities)? - Housing (including affordable housing and residential homes)? - Employment opportunities? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on the quantity, quality and accessibility (other than by car) of open space provision? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on crime levels or transport safety? • Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on levels of exposure to nuisance and risk to 	0	Development allocated according the settlement hierarchy can help to balance development with local needs, but potentially fails to realise opportunities for the protection and enhancement of service provision and employment growth.
	4. Promote improvement in community safety.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
	5. Promote improvement in human health and opportunities for healthy living.		0	Existing patterns of service provision are likely to be reinforced, perhaps to the detriment of some groups, notably those experiencing relative

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
		human health? (For example through proximity to “bad neighbour” uses).		deprivation, although Powys generally has relatively low levels of deprivation compared to other areas of Wales ³⁶ .
	6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Soil	7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality agricultural land? Soil important for carbon storage? Amount of contaminated land? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Water	9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quality? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on water quantity? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
Air	10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on NO2 levels in the Newtown Air Quality Management Area? 	0	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of good and poor air quality.
Climatic Factors	11. To reduce flood risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on flooding? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of flood risk which is a significant issue in some of the major settlements in the Plan area (Newtown, Llanidloes and Builth Wells for example) ³⁷ . Significant new investment in flood defences may be required in some areas.

³⁶ Welsh Assembly Government (November 2014) Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014 at: <http://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2014/141126-wimd-2014-en.pdf>

³⁷ Powys County Council (2012) Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment at: http://pstatic.powys.gov.uk/fileadmin/Docs/Planning/LDP/Powys_Stage_1_SFCA.pdf

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
	12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on greenhouse gas emissions? 	N	Development is likely to reinforce existing patterns of greenhouse gas emissions (which in Powys have seen greatest % rise in Wales ³⁸) which will rise given the high dependence on car-based travel associated with two-thirds of the population living in a rural location.
Material Assets	13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral Resources (existing mineral sites)? Utilities (known sites and infrastructure)? Transport Routes (trunk roads/national trails – those that are mapped)? Specific Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sennybridge Training Area? Montgomery Canal? Royal Welsh Agricultural Showground? 	?	Likely effects uncertain.
	14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.		?	Likely effects uncertain.
Cultural Heritage	15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on buildings, sites and areas at risk / vulnerable? Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed buildings? Scheduled Ancient Monuments? Conservation areas? Historic Parks and Gardens? LANDMAP cultural landscape areas? 	P	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise overall impacts on heritage assets through the accommodation of development in proportion to the sensitivity and capacity (in cultural heritage terms) of the receiving settlement.
	16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Welsh language and culture? 	P	Development spread across the settlement hierarchy will help to maintain and enhance the viability of smaller settlements.

³⁸ Welsh Assembly Government (February 2013) Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Wales at:

<http://www.assembly.wales/Research%20Documents/Greenhouse%20Gas%20Emissions%20in%20Wales%20-%20Research%20paper-06022013-242880/13-006-English.pdf>

SEA Directive Topic	SEA Objective	Guide Questions	Significance Assessment	Commentary
Landscape	17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives / policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on Powys' natural landscapes? 	0	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern could compromise landscape quality through over-development in some locations, but this is location-specific.
Geodiversity	18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) from incompatible development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will LDP objectives/ policies / allocations have a positive, negative or neutral effect on RIGS sites? 	P	Directing growth which reinforces the existing settlement pattern should help to minimise impacts geodiversity assets through the sensitive accommodation of development.

Spatial Options Summary Table

SEA Objective	1. One Powys with a Settlement Hierarchy	2. Character Areas and Travel to Work Areas	3. Central transport corridor	4. High School Catchments / Planning Areas	5. Functional / Character areas	6. Settlement Hierarchy with Transport Growth Corridor	1. Focus allocations in towns	2. Spread allocations between towns and large villages	3. Spread allocations between towns, large villages and small villages
1. To protect and enhance all designated sites of nature conservation in the Plan area.	0	0	P	P	P	P	P	0	0
2. To protect and enhance all species and habitats identified in the Powys Local Biodiversity Action Plan or Section 42 List.	0	0	P	P	P	P	P	0	0
3. Enhance the provision of housing, employment and community services to meet the needs of the population and in response to demographic changes.	0	0	0	0	0	P	N	0	0
4. Promote improvement in community safety.	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
5. Promote improvement in human health and opportunities for healthy living.	0	0	0	0	P	0	N	P	0
6. To prevent or minimise exposure to potential sources of nuisance and risk to human health.	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
7. To protect soils that are classified as being important for carbon storage and agriculture.	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
8. To prevent contamination of land and support remediation as part of new development.	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
9. To maintain and improve water quality and quantity	?	?	?	P	P	?	?	?	?

SEA Objective	1. One Powys with a Settlement Hierarchy	2. Character Areas and Travel to Work Areas	3. Central transport corridor	4. High School Catchments / Planning Areas	5. Functional / Character areas	6. Settlement Hierarchy with Transport Growth Corridor	1. Focus allocations in towns	2. Spread allocations between towns and large villages	3. Spread allocations between towns, large villages and small villages
10. To protect and improve Air Quality in Powys and in particular the Newtown Air Quality Management Area	0	N	N	0	0	N	N	0	0
11. To reduce flood risk.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
12. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	N	N	N	N	N	N	P	0	N
13. To protect Mineral Resources from development that would preclude extraction.	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
14. To protect important material assets including strategic, transport and location specific infrastructure from incompatible development.	?	?	P	?	?	P	?	?	?
15. To understand, value, protect and enhance Powys historic environment including its diversity, local distinctiveness and heritage	P	P	0	0	0	0	0	0	P
16. To protect and enhance Welsh language and culture	P	P	?	?	P	?	?	?	P
17. To protect and enhance Powys' rich natural landscape	0	0	N	0	P	N	0	0	0
18. To protect Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGS) from incompatible development	P	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	P

Commentary:

Option	Commentary
1. One Powys with a Settlement Hierarchy	<p>Overall effects: The settlement hierarchy-based approach will largely reinforce current characteristics of natural environment protection and patterns of service provision, as well as negative effects such as flood risk and greenhouse gas emissions. On balance, this is likely to deliver a range of benefits to existing and new residents, although the full potential of development to help reinforce service provision and employment growth may not be realised because of the dispersal of development across a range of settlements. The approach is likely to be reasonably responsive to the specific needs of communities, including the protection of landscape and historic environment assets, although the dispersal of development could compromise biodiversity interests in certain locations.</p> <p>Cumulative/Synergistic/Temporal effects: Cumulative impacts are likely to be authority wide and realised over the longer term.</p>
2. Character Areas and Travel to Work Areas	<p>Overall effects: The performance of this option is generally positive reflecting opportunities to target specific areas according to need and builds on existing patterns of employment and service provision, making the most of opportunities to linking these together. However, the dispersal of new development using this approach could result in the compromising of natural and cultural assets through impacts across a wider area than might be the case through the targeting of growth, although the effects of development on the specific character of areas would need to be carefully scrutinised.</p> <p>Cumulative/Synergistic/Temporal effects: Cumulative effects are likely in respect of specific targeted areas over the medium and longer term.</p>
3. Central transport corridor	<p>Overall effects: The overall effects associated with this option are likely to be mixed, with the positive impacts of growth on employment and service provision and infrastructure development balanced against issues associated with air quality, flood risk and carbon emissions and the potential exclusion of groups with limited transport choices in remoter areas (limiting their service and employment choices). The impacts on the landscape associated with concentrating housing and infrastructure development could be an issue in particular parts of the corridor.</p> <p>Cumulative/Synergistic/Temporal effects: Cumulative effects likely in respect of concentrating development in relatively narrow corridors which could lead to deterioration in air quality, but equally provide the basis for additional service provision. Effects are likely to become apparent over the medium to longer term.</p>
4. High School Catchments / Planning Areas	<p>Overall effects: The overall impacts of this option are likely to be neutral, with growth helping to reinforce existing patterns of service provision associated with school catchment areas, which could largely relate to the existing settlement hierarchy. However, specific needs associated with some settlements which might be addressed through additional development could be marginalised.</p> <p>Cumulative/Synergistic/Temporal effects: Cumulative effects are likely in respect of specific targeted areas over the medium and longer term.</p>
5. Functional / Character areas	<p>Overall effects: The performance of this option is neutral to positive, reflecting the opportunity to target development according to local needs, culture and particular environmental sensitivities. However, the dispersal of new development could fail to make the most of the opportunities to reinforce service provision and</p>

Option	Commentary
	<p>employment growth which can be associated with concentrating growth in specific areas.</p> <p>Cumulative/Synergistic/Temporal effects: Cumulative effects are likely in respect of specific targeted areas over the medium and longer term.</p>
<p>6. Settlement Hierarchy with Transport Growth Corridor</p>	<p>Overall effects: Similar in effects to the growth corridor option, this hybrid approach combines the benefits and disbenefits of both the settlement hierarchy and transport corridor approaches to directing development. Concentrating development in specific areas is likely to have negative environmental effects on landscapes, for example, balanced by positive effects on the protection of biodiversity and service and employment provision through distribution of development which also uses the settlement hierarchy.</p> <p>Cumulative/Synergistic/Temporal effects: Cumulative effects are likely in respect of specific targeted areas over the medium and longer term.</p>
<p>1. Focus allocations in towns</p>	<p>Overall effects: Focusing development on the towns yields relatively poor sustainability performance overall, reflecting the likely effects of concentrating development in a relatively limited number of locations. The positive impacts of growth on service provision and infrastructure development in these towns would be balanced against the effects on air quality and the effects on the population in other settlements which would not benefit from growth, such as through enhanced service provision and affordable housing.</p> <p>Cumulative/Synergistic/Temporal effects: Cumulative effects likely in respect of concentrating development in relatively narrow corridors which could lead to deterioration in air quality, but equally provide the basis for additional service provision. Effects are likely to become apparent over the medium to longer term.</p>
<p>2. Spread allocations between towns and large villages</p>	<p>Overall effects: This targeted settlement hierarchy-based approach will reinforce current patterns of service provision. On balance, this is likely to benefit to existing and new residents.</p> <p>Cumulative/Synergistic/Temporal effects: Cumulative impacts are likely to be authority wide and realised over the longer term.</p>
<p>3. Spread allocations between towns, large villages and small villages</p>	<p>Overall effects: The settlement hierarchy-based approach will largely reinforce current characteristics of natural environment protection and patterns of service provision, as well as negative effects such as flood risk and greenhouse gas emissions. On balance, this is likely to deliver a range of benefits to existing and new residents, although the full potential of development to help reinforce service provision and employment growth may not be realised because of the dispersal of development across a range of settlements. The approach is likely to be reasonably responsive to the specific needs of communities, including the protection of landscape and historic environment assets, although the dispersal of development could compromise biodiversity interests in certain locations.</p> <p>Cumulative/Synergistic/Temporal effects: Cumulative impacts are likely to be authority wide and realised over the longer term.</p>