



Ein cyf/Our ref: qA1495798

Mr Rob Murray
Principal Planning Officer – Planning Policy
Economy and Environment
Torfaen County Borough Council
Civic Centre
Pontypool
Torfaen
NP4 6YB

Dear Rob

25 November 2024

Torfaen County Borough Council: Revised Delivery Agreement 1st Replacement Plan
The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005
(as amended)

Thank you for your e-mail of 19 November requesting agreement to your revised Delivery Agreement (DA) for your replacement Local Development Plan (LDP). This DA request comes as a result of your authority going beyond the agreed slippage in the plan preparation process, as set out in the initial DA agreement, for a replacement plan covering the period 2022-2037.

The preparation of a LDP is a statutory duty placed on all Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in Wales. Having an up-to-date development plan in place underpins the very basis of the planning system in Wales and reinforces the Government's commitment to a plan-led approach to development. Effective project management and up-to-date evidence is essential to ensure the plan can be prepared in accordance with the timescales set out in Figure 2.1 and 2.2 of the revised DA. This timescale set out in the revised DA aligns with requirements in the Development Plans Manual (Edition 3) recognising that your authority already has an adopted plan in place supported by a number of evidence base documents.

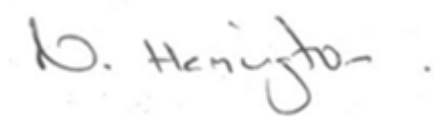
A test of 'soundness' against which the plan will be considered through the examination is whether it adheres to the agreed DA including the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS). The plan will also need to demonstrate 'general conformity' with Future Wales: The National Plan 2040.

The Welsh Government welcomes the commitment shown by Torfaen County Borough Council to prepare your replacement plan. Your submitted revised DA contains a detailed breakdown on the timings of each LDP stage (Figure 2.1 & 2.2) with an indicative adoption date of December 2028.

After considering your DA submission, I can **confirm agreement** to the timetable set out in Table 1 as provided for by Section 63(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and Regulation 9 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended).

The published version of your DA should now be made publicly available in accordance with the requirements set out in Regulation 10.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Hemington". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name.

Neil Hemington
Prif Gynllunydd
Chief Planner