

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 29TH JULY, 2019

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 15TH JULY, 2019

**“C44 PROPOSALS FOR A STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SDP)
FOR THE CARDIFF CAPITAL REGION (LRPS) –**

The report set out proposals to prepare a Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for the Cardiff Capital Region comprising the 10 Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in the region. The decision to proceed required endorsement from all 10 Councils in the region to authorise the Responsible Authority to submit a proposal to Welsh Government. A similar report was being presented to each of the 10 relevant Councils over the coming months.

An SDP was a regional level Development Plan that sat above a Local Development Plan and below the Welsh Government's National Development Framework and provided a strategic framework for Local Development Plans to be prepared at a more local level. A statutory SDP provided certainty to developers, investors and our communities that key strategic decisions around housing, transport, employment and infrastructure provision were being taken at an appropriate regional level, whilst still allowing key decisions on planning proposals to be taken locally through Local Development Plan allocations and policies and thereafter in development management decisions.

The report identified some key issues for consideration around the preparation of the SDP, in particular defining the Strategic Planning Area Boundary, governance arrangements, scope, content and plan period.

The process required identification of a Responsible Authority to submit the proposal to Welsh Government, and it was recommended that the Vale of Glamorgan Council take this role, which had been agreed by the Regional Cabinet.

The preparation and adoption of the SDP was undertaken by a Strategic Planning Panel (SPP), with representatives from every LPA within the boundary having a weighted vote. It was recommended that the Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration represent the Vale of Glamorgan Council on the Panel, given their experience and knowledge.

The Cabinet Member highlighted that the voting of the SPP would be weighted having regard not only to the size of the population of the constituent authorities, but also weighted to have regard to the geographical area of the authority, given that the SDP would be a land use plan. This was set out in paragraph 2.3 of the report.

If all Councils agreed to proceed a proposal would be submitted to Welsh Government, who would prepare appropriate regulations and the work on the preparation of the SDP would commence.

The Cabinet Member for Legal, Regulatory and Planning Services, also thanked the Operational Manager for Planning and Building Control and her officers for their hard work.

On being asked to comment, the Operational Manager for Planning and Building Control stated that this represented an exciting project as it would involve working more strategic on a regional level. She stated that the Vale could not ignore the economic impact of Cardiff and so it was important to work on a regional basis.

The Leader added that there had been comments that an SDP would mean loss of control for the Council, but he disagreed with this sentiment as the Council would still have an LDP. The SDP would allow the Council to work with neighbouring authorities in order to tackle common challenges such as Junctions 34 and 33.

Furthermore, the Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health commented that it was appreciated that this form of regional working was more on a voluntary basis as opposed to regional models being forced on the Council. He stated that this was very positive and he was confident that the Council had the expertise to lead.

Cabinet also noted that the report was being presented to the relevant Scrutiny Committee and would also be considered by Full Council on 29th July, 2019.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the content of the report be noted and referred to the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for consideration, prior to consideration by Full Council.

(2) T H A T in the event of any comments being made by Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, these be referred back to Cabinet for consideration prior to final determination by Full Council.

(3) T H A T the Vale of Glamorgan Council endorses the content of the report and agrees that the Responsible Authority be authorised to submit the Proposal for a Strategic Development Plan for the Cardiff Capital Region to the Minister on behalf of the 10 Local Planning Authorities in the region.

(4) T H A T the Vale of Glamorgan Council endorse itself as the Responsible Authority for the Cardiff Capital Region Strategic Development Plan.

(5) T H A T the Vale of Glamorgan Council endorses that the Strategic Planning Area should comprise the 10 Local Planning Authority areas within the Cardiff Capital Region as shown on the map at Appendix A to the report.

(6) T H A T the Vale of Glamorgan Council authorises relevant officers to engage with the Welsh Government in drafting the Strategic Development Plan Regulations to deliver the following governance arrangements for the SDP and Strategic Planning Panel:

- (i) That the Strategic Planning Panel will be comprised of 10 Members, one from each constituent Local Authority with the weighting of votes for each constituent Local Authority being based on its population and geographical area as follows:

Local Authority	No. of Members on the Strategic Planning Panel	Weighting of Vote for Constituent LA
Blaenau Gwent	1	1
Bridgend	1	2
Caerphilly	1	3
Cardiff	1	5
Merthyr Tydfil	1	1
Monmouthshire	1	3
Newport	1	2
Rhondda Cynon Taff	1	3
Torfaen	1	1
Vale of Glamorgan	1	2
Total	10	23
Nominated non-voting Panel Members	5	N/A

- (ii) That constituent Councils will be engaged through a prior consultation process as set out in Figure 1 and the Strategic Planning Panel shall have full regard to the comments of constituent Councils;
- (iii) That decisions made on the Strategic Development Plan by the Strategic Planning Panel shall require a 70% quorum of voting Members on the Panel and decisions shall require a 70% majority vote of a quorate meeting.

(7) T H A T the Vale of Glamorgan Council endorses the setting up of an Interim Strategic Planning Panel prior to the formal establishment of the Strategic Planning Panel and the nominated Member below represent the Vale of Glamorgan Council on the Interim Strategic Planning Panel with delegated authority to take initial decisions on the preparation of the SDP (with a vote weighted in accordance with the table at Recommendation 6(i)) and thereafter on the Strategic Planning Panel. The Vale of Glamorgan Council nominate:

Councillor Lis Burnett, Vale of Glamorgan Council.

(8) T H A T in the event that Member is no longer able to sit on Interim Strategic Planning Panel, delegated powers be granted to the Managing Director, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, to nominate a new Member to represent the Council on the Interim Strategic Planning Panel and Strategic Planning Panel.

(9) T H A T a Regional Strategic Development Plan Officer Team be established to progress the preparation of the Strategic Development Plan to be appointed by representatives of the Interim Strategic Planning Panel, with appropriate human resource support from the Responsible Authority.

(10) T H A T the cost of preparing the Strategic Development Plan be shared across the 10 Authorities on a proportional cost based on the voting representation on the Strategic Planning Panel, to be reviewed on an annual basis, and an initial contribution of £50,005 be paid to cover the start-up costs likely to be incurred in this financial year 2019/20, divided as follows:

Local Authority	% Cost Based on SSP Votes	£
Blaenau Gwent	4.35	2,175
Bridgend	8.7	4,350
Caerphilly	13.04	6,520
Cardiff	21.74	10,870
Merthyr Tydfil	4.35	2,175
Monmouthshire	13.04	6,520
Newport	8.7	4,350
Rhondda Cynon Taff	13.04	6,520
Torfaen	4.35	2,175
Vale of Glamorgan	8.7	4,350
TOTAL	100.01	50,005

Reasons for decisions

(1) For Cabinet to consider and endorse the content of this report and put forward Recommendations (1) – (7) to Full Council for a decision.

(2) For Cabinet to consider any comments made by Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee prior to consideration and decision by Full Council.

(3) To authorise the preparation of a Strategic Development Plan for the Cardiff Capital Region, providing clarity of intent and to allow work to commence.

(4) To authorise the Vale of Glamorgan Council as the Theme Lead under the existing City Deal arrangements as the Responsible Authority to administer the Strategic Development Plan. The Regulations require that a Responsible Authority be identified to co-ordinate administrative and Human Relations matters.

- (5) To identify the Strategic Planning Area as the 10 Local Planning Authority areas within the Cardiff Capital Region, having regard to the environmental, economic, social and administrative functions of the Cardiff Capital Region. The Regulations require that, when notifying the Welsh Government of the intention to proceed with a Strategic Development Plan, the Strategic Planning Area is identified.
- (6) To ensure the Strategic Development Plan Regulations deliver appropriate governance arrangements for the Strategic Development Plan and Strategic Planning Panel.
- (7) To set up an Interim Strategic Planning Panel prior to the formal establishment of the Strategic Planning Panel with the nominated Member representing the Council on the Interim Strategic Planning Panel with delegated authority to take initial decisions on the preparation of the Strategic Development Plan, including the appointment of the Strategic Development Plan Team and that that Member is also nominated to represent the Council on the Strategic Planning Panel in due course.
- (8) To establish a Regional Strategic Development Plan team to progress the preparation of the Strategic Development Plan to ensure adequate time and expertise is secured to ensure the successful delivery of a Strategic Development Plan for the Cardiff Capital Region.
- (9) To ensure that the cost of preparing the Strategic Development Plan is shared across the 10 Authorities on a proportional cost based on Strategic Planning Panel voting arrangements, which is reviewed annually, and to cover the start-up costs likely to be incurred in this financial year 2019/20.”