National Development Framework
Involvement and Engagement
Engagement on the NDF

What is the NDF?

• National spatial plan 2020 to 2040.
• Statutory requirement to prepare NDF under Section 3 of the Planning (Wales) Act 2015.
• Development plan status.
• Replaces Wales Spatial Plan.
• Supports & co-ordinates delivery of Government policy.
• Identifies & provides a context for Developments of National Significance.
• Direction for Strategic Development Plans (SDPs) and Local Development Plans (LDPs).
How have we engaged?

Website: Access to documents; explanation of timescales and process.

Email: To communicate with NDF Team and dissemination of NDF Newsletter.

Statement of Public Participation: Our formal commitment to involving the public; it outlines the NDF timetable and methods of engagement.

Social Media: Use of Ministerial Twitter account and stakeholder channels to disseminate information.

Consultation Database: Open to all and keeps interested parties informed.

Direct Communication: Public drop-in sessions and stakeholder event.

Engagement Plan: A calendar of meetings, workshops and events that have taken place to discuss the national development framework.

Five ways of working:

- Collaboration
- Integration
- Long term
- Involvement
- Prevention
Timescales

January 2016
Prepare Statement of Public Participation

February – April 2016
Publish and consult on the Statement of Public Participation

October 2016 – March 2018
Gather evidence, develop the vision, objective and options
Undertake Engagement
Call for Evidence and Projects

July – October 2018
Consider responses to the issues, options and preferred option consultation and prepare a consultation report

August – November 2019
Consult on draft NDF

April – June 2020
Assembly consideration of draft NDF

Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3

Stage 4

Stage 5

Stage 6

Stage 7

Stage 8

Stage 9

Stage 10

Stage 11

May – September 2016
Consider responses to the Statement of Public Participation consultation and prepare a consultation report

April – July 2018
Publish and consult on issues, options and preferred option supported by environmental reports and assessments

October 2018 – August 2019
Prepare draft NDF
Undertake Engagement

November 2019 – March 2020
Consider responses to draft NDF and prepare a consultation report

September 2020
Publish NDF
Formal Consultation

1 February – 24 April 2016
Statement of Public Participation.
33 Responses.

7 December – 7 March 2017
Call for Evidence and Projects.
78 Responses, 227 project submissions.

28 April – 21 July 2017
Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report – Consultation.
33 Responses.

30 April – 23 July 2018
Issues, Options and Preferred Option and Update to Statement of Public Participation.
84 Responses.

7 August – 15 November 2019
Draft NDF.
1100 Responses.
Impact Assessments

NDF Team engaged with Welsh Government colleagues and stakeholders to define the Assessment.

Incorporated nine statutory and non-statutory assessments into an *Integrated* Sustainability Appraisal.

A stakeholder workshop & series of meetings were held with statutory consultees and stakeholders to inform the assessment work.
Engagement in numbers

- **8**: NDF Newsletters. One Voice Wales forwards the Newsletter to 626 Town and Community Councils.
- **24**: Stakeholder workshops organised by NDF Team across Wales. All external engagement is recorded and published.
- **72**: Liked and **75**: Retweeted the tweet about the launch of the consultation on the draft NDF.
- **75**: External events attended by NDF team, raising awareness and gathering views.
- **148**: Number of people who attended the drop in events during the consultation on the draft NDF.
- **195**: Number of people who attended the first round of engagement events in January – February 2017.
- **1,552**: Stakeholder registered in the NDF Engagement Consultation database, including 83 Protected Characteristics representative groups.
- **3,750+**: Youtube views of the NDF Animations – Explanation of NDF & Draft Plan.
- **16,000+**: Hits on the draft NDF Consultation webpage between August and December 2019 - an average of 3,200 a month.
January - February 2017 Engagement Events

Stakeholders were asked to show their development priorities for Wales up to 2040. Here's a sample of the results...
Autumn 2017 events feedback

Generally positive but things to work on...

- Maybe useful to break up the workshop into themes / topics?
- Possibly would be helpful to have had more of an introduction into how it might relate to other issues and plans – i.e. Area Statements, Regionalisation Programme, Brexit etc.
- All points addressed, with good opportunity for discussion and feedback.
- Structure provided a good brainstorming exercise. Enjoyed the open discussion and the team’s willingness to listen.
- Would be helpful if expectations of delegates were made more explicit in advance of event.

12 sessions in 4 locations

- Cardiff, Carmarthen, Llandudno Junction, Llandrindod Wells.
- Small groups – 10-15 people, a mix of stakeholder types in every group.
- Detailed discussions on the objectives and series of strategic options.
- Recognition of the strengths and weaknesses of the four options.
- A vital stage in the development of a Preferred Option.
Raising awareness

Taking advantage of existing networks:

• Articles in RTPI Cymru’s quarterly publication Cynllunio.
• Regular features and updates in the Planner – the UK-wide magazine for planners.
• The Welsh Government Twitter account has nearly 90,000 followers
• Protected Characteristics’ Network.
• Meeting of the Public Services Boards Co-ordinators.
• Young Planners Cymru events.
• Workshops for chartered engineers and surveyors.
• Webinars.
Public drop in sessions – Spring 2018

National Development Framework

We held 7 public drop-in sessions to talk about the NDF and the consultation on the Preferred Option. Here are some of the key things you told us...

- I’m worried poultry units are being over-concentrated in rural areas.
- The Preferred Option is less spatial than I thought it would be.
- I feel Welsh Government should set ambitious housing requirements – market and affordable – for all parts of Wales.
- It’s important our landscape, farms, water supply and energy are recognised as key national resources.
- I’d like to see the planning system and the NDF support development of housing in rural areas.
- I’d like the NDF to say energy policy is not always compatible with other objectives, such as tourism and landscape.
- I have concerns over potential for the NDF to impose top down energy and housing policies.
- I’m worried the NDF is very urban area focused, particularly South East Wales. Shouldn’t opportunities and development be spread across Wales?
- Will the NDF be supportive of new towns? And will it identify them?
- Will the NDF have financial levers to help make key sites viable?

How the events were advertised

Facebook  Twitter  Newsletter  Local Press  Posters
Draft NDF stage – Summer 2019

Formal consultation using a variety of formats of documents including Easy read and Young persons versions.

11 Public drop in sessions in libraries across Wales.

21 meetings and events held with stakeholders.

Animation.

Education Resource Packs launched in to schools.

Panel discussions at National Eisteddfod and RTPI events.
Publicity by stakeholders
Work with children and young people

- Children in Wales, North Wales Board – workshops looking at the plan and engagement techniques, fed into education packs and met Minister to launch these into schools.
- Continuing to engage as the NDF progresses.
- Different formats of documents, animations, audio version, easy read version were produced.
Media Coverage

News article quote on engagement:

“The whole process of creating a National Development Framework has been inclusive. Special “easy-read” and “young persons” versions of the framework materials have been produced and at least a dozen face-to-face consultation events are being held across the country.

It seeks not only to engage stakeholders from the planning and development industry, but also to educate and empower the general public – after all, among us are the future generations whose wellbeing the framework is designed to protect.”

– Western Mail 1 October 2019

“The government must be commended on the different formats produced to engage widely on the consultation.”

- The Planner, Roisin Willmott.
19 December 2019
Media Coverage

Cities like Cardiff and Swansea to get even bigger by 2040 as Wales builds thousands of affordable homes