

## **The Vale of Glamorgan Council**

### **Cabinet Meeting: 20 June, 2016**

### **Report of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Education**

### **Revision of Planning Policy Wales Chapter 6: The Historic Environment**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. This report has been prepared to advise Cabinet of the Welsh Government's consultation and proposed revision of Planning Policy Wales (PPW) in relation to the historic environment, and to recommend a response to the same.

#### **Recommendations**

1. That this report and the completed consultation response form attached at Annex 2 to [Appendix 1](#) is endorsed as the Council's formal response to the Welsh Government consultation on Planning Policy Wales Chapter 6: The Historic Environment ([Appendix 2](#)).
2. That a copy of the report be circulated to all Members of Planning Committee for information.

#### **Reasons for the Recommendations**

1. To obtain Cabinet's endorsement of the response submitted to the Welsh Government consultation on Planning Policy Wales Chapter 6: The Historic Environment.
2. To advise Planning Committee Members of the public consultation.

#### **Background**

2. The Welsh Government's priority is for a well-protected and accessible historic environment that will contribute to the quality of life and place and enhance people's life chances.
3. The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 received Royal Assent on 21st March 2016. The Act forms part of a suite of legislation, policy, advice and guidance that aims to improve the protection and sustainable management of the Welsh historic environment.

4. The planning system plays a significant role in the protection and conservation of the historic environment while helping it accommodate and remain responsive to present-day needs. Chapter 6 of PPW sets out the Welsh Government's national planning policy in relation to this role and the purpose of this consultation is specifically to consider the revisions to this Chapter.

### **Relevant Issues and Options**

5. PPW has been updated to reflect and take account of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act with the revised Chapter 6 setting out the Welsh Government's planning policy in respect of the historic environment.
6. Many of the policies contained in the current Chapter 6 of PPW are considered to be sound and remain relevant. These are preserved in the draft replacement Chapter 6 and this is to be welcomed.
7. As is now standard practice with Welsh Government consultation exercises, a series of consultation questions have been posed in relation to the revised Chapter 6. In this regard, while the Council has made a number of comments in response to the consultation questions which it hopes will assist the Welsh Government to formalise its policy position, it is not considered that the revisions to PPW will give rise to significant changes within the Vale of Glamorgan at this time. The Council's proposed response to the consultation questions is at Annex 2 to [Appendix 1](#).

### **Resource Implications (Financial and Employment)**

8. The response to the consultation has been formulated by officers within the Planning and Regeneration Division within existing budgets.

### **Sustainability and Climate Change Implications**

9. The draft Chapter 6 of PPW includes reference to sustainable development and climate change. The Council has provided a detailed view within the response.

### **Legal Implications (to Include Human Rights Implications)**

10. The main legislative framework for this report is the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). There are no specific Human Rights implications of this report, however, the preservation and enhancement of the historic environment in the Vale of Glamorgan will benefit all sectors of the community.

### **Crime and Disorder Implications**

11. PPW sets out the framework for The Vale of Glamorgan Adopted Unitary Development Plan (1996-2011) and the emerging Local Development Plan (2011 - 2026) both contain policies which seek to create accessible and safe built environments.
12. Certain unauthorised works to scheduled monuments, listed buildings and conservation areas constitute criminal offences. These are unchanged by this policy document.

### **Equal Opportunities Implications (to include Welsh Language issues)**

13. The preservation and enhancement of the historic environment throughout the Vale of Glamorgan will benefit all sectors of the community.

## **Corporate/Service Objectives**

14. The Corporate Plan (2016-2020) has the following relevant well-being outcomes and objectives: 'An Environmentally Responsible and Prosperous Vale': Objective 4: Promoting sustainable development and protecting our environment; and, 'An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale': Objective 6: Valuing culture and diversity.

## **Policy Framework and Budget**

15. PPW sets the context for sustainable planning policy within which Local Authorities' statutory Local Development Plans (LDPs) are prepared and development management decisions on planning applications and appeals are made. PPW is supplemented by a suite of topic based TANs and procedural guidance is contained within circulars and policy clarification letters.
16. It is important that planning policy continues to evolve to accommodate changing circumstances. Accordingly, the Welsh Government monitors PPW and TANs in relation to their objectives for Wales and when necessary, publishes updated national planning guidance.
17. This is a matter for Executive decision.

## **Consultation (including Ward Member Consultation)**

18. No specific consultation with Ward Members has been undertaken.

## **Relevant Scrutiny Committee**

19. Environment and Regeneration.

## **Background Papers**

Consultation Document - Revision of Planning Policy Wales Chapter 6: The Historic Environment  
Draft Planning Policy Wales Chapter 6: The Historic Environment

## **Contact Officer**

Peter Thomas, Senior Planner

## **Officers Consulted**

Operational Manager Legal - Committee Reports  
Senior Accountant

## **Responsible Officer**

Rob Thomas, Managing Director