Delivery Agreement compliance with Welsh Government Assessment Criteria

TIMETABLE

Is it easy for the public to understand?

Yes, the timing of each critical stage of the JLDP process is clearly set out in Table 6 in the DA. More detailed definitive and indicative timetables are set out in Appendix 3

Are the main LDP process components covered?

Yes, see above.

Have the impacts of LA processes for approval (e.g. Cabinet cycles) been incorporated?

Yes, the Timetable has been drawn up taking account of the known cycles and timing of each Council's Scrutiny Committee, Executive Committee and Full Council meetings. The meetings of the Joint Planning Policy Committee have been scheduled to facilitate the decision making process.

How will the Planning Committee be involved?

Given the decision to prepare a Joint Local Development Plan, a Joint Planning Policy Committee has been established to simplify/ streamline the decision making process, to monitor and review the progress made throughout the plan making process, and to make decisions about the Joint Local Development Plan's contents, unless each Council's endorsement is a statutory requirement. Section 6.7 and Appendix 3 of the DA sets out how all Councillors will have an opportunity to discuss key matters.

Is there sufficient time for involving the community at the right stages?

Yes, the timetable set out in table 6 and Appendix 3 gives sufficient time for involving the community at the relevant stages.

Have the SA/SEA tasks being identified and included?

Yes. The keys stages have been identified in the SA/SEA process and are set out in Appendix 3.

Have the resources needed for each stage/task been estimated?

Yes, the resources estimated to be required in terms of staff and expenditure are set out in sections 3.1 and 3.2 and in the last column included in Appendix 3 of the DA.

Have the impact and resource sharing potential of other LA policy and strategy cycles been considered?

Yes. Details of the intention to utilise existing networks and partnerships that include representatives of other services within the Councils are set out in section 6.5 of the DA.

Is the Planning Inspectorate aware/content?

Preliminary liaison with the Planning Inspectorate has been undertaken.

Is the timetable realistic and deliverable with key milestones set to meet the 4-year target?

The timetable is realistic and deliverable. A time period to work within has been given for each stage and the end of the time period for each critical stage of the LDP process will act as a milestone to reach the end date target. It is anticipated that it will take 4.5 years to adopt the JLDP. This timetable reflects the need to set aside time to hold local elections in May 2012.

If not, what are the extenuating circumstances (e.g. local elections)?

Although it is considered that the timetable is realistic and deliverable, there are potential risks. In addition to the local elections during May 2012, other potential risks are set out in Appendix 6 of the DA

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHEME

Is the CIS easy for the public, voluntary organisations and businesses to relate to?

Yes, each of the critical stages and those to be involved is clearly set out in Appendix 3. Section 6.3 clearly identifies the target audiences. Appendix 7 sets out which groups are included on the Councils' current database and provides an opportunity for anyone to draw attention to other stakeholders

Does it set out clearly the authority's approach and standards for involvement and how these link to other relevant local consultation approaches?

The Councils' approach and standards for involvement are set out within Section 6.2 of the DA.

Does this approach meet the Assembly's principles?

Yes, table 7 in section 6.2 and section 6.11 set out how the Councils intend to meet all the key principles of early involvement and feedback, encouraging the commitment of all participants to search for a consensus and adopting approaches to engage all sections of the community.

Are the statutory consultation periods and consultee organisations included?

Yes, statutory periods and consultee organisations have been included in the CIS where appropriate (see Appendix 3, 7 & 8)

What has been the involvement of those affected in drawing up the CIS?

Information about the first draft of the DA, including the CIS, was provided to all organisations detailed in Appendix 7 & 8 and all stakeholders on the register of interested parties held by the Councils. An opportunity was given to the aforementioned as well as any other interested party to submit comments. Responses to this will be summarised in an appendix to the final DA.

Does the CIS include relevant stakeholder groups, given the nature of the authority's area?

Yes. The relevant known stakeholder groups are those listed in Appendix 7 & 8. These are considered to reflect the appropriate groups and interests for the purposes of the preparation of the JLDP. Exclusion from the current register does not preclude a new group's inclusion at a future date.

Is it clear about the type of involvement proposed for each relevant stage and task, and do these techniques/processes appear appropriate to the task/stage?

Yes. The type of involvement at each stage is clearly set out in Appendix 3. The types of involvement outlined are considered to be appropriate for each of the stages concerned.

Does the authority demonstrate the ability to resource and manage the processes?

Yes. The resources estimated to be required in terms of staff and expenditure are set out in sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the DA. The Community Involvement Scheme has been drawn up taking account of the resources, both staff and financial, that the Councils have available.

Are there clear roles for Members, Executive and officers?

Yes. The roles of Members and officers are set out in sections 6.7 and 6.8 and Appendix 3 of the DA. Each Council's Executive Committee will be directly involved in the decision making process at the stages up to and including the pre-Deposit stage. The Joint Planning Policy Committee will take relevant decisions during the post pre-Deposit stage.

Is there a means of establishing a representative cross-section of views?

Yes, a variety of organisations as outlined in Appendix 7 and 8 will be involved in the process. In addition, it is intended that a Key Stakeholder Group will be established, and

that the Gwynedd Citizens Panel be used as representative "control groups" (see section 6.5, Appendix 3 and Appendix 9 of the DA)

Is it clear what is expected from participants at each stage?

Yes. This is stated clearly in section 6.11 of the Delivery Agreement.

Does it show how the output from community involvement in each stage/task will be communicated to participants and interested parties (feedback mechanisms)?

Yes, this is detailed in Appendix 3

Is it clear how the output will be transparently recorded as influencing the plan and SA/SEA?

Yes, this is clearly stated in Appendix 3.

Does it indicate how the authority will monitor (and change) the CIS?

Yes, this is set out, with details of the monitoring and review of the whole Delivery Agreement, in section 5.1