

The National Development Framework

Our plan for Wales over the next 20 years – 2020 to 2040

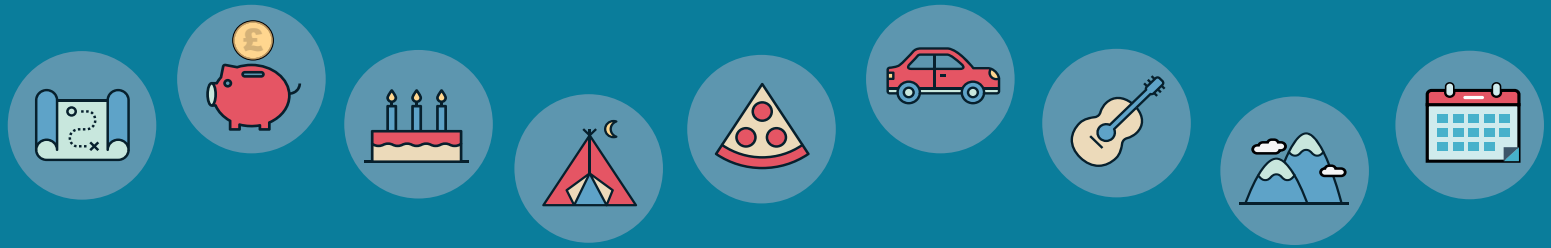


Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Young people's summary

We all plan: ➡



Planning is important – it sets your direction – and helps you make decisions.

In Wales, we plan the way we use resources and land, what we build, and where we build.

This planning system works:

- **locally** – local councils write a Local Development Plan
- **across areas** – councils and other organisations work together to make regional plans

The Welsh Government also makes plans to support all of Wales. We plan because we want Wales to be sustainable and prosperous.

i Sustainable – something that can last and keep going into the future.



The National Development Framework is our plan to shape Wales over the next 20 years – 2020 to 2040.

It sets out:

- **our goals for Wales**
- **where we think funding and investment should go**
- **where development should happen**

Because, when there's a plan – it's easier to know what's important and what's not.




How the planning system works

Local and regional plans have to include lots of different things.

When planners make decisions about new development proposals, they think about:

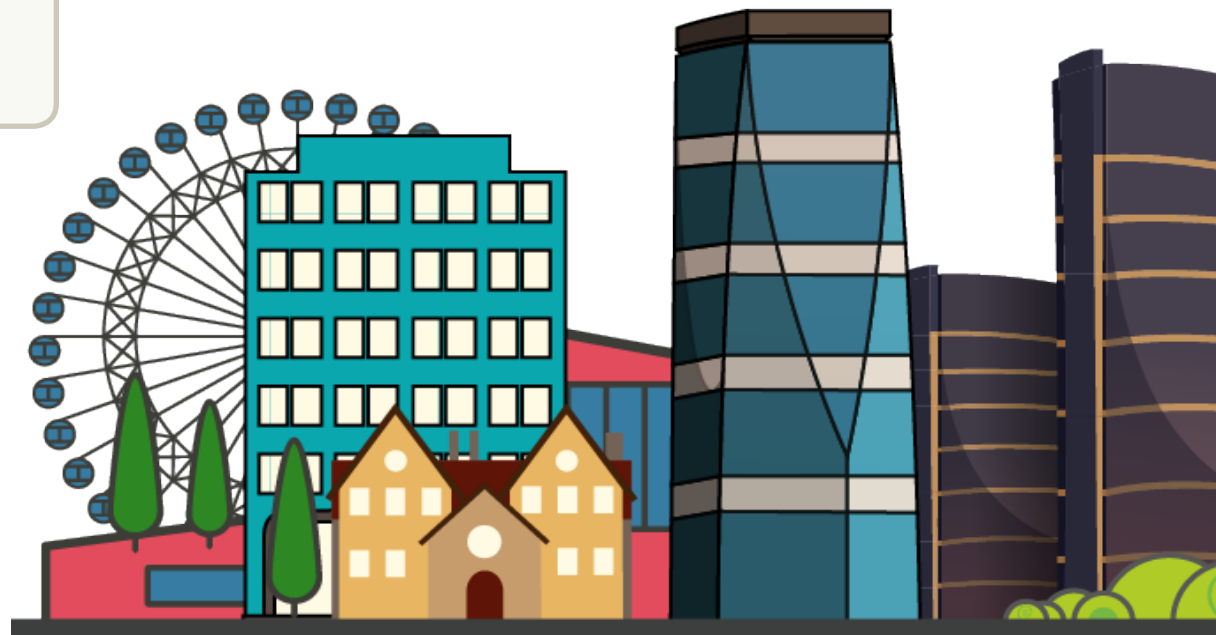
- will it support or harm communities?
- is it the best use money and resources?
- is it needed?
- will it grow the economy?
- will it support innovation and promote new business?
- how many jobs will it bring?
- can the area cope with the change?
- how much extra **infrastructure** it will need?
- will it put a strain on services like health centres or schools?
- will it protect and promote Welsh language, culture and heritage?
- will it protect or harm the environment?
- is the community involved in the plans?

 **Infrastructure** – systems and networks of roads, water, power, services and facilities.

We want local and regional plans to include what's right for their area and what's right for Wales.

The National Development Framework helps councils and others make sure their plans fit together and help us reach our goals.

- It doesn't replace local plans.
- It doesn't replace regional planning.
- It works with other laws and policies across Wales.



Our 11 goals for the next 20 years

- 1** A Wales where people live and work in connected, inclusive and healthy places that everyone can be a part of.



Good planning can make communities:

- **connected** – with the right transport, internet and phone networks
- **inclusive** – meeting people's needs whatever their background or age
- **healthy** – with the right homes, jobs, services, leisure and public spaces

- 2** A Wales where people live in vibrant rural places with access to homes, jobs and services.



Good planning can make rural places:

- **sustainable** – full of life and activity
- **great for all ages** – able to meet people's needs

- 3** A Wales where we tackle health and inequality through growth.



Good planning can:

- **bring opportunities** – attracting businesses, better homes and jobs
- **improve people's lives** and reduce poverty

- 4** A Wales where the Welsh Language is thriving.



Good planning can:

- **protect Welsh speaking communities** and promote new development which allows people to speak Welsh

- 5** A Wales where people live and work in cities and towns that are growing.



Good planning can:

- **make sure development works**
- **use investment in the right ways**

- 6** A Wales where people live in places that promote wealth, new ideas and culture.



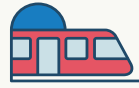
Good planning can:

- **bring businesses, jobs and activities**
- **explore new technologies**, look forward and develop new skills
- **attract people from all over the world**

more outcomes:

7

A Wales where travel is sustainable.



Good planning can:

- **develop better transport networks**
- **improve public transport** – lowering the need to use cars

8

A Wales where people can connect to great digital infrastructure.



Good planning can:

- **make sure everyone can get fast broadband**
- **develop better phone networks** – moving to 5G

9

A Wales where places manage natural resources and reduce pollution.



Good planning can:

- **protect natural resources** – including the coastline, forests, water and minerals
- **reduce pollution**

10

A Wales where there are biodiverse, resilient and connected ecosystems.



Good planning can:

- **value and protect nature** – our forests, wildlife, flowers and insects

11

A Wales where people live in places that are decarbonised (create less carbon pollution).



Good planning can:

- **face the challenges of the climate crisis**
- **promote opportunities** for renewable energy and electric vehicles



Ecosystems – plants and animals that are connected and living together.

Biodiversity – different plants, animals and micro-organisms living in one area.

Where Wales will grow

Supporting our urban areas

Cities and towns have a mix of things close together:

- homes and hotels
- shops and restaurants
- health and education services
- transport and tourism
- leisure and culture

They have the infrastructure, strength and resources to cope with change.

This is an opportunity to look at how we plan towns and city centres. Their role is changing. They are now places people live, shop, relax, work and get support from services.

Larger developments of buildings in one place makes the best use of land and protects rural areas.

Types
of places

Cities

Towns

Villages

Hamlets

1

We want development and growth to support towns and cities.

2

We support development in and around town and city centres.

These are the main **points** we want to see in Wales.

Land and resources owned by councils and other public bodies

Councils should use the land they have to meet society's needs.

3

We support public bodies using their land and resources to make places sustainable. This includes building schools, colleges, hospitals, affordable homes and other things to improve people's lives.

Supporting our rural areas

Rural communities need to be supported and protected.

4

We want local plans to:

- meet needs for housing, transport, businesses and services
- support new businesses like food and drink production, renewable energy, tourism
- support things that bring work and money to rural areas



Housing

There is a gap between the number of affordable houses being built and how many we need. Good planning can reduce the gap.

5

We want more affordable, good quality homes across Wales.

Changing technology: mobile phones

Mobile phones are a big part of life. They help us connect to people, work, services and information.

There are parts of Wales where you can't connect. We will address these by identifying Mobile Action Zones. These areas should be prioritised to get investment from network operators, phone providers, councils and the Welsh Government.

6

We want planning to focus on mobile action zones to improve phone coverage.

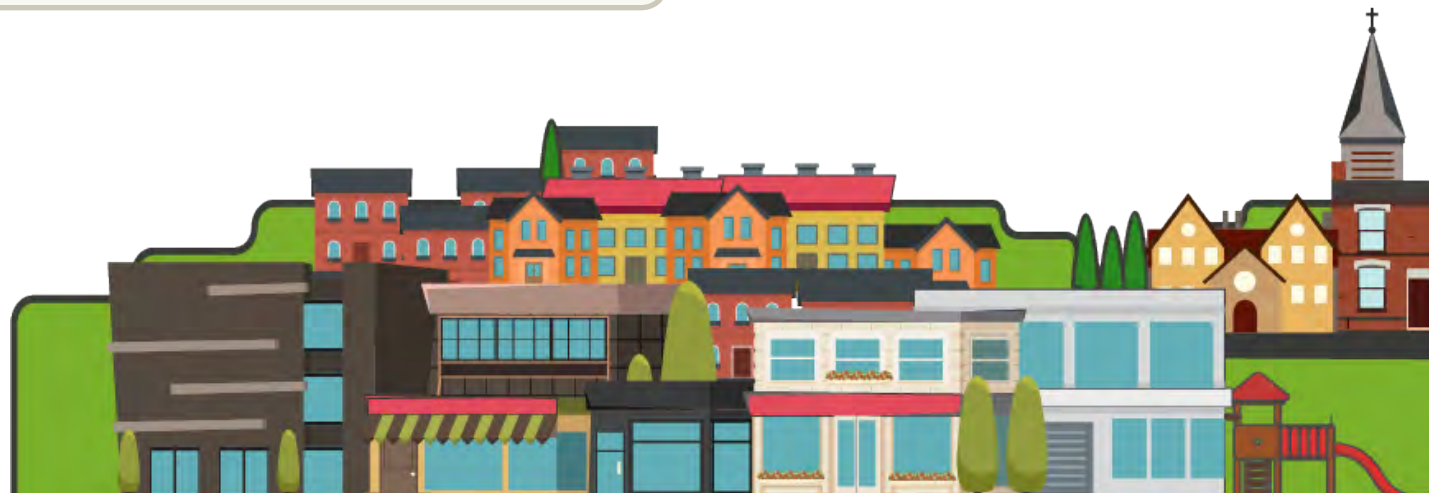
Changing technology: Ultra Low Emission Vehicles

We have to reduce the amount of carbon we produce. This means moving from petrol and diesel to electric vehicles – Ultra Low Emission Vehicles.

7

We want more infrastructure for Ultra Low Emission Vehicles.

This means having more electric charging places and rapid charging points to help people travel longer distances.



Supporting green infrastructure

Nature needs to be valued. It lowers pollution, improves air quality and improves physical and mental well-being.

Planning must include ways for nature to thrive and support ecosystems.

In towns and cities, parks and other green infrastructure help people enjoy activities, relax and connect as a community.

8

We want planning to:

- spot areas to protect or turn into places for ecosystems
- find opportunities for green infrastructure in urban developments



Green infrastructure – planned and unplanned natural places like parks, allotments, community gardens and public green spaces.

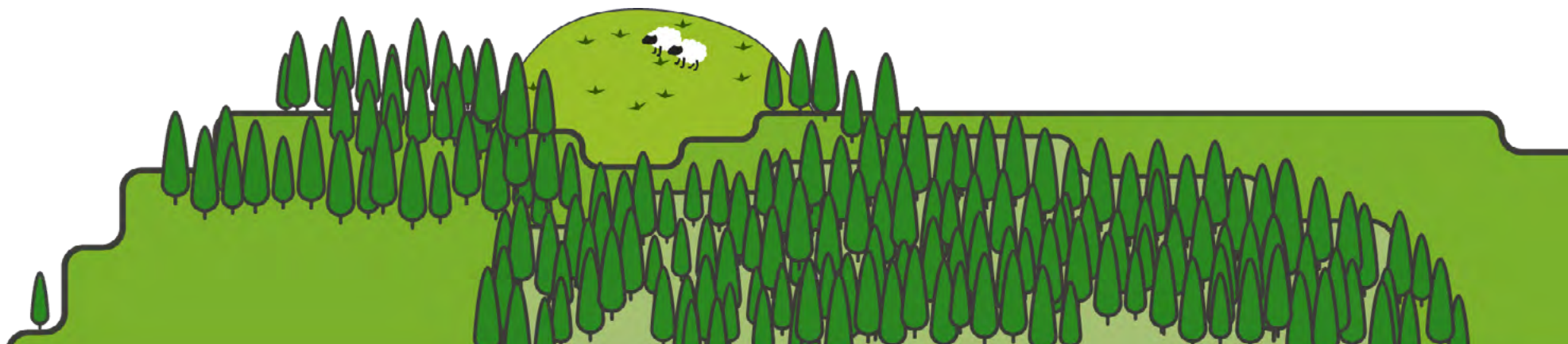
Developing a new national forest

The Welsh Government is keen to develop opportunities to strengthen our ecosystems.

This includes developing new forests and woodlands.

9

We want to support developing a national forest.



Making the best use of our resources:

Producing more renewable energy

Climate change is an emergency. Wales already produces renewable and low carbon energy, but we want to produce more. Increasing renewable energy brings new skills, jobs and technology to regions while protecting our environment from the effects of climate change.

We need to make sure developments don't harm communities or spoil natural landscapes. So, we have set our areas where large wind and solar energy developments can happen.

10

We support large scale wind and solar energy developments in the areas we have set out.

11

We want any application outside the priority areas to prove they help meet targets, protect the environment and don't harm communities.

12

We won't allow large scale solar and wind projects in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Other renewable energy technologies

There are lots of ways to produce renewable energy like hydro and tidal.

13

We support other renewable energy developments.

District Heat Networks

District Heat Networks supply heating and hot water to lots of buildings from one place. They work well in urban areas – they cost less and use less carbon.

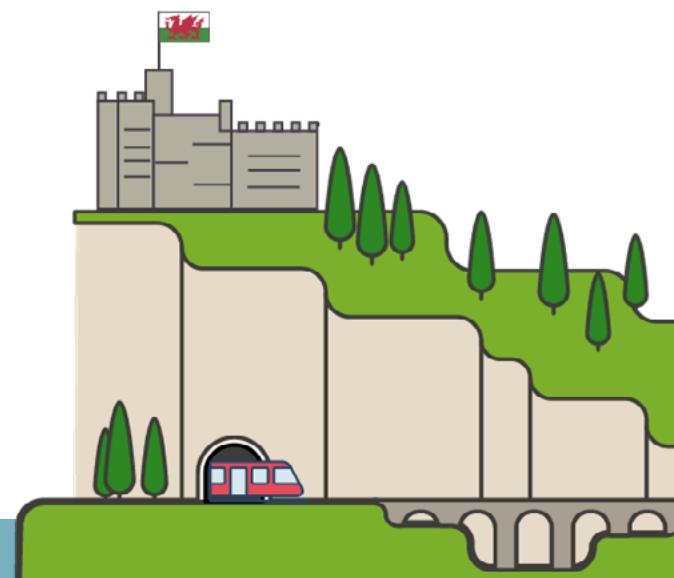
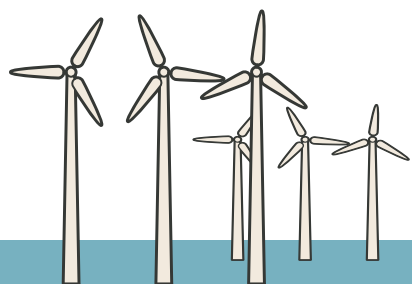
Larger heat networks can support large numbers of businesses, services and homes.

14

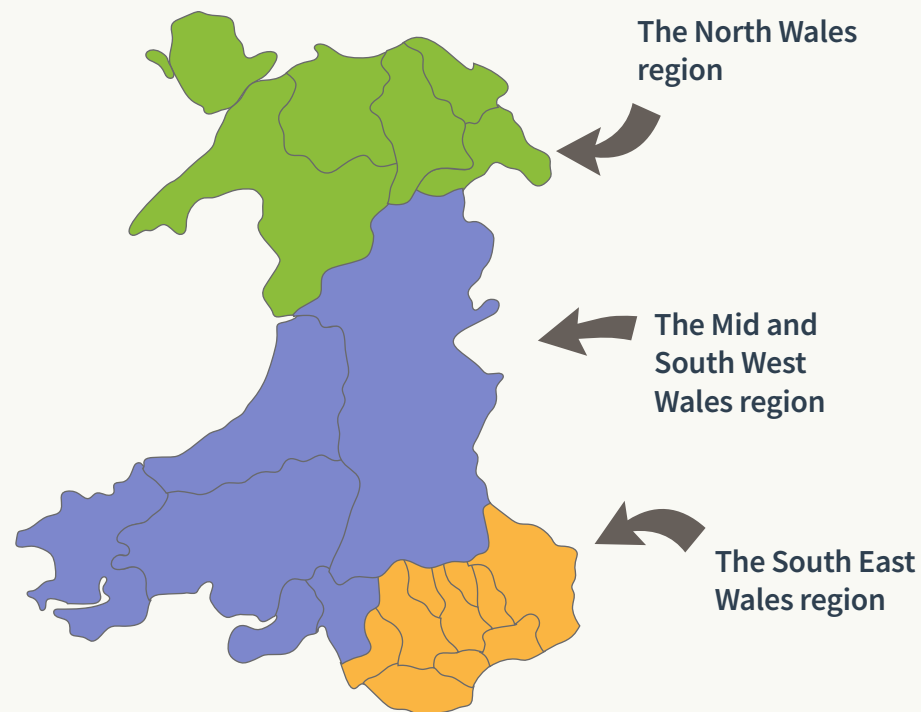
We support towns and cities developing District Heat Networks.

15

We support planning for large scale District Heat Networks.



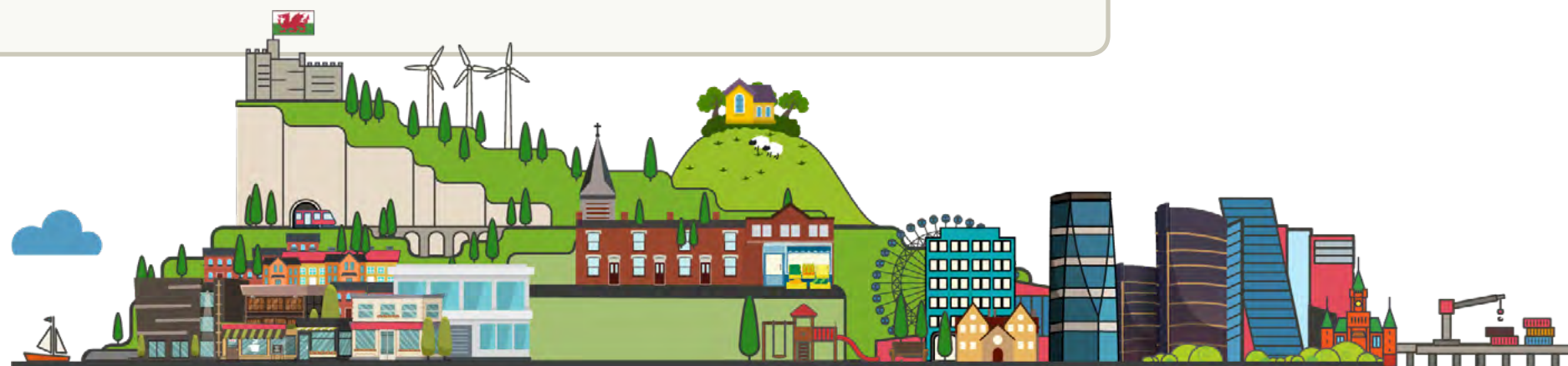
Planning across the regions



For this vision for Wales to work counties need to work together and plan regionally.

16

We want want councils and others to work together and make regional plans. They must involve and listen to communities. Listening helps make the right decisions.



The North Wales region



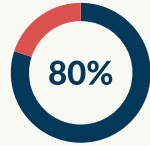
700,000
people live here.



200,000
speak Welsh.



It has lots of
rural areas.



of the population
live in places with
less than
25,000
people.



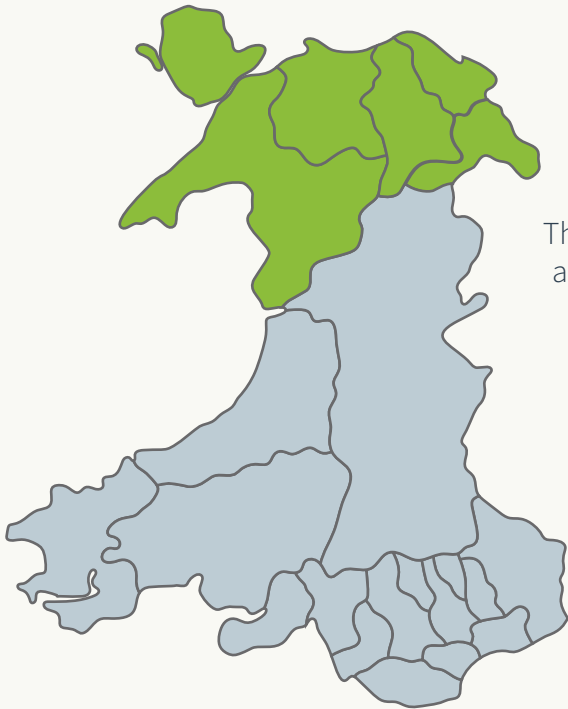
Along the coast
there's a risk of
flooding.



There are good road
and rail links along
the coast.



The rest of the
region is mainly road
based.



17

We support focusing
development around
Wrexham and Deeside.

18

We support managed growth in
the towns and cities along the
coast from Caernarfon to Deeside.

19

We support new green
belt areas that connect
with ones in Cheshire
West and Chester.



Green belt – an area
of open land where
you're not allowed
to build.

20

We support development of
Holyhead Port. This includes
attracting cruise ships.

21

We want to improve
transport links to NW
England. This includes
plans for the North Wales
Metro.

22

We support North West Wales as a location for new
energy development and investment.

Applications for nuclear energy generating stations
will consider:

- the need for non-renewable energy
- the natural and historic environment
- the economic benefits to the region

Mid & South West Wales



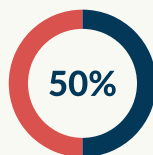
900,000
people live here.



It has lots of
opportunities for
renewable energy.

0%

No towns in
Powys, Ceredigion
or Pembrokeshire
are bigger than
25,000 people.



In Powys **50%**
of people live in
places of less than
2000 people.



It's a large area which
includes:

- Wales' second city
- two national parks
- some of the most rural
areas of the UK
- lots of farming areas



It has lower levels of
public transport and
connection than other
parts of Wales.

23

We want to focus
development around
Swansea Bay and Llanelli.

24

We support managed growth
in Carmarthen, Llandrindod
Wells, Newtown, Aberystwyth
and the four Haven Towns.

25

We want to keep
investing in and
developing the Haven
Waterway harbour area.

26

We support development of a
Swansea Metro.

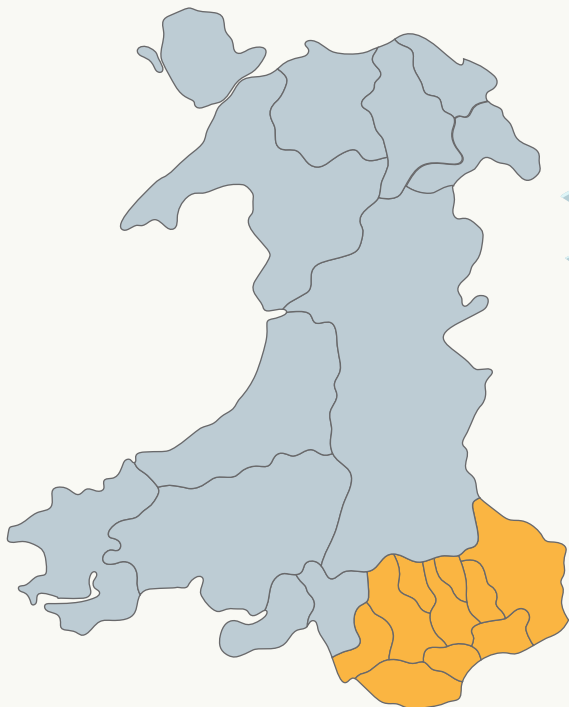
South East Wales



Over
1.5 million
people live here.



The population
grew by over **9%**
between 1997-2017.



The area brings in



of the total
economic output of
the Welsh economy.



Major ports at
Cardiff, Newport
and Barry.



The region has
an airport.



of housing
needs in Wales.

27

We want Cardiff to keep its role as the main city. We support plans that bring opportunities and help us face the challenges.

28

We want Newport to be a focus for growth and investment. This includes development of housing, business, services, transport and other things.

29

We support growth and investment in the Heads of the Valley area. This includes the northern parts of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent.

30

We want Green Belts in South East Wales, around Newport and the east part of the region. They should connect to the green belt around Bristol.

31

We support development of a South Wales Metro.

32

We support the growth and development of Cardiff Airport.

33

We support the setup of the Valleys Regional Park.

Thanks for reading this

We have to use the resources we have in the right ways.

To help us write this plan we have:

- involved people working in planning across Wales
- talked to communities
- looked at evidence and research about what has worked in other places

This helped us understand where we can develop. It helped us make decisions for Wales.

But, Wales is changing. This plan might need to adapt and change too.

To get involved and have a say:

 gov.wales/consultations

Send in your responses by:

 1st November 2019

To find out more:

 ndf@gov.wales

 0300 025 3261

 [gweddill.gov.wales/topics/planning/
national-development-framework-for-wales/?lang=en](https://gweddill.gov.wales/topics/planning/national-development-framework-for-wales/?lang=en)

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.

This document is also available in Welsh.

OGL © Crown Copyright

WG38413

Digital ISBN 978-1-83876-652-8

