

Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) for the Replacement Local Development Plan

Scoping Report

Newport City Council

June 2021

Quality information

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 AECOM is commissioned to lead on Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) in support of Newport City Council's replacement Local Development Plan (LDP). ISA fulfils the requirements and duties for Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA), Health Impact Assessment (HIA), Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) and Well-being of Future Generations (WBFG).
- 1.2 ISA is a mechanism for considering and communicating the likely effects of an emerging plan, and alternatives in terms of key sustainability issues. The aim of ISA is to inform and influence the plan-making process with a view to avoiding and mitigating negative impacts and maximising positive impacts. Through this approach, the ISA for the replacement LDP seeks to maximise the developing plan's contribution to sustainable development.

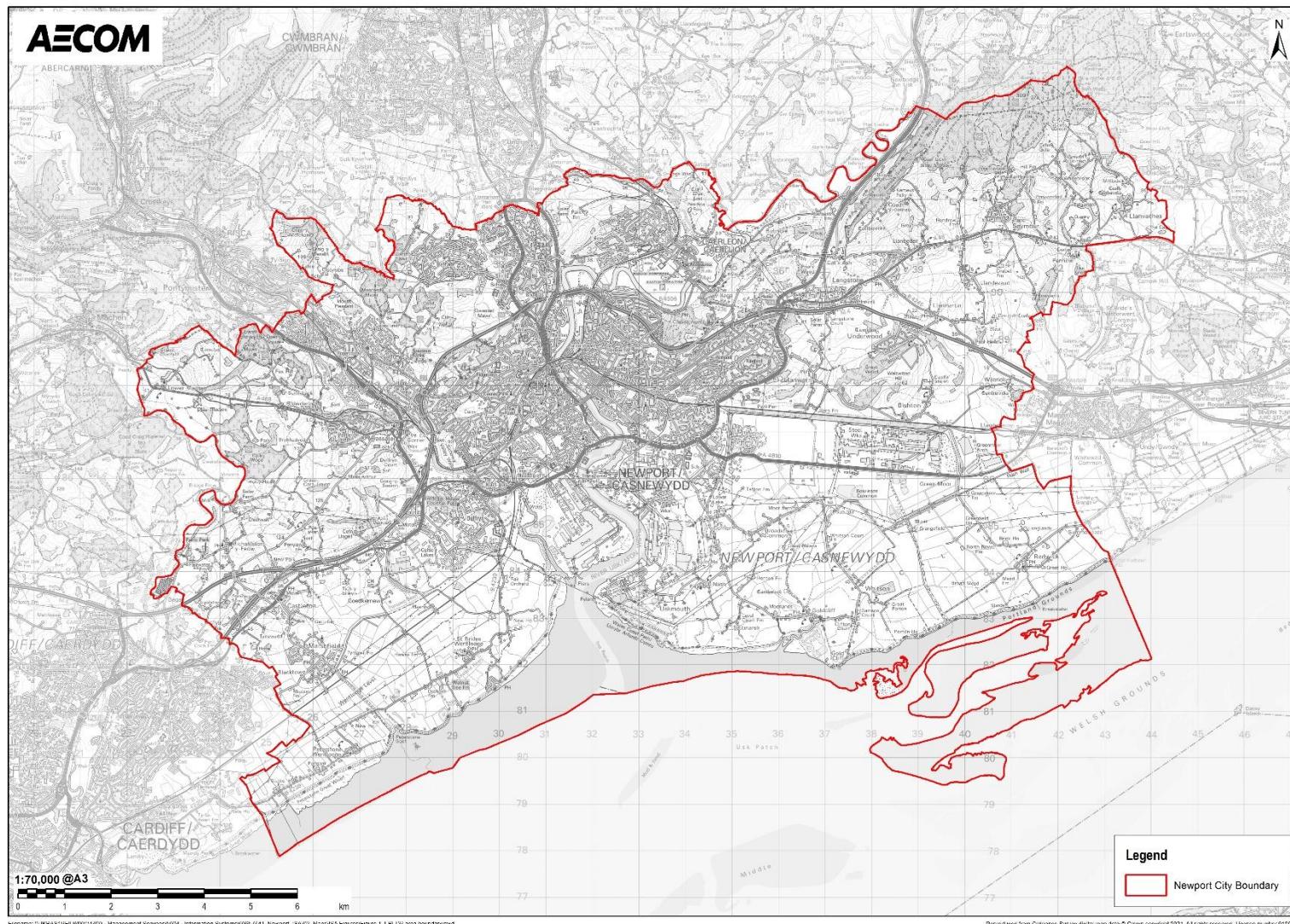
Newport City Council's replacement Local Development Plan

- 1.3 The Newport Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted by the council on 27 January 2015 and sets out the Council's planning framework for the development and use of land in Newport between 2011 – 2026. In accordance with statutory requirements the LDP has been monitored on an annual basis with five Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) published to date.¹
- 1.4 To ensure that LDPs are kept up-to-date, local planning authorities are required to commence a full review of their plans at least once every four years following plan adoption, or sooner if the findings of the AMRs indicate significant concerns with a plan's implementation.
- 1.5 On 14 October 2020 Newport City Council agreed to begin the formal review process of the LDP, with the final Review Report having been made available for consultation in January 2021.² The recommendation of the draft Review Report is to undertake a full revision procedure, to which NCC have subsequently agreed. NCC are now in the process of undertaking a replacement LDP (RLDP).
- 1.6 The replacement LDP will set out the Council's objectives and priorities for the development and use of land within the City for the period 2021 – 2036. The area covered by the replacement LDP is shown in **Figure 1.1** overleaf.

¹ Newport City Council (2016 - 2020) Newport LDP Annual Monitoring Reports [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Planning-Housing/Planning/Planning-policy/Local-Development-Plan/LDP-monitoring-reports.aspx>

² Newport City Council (2021) Newport LDP Draft Review Report [online] available at <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Planning-Housing/Planning/Planning-policy/Local-Development-Plan/Replacement-Local-Development-Plan.aspx>

Figure 1.1: Newport City Boundary



ISA explained

- 1.7 ISA is a mechanism for considering and communicating the likely effects of an emerging plan, and alternatives in terms of key sustainability issues. The aim of ISA is to inform and influence the plan-making process with a view to avoiding and mitigating negative impacts and maximising positive impacts. Through this approach, the ISA for the RLDP seeks to maximise the developing plan's contribution to sustainable development.
- 1.8 As identified above, the ISA seeks to fulfil the requirements and duties for SA, SEA, EqIA, HIA, WLIA and WBFG. The approach is to fully integrate these components to provide a single assessment process to inform the development of the RLDP. A description of each of the various components and their purposes is provided below.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

- 1.9 SA is undertaken to address the procedures prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations). SA is a legal requirement for Local Development Plans under Section 39 (2) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
- 1.10 In line with the requirements of the SEA Directive, the two key steps in SA are that:
 - When deciding on 'the scope and level of detail of the information' which must be included in the SA Report there is a consultation with nationally designated authorities concerned with environmental issues; and
 - A report (the 'SA Report') is published for consultation alongside the Draft Plan that presents an assessment of the Draft Plan (i.e. discusses 'likely significant effects' that would result from plan implementation) and reasonable alternatives.
- 1.11 The LDP Manual Edition 3 (2020) states that SA, incorporating SEA, plays an important part in demonstrating that the LDP is sound by ensuring that it reflects sustainable development objectives and that it should be integral element at each stage of plan-making.

Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

- 1.12 As a public-sector organisation, Newport City Council has a duty under the Equality Act 2010 and associated Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) to ensure that the objectives and policy options within the RLDP avoid unlawful discrimination (direct and indirect), as well as advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between those with protected characteristics and all others.
- 1.13 In March 2021 the Socio-economic Duty Act commenced, which complements the Equalities Act and PSED by further contributing towards Wales' long term well-being goals, in particular "A more equal Wales" and "A Wales of cohesive communities". Further strengthening social partnership arrangements and advancing fair work ambitions.³
- 1.14 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) is often used by public sector organisations to demonstrate how this duty has been met.

Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

- 1.15 The Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 contains a provision to require a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) to be carried out to assess the likely effect of the proposed development plan on health and mental well-being and inequality. The HIA process provides a systematic yet flexible and practical framework that can be used to consider the wider effects of LDP policies and how they, in turn, may affect people's health.

³ Welsh Government (2020) A more equal Wales: strengthening social partnership white paper [online] available at: <https://gov.wales/more-equal-wales-strengthening-social-partnership-white-paper>

Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA)

- 1.16 The Welsh Government is committed to supporting the Welsh Language so that it can thrive and grow across Wales. The Welsh Language must be considered from the outset of the development plan process. It is a legislative requirement that the SA must include an assessment of the likely effects of the plan on the use of the Welsh language (The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 (Section 11)).
- 1.17 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) (2020) sets the policy requirements for Welsh language. Technical Advice Note 20: Planning and the Welsh Language provides guidance on the consideration of Welsh language as part of the development plan process. The TAN provides advice on incorporating the Welsh language in development plans through the SA and the policy approach to anticipated windfall development. In summary, planning authorities must consider the likely effects of their development plans as part of the SA process and include a statement within the Deposit Plan on how this has been considered and or addressed within the development plan. The SA process is the mechanism for considering how the scale and location of growth, the vision, objectives, policies and proposals individually and in combination, impact on the Welsh language. Where evidence indicates a detrimental impact on the use of the Welsh language the LPA can assess whether the strategy should be amended or mitigation measures should be identified.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

- 1.18 The Planning (Wales) Act 2015 sets out the definition of sustainable development for the planning system in Wales, mirroring the definition in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WBFGA).
- 1.19 “*Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals*”.
- 1.20 The WBFGA sets seven well-being goals which all public bodies are required to achieve:
- A prosperous Wales;
 - A resilient Wales;
 - A healthier Wales;
 - A more equal Wales;
 - A Wales of cohesive communities;
 - A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; and
 - A globally responsible Wales.
- 1.21 The Act also identifies five ways of working which public bodies need to demonstrate they have carried out when undertaking their duty to achieve sustainable development. These are: involvement, collaboration, integration, prevention and long term factors. The well-being goals and the five ways of working can be used to inform and structure the ISA framework.

Approach to scoping for the ISA

- 1.22 Developing the draft scope has involved the following steps:
- Exploring the national, regional, and local policy context for the ISA, i.e. reviewing high level messages (e.g. from government departments and agencies in particular) with a view to gaining an understanding of broadly what the ISA needs to focus on. It is considered that national policy documents sufficiently deal with higher level (international) policy context.
 - Establishing the baseline for the ISA, i.e. the current and further situation in the area in the absence of the replacement LDP, in order to help identify the plan's likely significant effects.
 - Identifying particular problems or opportunities ('issues') that should be a particular focus of the ISA.

- Developing an ISA Framework comprising objectives and assessment questions on the basis of these issues which can then be used to assess the replacement LDP and consider alternatives.

Structure of this report

- 1.23 The outcomes of the scoping elements introduced through steps 1 - 4 above have been presented under a series of ISA themes, as follows:
- Economy and employment
 - Population and communities
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Equality, diversity and inclusion
 - Transport & movement
 - Natural resources (air, land, minerals and water)
 - Biodiversity and geodiversity
 - Historic environment
 - Landscape
 - Climate change (mitigation and adaptation)
- 1.24 The selected ISA themes incorporate the 'SEA topics' suggested by Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations⁴ as well as fully integrating EqIA, HIA and Welsh language considerations (including the Councils relevant policies and strategies), and reflecting the seven well-being goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 1.25 It is intended that presenting the scoping information under these themes will help enable the reader to easily locate the information of greatest interest to them. Once agreed (i.e. subsequent to the current consultation), the suggested scope presented under ten themes will provide a methodological 'framework' for the assessment of the draft replacement LDP and alternatives. The discussion of the scoping information under each ISA theme is presented in **Chapters 2 to 11**.

⁴ The SEA Regulations are 'of a procedural nature' (para 9 of the Directive preamble) and do not set out to prescribe particular issues that should and should not be a focus, beyond requiring a focus on '*the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors*' [our emphasis]

2. Economy and employment

2.1 This theme focuses on local businesses, access to employment, tourism, education and skill level.

Policy context

2.2 **Table 2.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the replacement LDP and ISA.

Table 2.1 Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to economy and employment

Document title	Year of publication
Planning Wales Act	2015
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	2015
Environment (Wales) Act	2016
National Development Framework (Future Wales: The National Plan)	2021
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
Welsh Government Rural Development Programme	2014
Technical advice note (TAN) 4: retail and commercial development	2016
Technical advice note (TAN) 13: tourism	1997
Technical advice note (TAN) 23: economic development	2014
Cardiff Capital Region and City Deal	2016
Western Gateway	2019
Newport Local Development Plan	2015
Newport City Centre Masterplan	2018
Newport Destination Management Strategy and Action Plan	2013
Building Better Places	2020
City of Newport Economic Growth Strategy	2020
Economic Growth Strategy Recovery Addendum	2020
Newport Digital Strategy	2015
The Second State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR2020)	2020

2.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (FW) sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales identifies Newport as a Centre of National Growth, and as such the replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals reflecting the increased strategic role of the region. The emerging Strategic Development plan (SDP) for the South East also seeks to address regional factors such as housing, employment and transport across the region. Promoting Newport as a focus for strategic housing and economic growth will likely include investment in essential services and facilities; transport and digital infrastructure.
- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with Planning Policy Wales (PPW) which predominately seeks to ensure planning decisions support economic and employment growth alongside social and environmental considerations within the context of sustainable development.

- PPW is supplemented by TANs, which translate Welsh Government's commitment to sustainable development into the planning system, so that it can play an appropriate role in moving towards sustainability. The replacement LDP should aim to:
 - co-ordinate development with infrastructure provision and support national, regional, and local economic policies and strategies;
 - align jobs and services with housing, wherever possible, so as to reduce the need for travel, especially by car; and
 - promote the re-use of previously developed, vacant and underused land.
- The Cardiff Capital Region and City Deal seeks to promote strong, sustainable and balanced growth throughout the region, 'Powering the Welsh Economy'. The deal aims to encourage investment and create an equal opportunity environment within the ten local authorities and other key partners in its boundaries. The revised LDP should set out policies and proposals for the promotion of sustainable growth within the area for the benefit of its resident population.

Baseline summary

- 2.4 Newport is a coastal city, it has an urban hub with an extensive rural hinterland. Newport gained city status in 2002. Since then, one of the largest regeneration projects in the UK has delivered huge transformation, culminating in the opening of the Friars Walk retail and leisure complex in 2015 (see para 2.12). In recent years, landmark buildings have been brought back into use, creating new homes and commercial space in the city centre. The riverfront has been transformed with new housing developments.
- 2.5 There is a university campus in the city centre. It is hoped that a new further education campus will be delivered to create a Newport Knowledge Quarter that offers joined up educational pathways and support for local business. The plans for ongoing regeneration are evidenced through the City Centre Masterplan, and this is discussed further below.
- 2.6 Newport also has an international profile, having hosted world class business and sporting events: the NATO Summit in 2014 and the Ryder Cup in 2010.

Regional context

- 2.7 The South East region comprises Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Torfaen and the Vale of Glamorgan and is the most populous region of Wales, with over 1.5 million residents (**Figure 2.1**).

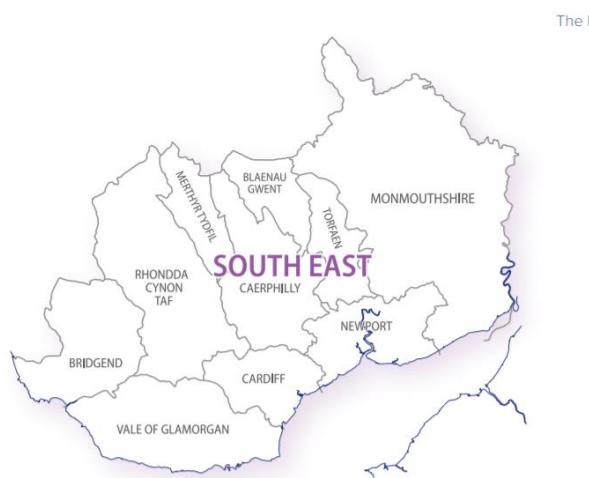


Figure 2.1: The South East Region⁵

⁵ <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/future-wales-the-national-plan-2040.pdf>

2.8 The South East Wales region is the smallest of the four regions by area and includes the coastal cities of Cardiff and Newport and the former industrial heartlands of the South Wales valleys. The regional issues that planning authorities should work together to plan for are set out alongside the Welsh Government's (WGs) spatial policy areas, and will be the focus of WG's support for the South East region. With 150,792 Welsh speakers across the region, it is important that Strategic and Local Development Plans consider the relationship between strategic housing, transport and economic growth and the Welsh language. The region's assets are its connections with the Mid Wales and South West Wales regions and the West of England region.

A Centre of National Growth

2.9 Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 highlights how population trends in Wales have historically reflected economic fortunes, with people drawn to the areas where jobs were available. Over two centuries this has resulted in the development of three main urban clusters of cities and towns:

- Cardiff, Newport and the Valleys
- Swansea Bay and Llanelli; and
- Wrexham and Deeside.

2.10 Cardiff, Newport and the Valleys are economically distinctive, supporting a range of businesses, enterprises and a university, offering culturally rich lifestyles to residents and visitors. They are internationally and nationally significant places and Future Wales promotes their continued growth and regeneration. Future Wales sets out detailed policies for each of the urban clusters, or 'growth areas', setting out their role in a national and regional context.

2.11 As an area for national growth, Newport plays a significant role in the economies of the South East region, Wales, and the wider South West region of the UK. Notably Newport has one of the highest GVA/ head rates for the region⁶, with considerable investment taking place.

2.12 Since the adoption of the LDP in 2015, economic investment in Newport has included the completion of the Friars Walk development (pictured in **Figure 2.2** overleaf) which has provided a retail and leisure focus to the city centre. The £100 million retail and leisure development has been delivered in partnership with Newport City Council, Queensberry Real Estate, and offers some additional services to the City, including:

- five major store units;
- 30 Additional Units;
- a multiplex Cineworld cinema;
- a 360-space car park;
- family restaurants;
- a new bus station; and
- a convenience food store

⁶ Newport City Council (2015): 'Newport's Economic Growth Strategy' [online] available at: https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/documents/s11217/Economic%20Growth%20Strategy_Final%20version%20Oct%202015.pdf



Figure 2.2: Fairs Walk, Newport⁷

2.13 Strategic economic development also includes the Western Gateway.⁸ The Western Gateway is a recently established strategic partnership that aims to deliver an economic powerhouse that will drive growth on both sides of the Severn. As an equal partner, Newport is expected to be a key player in the success of the Western Gateway and capitalise on the benefits of greater collaboration. In November 2019, the Western Gateway was formally launched as a strategic partnership promoting and maximising economic growth across South Wales and the West of England to create jobs, boost prosperity and support the universities and businesses of the region.⁹

Local economy

2.14 Recent changes (2015-2020) in the local economy and emerging trends have been set out in the Newport Economic Growth Strategy (2020). Key successes include:

- 11.7% increase in FTE gross weekly wages;
- 14.9% increase in business start-up rate (with business closure rates down by 0.8%);
- £1.7m increase in visitor numbers; and
- £405m increase in Newport GVA, (£2,124 per worker).

2.15 Conversely there is still some work to do in delivering the outcomes. Areas which have not improved since 2015 include:

- 6.5% increase in the gender pay gap difference average FTE;
- Public perception of Newport and whether residents think Newport is a good place to live; and
- 2% fewer residents registered as self-employed.

2.16 Newport has a number of strengths, including:

- an affordable location;
- a gateway City;
- direct access to regional and national infrastructure;
- an established five-year housing land supply;
- a Business Improvement District, and

⁷ Newport's Economic Growth Strategy, Ibid. p. 6.

⁸ HM Gov (2021): 'The Western Gateway' [online] available at: <https://western-gateway.co.uk/publications/>

⁹ Newport City Council (2021): 'Newport Local Development Plan Draft Review' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Replacement-Local-Development-Plan-2021/FINAL-DRAFT-REVIEW-REPORT-23DEC20-ENG.PDF>

- a 10.8% increase in average property values.

2.17 The Strategy identifies current threats and challenges as:¹⁰

- Maintaining a skilled workforce;
- Addressing the lack of Grade A office stock available;
- Reducing City Centre footfall;
- Contracting retail sector;
- Aging sports facilities;
- Absent landlords;
- M4 congestion;
- Graduate retention; and
- Competing for investment opportunities with other Cities.

2.18 The Newport Corporate Plan (2017-2022)¹¹ sets out how the Council will build on successes and opportunities, and Build a Better Newport. The plan sets out how this will be done by focusing on jobs and the economy, education and skills, fairness and equality, community safety and cohesion, the environment, transport, culture, and social well-being.

2.19 **Figure 2.3** (overleaf) plots the Newport economic activity rates against the Wales and UK rates since the start of the adopted LDP Plan period. The economic activity rate is classed as the number of those who are economically active, as a percentage of those aged 16-64 years (excluding students).

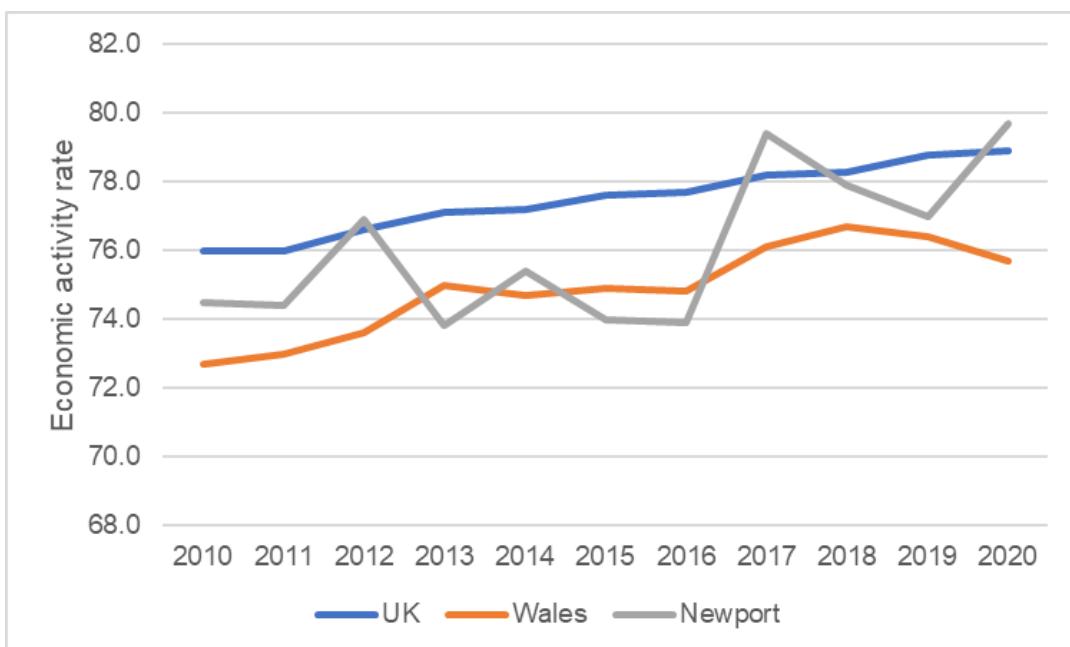


Figure 2.3: Economic activity rate (2010-20)¹²

¹⁰ Economic Growth Strategy 2020

<https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/documents/s17617/08%20Economic%20Growth%20Strategy%20Feb%202020.pdf?LLL=0>

¹¹ Newport City Council (2017): 'Corporate Plan' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Council-and-Democracy/About-the-council/Corporate-Plan-2017-2022.pdf>

¹² Capita Symonds (2011): 'City Wide Transport Strategy Review' [online] available at:

<http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/LDP-2011-2026/4969---City-Wide-Transport-Strategy-Review---Strategy-Refresh,-.pdf>

- 2.20 77% of the Newport population between the ages of 16-64 (and excluding students) are economically active. This is a decrease of 0.9% on the 2018 figure.¹³ Unemployment rates are at 3.9% (as of 2019). Average gross weekly earnings in Newport have been increasing since 2015.

Covid-19 recovery

- 2.21 While longer-term economic trends are generally positive for Newport, consideration must be given to the recent effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown on Newport's economy. In this respect, Newport City Council are progressing work on an Economic Recovery Strategy. The effect of lockdown on the wider UK economy has been modelled by the Office for Budget Responsibility, which found that a scenario of a three month lockdown has seen the UK economy forecasted to shrink by -12.8% in 2020 with an unemployment rate of 7.3%.
- 2.22 To counteract economic contraction and mass unemployment brought about by the lockdown policy the UK government introduced an unprecedented number of economic support packages to UK business. The 2019 Business Count for Wales shows a total of 106,015 active enterprises. Data published in May 2020 shows the national take up of Business Rates relief to be 50,700 or 47.8% of Welsh businesses.¹⁴
- 2.23 The majority of Newport's businesses fall into the 'micro' category (4,460). Before the pandemic, there was a significant focus on these being a growth driver for the local economy due to the city's excellent start-up rates; with a particular focus on responding to demand for flexible working space capable of accommodating new digital companies.
- 2.24 Across Wales, ERF funding to micro-businesses has been the most widely applied for, which reflects both its flexibility but also the fact that many businesses in this bracket did not qualify for support via local authority rates teams. The application process is now paused but Business Wales estimate around 220 Newport micro-businesses were successful in accessing the funding.¹⁵
- 2.25 130 SME's (around 12% of this size bracket) also accessed this funding; however, only around 6% of Newport's 1,135 SME's accessed this funding before the application process was paused.¹⁶ Whilst this suggests take-up was lower for Newport businesses, the speed and efficiency at which rates relief and grants were rolled out would have meant many were ineligible for this funding.
- 2.26 Tentatively, the public has become more confident about job security as the national response to the pandemic has progressed. Surveys of adults aged 16-74 between March 19th and 18th May have shown a 6% reduction in those who fear they may lose their job or business, and a 12% reduction in the number of people who feel Coronavirus will have a financial impact on themselves or their family (**Table 2.2** below). Overall however, the threat is still perceived as high.

Table 2.2 Signs of recovery from Covid-19¹⁷

Survey of public views on Covid-19 March – May 2020		19th-21st March	15th – 18th May
Threat posed to your job or business	Very high or high	54%	48%
Covid-19 will have financial impact on self and family	Strong or somewhat agree	75%	63%

¹³ AMR, Ibid. p. 104.

¹⁴ <https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/documents/s17949/04a%20Appendix%20EGS%20Recovery.pdf?LLL=0>

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ <https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research>

¹⁷ <https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/documents/s17949/04a%20Appendix%20EGS%20Recovery.pdf?LLL=0>

High streets

- 2.27 With regards to retail services, footfall figures for 2019 have decreased by 382,412 since 2018 (-5.5%).¹⁸ This is a trend being experienced nationally as High Streets react to changes in shoppers' behaviour and changes more generally in the retail sector, with a shift to online shopping.¹⁹ In 2020, this has been further exacerbated by the outbreak of Coronavirus and the Government measures to prevent the spread of the virus included the requirement for certain businesses and venues to close. **Figure 2.4** (below) shows the decrease in footfall as a result of the Coronavirus lockdown in Newport.

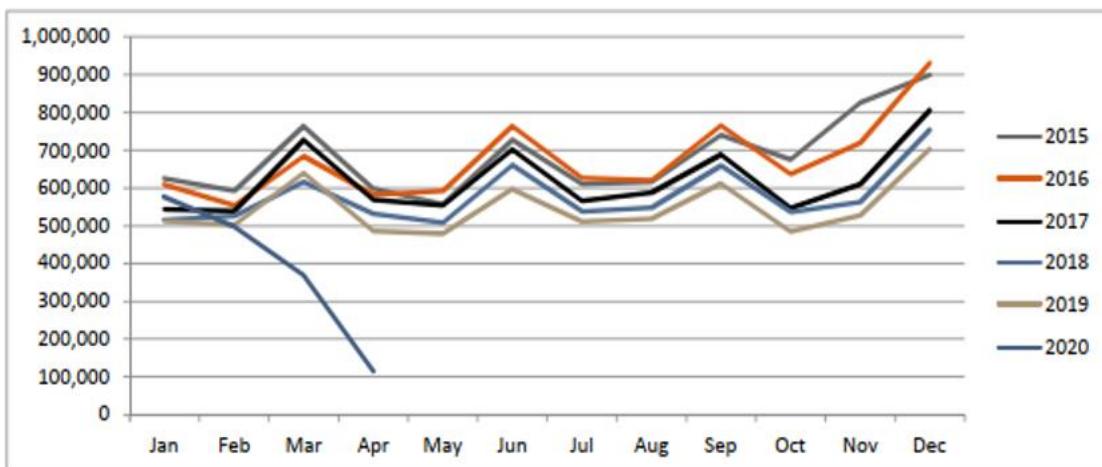


Figure 2.4: Newport commercial footfall²⁰

Commuting trends

- 2.28 The percentage of residents who live in Newport but commute out of the City has marginally increased from 39.4% (2017) to 39.9%, for the second consecutive year.
- 2.29 The percentage of people commuting out of Newport to Bristol has increased over the past year, as well as commutes to other parts of England, most likely parts of Gloucestershire and Somerset, reflecting the growing trends of people moving to Newport following the removal of the Severn Bridge tolls. This is demonstrated through **Figure 2.5** below.

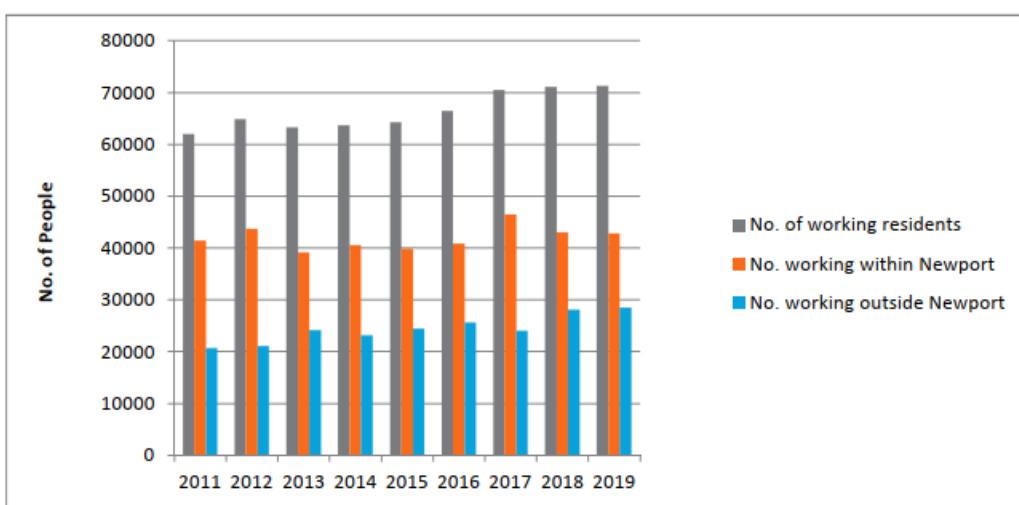


Figure 2.5: Commuting patterns within Newport (2011- 2019)²¹

¹⁸ Capita Symonds, Ibid.

¹⁹ Newport Annual Monitoring Report

²⁰ <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/future-wales-the-national-plan-2040.pdf>

²¹ Newport City Council (2016 - 2020) Newport LDP Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Planning-Housing/Planning/Planning-policy/Local-Development-Plan/LDP-monitoring-reports.aspx>

Employment sectors

- 2.30 **Figure B.1** (see **Appendix B**) shows the key existing areas of employment within Newport. **Figure B.1** shows that employment areas are localised at Duffryn Way in the south west, the Industrial estates at Langland Way, and the retail park to the east of Lisberry. Local centres are predominately confined to the city centre, at the central retail area (Friars Walk/Kingswell shopping centre).
- 2.31 **Figure 2.6** shows a notable split of job sectors within Newport. The most dominant are:
- Public administration, defence, education and health (27%)
 - Wholesale, retail, transport, hotels and food (26%)
 - Professional, scientific and technical activities (17%)

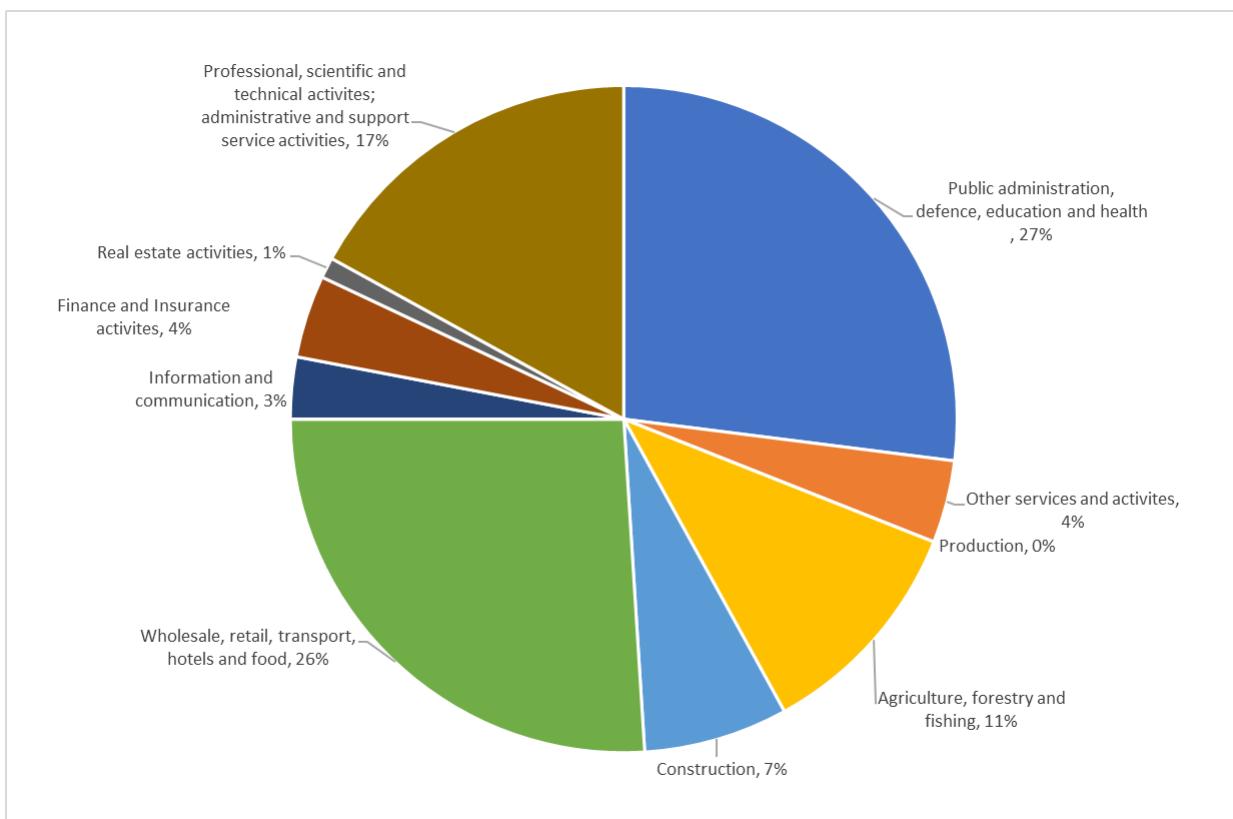


Figure 2.6: Newport employment sectors (2018)²²

- 2.32 In terms of job losses between 2017 and 2018, statistics suggest that there have been losses in the production sector, wholesale/retail/transport/hotel/food, and public administration/defence/health & education. Increases have occurred in the construction sector, along with professional/scientific & technical activities.²³

Tourism

- 2.33 Newport is surrounded by beautiful landscapes including the Wye Valley, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the undulating Vale of Usk, famous for its salmon fishing, the Brecon Beacons National Park and Forest of Dean – all less than an hour's drive from Newport. These assets are discussed further under the Landscape and Biodiversity ISA themes.
- 2.34 In terms of places to visit in Newport, local attractions include:²⁴

²² www.statswales.wales.gov.uk

²³ AMR, Ibid, p.42.

²⁴ Newport City Council (2021) Leisure and tourism: attractions [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Leisure-Tourism/Attractions/Attractions.aspx>

- Roman Caerleon
- Transporter Bridge
- Tredegar House
- Newport Medieval Ship
- Newport Museum and Art Gallery
- Public art trail
- St Woolos Cathedral
- Fourteen Locks Canal Centre
- Newport Wetlands Reserve
- Walk the Newport Explorer trail

2.35 Notably, the iconic Newport Transporter Bridge is one of only six operational transporter bridges left worldwide. Following a successful bid to National Lottery Heritage Fund, permission was granted in March 2020 for the repair and restoration of the bridge and the construction of new visitor centre facilities. The bridge, alongside its improved facilities, such as the visitor centre is pictured below (**Figure 2.7**).



Figure 2.7 Proposed new transporter bridge visitor centre²⁵

- 2.36 Newport City Council identify that prior to the CV-19 pandemic, Newport's tourism industry was continuing an upward trend. In 2017, the visitor economy had almost doubled since 2006. With 3.5% growth in 2017 the industry had a total financial impact of £396.56 million per year. In 2017, the number of overnight stays increased by more than 4%, despite the number of hotel rooms staying the same. Key events such as the annual Newport Food Festival and regional events, including the UEFA Champions League final have supported the visitor industry.²⁶
- 2.37 The CV-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions will have ultimately impacted the tourism economy over 2020 and Newport City Council identify that "the economic outlook for tourism, leisure and hospitality is the most challenging across all industries". The nature of this industry, requiring travel and social interaction, means that even the most positive recovery forecasts predict significant impacts over the short-term. The Council further identify that the Wales Tourism Barometer Survey reported 72% of South East Wales tourism businesses having to furlough at least some staff. On average this amounted to 15.6 people in practice accounting for most if not all of the business staff. The Council recognise that "to avoid a 'lost opportunity'

²⁵ AMR, Ibid, front cover.

²⁶ Newport City Council (2018) News: Visitor figures for Newport show continuing growth [online] available at:

<https://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Council-Democracy/News/articles/2018/September-2018/Visitor-figures-for-Newport-show-continuing-growth.aspx>

situation finding ways to help the sector adapt to become Covid-19 secure will be vital to continuing to promote Newport".²⁷

Education

- 2.38 **Figure B.2** (see **Appendix B**) shows that Newport has a range of primary and secondary school provision, and a specialist school. The majority of primary schools (over twenty-four of the schools) are located within the main part of the Plan area (within the M4/A48 ring road), whilst the majority of secondary schools are situated outside of this area, with the exception of St Julian's in the north east.
- 2.39 In terms of education, the 2011 Census recorded that Newport residents generally have lower levels of higher qualifications when compared to the rest of Wales. However, there are slightly higher levels of apprenticeships when compared to Wales. There are a significant proportion of residents with no qualifications, much higher when compared to Wales, and higher than found for England and Wales; see **Figure 2.8** below.

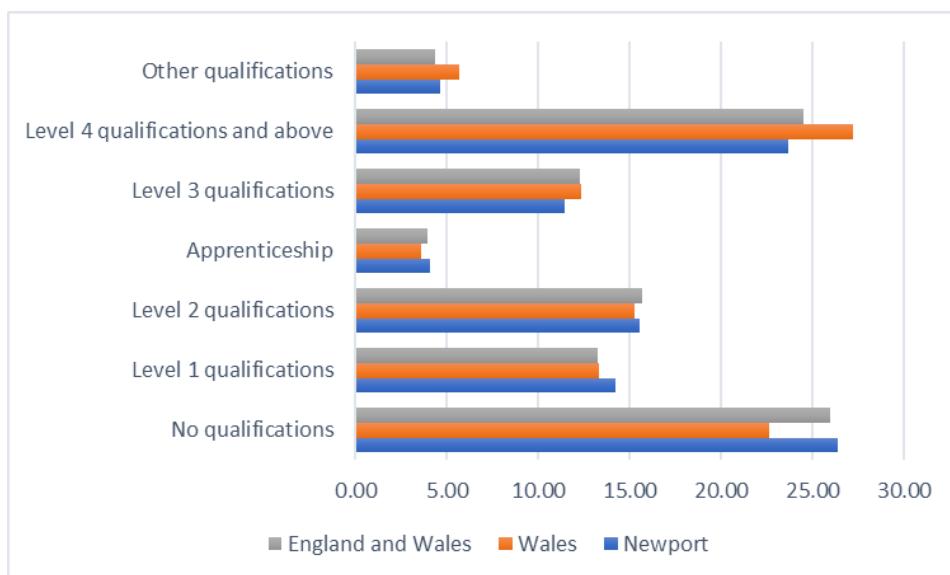


Figure 2.8: Highest level of qualification²⁸

Future baseline

- 2.40 Business and retail centres in Newport are facing significant changes in terms of footfall and dealing with the impacts of the CV-19 pandemic. Whilst economic decline is forecast in the short- to medium-term, there may be innovative responses from businesses in the longer-term.
- 2.41 The Council's Retail & Leisure Study²⁹ outlines ways to enhance the vitality and viability of the City Centre. The recommendations of the study indicated that "*such policies (of the plan) could be supportive of flexible working practices and encourage new opportunities through the amalgamation or subdivision of existing town centre units and workspace (where such development results in little, or marginal, loss of net floorspace), and for the change of use of longstanding vacant units to encourage investment.*"
- 2.42 It is also recognised that the Cardiff Capital Region (CCR) City Deal offers strategic opportunities for Newport's economy. The deal will create jobs and boost economic prosperity across South East Wales by improving transport links, increasing skills, helping people into work and giving businesses the support they need to grow.

²⁷ Newport City Council (no date) Recover, Reposition, Renew: Economic Growth Strategy Recovery [online] available at: <https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/documents/s17949/04a%20Appendix%20EGS%20Recovery.pdf?LLL=0>

²⁸ Census, 2011

²⁹ Nexus Planning (2019): 'Retail and Leisure Study' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Planning-Housing/Planning/Planning-policy/Retail-and-leisure-study.aspx>

Key issues

2.43 The context review and baseline information informed the identification of a number of key issues (problems and opportunities):

- The Newport economy is of national importance, playing a significant role within the South East Wales Region and Western Gateway, in an accessible and affordable location supported by national infrastructure. It has been subject to recent economic investments and should continue to enhance its identified role and contributions to both local and larger economies. Many of Newport's businesses, particularly SMEs, have been significantly impacted by the CV-19 pandemic and an economic recovery strategy will seek to address both the impacts and opportunities presented by the pandemic.
- High Streets continue to lose footfall, and their economic vitality is under threat from the impacts of the CV-19 pandemic.
- There is a high proportion of residents with no qualifications, and low levels of residents with higher qualifications. Improved access to education and training opportunities could bring levels more in line with that experienced across Wales as a whole.
- The LDP forecasted 81,800 jobs by the end of the Plan period in 2026, which is an increase of 7,400 new jobs. The latest AMR (2020) core indicators show job growth has increased throughout the monitoring period (April 2019 - April 2020) and is above the LDP target set for this period.³⁰

³⁰ Newport City Council (2020) AMR 2020 [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/AMR-2020-OCT2020-Eng.pdf>

ISA objectives

2.44 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

ISA objectives	Assessment questions – will the option/proposal help to:
Support a strong, diverse and resilient economy, with innovative responses to changing conditions and support for a strong future workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the nationally important role of Newport's economy in the South East Wales Region and Western Gateway, and as part of the Cardiff Capital Region?• Provide sufficient land for businesses to grow?• Support the creation of accessible new jobs?• Ensure the capacity of educational facilities keep pace with population growth?• Enhance the vitality and resilience of the town centre and retail centres?• Safeguard existing employment areas?

3. Population and communities

- 3.1 This theme focuses on the demographics and households of the population in Newport, as well as deprivation, access to services and facilities.

Policy context

- 3.2 **Table 3.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the replacement LDP and ISA.

Table 3.1: Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to population and communities

Document title	Year of publication
Planning Wales Act	2015
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	2015
Environment (Wales) Act	2016
National Development Framework (Future Wales: The National Plan)	2021
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 2: Planning and Affordable Housing	2006
Technical advice Note (TAN) 6: Planning for sustainable rural communities	2010
Technical advice Note (TAN) 12: Design	2016
Cardiff Capital Region and City Deal	2016
Placemaking Wales Charter	2020
Newport Local Development Plan	2015
Newport City Centre Masterplan	2018
Building Better Places	2020
Newport Empty Homes Strategy	2019
Gwent Regional Homelessness Strategy	2018
The Second State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR2020)	2020

- 3.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (FW) sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales identifies Newport as a Centre of National Growth, and as such the replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals reflecting the increased strategic role of the region. The emerging SDP for South East Wales also seeks to address regional factors such as housing, employment and transport across the region. Promoting Newport as a focus for strategic housing and economic growth will likely include investment in essential services and facilities; transport and digital infrastructure.
- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with PPW which predominately seeks to ensure planning decisions support all aspects of well-being and deliver new development which is sustainable and provides for the needs of all people.
- PPW is supplemented by TANs, which translate Welsh Government's commitment to sustainable development into the planning system so that it can play an appropriate role in moving towards sustainability. The primary objective of PPW is to ensure that the planning system contributes towards the delivery of sustainable development, and contributes positively towards improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. This is as required by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, the Well-being of Future

Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and other key legislation and resultant duties such as the Socio-economic Duty.

- The Placemaking Wales Charter builds on the strengthening focus on Placemaking in policy and practice in Wales, and aims to provide a common understanding of the range of considerations that go into placemaking. The charter outlines the following six placemaking principles that cover the range of considerations that contribute to establishing and maintaining good places:
 - People and community;
 - Movement;
 - Location;
 - Public realm;
 - Mix of uses; and
 - Identity.
- The Cardiff Capital Region and City Deal seeks to promote strong, sustainable and balanced growth throughout the region, committing to a partnership approach to housing and regeneration. The deal aims to encourage investment and create an equal opportunity environment within the ten local authorities and other key partners in its boundaries. The replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals for the promotion of sustainable growth within the area for the benefit of its resident population.
- The adopted Newport LDP and other local policies and plans regarding socio economic issues broadly address the following themes:
 - The reuse of previously developed land and empty properties;
 - Improving facilities, services and overall social and environmental equality of existing and future communities; and
 - Encouraging the co-location of housing and other uses including employment to minimise the overall need to travel and encourage a shift towards sustainable communities.

Baseline summary

Population

- 3.4 **Figure 3.1** (overleaf), shows data for the usual resident population in South East Wales, as well as projections for the 2022- 2030 period. Over the past few years, the population of Newport has continued to increase. Between 2014-2019, the population grew by 5.1%, and as shown in **Table 3.2** overleaf, this was the largest increase in resident population amongst the areas in South East Wales. It is also predicted that Newport will see the biggest growth in resident population over the next 10 years (9.1%).
- 3.5 **Table 3.3** (overleaf) highlights that the following age groups increased over the monitoring period (2015- 2019):
- 0-14 age group (0.5% for males, 0.7% females);
 - 33-40 age group (1.2% for males, 0.8% females); and
 - 45-64 age group (0.2% for males).
- 3.6 The 15-29 age group is predicted to decrease over the period of 2015- 2019 (-1.6% for males and -1.2% females).

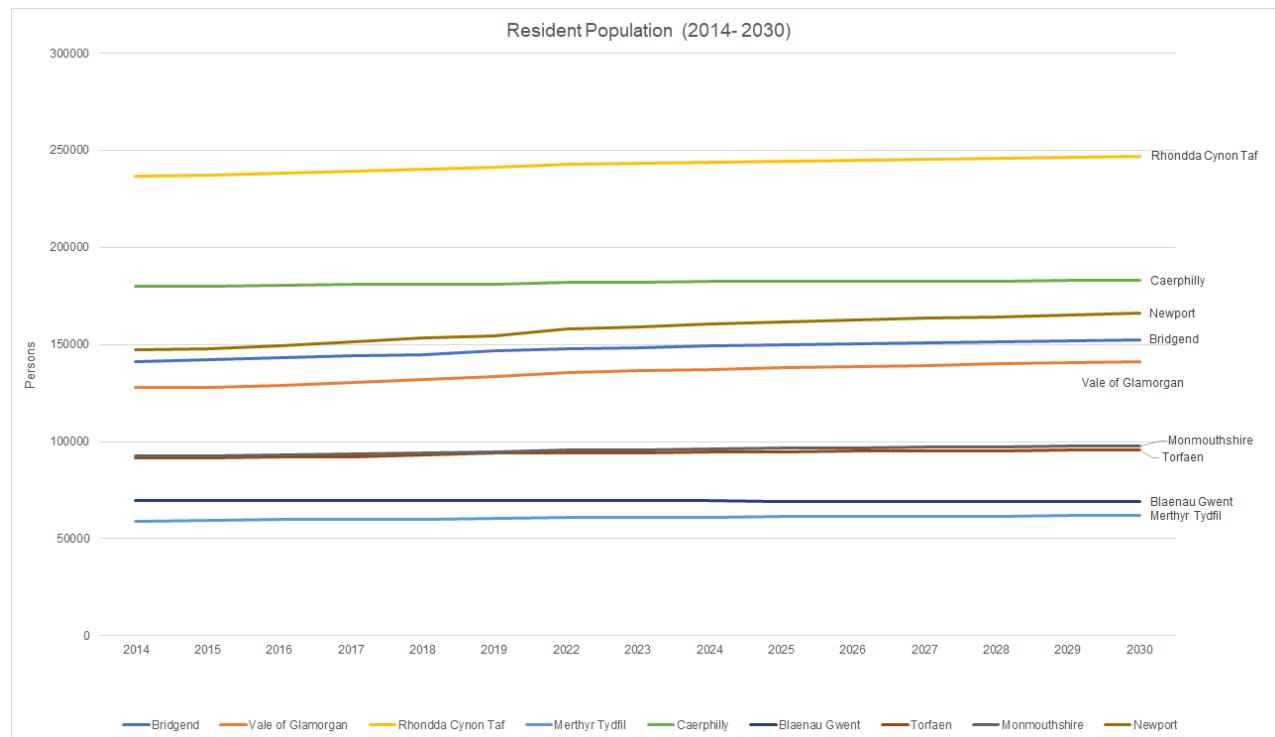


Figure 3.1: Population (2014- 2030), South East Wales^{31 32}

Table 3.2: Population change³³

Area	2014- 2019	2019- 2030
Bridgend	4.1%	4.7%
Vale of Glamorgan	4.4%	7.0%
Cardiff	3.4%	4.1%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	1.9%	3.0%
Merthyr Tydfil	2.2%	3.3%
Caerphilly	0.6%	1.2%
Blaenau Gwent	0.3%	-1.1%
Torfaen	2.6%	2.4%
Monmouthshire	2.2%	4.4%
Newport	5.1%	9.1%

³¹ Stats for Wales (2019): 'Population projections by LA and year' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Projections/Local-Authority/2018-based/populationprojections-by-localauthority-year>

³² Nomis (2019): 'Mid-year population estimates' [online] available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesscotlandandnorthernireland>.

³³ Aecom calculations.

Table 3.3: Age distribution (2015- 2019), Newport³⁴

Age band	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	Male	Female								
0-14	19.6%	18.1%	19.8%	18.3%	20.1%	18.5%	20.2%	18.5%	20.3%	18.6%
15-29	20.0%	19.1%	19.7%	18.5%	19.4%	18.1%	19.0%	17.8%	18.8%	17.5%
30-44	18.9%	18.8%	19.1%	19.0%	19.2%	19.3%	19.5%	19.7%	19.7%	20%
45-64	25.4%	25.2%	25.4%	25.5%	25.4%	25.5%	25.3%	25.5%	25.2%	25.4%
65-74	9.2%	9.8%	9.2%	9.7%	9.2%	9.6%	9.2%	9.5%	9.0%	9.6%
75+	6.8%	9.0%	6.8%	9.0%	6.8%	9.0%	6.9%	9.0%	7.0%	9.0%

- 3.7 **Figure B.3** (see Appendix B) shows population density in Newport. The most built-up areas of Newport are at the city centre: Pillgwenlly, Lliswerry, Beechwood, Allt Yr Yn, Stow Hill, and Gaer in the north and in the south at Duffryn and Liswerry. The population in these areas is between 125,000 and 250,000.

House prices

- 3.8 **Figure 3.2** (below) shows that the average price of properties in Newport has increased over the period of 2011- 2021 (+56.0%), to a greater extent than prices in Wales as a whole (+41.8%). As of January 2021, the average price of a property in Wales was £181,198, in comparison to £201,627 in Newport.³⁵
- 3.9 Average prices are also higher in Newport than the surrounding local authorities of Caerphilly and Torfaen, however average prices are higher than Newport in Cardiff and Monmouthshire.

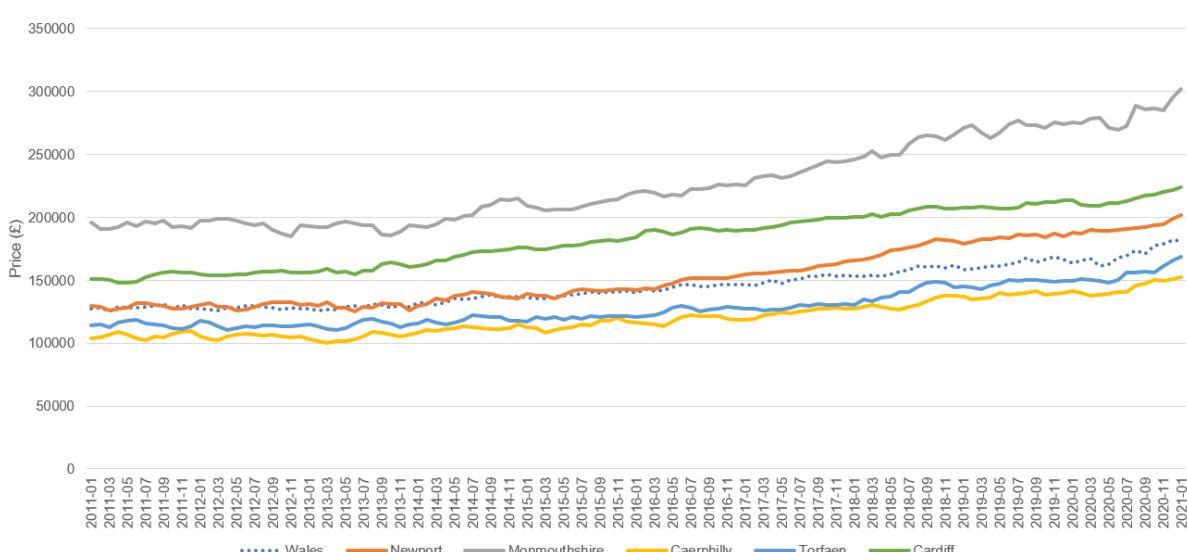


Figure 3.2: Average house prices, 2011-2021 (Wales and Newport)³⁶

³⁴ Stats for Wales (2019): 'Population projections by LA and year' [online] available at:

<https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Projections/Local-Authority/2018-based/populationprojections-by-localauthority-year>

³⁵ Newport City Council (2016 - 2020) Newport LDP Annual Monitoring Reports [online] available at:

<http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Planning-Housing/Planning/Planning-policy/Local-Development-Plan/LDP-monitoring-reports.aspx>

³⁶ Newport City Council (2016): 'Newport Local Development Plan- Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) [online] available at:

<https://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Planning-Housing/Planning/Planning-policy/Local-Development-Plan/LDP-monitoring-reports.aspx>

- 3.10 **Figure 3.3** shows how the Newport average house price compares to the other local authorities in Wales. As per January 2020, Newport was within the 170k to 189k band. Monmouthshire still had the highest house prices in Wales in January 2020, followed by the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff. Newport was within the same band as Anglesey, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire, Conwy and Flintshire in January 2020, but it is worth noting that the average house price in Newport was still approximately 10k more than these authorities. In Newport's first AMR, the authority was on a par with Swansea and Bridgend (April 2016 house prices). Prices have since become considerably higher than Swansea and Bridgend.
- 3.11 With regards to prices in areas of Newport, the Inner Core submarket area (Pillgwenlly and Victoria) has the lowest average property price whilst the Rural Hinterland submarket area (Graig, Marshfield, Langstone, Tredegar Park and Llanwern) has the highest property price in its range. Additionally, property prices in Pillgwenlly and Victoria have increased by 69% on average over the monitoring period (2015- 16), whilst houses in the rural hinterland have decreased by approximately 13% over the same time period.
- 3.12 For private housing, the highest proportions of privately renting households are found in the inner-city wards of Pillgwenlly, Victoria and Stow Hill, where nearly a third of privately rented households are based. The highest median rental prices are found in the rural hinterland submarket area, at an average of £163 a week. House prices are still strong in Newport, and the percentage increases are still amongst the highest in Wales. Neath Port Talbot has experienced the highest increases, followed by Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and then Newport.

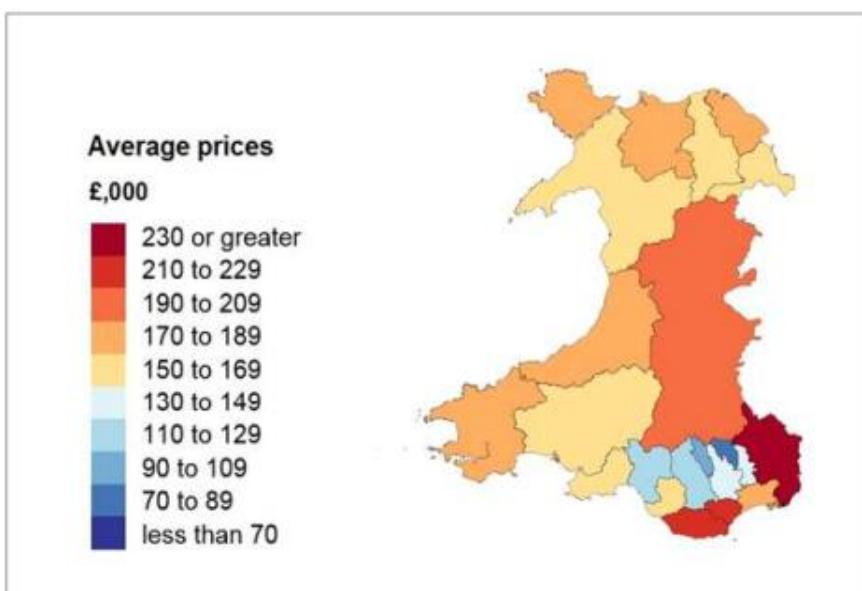


Figure 3.3: Average house prices, January 2020 (Wales)³⁷

- 3.13 Analysis of the Council Tax register undertaken in August 2014 indicates that social rented housing for Newport has risen by 21.5% since 2011. Social rented housing constitutes almost 22.3% of total housing for Newport based on 2014 estimates. **Figure 3.4** overleaf indicates that Liswerry, Pillgwenlly, Tredegar Park, Gaer, Alway, Ringland and Bettws have the highest proportions of social housing in Newport.

³⁷ Newport City Council (2020) AMR 2020 [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/AMR-2020-OCT2020-Eng.pdf>

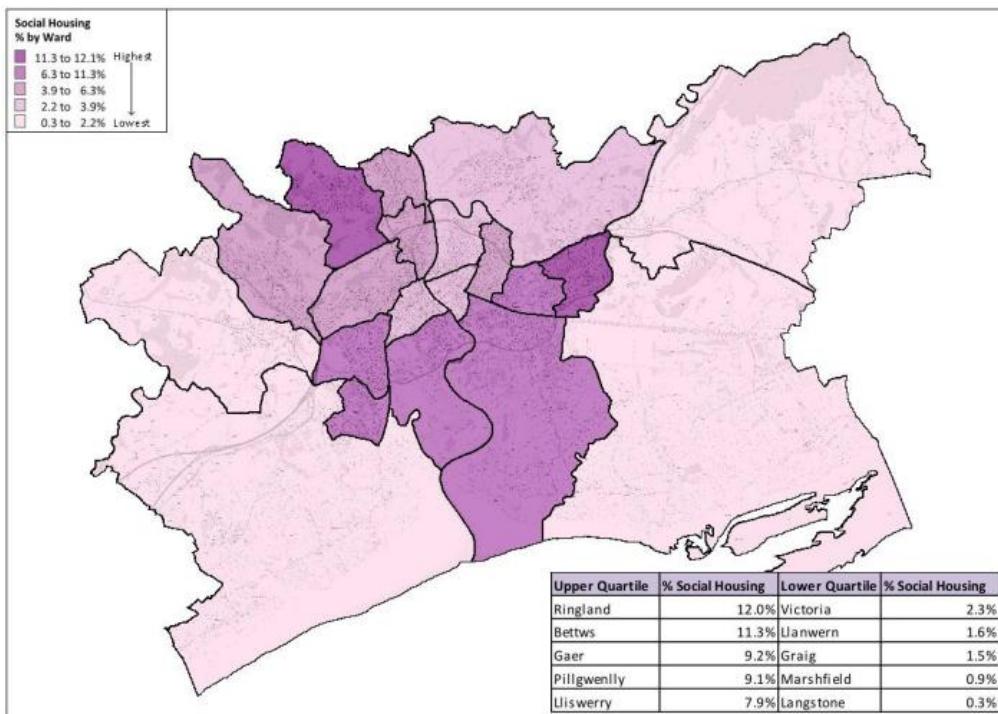


Figure 3.4: Social housing provision (2011), Newport wards³⁸

Education

- 3.14 4.3% of all pupils from Newport in 2020 have a primary or secondary Welsh medium education. This is a slight decrease from 2019 of 4.4% (-3 pupils); however, the overall numbers of pupils in Welsh Medium education has increased by 2% (429 pupils).³⁹
- 3.15 The University of South Wales has a campus based in the city centre of Newport. The number of individuals who graduated from the University of South Wales in 2019 who have stayed in Newport following their studies totals 1,188 individuals. This is an increase of 661 students (from 527 in 2018), demonstrating an increasing trend.⁴⁰

Community services and recreation

- 3.16 Community services are important for meeting the needs of the usual resident population. In this regard, there were 532 community services delivered within Newport in 2020, which is a decrease of 16 services compared to 2019.⁴¹
- 3.17 Newport's Neighbourhood Hubs offer residents easy access to vital services in local communities. The Hubs provide access to baby and toddler groups, adult classes and recreational groups, library services, Welsh language classes, community growth projects and health and fitness activities. The Hub services are divided into different areas in Newport: central, east, north and west.⁴²

Crime rates

- 3.18 **Figure 3.5** overleaf shows reported crimes in Newport over the previous year (2020-21). Crime rates peaked in April at 2,907, but have since stabilised at approximately 1,650 cases per month. In comparison to previous years, crime rates in Newport have increased over the past year (by 227 cases), averages show a marginally decreasing trend (shown by the blue dotted trend line) over the period of 2017-2021 (**Figure 3.6** overleaf).

³⁸ Community Perception Survey' in: Newport City Council (2017): 'Newport Community Wellbeing Profile' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/One-Newport/Community-Well-being-Profile-Final-2017.pdf>

³⁹ Newport City Council (2020) AMR 2020 [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/AMR-2020-OCT2020-Eng.pdf>

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Newport City Council (n.d.): 'Community Hubs' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/en/About-Newport/Neighbourhood-Hubs/Neighbourhood-Hubs.aspx>

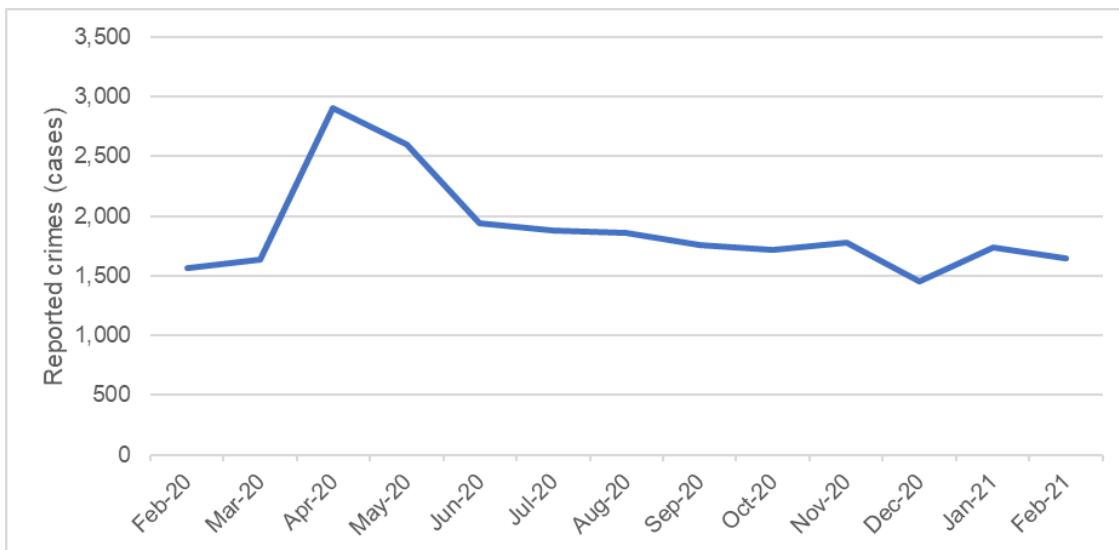


Figure 3.5: Reported crimes in Newport (2020- 21)⁴³

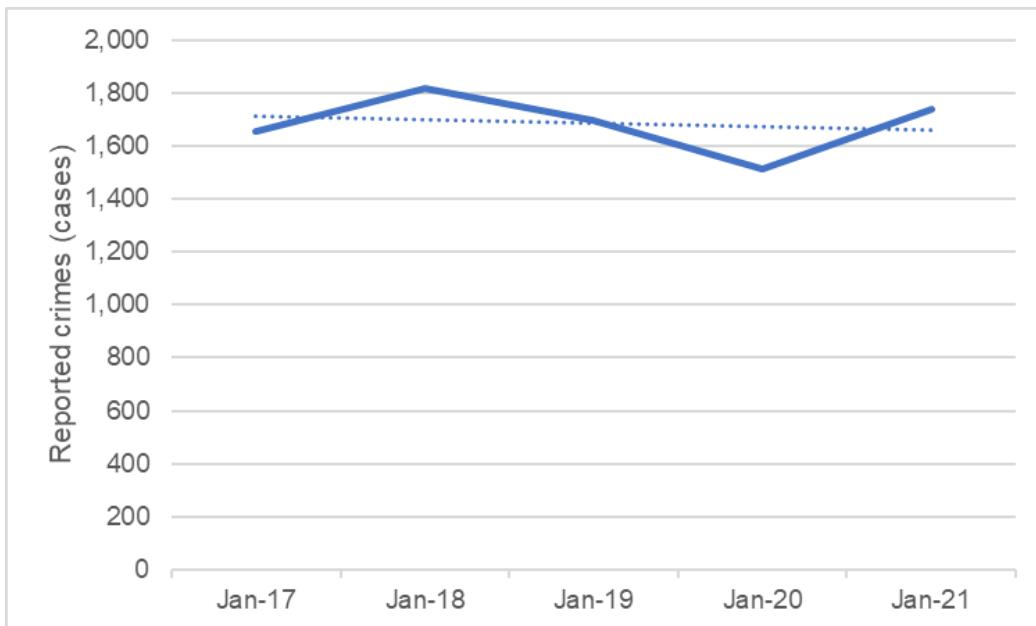


Figure 3.6: Reported crimes in Newport (2017 - 2021)⁴⁴

- 3.19 The Community Safety Perception Survey for Newport concluded the following key points regarding perceptions of Newport residents⁴⁵:
- The percentage of people who feel safe during the night in their local area has increased overall by 8.53% from 63.80% in May 2011 to 72.33% in July 2016, and
 - The percentage of people who feel safe during the night in the city centre has increased overall by 15.6% from 22.10% in May 2011 to 37.70% in July 2016.

Green wedges

- 3.20 Green Wedges are an urban containment mechanism intended to restrict the spread of built development beyond designated settlement boundaries and allocated sites. Newport City Council has indicated several areas to be Green wedges in order to prevent coalescence

⁴³ www.newportcrimstats.co.uk

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ 'Community Perception Survey' in: Newport City Council (2017): 'Newport Community Wellbeing Profile' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/One-Newport/Community-Well-being-Profile-Final-2017.pdf>

between settlements.⁴⁶ As shown in **Figure B.4 (see Appendix B)**, Green Wedges have been identified predominately in the north, northeast, and southwest of Newport, and are listed below:

- NPT 1 Caerleon and Cwmbran,
- NPT 2 Newport and Cardiff
- NPT 3 Newport and Cardiff,
- NPT 4 Bettws, Malpas and Cwmbran, and
- NPT 5 Rogerstone and Risca.

Future baseline

- 3.21 The increasing population is likely to put pressure on existing community services. Further, unplanned development may have wider implications in terms of delivering the right mix of housing types, tenures and sizes in suitably connected places. Continued development of housing types and tenures of market preference may introduce or exacerbate a housing imbalance and fail to meet any local needs for smaller homes to downsize into, or more affordable homes to retain and attract younger residents.
- 3.22 The replacement LDP offers the opportunity to promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other - for example through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres, street layouts that allow for easy pedestrian and cycle connections within and between neighbourhoods, and active street frontages.
- 3.23 Considering the ongoing pandemic, homeworking is likely to become a more prevalent trend, and this is likely to alter the commuting patterns and access trends of residents into the future. Whilst uncertainty remains, the local plan provides opportunities to guide development which accommodates for changing working patterns and lifestyles, and places greater emphasis on access to local services, facilities and employment options and strategic connectivity.

Key issues

- 3.24 The context review and baseline information informed the identification of a number of key issues (problems and opportunities):
 - Housing prices in Newport have steadily increased over the period of 2011- 2021, particularly in Pillgwenlly and Victoria, alongside rising private rental prices. However areas such as Pillgwenlly also have lowest house price within Newport City. The replacement LDP could seek to enhance policy provisions that deliver the right mix of housing types, tenures and sizes according to local needs, in suitably connected places, as well as affordable housing for future residents.
 - Newport has consistently higher rates of crime and anti-social behaviour compared to Wales as a whole. Plan making could seek to make Newport safer and more accessible to improve the quality of life and community cohesion of residents, such as through safer pedestrian routes (see Chapter 6), high quality green open spaces (see Chapter 4) and measures which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.
 - Population growth in Newport is predicted to continue to increase over the next 10 years. In order to adapt to this increase, plan making could seek to enhance and promote current community services, in addition to more houses.

⁴⁶ Newport City Council (2011): 'Adopted Local Plan (1996- 2011)' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/LDP-2011-2026/adopted-UDP.pdf>

ISA objectives

3.25 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

Objectives	Assessment questions – will the option/proposal help to:
To provide a sufficient quantity of good quality market and affordable homes, and community infrastructure, in sustainable locations to meet identified needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet the identified housing needs, including affordable, for Newport City?• Ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures to meet the needs of all sectors of the community?• Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities?• Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities, including specialist services?
To enhance design quality to create places for people that maintain and enhance community and settlement identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve cross-boundary links between communities?• Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities, including specialist services

4. Health and wellbeing

- 4.1 This theme focuses on the demographics and households of the population in Newport, as well as deprivation, access to services and facilities.

Policy context

- 4.2 **Table 4.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the replacement LDP and ISA.

Table 4.1: Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to health and wellbeing

Document title	Year of publication
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Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
Public Health (Wales) Act	2017
Air Quality Wales Regulations	2002
Building Better Places	2020
Placemaking Wales Charter	2020
Wales Active Travel Strategy	2021
The Second State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR2020)	2020
South East Wales Area Statement	2017
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 12: Design	2016
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 16: Sport, recreation and open space	2009
Newport Local Wellbeing Plan	2018
Newport Local Development Plan	2015
Newport City Centre Masterplan	2018

- 4.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- Future Wales sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales identifies Newport as a Centre of National Growth, and as such the replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals reflecting the increased strategic role of the region. The emerging SDP for the South East Wales also seeks to address regional factors such as housing, employment and transport across the region, which will in turn improve the physical and mental health of the population. Promoting Newport as a focus for strategic housing and economic growth will likely include investment in essential services and facilities; transport and digital infrastructure to support healthy lifestyles.
- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with PPW which predominately seeks to ensure planning decisions support all aspects of well-being. PPW places the concept of placemaking at the centre of national planning policy in order to deliver new development which is sustainable and provides for the needs of all people.

- PPW is supplemented by TANs, which translate Welsh Government's commitment to sustainable development into the planning system, and provide national planning policy in respect of health. Notably the replacement LDP will be required to:
 - Contribute to the protection and, where possible, the improvement of people's health and wellbeing as a core component of achieving the well-being goals and responding to climate change.
 - Consideration of the possible impacts of developments – positive and/or negative – on people's health at an early stage will help to clarify the relevance of health and the extent to which it needs to be taken into account.
 - Development plan policies should be designed to ensure, as far as is practicable, that noise-sensitive developments, such as hospitals, schools and housing, that need to be located close to the existing transportation infrastructure to facilitate access, are designed in such a way as to limit noise levels within and around those developments.
 - Development plan policies and decisions on planning applications should take into account national air quality objectives, recognising that they represent a pragmatic threshold above which government considers the health risks associated with air pollution are unacceptable.
- World Health Organisation guidelines on the health effects of noise and national indicators set by the Welsh Ministers under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, together with information from the local authority's annual air quality reports, national noise maps and any area statements issued by Natural Resources Wales under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- The Placemaking Wales Charter builds on the strengthening focus on Placemaking in policy and practice in Wales, and aims to provide a common understanding of the range of considerations that go into placemaking. The charter outlines the following six placemaking principles that cover the range of considerations that contribute to establishing and maintaining good places:
 - People and community;
 - Movement;
 - Location;
 - Public realm;
 - Mix of uses; and
 - Identity.
- In March 2021 the Welsh Government announced that active travel schemes will receive a funding boost of more than £53 million as part of the Government's efforts to encourage healthy travel. In addition, pupils will be helped to get to school through the 'Safe Routes in Communities' grant, supporting schemes across Wales. This will contribute towards delivering the priorities identified and agreed through the Newport Wellbeing Plan (2018):
 - Improve the perceptions of Newport as a place to live, work, visit and invest
 - Drive up skill levels for economic and social well-being
 - Support regeneration and economic growth
 - Provide children and young people with the best possible start in life
 - Long and healthy lives for all
 - Ensuring people feel safe in their communities
 - People have access to stable homes in a sustainable supportive community
 - People feel part of their community and have a sense of belonging
 - Participation in sports and physical activity is important for people's well-being

- Participation in arts, heritage and history is important for people's well-being
- Newport has a clean and safe environment for people to use and enjoy
- Improve air quality across the city
- Communities are resilient to climate change

Baseline summary

Physical activity and green open spaces

- 4.4 Access to open space can have benefits that are both mental and physical. Areas of deficiency may therefore result in a population that does not participate in informal physical activity, alongside other secondary effects associated with environmental inequality. In this respect, there are a number of green open spaces in Newport, these include:⁴⁷
- Designated biodiversity sites with natural open space provision (detailed in Chapter 8);
 - formal, informal and equipped play areas;
 - commons and village greens;
 - accessible natural greenspace;
 - amenity areas;
 - outdoor play space; and
 - Accessible Natural Greenspace Provision in Newport.
- 4.5 **Figure B.6** (see **Appendix B**) maps the open green space, public forest, and forest recreation areas and routes within Newport. While open green space is dispersed throughout Newport, public forest is predominately located to the north.
- 4.6 Areas with open green space provision have been aggregated by ward, and are presented in **Table 4.2** overleaf, arranged by shortfall/ surplus. The 'FIT standard' represents the minimum level of provision sought by Newport Council as per the Open Green Space SPD (2017).⁴⁸ Areas with a shortfall according to this measure have been highlighted in red.
- 4.7 When broken down to ward level, 13 out of Newport's 20 wards have an overall shortfall in provision. Where a surplus of provision exists, this is primarily as a result of a citywide facility being situated in the ward, for example Spyty Park in Liswerry and Tredegar Park Sports Ground in the Gaer ward.⁴⁹ Areas with notably low open green space provision are Victoria, Marshfield and Allt-yr-Yn. Overall, there is a current deficit of 21ha of open green space in Newport.⁵⁰

⁴⁷ <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/LDP-2011-2026/Environmental-Spaces--Background-Paper-June-2013.pdf>

⁴⁸ Newport City Council (2017): 'Open Space Provision SPD' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Supplementary-Planning-Guidance/Outdoor-Play-Space-SPG-Adopted-Version-Jan-2017.pdf>

⁴⁹ Newport City Council Local Development Plan: Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment

⁵⁰ Newport City Council (2017): 'Open Space Provision SPD' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Supplementary-Planning-Guidance/Outdoor-Play-Space-SPG-Adopted-Version-Jan-2017.pdf>

Table 4.2: Open Green Space Provision in Newport (2017)⁵¹

Ward	FIT standard (ha)	Actual provision (ha)	Shortfall/surplus (ha)
Lliswerry	29.64	49.85	20.20
Gaer	20.93	38.42	17.49
Tredegar Park	10.39	20.82	10.43
Bettws	18.25	27.24	8.99
St. Julian's	20.82	28.41	7.59
Malpas	19.2	22.04	2.85
Stow Hill	11.22	10.45	-0.77
Shaftsbury	12.32	11.31	-1.01
Llanwern	7.11	5.66	-1.45
Ringland	20.52	18.31	-2.21
Caerleon	19.35	14.92	-4.43
Pillgwenlly	17.56	12.67	-4.89
Beechwood	18.18	12.31	-6.06
Langstone	10.62	4.2	-6.42
Alway	19.99	13.04	-6.96
Rogerstone	24.38	16.91	-7.47
Graig	14.98	6.03	-8.95
Allt-yr-Yn	21.08	11.63	-9.45
Marshfield	15.05	3.53	-11.52
Victoria	17.92	0.31	-17.60
Newport Total	349	328	-21

Sports facilities

4.8 **Figure B.7** (see **Appendix B**) shows that gyms, leisure centres, and sports parks are dispersed throughout Newport, with many clustered in the city centre and to the south.

Medical Services

- 4.9 There is a large provision of medical services within Newport, as shown in **Figure B.5** (See **Appendix B**). Notably the Royal Gwent Hospital is located in the City Centre and includes a minor injury unit.⁵²
- 4.10 Seven Local Health Boards (LHBs) in Wales now plan, secure and deliver healthcare services in their areas of scope. In this regard, Newport falls within the scope of the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board.⁵³ Figures for the number of registered patients per GP (GP partner, practitioner, registrar, retainer and locum) in the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area (2019) indicate that there are approximately 631 patients per GP, which is the third highest ratio across all the seven health boards surveyed. The average ratio of patients to GP for Wales is approximately 611 per GP (as of 2019).⁵⁴

⁵¹ Newport City Council (2017): 'Open Space Provision SPD' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Supplementary-Planning-Guidance/Outdoor-Play-Space-SPG-Adopted-Version-Jan-2017.pdf>

⁵² NHS Wales (n.d.): 'Postcode search for services' [online] available at: <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/ourservices/directory/postcodesearch?pc=NP198AJ+&dentist=1&gp=1&optician=1&pharmacy=1&dist=2>

⁵³ <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/One-Newport/Green-and-Safe-Spaces-Review-2021.pdf>

⁵⁴ Stats for Wales, Ibid.

Health indicators

- 4.11 Long-term health shows how residents with long term health conditions are affected by their illnesses. In general, residents in Newport are not limited in their day-to-day activity (79.2%), shown in **Figure 4.1** below. Comparative figures for Wales as a whole indicate that 77.3% of residents are not limited in their day-to-day activities. This percentage also varies across Newport with the highest rates in Ringland (28.5%), Bettws (26%) and Gaer (25.4%).⁵⁵

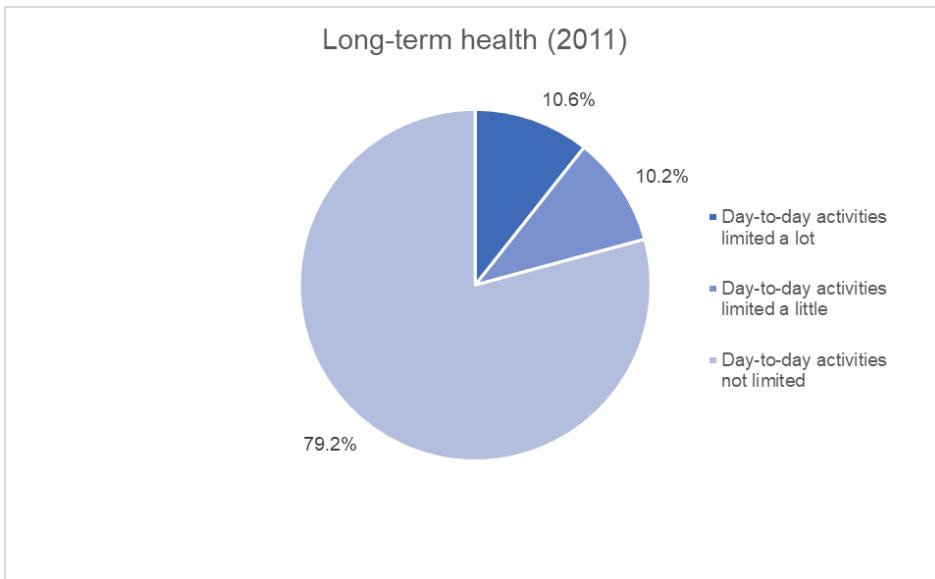


Figure 4.1: Long-term health category (2011), Newport⁵⁶

- 4.12 General health in the Plan area (shown in **Figure 4.2**) is mostly good, as per the 2011 Census, with 78.6% of residents reporting 'very good' or 'good' health. This is in line with trends for Wales as a whole (77.7%). Only a very small proportion of residents report 'bad' or 'very bad' health (7.4%). However, this percentage varies across Newport with the highest rates are in Ringland (11.5%) Bettws (10.6%), Pillgwenlly (9.8%), Gaer (9.2%) and Tredegar Park (9%). These spatial differences are shown in **Figure 4.3** overleaf.

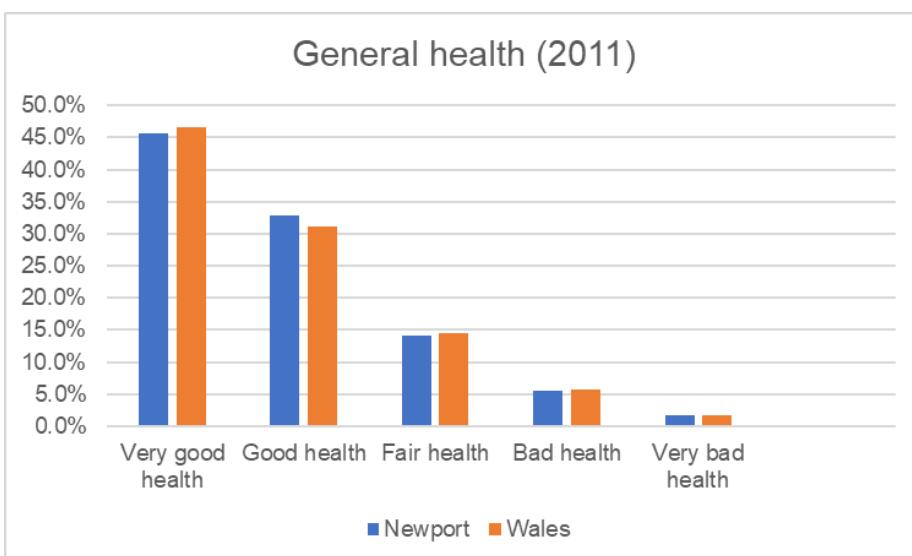


Figure 4.2 General health (2011), Newport⁵⁷

⁵⁵ Newport City Council (2017): 'Newport Community Wellbeing Profile' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/One-Newport/Community-Well-being-Profile-Final-2017.pdf>

⁵⁶ Census, 2011.

⁵⁷ Census, 2011.

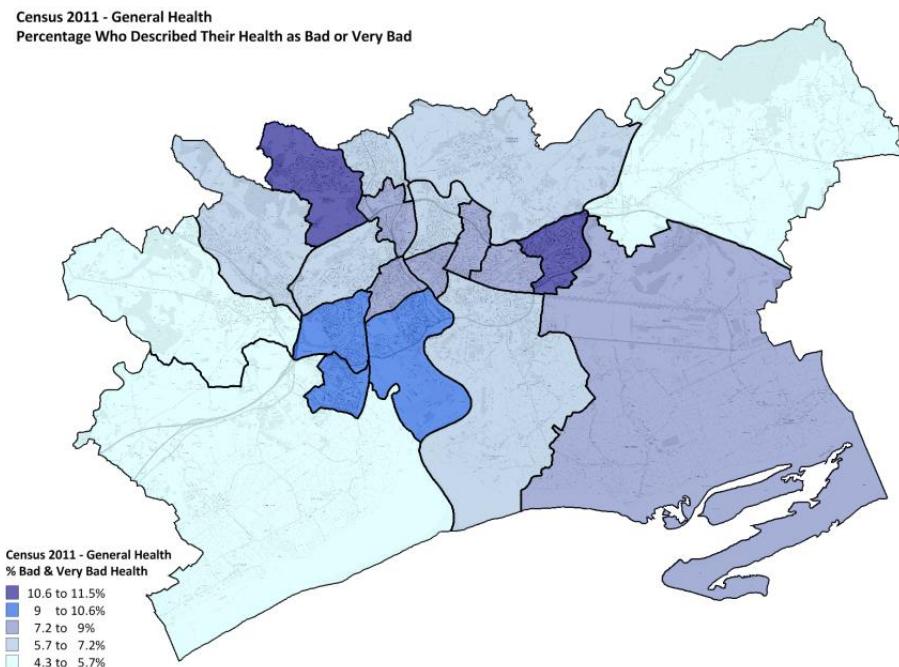


Figure 4.3: General health (2011), Newport Wards⁵⁸

- 4.13 **Figure 4.4** below shows life expectancy for areas within the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board area. Life expectancy for females in Newport (82.3) is longer than males (78), following general trends for the other areas, and for Wales (82.3 and 78.3 respectively). Life expectancy for males and females is comparatively good overall for Newport in comparison to these areas. Further, the proportion of life spent in 'good health' for males and females in Newport (65.4 and 67.2 respectively) is comparatively high. In Wales as a whole, healthy life expectancy is 66.7 for males and 65.3 females.⁵⁹

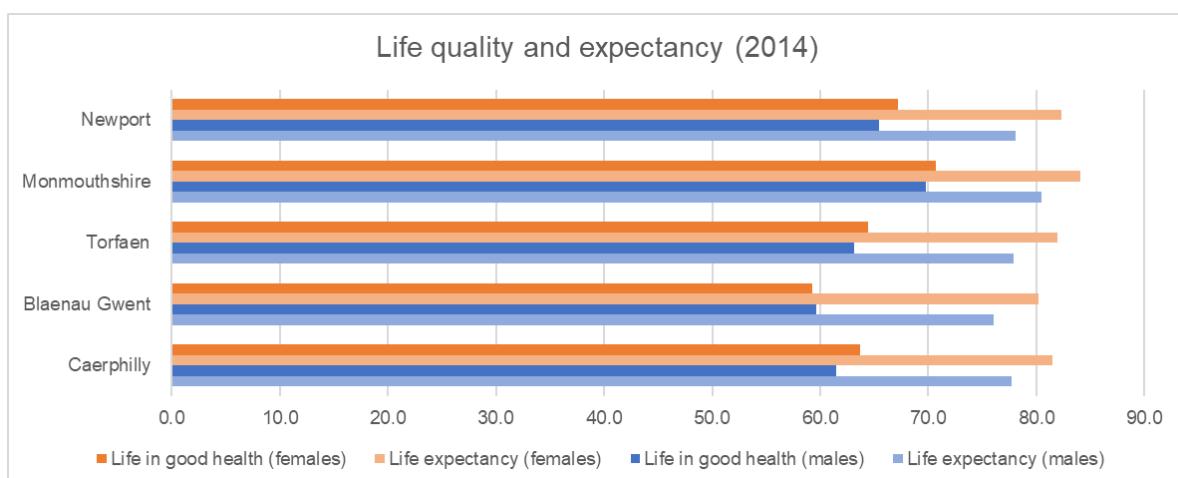


Figure 4.4 Life quality and expectancy (2010- 2014)⁶⁰

⁵⁸ Newport City Council (2017): 'Newport Community Wellbeing Profile' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/One-Newport/Community-Well-being-Profile-Final-2017.pdf>

⁵⁹ Stats for Wales (2014): 'Life Expectancy' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Life-Expectancy/lifeexpectancyandhealthylifeexpectancyatbirth-by-localhealthboard-localauthority>

⁶⁰ Stats for Wales (2014): 'Life Expectancy' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Life-Expectancy/lifeexpectancyandhealthylifeexpectancyatbirth-by-localhealthboard-localauthority>

- 4.14 Standardised Mortality Ratios (SMRs) depict a difference between the observed number of deaths in a study population, and the number of deaths that would be expected, based on the age- and sex-specific rates in a standard population. In this respect, the SMRs for males and females in Newport are 108 and 94 respectively, indicating that the mortality rate in Newport is higher for men than women. In this regard, Newport has one of the highest mortality rates for men in Wales.⁶¹
- 4.15 As of 2015, Newport has the highest rate of infants born with low-birth weights in the Aneurin Bevan catchment area (7.5%).⁶²

Mental health

- 4.16 The SF36 score is derived from a number of self-assessed questions within the Welsh Health Survey, asking respondents about their mental health and the impact on their lives. A higher score indicates better mental health. In this regard, the SF36 mental component summary score for Newport increased from 49.5 to 50.0 over the period of 2010-2014. This rate is above the Wales average which has decreased from 49.9 to 49.6 over the same time period.⁶³ Suicide rates in Newport were below the Welsh average in 2014, at 5.8 per 100,000 in comparison to 12.2 per 100,000.⁶⁴

Further health trends

- 4.17 Alongside these indicators, there are a number of health challenges faced by residents of Newport that are detailed below⁶⁵:
 - Some of the main challenges for Newport, which contribute to disadvantage within local communities, are health inequalities, and child poverty.
 - Babies born in Newport suffer from high rates of Infant Mortality. There is also a high rate of teenage pregnancies.
 - Most recent figures indicate that 21.6% of the Newport population are living with a long-term limiting illness and 7.9% of people are permanently sick or disabled. As life expectancy grows, the incidence of limiting long term illness is likely to increase with age.
 - The interplay of different conditions, and the medications required to treat these, makes the care of older people extremely complex. Older people in Newport as a group tend to have a lower income than the general population when the incidence of limiting long term illness tends to increase with age.
 - Of all the older people living in Newport, 15% live alone, potentially creating an additional level of demand on services.
 - Although the overall health status of Newport is comparable to the rest of Wales, the prevalence of obesity, coronary heart disease, strokes and respiratory disease are marginally lower than the Welsh average but are still high compared to the rest of the UK.
 - There are considerable differences in health status between the richer and poorer areas in Newport.

Future baseline

- 4.18 It is considered that wider health elements such as green infrastructure and active living are gaining more importance in terms of policy focus, particularly given the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent enforced lockdown. Therefore, while there is currently a deficit in accessible open space throughout Newport, the replacement LDP should ensure that there is a sufficient and equitable distribution of open space throughout the plan area. The Active Newport Strategy

⁶¹ Stats for Wales (2010): 'SMRs by Local Authority' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Births-Deaths-and-Conceptions/Deaths/StandardisedMortalityRatios-by-LocalAuthority-Gender>

⁶² Stats for Wales (2015): 'Low birth rates' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Health-and-Social-Care/Births-Deaths-and-Conceptions/Births/livebirthswithlowbirthweight-by-area>

⁶³ Newport City Council (2017): 'Newport Community Wellbeing Profile' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/One-Newport/Community-Well-being-Profile-Final-2017.pdf>

⁶⁴ Newport City Council (2017): 'Newport Community Wellbeing Profile' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/One-Newport/Community-Well-being-Profile-Final-2017.pdf>

⁶⁵ Newport City Council Local Development Plan: Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment

2011-14's key aim is to increase sport and physical activity amongst the population by 1% year on year.⁶⁶

- 4.19 While healthcare assets seem relatively well placed in the joint plan area, greater accessibility for those most at risk of suffering poor health outcomes should be sought, particularly in the more deprived wards.
- 4.20 The impact of Newport's ageing population on health services should also be considered in future planning, recognising the pressure this may place on health infrastructure in future, particularly given the high GP to patient ratio currently seen.

Key issues

- 4.21 The context review and baseline information informed the identification of a number of key issues (problems and opportunities):
 - There is a large provision of medical services within Newport, however GP to patient ratio is higher than average when compared with seven other health boards.
 - Some of the main challenges for Newport, which contribute to disadvantage within local communities, are health inequalities. While general health in Newport is predominately good, this varies across Newport with high rates (over 10%) of poor health reported in areas such as Ringland (11.5%).
 - 13 out of Newport's 20 wards have an overall shortfall in accessible open space. Access to open space can have benefits that are both mental and physical. Areas of deficiency may therefore experience a population that does not participate in informal physical activity, alongside other effects associated with environmental inequality.

ISA objectives

- 4.22 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

ISA objectives	Assessment questions – will the option/proposal help to:
To improve the health and wellbeing of residents within Newport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce health inequalities?• Promote access to health, social, recreational and leisure facilities for all sectors of the community?• Enhance multifunctional green infrastructure networks throughout the plan area?• Provide and enhance the provision of community access to open/green space?• Improve access to the countryside for recreation?

⁶⁶ <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/LDP-2011-2026/Sustainability-Appraisal-Report-January-2015.pdf>

5. Equality, diversity, and inclusion

- 5.1 This theme focuses on the demographics and households of the population in Newport, as well as deprivation, access to services and facilities.

Policy context

- 5.2 **Table 5.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the replacement LDP and ISA.

Table 5.1: Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to equality, diversity and inclusion

Document title	Year of publication
Planning Wales Act	2015
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	2015
Environment (Wales) Act	2016
National Development Framework (Future Wales: The National Plan)	2021
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
The Second State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR2020)	2020
South East Wales Area Statement	2017
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 6: Planning for sustainable rural communities	2010
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 12: Design	2016
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20: Planning and the Welsh language	2017
Newport Local Wellbeing Plan	2018
Placemaking Wales Charter	2020
Newport Local Development Plan	2015
Newport City Centre Masterplan	2018
Building Better Places	2020
Newport Empty Homes Strategy	2019
Newport Strategic Equality Plan	2020
Newport City Welsh Language Strategy	2017

- 5.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- Future Wales sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales identifies Newport as a Centre of National Growth, and as such the replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals reflecting the increased strategic role of the region. The emerging SDP for South East Wales also seeks to address regional factors such as housing, employment and transport across the region, which will in turn support local equality, diversity and inclusion objectives. Promoting Newport as a focus for strategic housing and economic growth will likely include investment in, and therefore accessibility to, essential services and facilities; transport and digital infrastructure.
- The Equality Act legally protects people from discrimination or unfair treatment on the basis of certain personal characteristics. The Act defines 'protected characteristics'⁶⁷ for which it is unlawful to indirectly or directly discriminate against, harass, or victimise. The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) is set out in Section 149 of the Act, under which public

⁶⁷ The 'Protected Characteristics' under the Act are; disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sexual orientation, sex (gender) and age.

bodies must try to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. The Act explains that 'due regard' for advancing equality involves; removing or minimising disadvantages experienced by people due to their protected characteristic, taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these differ from the needs of other people, and encouraging protected groups to participate in public life and other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with PPW which predominately seeks to ensure planning decisions support all aspects of well-being and deliver new development which is sustainable and provides for the needs of all people.
- A primary objective of PPW is to ensure that the planning system contributes positively towards improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. This is as required by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and other key legislation and resultant duties such as the Socio-economic Duty. PPW places the concept of placemaking at the centre of national planning policy in order to ensure that planning decisions consider all aspects of well-being and deliver new development which is sustainable and provides for the needs of all people.
- PPW is supplemented by TANs, which further detail the Welsh Government's commitment to planning for the Welsh Language (TAN20), planning for sustainable rural communities (TAN6), among other national equality, diversity, and inclusion objectives.
- The Cardiff Capital Region and City Deal seeks to promote strong, sustainable and balanced growth throughout the region, committing to a partnership approach to housing and regeneration. The deal aims to encourage investment and create an equal opportunity environment within the ten local authorities and other key partners in its boundaries. The replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals for the promotion of sustainable growth within the area for the benefit of its resident population.
- Under the Equality Act (2010), local authorities in Wales must publish a Strategic Equality Plan that sets out the objectives and priorities it wants to achieve over a four-year period. These priorities are called "Equality Objectives". The Newport Strategic Equality Plan (2020) outlines Newport City Council's priorities for furthering and promoting equality across the city. Equality objectives include independent living, representative workforce, community cohesion, and learning well.
- The Placemaking Wales Charter builds on the strengthening focus on Placemaking in policy and practice in Wales, and aims to provide a common understanding of the range of considerations that go into placemaking. The charter outlines the following six placemaking principles that cover the range of considerations that contribute to establishing and maintaining good places:
 - People and community;
 - Movement;
 - Location;
 - Public realm;
 - Mix of uses; and
 - Identity.
- Briefing on Gender Identity in Wales, produced by the LGBT Excellence Centre, provides clear recommendations for supporting the LGBT community and their access to housing in line with the Equality Act (2020).

Baseline summary

Deprivation

- 5.4 A Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) is a geographic area which is primarily referred to when collecting statistics in an area. There are 1,909 LSOAs in Wales, and therefore 190 LSOAs fall within the 10% most deprived in Wales. LSOAs in Newport are identified in **Figure B.8** (see **Appendix B**).
- 5.5 In 2019, Newport was the local authority with the highest proportion of small areas in the most deprived (top 10%) deprivation category, according to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD).⁶⁸
- 5.6 There were 15 Newport LSOAs in the 10% most deprived LSOAs in Wales in 2011, which decreased to 14 in the 2014 WIMD. The latest WIMD (2019) records 23 of Newport's LSOAs falling within the 10% most deprived LSOAs in Wales, which is an increase from 2011-2014. However, while the methodology used within WIMD 2019 is broadly the same as for WIMD 2014 (i.e. with the same eight domains or types of deprivation captured), there have been some changes to the Index, including:
- changes to individual indicators, and the inclusion of new indicators within the Health, Education, Access to Services, Physical Environment and Housing domains.
 - small changes to the relative weights applied to the domains (or types) of deprivation.
- 5.7 In light of these changes, the WIMD (2019) Technical Report states that much of the data “*is not comparable*” and therefore “*it is not legitimate to make comparisons over time*.⁶⁹
- 5.8 **Table 5.2** on the next page sets out the 23 Newport LSOA's within the 10% most deprived areas in Wales. The LSOAs are ranked out of 190, where the lower the ranking, the more deprived the LSOA.

⁶⁸ WIMD viewer (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation) (2019) [online] available at: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2019-11/welsh-index-multiple-deprivation-2019-results-report-024.pdf>

⁶⁹ Welsh Government 2019 (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation) (2019) Technical Report [online] available at: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2019-12/welsh-index-multiple-deprivation-2019-technical-report.pdf>

Table 5.2: LSOAs in Newport within the 10% most deprived in Wales⁷⁰

LSOAs 2019 WIMD	Rank (out of 190)	LSOAs 2019 WIMD	Rank (out of 190)
Pillgwenlly 4	10	Shaftesbury 1	119
Pillgwenlly 1	21	Lliswerry 5	134
Tredegar Park 2	39	Stow Hill 3	135
Bettws 1	47	Ringland 2	146
Ringland 5	69	Victoria 2	161
Alway 2	72	Gaer 5	166
Bettws 3	77	Bettws 5	169
Malpas 2	79	Lliswerry 2	171
Pillgwenlly 3	88	Victoria 3	178
Ringland 4	102	Ringland 6	183
Alway 4	111	Allt-yr-yn 2	187
Victoria 4	112		

- 5.9 As shown in **Table 5.2** above, the most deprived LSOA in Newport as of 2019 is identified as Pillgwenlly, a densely populated area to the south of Cardiff Road in the Pillgwenlly Community of Newport. Pillgwenlly, lies within the 10% most deprived areas with regards to community safety, income, health and employment domains. WIMD indicator data shows that between 2016- 2017, 44% of residents in this LSOA were in income deprivation. Pillgwenlly is noted as an area of ‘deep-rooted’ deprivation in the WIMB 2019 Results Report due to its’ presence in the top 50 most deprived areas since WIMD 2005.⁷¹
- 5.10 Newport is identified as having a considerable number of LSOAs which fall within several domains for high deprivation, presented in **Figures 5.1- 5.5** overleaf these are:
- Income domain;
 - Education domain;
 - Housing domain;
 - Community safety domain; and
 - Physical environment domain.

⁷⁰ WIMB, Ibid.

⁷¹ WIMD (Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation) (2019) Results Report [online] available at:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2019-11/welsh-index-multiple-deprivation-2019-results-report-024.pdf>

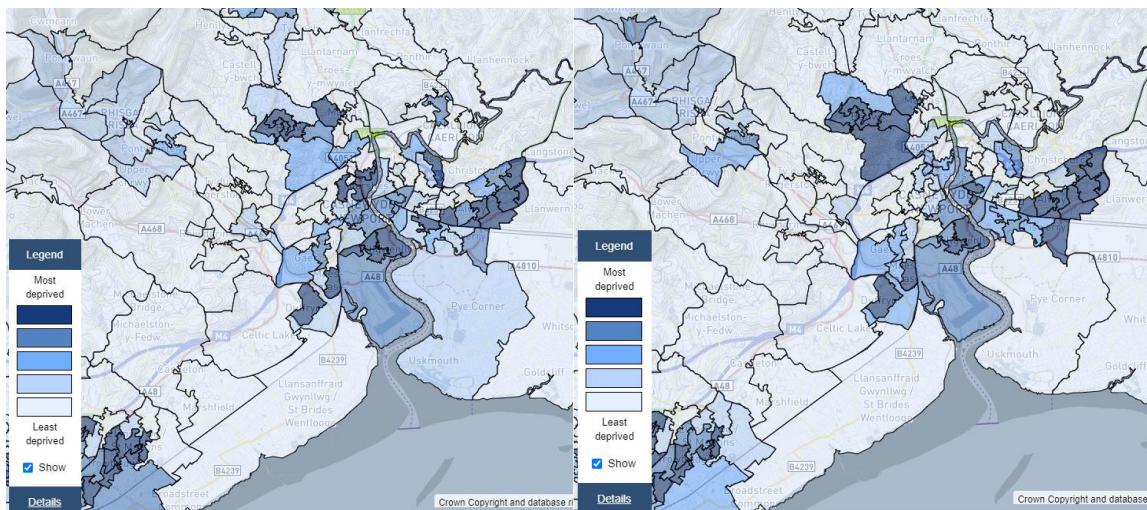


Figure 5.1: Income deprivation

Figure 5.2: Employment deprivation

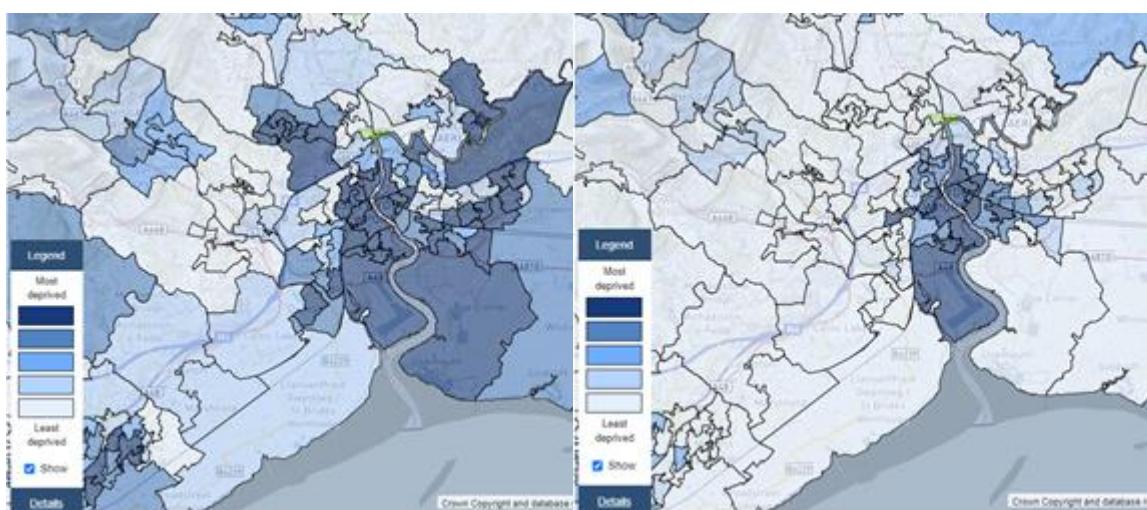


Figure 5.3: Community safety

Figure 5.4: Housing deprivation

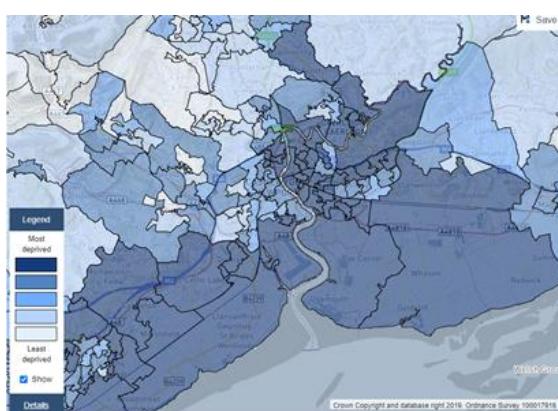


Figure 5.5: Physical environment deprivation

- 5.11 Newport undoubtedly does have some deprived areas, but the 2019 WIMD statistics set out above do not highlight the numerous regeneration initiatives that are underway, such as the Ringland Masterplan for one, which will undoubtedly improve the situation in the respective LSOA in the future.
- 5.12 Overall, it is considered that the 2019 WIMD results for Newport are not reflective of the general upwards trends in other economic based statistics.⁷² **Table 5.3** below demonstrates the number of Newport LSOAs in the 20% most deprived LSOAs in Wales, followed by the 30% most deprived and 50% most deprived. The table indicates a more stable trend in these bands over the three WIMDs.

		In most deprived 20% LSOAs in Wales	In most deprived 20% LSOAs in Wales	In most deprived 20% LSOAs in Wales
2011	No. of Newport LSOAs	30	43	56
2014	No. of Newport LSOAs	31	39	57
2019	No. of Newport LSOAs	33	38	57

Equalities data

- 5.13 Protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are; disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, sex (gender), and age.

Pregnancy

- 5.14 In relation to pregnancy and maternity, recent national data indicates that of the 29,728 births in Wales (2019), only 4% were to mothers under the age of 20, which is the lowest rate on record. The most recent data available for Newport is in line with this trend, whereby approximately 4.3% of pregnant women fell into this age group in 2015. Additionally, the rate of stillbirths in Newport has decreased by 2% over the period of 2010 - 2015.

Marriage and civil partnership

- 5.15 In relation to marriage and civil partnerships , recent national data highlights that rates for South East Wales (47.3%) are lower than comparative figures for Mid and South West Wales (48.7%) and North Wales (49.8%), including the national average (48.3%) between 2017- 2019. Rates have not changed largely over the period of 2014-2019. Nationally, a marginally higher proportion of women were married (28.3%) in comparison to men (49.6%) over the period of 2017- 2019. However, a higher proportion of women than men were divorced and/or separated (10.4% and 8.4% respectively).

Age distribution

- 5.16 With regards to age distribution, **Figure 5.6** overleaf shows that the dominant age group in Newport is the 45- 64 age category (~25% of total). There are a lower proportion of females in the 0-29 age band in comparison to males. Conversely, there are a larger proportion of female residents over the age of 65 than male residents. As shown in **Figure 5.7**, overleaf, the proportion of older residents overall has grown over the past 4-5 years (from 15.8% to 16%). This is more pronounced in the male population (0.2% growth). In comparison, the proportion of residents aged between 15- 29 has decreased by 2.8% over this time period. Population projections based on 2018 data (shown in **Figure 5.8**), indicate that the older population of Newport is anticipated to increase by 27.7% by 2043. The younger population (0- 15) is

⁷² Newport City Council (2020) AMR 2020 [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/AMR-2020-OCT2020-Eng.pdf>

anticipated to decline between 2025 and 2035, but increases by 1.8% over the following 8 years.

- 5.17 These changes are predicted due to two main factors: the difference between birth rate and the number of children turning 16 and migration.

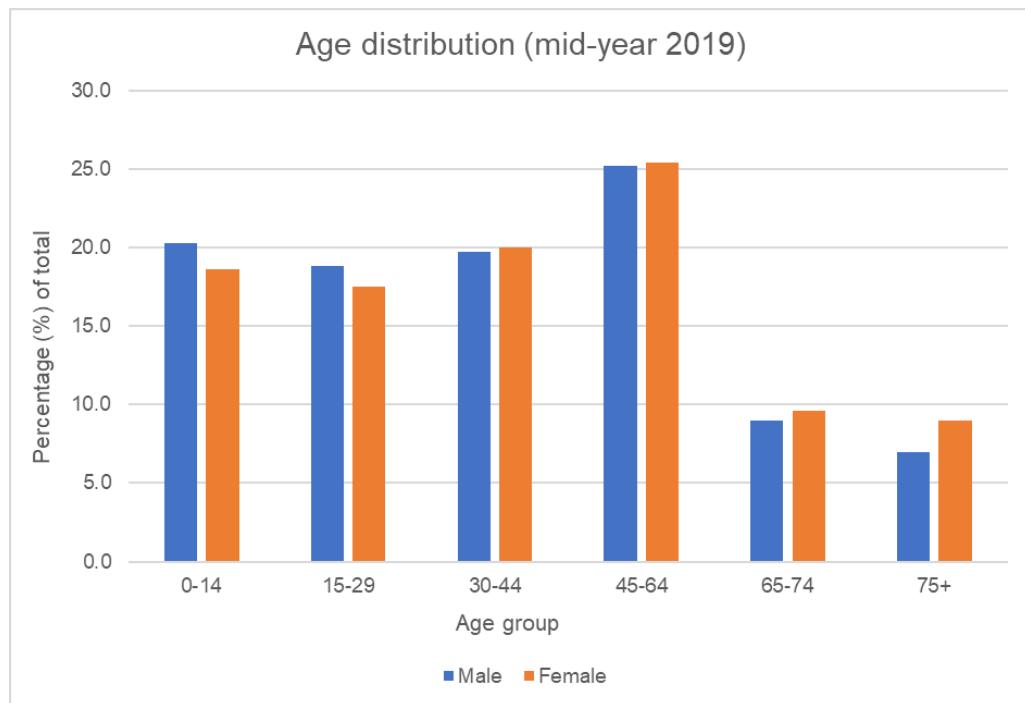


Figure 5.6: Age distribution (2019), Newport⁷³

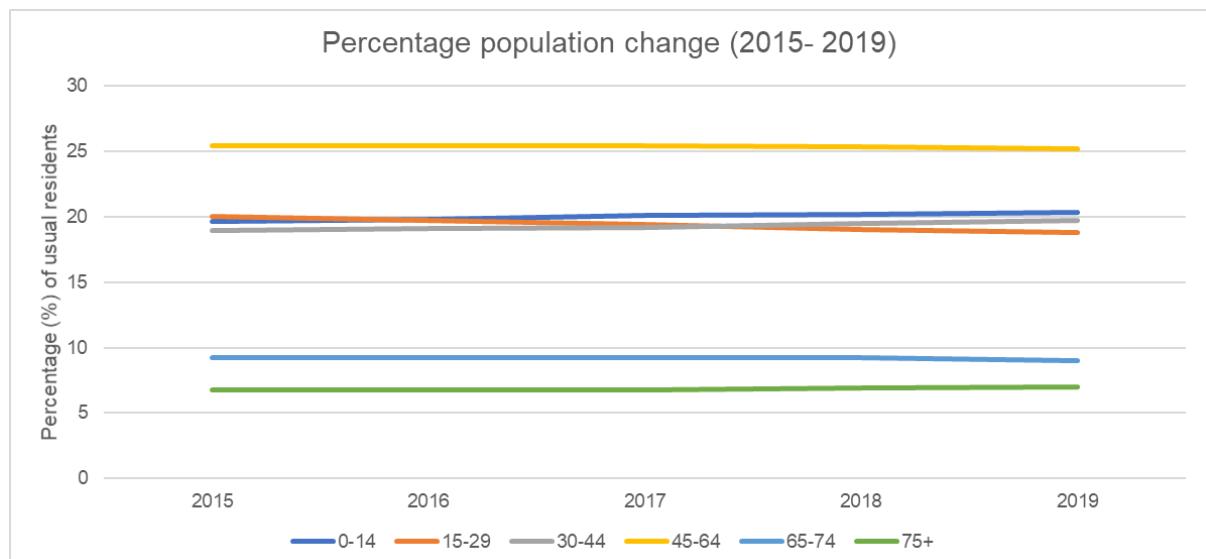


Figure 5.7: Population change by age band (2015- 2019), Newport⁷⁴

⁷³ Stats for Wales (2019) 'Population by age' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population>

⁷⁴ Stats for Wales (2019) 'Population by age' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population>

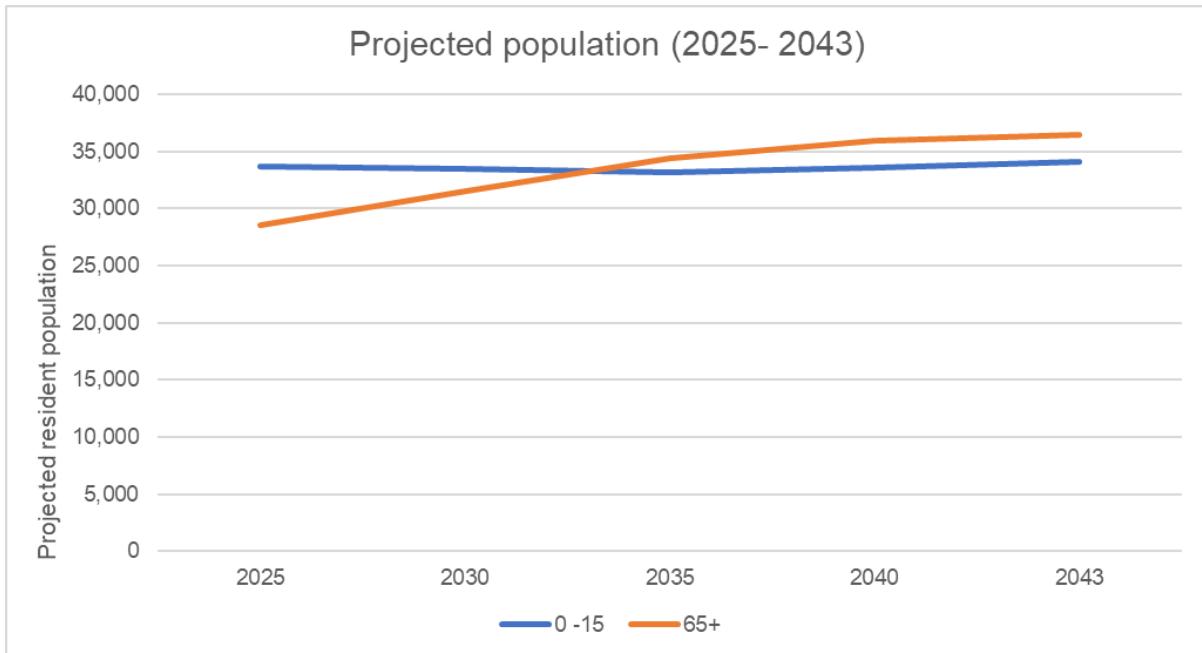


Figure 5.8: Projected population (2025 - 2043), Newport⁷⁵

Gender identity and sexual orientation

- 5.18 As shown in **Figure 5.9** below, in 2019, 51% of the population of Newport identified as female (76,413), whilst 49% (76,263) identified as male. This is in line with data for Wales as a whole (51% and 49% respectively). Newport as a local authority was reported to have a gender pay gap of 15.9% in 2019, similar to neighbouring local authorities.

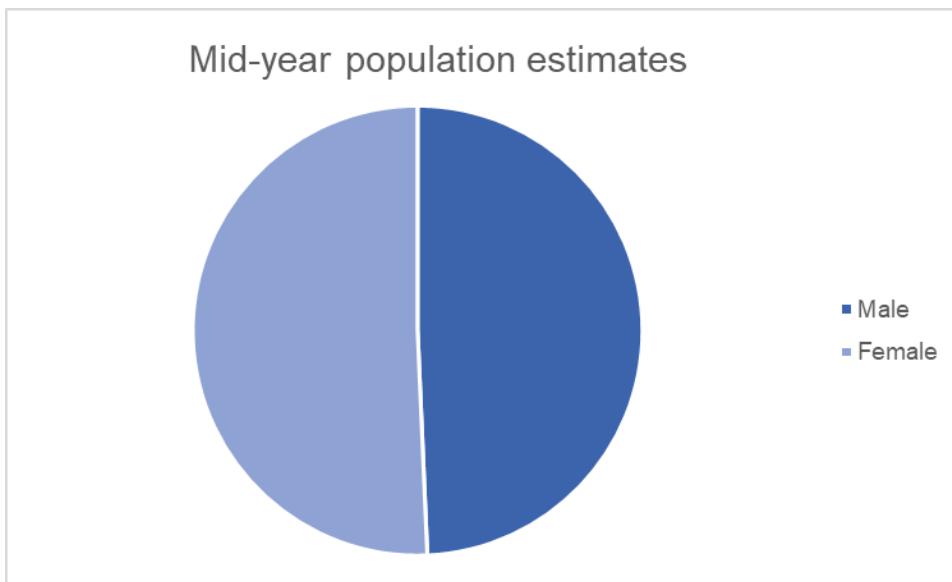


Figure 5.9: Mid-year population estimates 2019, Newport⁷⁶

- 5.19 As of 2018, 3.1% of the Welsh population identify with the LGBT⁷⁷community (Gay, lesbian, bisexual or other). Recent figures for Newport indicate that the LGBT representative group is smaller than this (1.7% identify as Gay, lesbian, bisexual or other).

⁷⁵ Stats for Wales (2018): 'Projected population statistics' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Population-and-Migration/Population/Projections/Local-Authority/2018-based>

⁷⁶ ONS, 2019

⁷⁷ Not encompassing the full extent of the LGBTAI community.

- 5.20 Since the publication of the Trans Data Position Paper (2009), nuances surrounding gender identity have been recognised at a national level. The 2021 Census is anticipated to include voluntary questions that depict a more nuanced understanding of sexual orientation and gender identity.⁷⁸
- 5.21 These groups are more vulnerable to discrimination due to their minority status. Key findings from Stonewall's research into LGBT hate crime and discrimination in Wales⁷⁹ include the following:
- Almost one in four LGBT people have experienced a hate crime or incident due to their sexual orientation and/or gender identity in the last 12 months.
 - Half of trans people have experienced a hate crime or incident because of their gender identity in the last 12 months, and one in five LGB people who aren't trans have experienced a hate crime or incident due to their sexual orientation in the same period.
 - The number of lesbian, gay and bi people in Wales who have experienced hate crime has increased by 82% in five years, from 11 per cent in 2013 to 20 per cent in 2017.
 - Four in five LGBT people who experienced a hate crime or incident didn't report the incident to the police.
 - Three in ten LGBT people avoid certain streets because they don't feel safe as an LGBT person there.
 - Two in five LGBT people would not feel comfortable walking down the street while holding their partner's hand. For gay men in particular, this rises to three in five (57 per cent).
 - One in ten LGBT people have experienced homophobic, biphobic or transphobic abuse or behaviour online directed towards them personally in the last month. This number increases to one in four trans people have experienced transphobic abuse or behaviour.
- 5.22 Wider research into discrimination in Wales (presented in **Figure 5.10** overleaf) indicates that a large proportion of residents in Wales who have suffered from discrimination cite that the main reason for their discrimination is where they live (15.7%), followed by their nationality (11.4%), age (10.6%) and health problem/disability (9.7%).

⁷⁸ ONS (2021): 'Sex and gender identity question development for Census 2021' [online] available at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/censustransformationprogramme/questiondevelopment/sexdandgenderidentityquestiondevelopmentforcensus2021>

⁷⁹ Stonewall (2017): 'LGBT in Wales, Hate Crime and Discrimination' [online] available at: https://www.stonewallcymru.org.uk/system/files/lgbt_in_wales_-hate_crime_stonewall_cymru.pdf

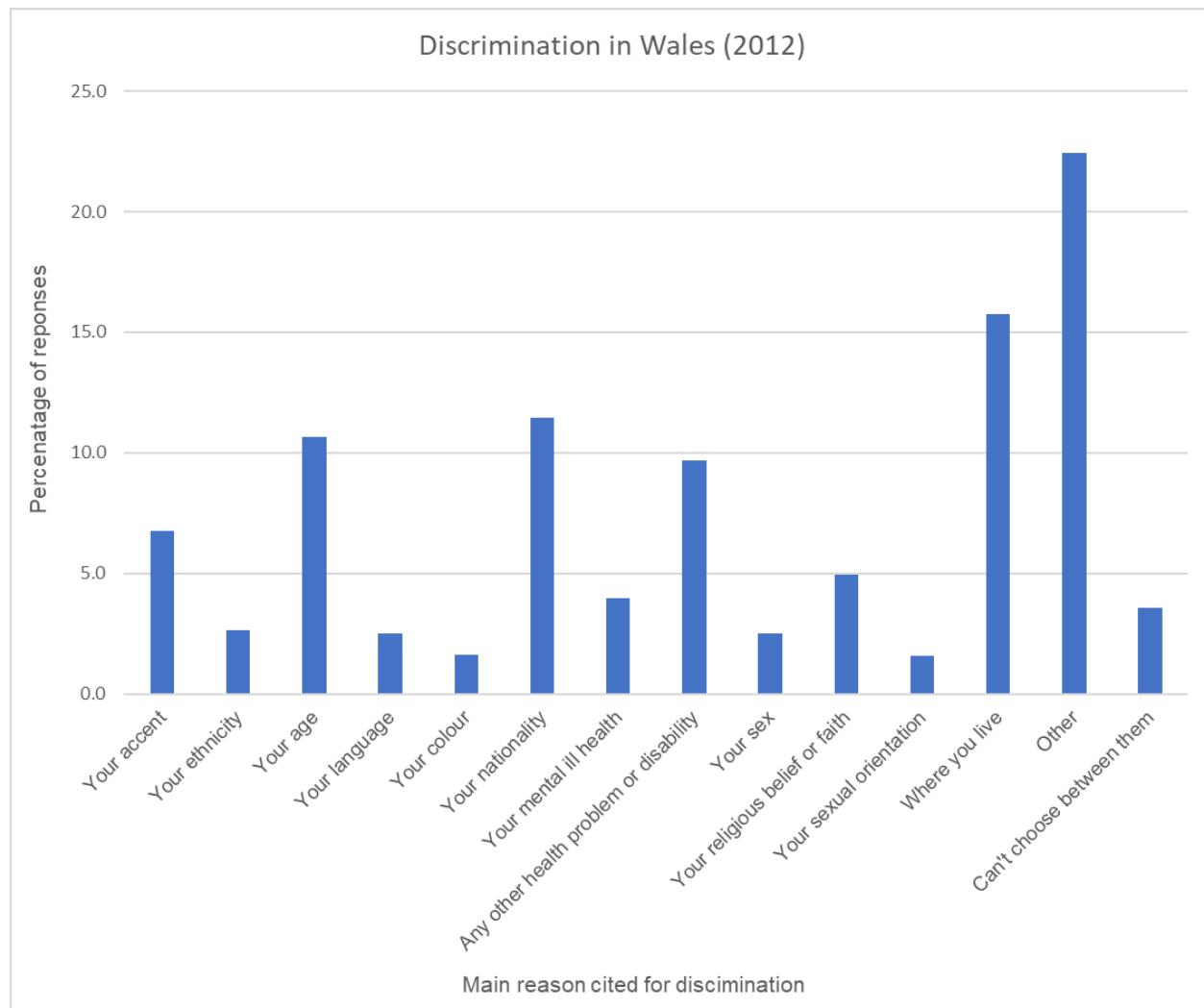


Figure 5.10: Main reason for discrimination (2012), Wales⁸⁰

Ethnicity and race

- 5.23 Current data (2020) indicates that a large proportion of residents in Newport are black, Asian and minority ethnic when compared to statistics for other principal areas in Wales (shown as orange in **Figure 5.11**, overleaf). 13.2% of the population of Newport are in this category, which is the second most representative area in Wales, below Cardiff (20.1%). Data for Newport also indicates that the economic activity rate for ethnic minority groups is lower than comparative figures for white residents (74.7% and 80.4%) respectively. As shown in **Figure 5.12**, overleaf, rates for ethnic minorities have been notably erratic in comparison to those for white residents.

⁸⁰ Stats for Wales (2012): 'Experience of Discrimination' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Equality-and-Diversity>

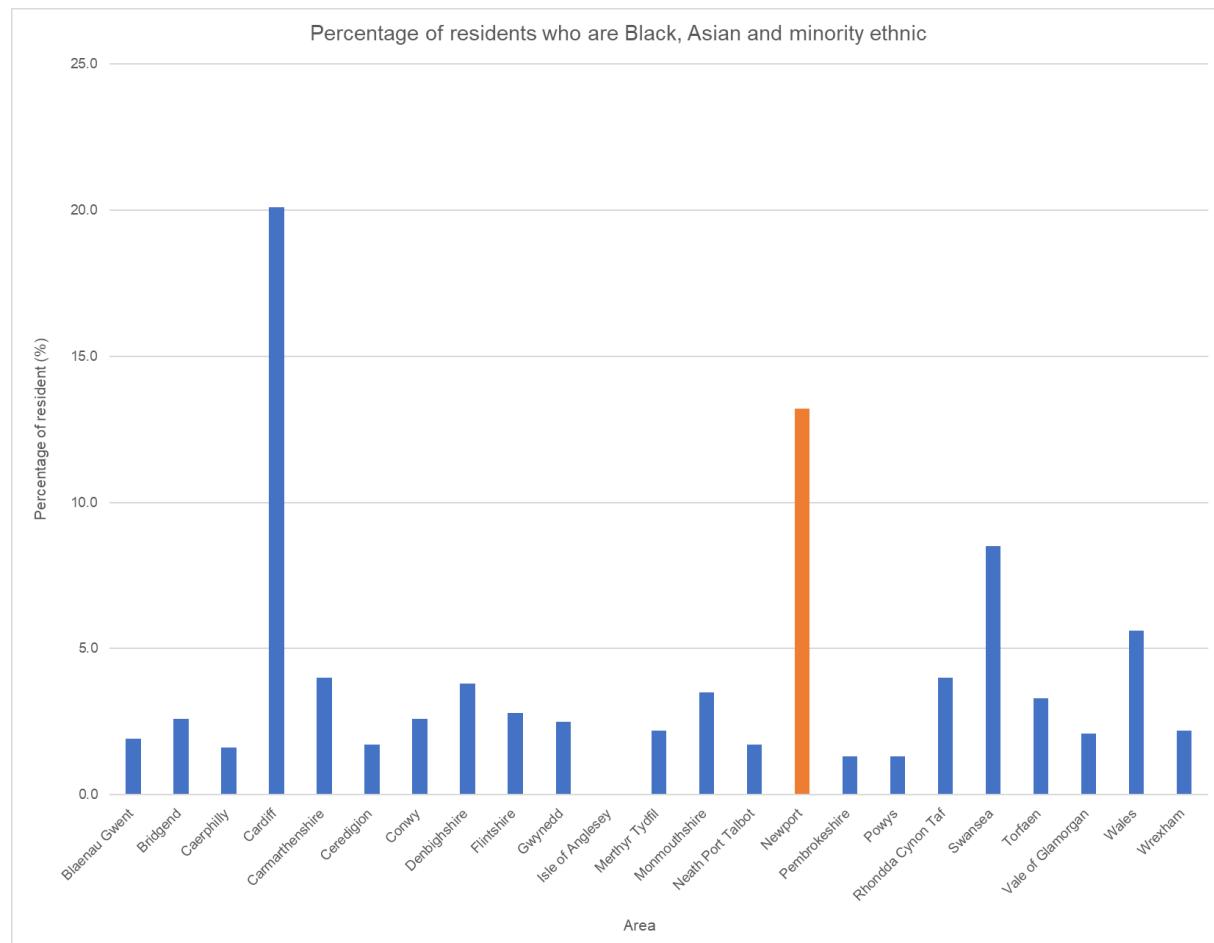


Figure 5.11: Ethnic minorities (2020), Principal areas⁸¹

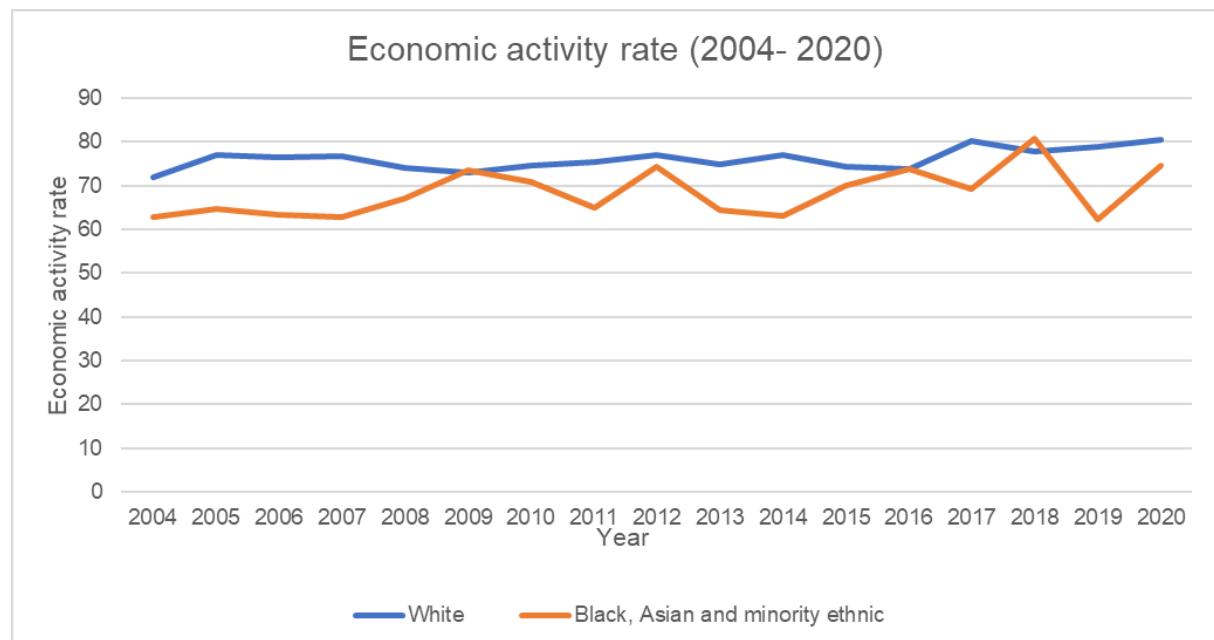


Figure 5.12: Newport economic activity rate for white and ethnic minority residents (2004-20)

⁸¹ Stats for Wales (2012): 'Ethnic minorities' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Equality-and-Diversity/Ethnicity/ethnicity-by-area-ethnicgroup>

Disability

- 5.24 Statistics indicate that in 2019, in Wales, 21.8% of the population are disabled, and 22.3% of residents in the South East region are disabled.⁸² Of these residents, 51.5% of disabled women and 53.9% of disabled men are economically inactive.⁸³ Data from 2013 indicates that the economic activity rate for disabled residents in Newport is far lower for disabled residents than that for non-disabled residents (50.4 and 86.4, respectively), which is generally in line with national disability figures.

Welsh language

- 5.25 As of December 2020, government statistics indicate that 19.5% of residents in Newport state that they can speak Welsh, which is below national levels for Wales (29.1%). Of these Welsh speakers, 9% state that they speak Welsh daily, 4.1% speak weekly and 4.8% speak less often.

Future baseline

- 5.26 The religious diversity across Newport is wide, and is expected to continue as such into the next plan period, with RDLP policies considered likely to promote, strengthen and enhance the cultural identity of Newport; in line with national objectives. Conversely, figures for Newport indicate that the LGBT representative group is small with just 1.7% identify as Gay, lesbian, bisexual or other, and this is also likely to continue given similar figures seen nationally. Newport, in common with many other areas, is experiencing an ageing population, and if this trend were to continue, there may be implications for health service provision and the provision of other services, facilities and amenities.
- 5.27 Many aspects of equalities, diversity and social inclusion do not have a spatial dimension and are unlikely to be directly affected by the spatial distribution of growth proposed through the RDLP. For example, promoting community cohesion is likely to be most directly influenced through detailed policies which have the granularity to deliver focused responses at specific locations. In the absence of the replacement LDP, it is possible that opportunities might be missed to address issues both at the local scale, and strategically throughout the Newport City Borough.
- 5.28 Economic regeneration, alongside community regeneration, are key factors that can transform local neighbourhoods and the lives of local people. New development throughout Newport should therefore focus on narrowing the gap between the least and most affluent areas of the city, by addressing areas of activity including employment, health, housing, education, community safety and the environment.
- 5.29 Compared with the figure for Wales, a low proportion of the population in Newport are welsh speakers. In line with higher level policy, the replacement LDP should seek to provide facilities for the furthering of Welsh language, culture and identity, as part of a wider strategy to strengthen national identity.

Key issues

- 5.30 The context review and baseline information informed the identification of a number of key issues (problems and opportunities):
- The latest Welsh IMD (2019) results show that 23 of Newport's LSOAs are within the 10% most deprived in Wales, which is an increase from 2014 where there were just 14 LSOAs within the 10% most deprived in Wales. However it is noted that the 2019 index saw a number of domains changed, and indicators constructed using a new methodology, and therefore 2019 results are not comparable with previous iterations of the index. Newport undoubtedly does have some deprived areas, but these statistics do not highlight, for example, the numerous regeneration initiatives that are underway.

⁸² Stats for Wales (2019): 'Disability status by region' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Equality-and-Diversity/Disability/disabilitystatus-by-region>

⁸³ Newport City Council (2016): 'Strategic Equality Plan (2016-20)' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Council-and-Democracy/Equalities-and-Welsh-language-/Strategic-Equality-Plan-2019-20.pdf>

- The 2019 WIMD results for Newport are not reflective of the general upwards trends in wider economic based statistics. The general economic data being collected on things such as jobs growth, house values and proportions of economically active people in Newport would suggest that Newport is becoming a more prosperous place to live.
 - A large proportion of residents in Newport are black, asian and minority ethnic when compared to statistics for other authorities in Wales. Conversely, figures for Newport indicate that the LGBT representative group is small with just 1.7% identify as Gay, lesbian, bisexual or other.
 - Newport has an ageing population, with 25% of residents currently falling within the 45- 64 age category, and an upward trend seen overall for the proportion of older residents over the past 4-5 years.
 - Compared with the figure for Wales, a low proportion of the population in Newport are welsh speakers. This may indicate a higher level of Anglicisation than other Welsh regions.

ISA objectives

5.31 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

ISA objectives	Assessment questions – will the option/proposal help to:
To reduce poverty and inequality; tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce inequalities and deprivation across Newport?• Improve equality of opportunities amongst all social groups?• Contribute to a reduction in crime and social disorder and the fear of crime, promoting safer neighbourhoods?• Promote, strengthen and enhance the cultural identity of Newport?• Protect and provide improved local, social, recreational and leisure facilities for all sectors of the community, and improve access to them to maximise opportunities for community development and social welfare?• Ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures to meet the needs of all sectors of the community?• Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities?• Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities, including specialist services?• Promote Newport's bilingual public services and increase the use of the Welsh language in Newport?

6. Transport and movement

- 6.1 This theme focuses on transport infrastructure, transport usage, traffic flows and congestion, and accessibility levels in Newport.

Policy context

- 6.2 **Table 6.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the revised LDP ISA.

Table 6.1: Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to transport and movement

Document title	Year of publication
Planning Wales Act	2015
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	2015
Environment (Wales) Act	2016
National Development Framework (Future Wales: The National Plan)	2021
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 18: Transport	2007
Wales Transport Strategy	2021
South East Wales Transport Commission: emerging conclusions	2020
Cardiff Capital Region and City Deal	2016
Healthy Travel Charter for Gwent	2020
Newport Local Development Plan	2015
Newport City Centre Masterplan	2018
Building Better Places	2020
Newport City Local Transport Plan	2015

- 6.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- Future Wales sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales identifies Newport as a Centre of National Growth, and as such the replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals reflecting the increased strategic role of the region. The emerging SDP for South East Wales also seeks to address regional factors such as transportation and accessibility to services, housing and employment. Promoting Newport as a focus for strategic housing and economic growth will likely include investment in transport infrastructure and sustainable travel opportunities across the region.
- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with PPW which puts the concept of placemaking into the centre of national planning policy, in order to deliver new development which is sustainable. PPW is supplemented by TANs, which translate Welsh Government's commitment to sustainable development into the planning system. A primary objective of PPW is to ensure that the planning system contributes positively towards improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. This is as required by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and other key legislation and resultant duties such as the Socio-economic Duty. Notably, TAN18 (Transport) includes advice on:
 - integration of land use and transport planning;
 - location of development;

- regional transport plans;
- parking; and
- design of development.
- The Cardiff Capital Region and City Deal seeks to promote strong, sustainable and balanced growth throughout the region, committing to a partnership approach to 'Powering the Welsh Economy'. This includes investment in the regions' infrastructure, and the creation of a non-statutory Regional Transport Authority to represent the ten local authorities and other key partners in its boundaries. The replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals for high quality, accessible transport systems that support economic development and regeneration across the region for the benefit of its resident population.
- The Newport City Local Transport Plan (LTP) (2015) sets out Newport's transport issues and opportunities, confirming the Council's short term programme of improvement (those delivered up until 2020) together with longer term aspirations. While in terms of specific schemes proposed for implementation it concentrates on those that are within the council's remit, because of Newport's commitment to the Cardiff Capital Region, the Council also sets out support for working with Welsh Government and the City-Region Board in implementing better regional links to Cardiff and other schemes to grow the local/regional economy such as the M4 relief proposals, electrification and the Metro proposals. The South East Wales Transport Commission: emerging conclusions (2020) is a key piece of evidence in this respect, setting out future recommendations to the Welsh Government of sustainable measures to tackle congestion on the M4 in South East Wales.
- Supporting national transport priorities in delivering the Cardiff Capital Region complementary measures will maximise the value of transport investment, which will in turn support:
 - Economic growth;
 - Access to employment;
 - Tackling poverty;
 - Sustainable travel and safety; and
 - Access to services.

Baseline summary

Volume and flow of traffic

- 6.4 The number of road vehicles in Newport has increased by approximately 16% over the last 15 years (see **Figure 6.1** overleaf). Unfortunately, the road network has struggled to keep pace with this increase.⁸⁴
- 6.5 **Figure 6.1** indicates that whilst the overall number of vehicles in Newport has increased since 2000, the percentage of cars, buses and motorcycles that comprise that figure has remained relatively constant. This is unlike HGVs, which have remained steady in number but been diluted by the increase in other road traffic (hence the decrease in percentage terms). The only group of vehicles that have shown a significant increase are light goods vehicles growing by 3% in the last 15 years. This is likely due to the growing popularity of internet shopping and home deliveries.

⁸⁴ Newport City Council (2020) Sustainable Travel Strategy (online) available at:
<http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Transport-and-Streets/Active-Travel-Survey/Sustainable-Travel-Strategy-2020.pdf>

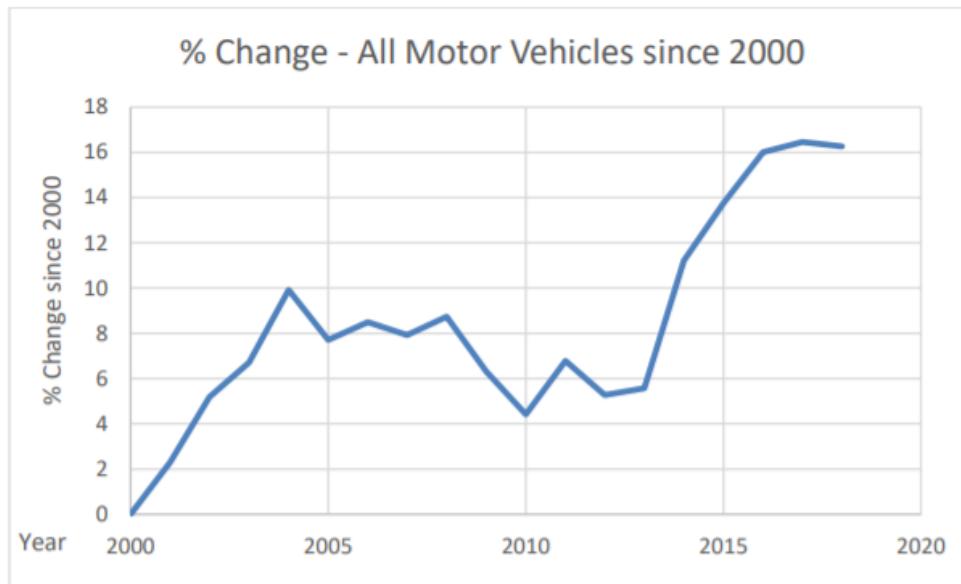


Figure 6.1: Percentage change of all motor vehicles across Newport since 2000⁸⁵

- 6.6 As shown by **Figure 6.2** below, the 2011 Census recorded that Newport has lower than average rates of active travel commuters. The proportion of people commuting by car or van is aligned with Wales' average, but higher than England and Wales' overall. In terms of those taking the bus, Newport has a higher rate than seen in Wales, but broadly aligned with that seen across Wales and England. A significantly smaller proportion of people in Newport and Wales commute by train or light rail.

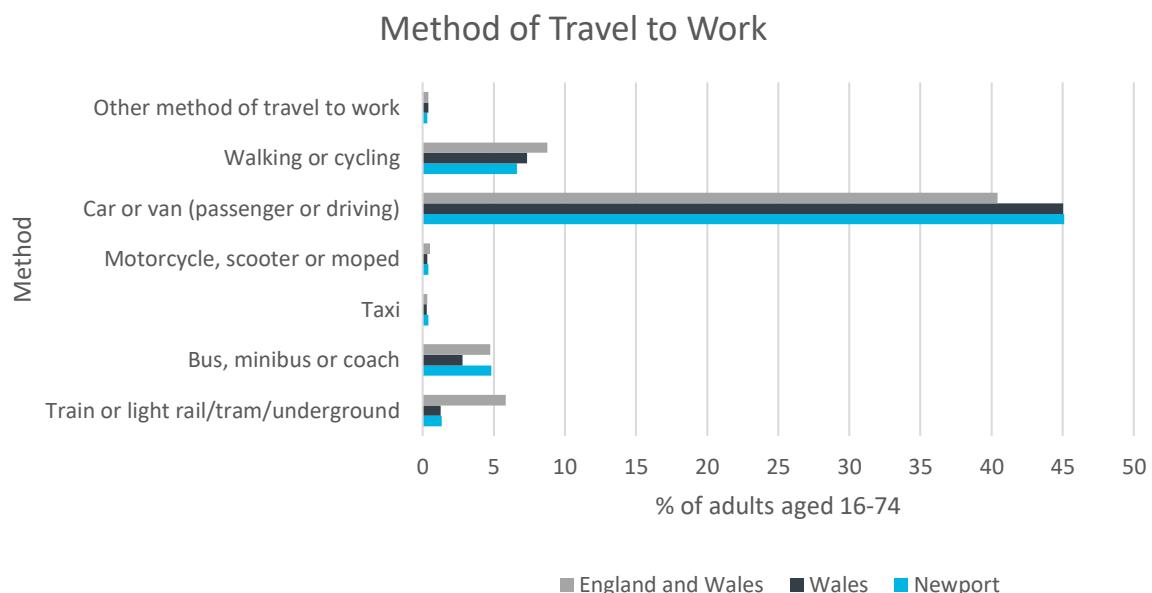


Figure 6.2: Commuting travel patterns. (Census, 2011)

- 6.7 As shown in **Figure 6.3** below, the 2011 Census recorded that Newport has lower car or van ownership rates than seen across Wales or Wales and England; this is true across all vehicle ownership volumes, though the greatest disparities are seen where people have access to no cars or vans. 5% more households in Newport do not have access to a car or van than the comparative figure for Wales as a whole.

⁸⁵ Ibid.

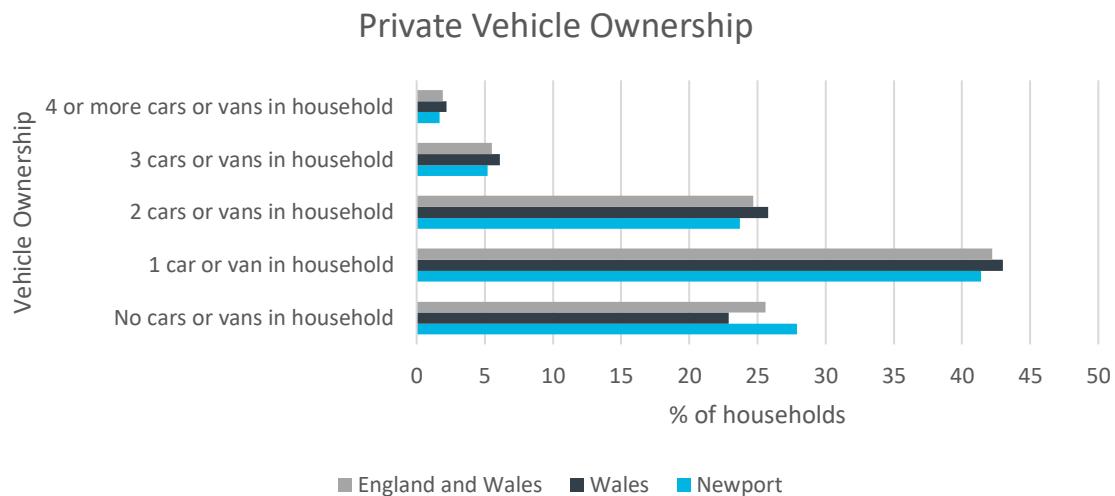


Figure 6.3: Car or van ownership rates. (Census, 2011)

- 6.8 Adding some context to the ownership figures relating to cars, **Figure 6.4** reveals the usage of these cars over distances for commuting purposes. The data shows that Newport has a significantly higher proportion of shorter journeys being made by car or van than comparators.

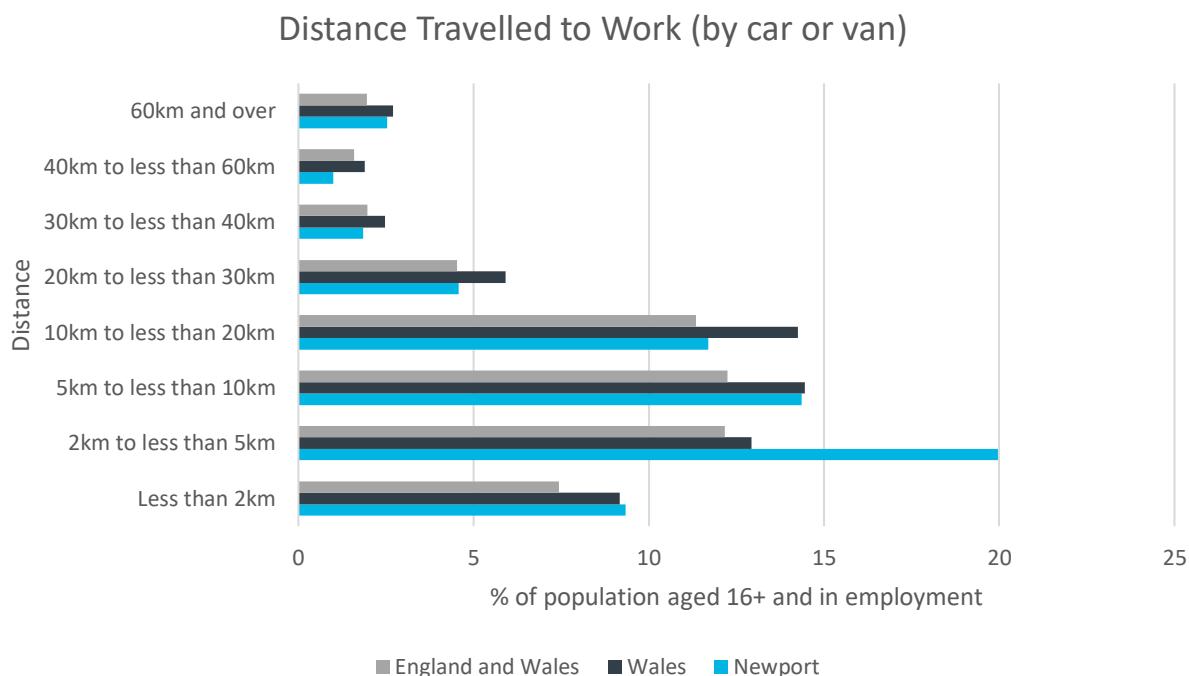


Figure 6.4: Distance travelled for commuting purposes by car or van. (Census, 2011)

Strategic road infrastructure

- 6.9 The Newport Local Transport Plan⁸⁶ identifies that the City occupies a strategic location on national road, rail and sea routes, providing a gateway to Wales and captured in the south eastern section of the Cardiff Capital Region. Newport, along with Cardiff, Port Talbot and Swansea specialise in bulk shipments. The importance of Newport's port is notably referenced in Future Wales, recognising the varied shipping needs present throughout Wales.⁸⁷ This is

⁸⁶ Newport City Council (2015) Local Transport Plan [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Transport-and-Streets/Local-Transport-Plan-January-2015.pdf>

⁸⁷ Welsh National Marine Plan (2019) [online] available at: https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-11/welsh-national-marine-plan-document_0.pdf

reflected through **Figure B.9** (see **Appendix B**) which sets out the key transport routes within and surrounding Newport.

- 6.10 As shown in **Figure B.9**, the M4 corridor around Newport provides the main strategic road connection through the Plan area, connecting with England (Bristol) over the Severn Bridge in the east, and Cardiff and Swansea in the west.
- 6.11 There are recognised congestion issues at this stretch of the M4 and in 2016 the M4 Corridor around Newport Project was proposed to address the identified issues.⁸⁸ This project comprised a new section of motorway between Junctions 23 and 29 south of Newport alongside complementary measures such as reclassifying the existing M4 between Magor and Castleton as a trunk road, a new M4/ M48/ B4245 connection and improved cycling and walking infrastructure. Following objections to the proposed Schemes and Orders a public inquiry was held between February 2017 and March 2018. The initial independent Inspector's Report recommended that the Schemes and Orders were made. However, in 2019 (after the initial Inspector's Report), Welsh Government concluded that it will not provide funding for the Project, meaning that regardless of whether the Schemes and Orders were made, there was no prospect of the Project being implemented in the foreseeable future. This outcome was particularly detrimental to the Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) presented as part of the project and following further consideration of the impacts of this decision, the First Minister's decision in 2019 was to not make the Schemes and Orders. It is however recognised that the relief route known as TR111, which runs between Magor and Castleton, extending through Newport docks, has been protected for since 2006. As a preferred solution to the problems on the motorway around Newport, a TR111 plan was published in 1995 and amended in 1997 and 2006, protecting a corridor for planning purposes.⁸⁹ The TR111 relief road is shown on **Figure B.9** within **Appendix B**.
- 6.12 Two trunk roads also connect Newport with its hinterland to the north; the A449 from Junction 24 of the M4 towards Monmouth, and the A4042 from the M4 Junction 25a towards Cwmbran, Pontypool and Abergavenny. Further regional strategic roads provide connections between key settlements and include the A48, A467, A468, A4810, and A4051.
- 6.13 Alongside a range of identified local interventions to improve connectivity, the Local Transport Plan provides support for schemes to assist in the free flow of movement and integration of the wider transport network, in particular; the Great Western Mainline Electrification, the Cardiff Capital Region Metro (South Wales Metro), a new park and ride site, and a new M4 (though it is recognised that the proposed M4 scheme has since been rejected).
- 6.14 The proposed South Wales Metro is an integrated public transport network across the Cardiff Capital Region seeking to transform rail and bus services as well as cycling and walking. The multi-million-pound project is expected to take around five years to complete. Works will include electrifying around 170km of track, upgrading all stations and signalling and building at least five new stations. More weekday and Sunday services are anticipated as a result of the works.

Sustainable transport

Rail

- 6.15 Newport has three railway stations served by the Great Western Mainline linking South Wales to Bristol and London, the Marches line connecting South Wales to North Wales and Manchester, and the Chepstow line connecting South Wales to the Ebbw Valley line and the West Midlands. The main Newport station is located in the centre of the city with two smaller stations located to the northwest (Rogerstone and Pye Corner). Prior to 2012, the use of the

⁸⁸ Welsh Government (2019) M4 corridor around Newport [online] available at: <https://gov.wales/m4-corridor-around-newport>

⁸⁹ Welsh Government (2014) M4 Corridor Around Newport [online] available at: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-06/m4-can-statement-of-reasons-for-modification-of-2006-preferred-route-for-new-motorway-south-of-newport-july-2014.pdf>

railway station was fairly stable, but prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, usage had significantly increased in the period up to 2020.⁹⁰

- 6.16 Pye Corner Station, which opened in December 2014 has seen its passenger numbers significantly increase every year prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. Rogerstone Station, which initially lost some passengers following the opening of Pye Corner, also had a notable increase and its numbers are now almost back to the levels prior to Pye Corner opening before the pandemic.⁹¹
- 6.17 As shown in **Figure 6.4**, the 2011 Census recorded that rail use in Newport is aligned with that seen in Wales but significantly lower than seen in England and Wales as a whole. **Figure 6.6** overleaf emphasises this trend, whilst also showing that the majority of Newport's rail commuting journeys are of a distance between 10 and 20km, with the spread of data showing a similar distribution to Wales and England and Wales. It is noted that the South East Wales Transport Commission illustrates the potential for a new, local, stopping rail line. This supports Future Wales; policy's focus on planning development around the public transport network, not the motorway.

⁹⁰ Newport City Council (2020) Sustainable Travel Strategy (online) available at:

<http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Transport-and-Streets/Active-Travel-Survey/Sustainable-Travel-Strategy-2020.pdf>

⁹¹ Office of Rail and Road (ORR) (n.d.).

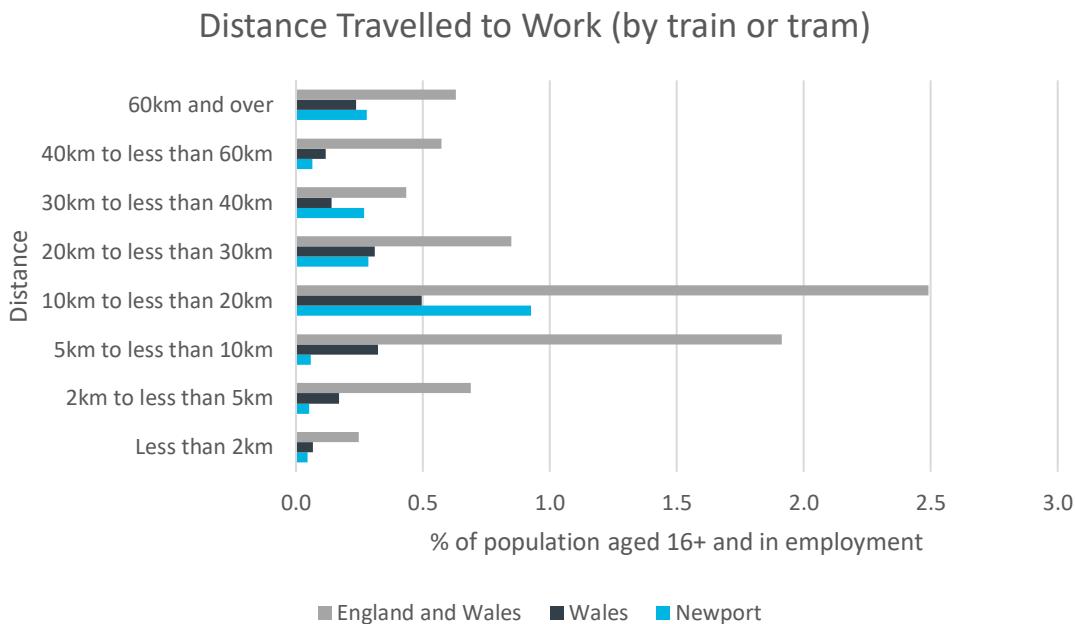


Figure 6.5: Distance travelled for commuting purposes by train or light rail. (Census, 2011)

Bus

- 6.18 In terms of local bus services and usage data, it is noted that the 2020 Sustainable Travel Strategy states “*It has not been possible to chart the number and composition of the bus fleet across Newport. Efforts will be made to determine the most appropriate method of capturing this data in the future.*”⁹²
- 6.19 As shown in **Figure 6.4**, bus use in Newport is aligned with that seen in England and Wales and higher than Wales overall. **Figure 6.7** emphasises this trend, whilst also showing that the majority of Newport’s bus commuting journeys are of a distance between 2 and 5km, with the comparative spread of data showing that Newport has a high proportion of journeys being made within this distance, compared to national equivalents.

⁹² Newport City Council (2020) Sustainable Travel Strategy (online) available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Transport-and-Streets/Active-Travel-Survey/Sustainable-Travel-Strategy-2020.pdf>

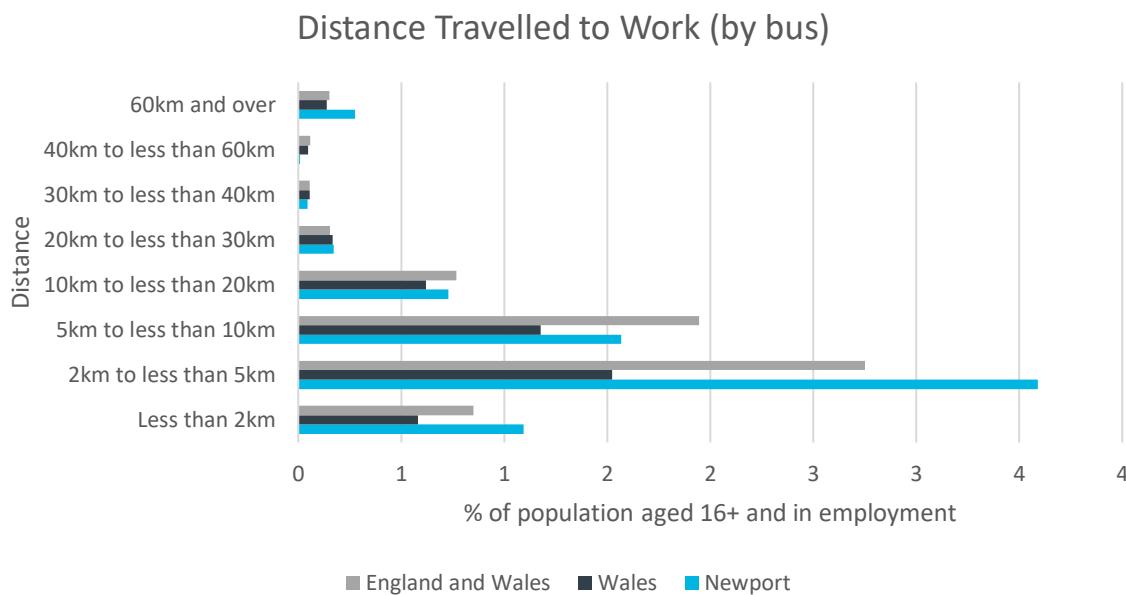


Figure 6.6: Distance travelled for commuting purposes by bus (Census, 2011)

Cycling

- 6.20 As above for bus usage, the 2020 Sustainable Travel Strategy highlights that “*there is no consistent data set monitoring cycle usage in Newport*”. However, data from the department for transport has captured some cycle usage. The trend of cycle usage shown in **Figure 6.8** indicates a significant increase from 2013 onwards.

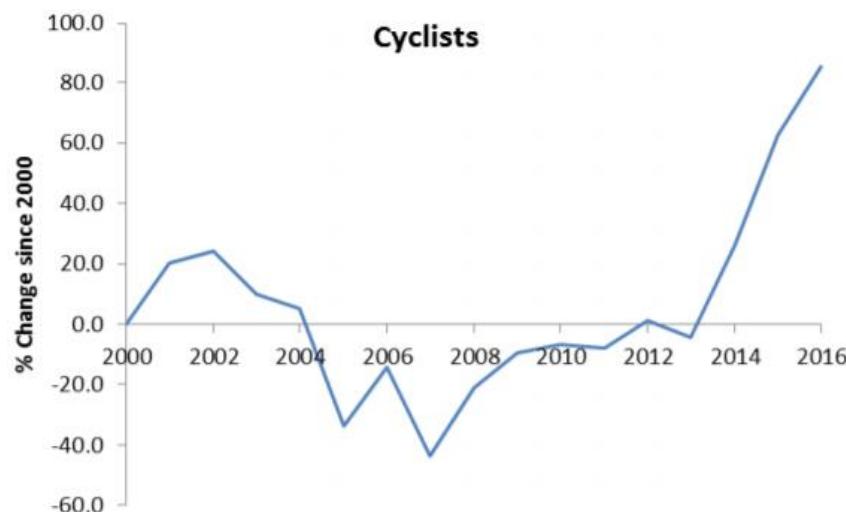


Figure 6.7: Newport cycle usage change 2000 - 2016⁹³

Active travel routes

- 6.21 **Figure B.10** (see **Appendix B**) maps the spatial data for Active Travel Act (Wales) 2013 ‘Designated Localities’ and subsequent active travel routes. Section 2(1) of the Act provides that for the purposes of the Act a route in a local authority’s area is an active travel route if the route is situated in a designated locality in the area.⁹⁴

⁹³ Newport City Council (2020) Sustainable Travel Strategy (online) available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Transport-and-Streets/Active-Travel-Survey/Sustainable-Travel-Strategy-2020.pdf>

⁹⁴ <https://lle.gov.wales/catalogue/item/ActiveTravelDesignatedLocalitiesWales/?lang=en>

6.22 Locality's are designated by reference to:

- Density of the population
- Size
- Proximity to densely-populated localities above a particular size
- Position between such localities
- Proximity to community services and facilities
- Potential for other reasons to be a locality, in which more travel is undertaken by walkers and cyclists by active travel journeys.

6.23 **Figure B.10 in Appendix B** shows active travel routes are extensive across Newport, notably surrounding the City centre.

Future baseline

- 6.24 Sustainable transport improvements are anticipated as part of the future baseline as a result of the Great Western Mainline Electrification, the Cardiff Capital Region Metro (South Wales Metro), a new park and ride site South Wales Metro project, and improved connectivity within the City. The replacement LDP therefore provides an opportunity to coordinate growth within areas likely to benefit from enhanced connectivity in the future.
- 6.25 With no strategic interventions currently targeting capacity issues along the M4 within Newport, future growth in the City is anticipated to exacerbate the existing congestion and capacity issues. However, it is recognised that the South East Wales Transport Commission key emerging recommendation is a 'Network of Alternatives' for South East Wales. This focuses on sustainable transport, and illustrates the potential for a new, local, stopping rail line. This supports Future Wales policy focus on planning development around the public transport network, not the motorway.
- 6.26 However, the recent pandemic has brought about significant change in many people's working and commuting habits. Moving forward, higher levels of homeworking are considered likely to persist, which will benefit strategic road infrastructure and reduce the effects of congestion. Residents who continue to commute to work may also display more preference for private rather than public transport forms in the short- to medium-term, recognising the constraints of social distancing.

Key issues

6.27 The context review and baseline information informed the identification of a number of key issues (problems and opportunities):

- There are known capacity issues within and surrounding Newport, notably associated with the M4, within the city, and along A roads to the north. It is recognised that road infrastructure has struggled to keep pace with the increases in road vehicles experienced in recent years. Congestion and capacity issues are likely to be exacerbated in future growth.
- The 2011 Census highlighted relatively low levels of active travel, it will be important to strengthen and improve active travel networks to support the shift to more sustainable forms of travel. Opportunities in this respect are identified through the South Wales Metro Project, which includes significant expansion and enhancement of the rail network, bus services and cycle and pedestrian networks. Growth should be coordinated with strategic transport infrastructure improvements to maximise opportunities for connected and accessible development.

ISA objectives

6.28 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

ISA objective	Assessment questions – will the plan/ policy:
Increase sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce the need to travel through sustainable patterns of land use and development?• Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel?• Enable transport infrastructure improvements?• Support the uptake of low carbon transport?• Contribute towards the EV charging network?• Facilitate working from home and remote working?• Provide improvements to and/ or reduce congestion on the existing highway network?

7. Natural resources (air, land, minerals, and waste)

7.1 This theme focuses on local air quality, the quality of soil resources, waste generation, the extent of mineral resources, water supply resources and water quality in Newport.

Policy context

7.2 **Table 7.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the revised LDP ISA.

Table 7.1: Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to natural resources

Document title	Year of publication
UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations	2017
Planning Wales Act	2015
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	2015
Environment (Wales) Act	2016
National Development Framework (Future Wales: The National Plan)	2021
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
Air Quality Wales Regulations	2002
The Clean Air Plan for Wales	2018
White Paper on a Clean Air (Wales) Bill	2021
Welsh Water's Water Resource Management Plan	2019
Welsh National Marine Plan	2019
South East Wales Area Statement	2017
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 21: Waste	2017
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 7: outdoor advertisement control	1996
Regional Technical Statements	2019
South East Wales Area Statement	2019
Natural Resources Policy	2017
Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP)	2020
Newport Local Development Plan	2015
The Waste Strategy for Newport	2020
Clean Air Plan for Wales: Healthy Air, Healthy Wales	2020
The Second State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR2020)	2020
Sustainable Travel Strategy	2020

7.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- Future Wales sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales identifies Newport as a Centre of National Growth, and as such the replacement LDP should set out policies and

proposals reflecting the increased strategic role of the region. The emerging SDP for South East Wales also seeks to address regional factors such as air quality, the water environment, land use, and the soil resource, recognising the wider benefits of natural capital and derived from ecosystem services. Furthermore, Future Wales recognises the need to take account of the long-term implications of climate change and build resilience in this respect, by guiding strategic development over the next 20 years. Future Wales encourages efficient land use, requiring that the relationships between all forms of land use and management be considered more fully if Wales is to address the climate emergency, reverse biodiversity decline and enable communities to benefit from more sustainable forms of managing natural resources. This is especially the case in large parts of the region's rural areas.

- The Environment (Wales) Act sets out the “*sustainable management of natural resources*” (SMNR); using natural resources in a way and at a rate that promotes the achievement of the objective to maintain and enhance the resilience of ecosystems and the benefits they provide. The Act sets out a framework for the delivery of SMNR, which includes practical steps to improve air quality across Wales, not just in the most polluted hotspots but across Wales.
- The Welsh Government has committed to taking a cross-government approach to tackling air quality. The ‘Clean Air Wales’ Programme (2018) seeks to reduce the burden of poor air quality on human health and the natural environment. This programme will consider evidence and develop and implement actions required across government departments including environment, health, education, decarbonisation, transport, local government, planning, agriculture and industry to achieve clean air for Wales. The Programme will build on existing cross government work to reduce air pollution, including Future Wales and PPW.
- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with PPW. PPW requires the preparation of LDP’s take account of the physical and environmental constraints on development of land, including, for example, the level of contamination and stability. Consideration should also be given to the potential impacts which remediation of land contamination might have upon the natural and historic environments.
- PPW also requires development plans to take water-related issues into account from an early stage in the process of identifying land for development and redevelopment.
- Air quality and soundscape are addressed in the PPW as a key component of the natural and built environment, placing the issues on an equal footing with other objectives such as housing, transport and economic development. PPW recognises the importance of air quality and appropriate soundscapes to the health and well-being of people and the environment, and seeks to ensure long-term approaches are taken to prevent creation of new problems or worsening of existing issues.
- PPW is supplemented by TANs, which translate Welsh Government’s commitment to sustainable development into the planning system so that it can play an appropriate role in moving towards sustainability. The primary objective of PPW is to ensure that the planning system contributes towards the delivery of sustainable development, and contributes positively towards improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. This is as required by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and other key legislation and resultant duties such as the Socio-economic Duty.
- With specific reference to waste management. TAN21 (Waste) states that land use planning should help to:
 - Drive the management of waste up the waste hierarchy and facilitate the provision of an adequate network of appropriate facilities;
 - Minimise the impact of waste management on the environment (natural and man made) and human health through the appropriate location and type of facilities; and
 - Recognise and support the economic and social benefits that can be realised from the management of waste as a resource within Wales.

- PPW sets out that development plans are important vehicles for the promotion of environmental protection. They should enable consideration of the effects which proposed developments, and transport demand associated with them, may have on land, air, or water quality and the effects which land, air or water quality may have on proposed developments.
- Future Wales and the Welsh National Marine Plan (2019) work together to ensure co-ordination between marine and terrestrial planning. This is important to sustain and facilitate the development of port, harbour and marina businesses and associated enterprises; coastal communities; tourism opportunities; energy generation; and seascapes.
- Welsh Water's Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) (2019) looks out across 30 years from 2020 to 2050 to assess potential risks to supplying sufficient water to meet anticipated demands. Key factors considered include demographic and economic changes that affect water demand, climate change which is recognised by WG's Future Generation's Act as a significant challenge facing Wales, and environmental obligations such as the European Water Framework Directive and the Habitats Directive.
- Southern Water (2020) are starting to develop the first Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) for the Arun and Western Streams catchment, which includes Newport. DWMPs are long-term investment plans for drainage and wastewater management to ensure the sustainability of drainage infrastructure and systems so they meet the needs of customers and the environment now and into the future.
- The Cardiff Capital Region and City Deal seeks to promote strong, sustainable and balanced growth throughout the region, committing to a partnership approach to housing and regeneration, which encourages efficient land use, utilising brownfield land opportunities where possible. The deal aims to encourage investment and create an equal opportunity environment within the ten local authorities and other key partners in its boundaries. The revised LDP should set out policies and proposals for the promotion of sustainable growth within the area that maximises resource efficiency and minimise environmental impacts, for the benefit of its resident population.

Baseline summary

Air quality

- 7.4 Historically Newport was home to many heavy industries which operated in a time when regulation was poor or absent causing significant pollution of the air, ground and water.⁹⁵ With tighter regulation and the decline of heavy industry, these activities are no longer the primary source of air pollution.
- 7.5 The primary cause of air pollution in Newport is caused by road traffic emissions. These emissions comprise of a variety of chemical substances that are harmful to human health and the environment. The pollutants of concern include Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and Particulate Material (PM10 and PM2.5).
- 7.6 Air quality monitoring has identified a number areas in Newport that are exceeding the air quality standards for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). Subsequently, eleven Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) have been designated in Newport, as listed below and shown on **Figure B.11** (see **Appendix B**):
- Caerleon
 - Malpas Road south
 - Chepstow Road / Clarence Place / Caerleon Road
 - Cefn Road

⁹⁵ Newport City Council (2020) Sustainable Travel Strategy (online) available at:
<http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Transport-and-Streets/Active-Travel-Survey/Sustainable-Travel-Strategy-2020.pdf>

- Caerphilly Road
- George Street

7.7 Five of Newport's AQMAs are notably situated along the M4:

- Royal Oak Hill
- Glasllwch Crescent
- St Julians
- High Cross
- Shaftesbury

7.8 Each year Newport City Council is required to report on the air quality of the area. The most recent Air Quality Progress Report was published in 2019, and covers the monitoring period January - December 2018.⁹⁶ The 2019 report concluded that the majority of Newport's eleven AQMAs have shown a degree of improvement. However, most of the AQMAs are at / just above the objective level. Further details and progress for each AQMA is set out in **Table 7.2** overleaf.

⁹⁶ <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Transport-and-Streets/Pollution-and-Noise-Control/2019-Air-Quality-Progress-Report.pdf>

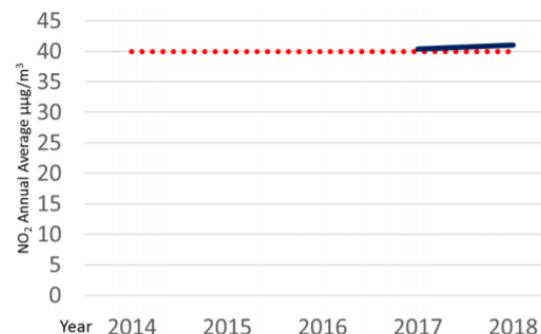
Table 7.2: Newport AQMAs

AQMA	Declaration date	Description	Trend	Exceedances of NO2 annual mean
Caerleon	2005 (amended 2018)	Caerleon dates back to roman times. The very narrow streets form a one-way system. The high volume of traffic is often forced to a halt due to constrictions in the road network. The one-way system also cause many return journeys amplifying road traffic pollution	The graph of peak annual mean nitrogen dioxide over the past 4 years indicates little improvement. The area of poor air quality is confined to Castle Street and High Street. 	
Caerphilly Road	2018	Caerphilly Road is the main A-Road leading to Caerphilly. Comprising of a single carriage way flanked, in part, by residential properties; particularly a row of terrace houses adjacent to where the road climbs a steep gradient. A relatively high proportion of HGVs have been recorded along Caerphilly Road compared to similar A-Roads.	There has been a marked improvement in air quality along Caerphilly Road; however, the highest annual average nitrogen dioxide level clearly exceeds the objective of 40µg/m3. 	

Cefn Road 2018

Cefn Road comprises of a row of terrace houses to the south with a high bank/wall that forms the boundary to the Brecon Canal / Fourteen Locks. Both features form a mild canyon effect. The road slopes downwards to the west and is frequented by traffic leaving the M4 as a direct route to the A467

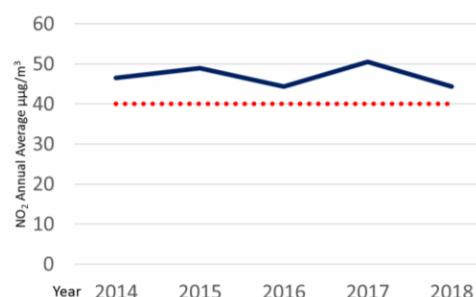
Two of the three monitoring locations along Cefn Road exceed or are very close to exceeding the objective. Given the relatively short time this road has been monitored it is not possible to comment upon the long-term trend.



Chepstow Road 2005 (amended 2018)

The two busy roads – Chepstow Road and Caerleon Road converge at Clarence Place forming on the central crossing points of the River Usk in Newport. The area was developed in the late Victorian period with many tall buildings abutting the road creating a street canyon.

There are a number of exceedances over or just below the 40 µg/m³ objective for nitrogen dioxide. The peak values recorded within the AQMA over the previous four years has not shown any signs of a sustained improvement.



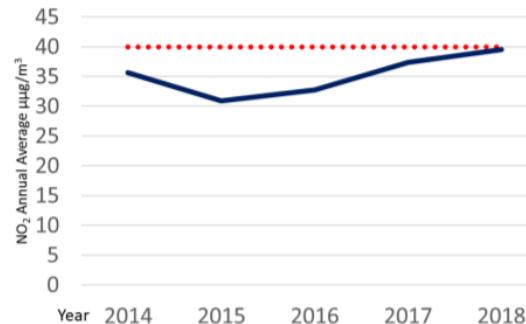
George Street	2018	<p>George Street AQMA comprises of a dual carriage way flanked by terraced houses on either side. Traffic lights are present at both ends of the AQMA. George Street forms one of the major routes through the city running east west directly connected to the George Street Bridge that crosses the river Usk.</p> <p>There was a rise in Nitrogen Dioxide levels in 2015 which exceeded the objective in 2017. In 2018 the Nitrogen Dioxide levels fell just below the objective. Other than atmospheric variations year to year there is no obvious reason for the observed trend.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>NO₂ Annual Average (µg/m³)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>2014</td><td>32</td></tr> <tr><td>2015</td><td>40</td></tr> <tr><td>2016</td><td>38</td></tr> <tr><td>2017</td><td>41</td></tr> <tr><td>2018</td><td>39</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	NO ₂ Annual Average (µg/m ³)	2014	32	2015	40	2016	38	2017	41	2018	39	
Year	NO ₂ Annual Average (µg/m ³)														
2014	32														
2015	40														
2016	38														
2017	41														
2018	39														
Malpas Road	2005 (amended 2018)	<p>Malpas Road forms on the main north / south routes. For the majority of the northern section of Malpas Road it is a dual carriage way. Once the route nears the city, the road becomes a single carriageway that is flanked by Victorian terraced houses and shops.</p> <p>The peak tend of Nitrogen Dioxide levels within the AMQA are just at or significantly over the 40 µg/m³ objective.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>NO₂ Annual Average (µg/m³)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>2014</td><td>42</td></tr> <tr><td>2015</td><td>40</td></tr> <tr><td>2016</td><td>45</td></tr> <tr><td>2017</td><td>41</td></tr> <tr><td>2018</td><td>40</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	NO ₂ Annual Average (µg/m ³)	2014	42	2015	40	2016	45	2017	41	2018	40	
Year	NO ₂ Annual Average (µg/m ³)														
2014	42														
2015	40														
2016	45														
2017	41														
2018	40														

Glasllwch
Crescent
(M4)

2005

Glasllwch Crescent AQMA comprises of two residential properties that are either side of the M4. Both properties are set back from other main roads and the M4 is the main cause of the elevated pollution levels.

The trend of peak Nitrogen Dioxide levels over the last four years indicates a sustained increase to just below the objective level. The cause of this increase can only be attributed to pollution sourced from the M4.

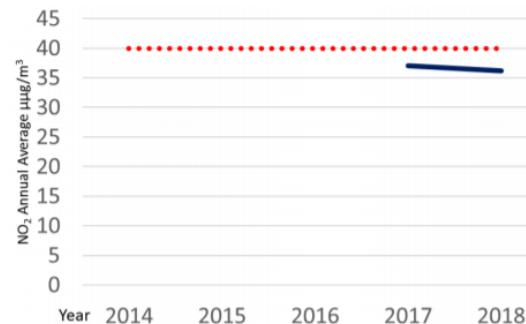


High Cross

2018

The High Cross AQMA comprises of two residential properties that are either side of the M4 at Junction 27. Due to the design of the junction local traffic and traffic for the M4 cause near exceedances of the air quality objective.

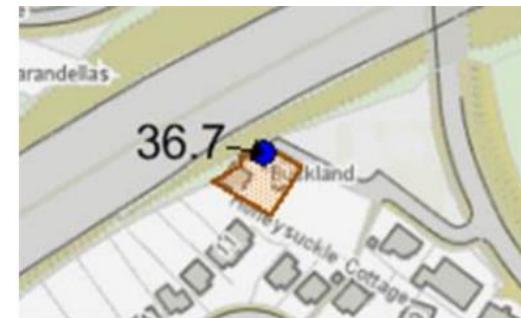
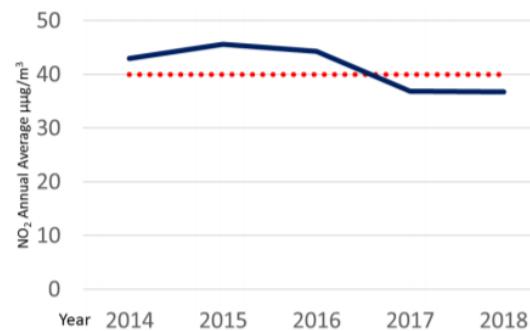
Due to the limited number of years monitoring has been carried out at this location it is not possible to determine the overall trend in Nitrogen Dioxide levels.



Royal Oak Hill 2005

Royal Oak Hill AQMA comprises of a single property in close proximity to the M4. There are no major roads within close proximity to the property, therefore the elevated pollution levels are primarily due to the M4 road traffic emissions.

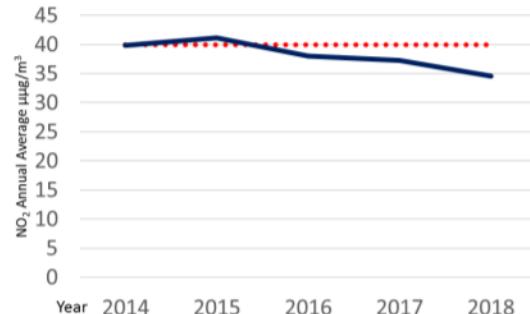
The annual average Nitrogen Dioxide levels have in the last two years been just below the objective of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.



Shaftesbury (M4) 2005

The Shaftesbury AQMA comprises of residential properties either side of the M4 near Junction 26. The slip roads of the junction offset the residential properties from abutting the verge of the M4.

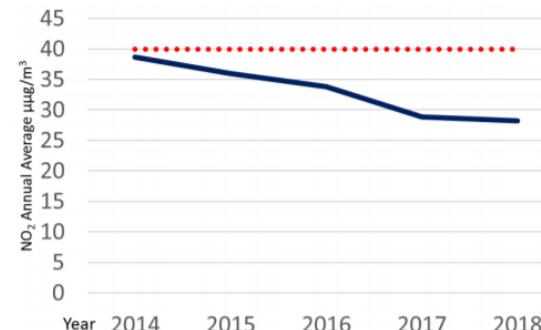
The trend of the peak level of Nitrogen Dioxide can generally be seen as downward.



St Julians 2005
(M4)

The St Julian's AQMA comprises of the residential properties that abut the south western corner of Junction 25 of the M4. The primary source of air pollution in the area arises from the road traffic associated with the M4.

There has been a clear and consistent trend of improvement at the St Julian's AQMA. The peak result is substantially below the air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide. With 12 more months of monitoring data that confirm the downward trend – the AQMA may be revoked.



Water resources

- 7.9 Water supply in Wales is managed by Welsh Water, their main function being to ensure that their customers have access to a sufficient water supply at the present time as well as the future. This is alongside ensuring that their actions as an organisation are compliant with environmental obligations. Welsh Water anticipate that the supply/ demand balance for water in the South East Wales Conjunctive Use System (SEWCUS) water resource zone (which includes Newport) is likely to see significant increase of surplus water between now and 2050.⁹⁷

Waterbodies

- 7.10 There are four rivers within Newport's boundary, with the two major ones being the Usk and the Ebbw. The Rhymney River skirts Newport's western boundary, and the Afon Llwyd just enters the north of the Newport City boundary, making up the full complement of rivers. These rivers along with their tributaries such as the Malpas and Bettws Brooks form the river and stream resource of Newport.⁹⁸ Newport is also home to three reservoirs, the Pant-yr-eos in the north of the area on the border with Torfaen, the Ynysfro Reservoir which is to the north of the M4, east of Rogerstone and the Wentwood Reservoir in the north east of Newport, north of Llanvaches. Newport also contains two adjoining canals, the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal and the Monmouthshire (Crumlin) Canal.

- 7.11 The area contains three constituent river catchment areas, each of which have a Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (CAMS), including the Severn Corridor, Rhymney and Ebbw and the Usk. The boundaries for these CAMS are shown in **Figure B.12** (see **Appendix B**).

- **River Usk⁹⁹:** Surface water is the main abstraction resource in this catchment, with under 1% of abstraction coming from groundwater sources, and the predominant pressures coming from the public water supply.
- **Severn Corridor¹⁰⁰:** This corridor intercepts the Newport area in a very small area along Newport's coastal southern boundary which leads onto the River Severn. The management strategy associated with this catchment does not detail pressures and abstraction patterns this far down the watercourses.
- **Rhymney and Ebbw¹⁰¹:** This catchment is included within the South East Valleys area; it receives above average rainfall for Wales, though coastal areas (such as Newport) see lower levels of rainfall. Approximately 53% of the total abstraction is for public water supply, with most demand coming from reservoirs significantly further upstream, and not close to Newport.

Coastal waters

- 7.12 The majority of the watercourses in the area flow into the Severn Estuary which forms Newport's southern boundary. Future Wales and the Welsh National Marine Plan (2019) work together to ensure that natural resources are sustainably managed for the benefit of both current and future generations and where our seas and marine ecosystems are healthy and resilient, supporting a thriving, sustainable economy provide a framework for the management of change around the coast.

Water quality

- 7.13 There is one groundwater source protection zone which overlaps with the Borough on its north eastern boundary (see **Figure B.15 (Appendix B)** and **Figure 7.1** overleaf), the zone includes land to the east of Llanvaches which is mostly open countryside with some woodland and agricultural uses. The zone stretches south easterly from this point into Monmouthshire.

⁹⁷ Welsh Water (2019) Final Water Resources Management Plan 2019 [online] [here](#)

⁹⁸ Newport City Council (date unknown) Newport City Biodiversity Action Plan [online] available at: [here](#)

⁹⁹ Natural Resources Wales (2017) River Usk Abstraction Licensing Strategy [online], available at: [here](#)

¹⁰⁰ Natural Resources Wales (2020) Severn Corridor Abstraction Licensing Strategy [online], available at: [here](#)

¹⁰¹ Natural Resources Wales (2017) South East Valleys Abstraction Licensing Strategy [online], available at: [here](#)



Figure 7.1: Groundwater Source Protection Zones

- 7.14 There are no designated bathing waters or Nitrate Vulnerable Zones within Newport's boundary.
- 7.15 In terms of water quality, according to the Water Framework Directive, the following water resources and their statuses are detailed in **Figure 7.2** below.

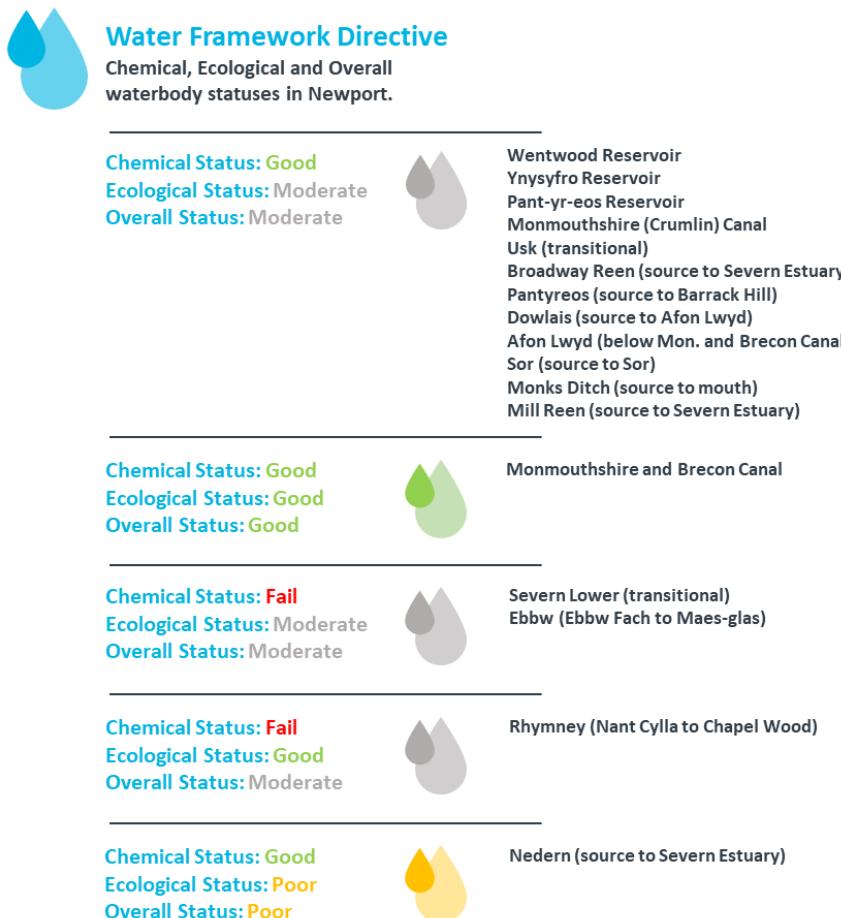


Figure 7.2: Status of Newport's waterbodies

Land and soil

- 7.16 Whilst the built-up areas of Newport are generally unsuitable for agricultural uses, surrounding undeveloped land is of mixed quality. Pre-1988 data shows that the majority of land is classified as of relatively low agricultural potential, with large amounts of the area's land being classified as Grades 3b and 4 and some very small areas of Grade 5 agricultural land. To the east of Newport there is a band of higher quality land with agricultural potential classified

predominantly as Grades 1 and 2 agricultural land. Further to this, there is some higher grade (mostly Grade 3a, with patches of Grades 2 and 1) found to the west/ south west of the area.

- 7.17 **Figure B.13** (see **Appendix B**) reveals some more up-to-date information relating to post-1988 surveyed land looking at agricultural land. This shows an area in the north east Newport with some higher grade land with agricultural potential alongside some smaller patches of lower grade land. There is a band of lower grade land which runs along the northern/ land side of the coastal levels, although the far eastern side of this band shows some signs of higher-grade agricultural land. Patches of land in the west of Newport also show signs of higher quality agricultural land.
- 7.18 Newport City Council's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) identifies that 78% of completions on sites above 10 units or more were on brownfield land in 2019/20. While this falls slightly short of the monitoring target for 80%, the plan period overall has exceeded the target. The main reason for this reduction in the brownfield delivery rate in 2019/20 is recognised as the completion of the Tredegar Park Golf Course and Llanwern Village greenfield allocations, and brownfield delivery rates are anticipated to increase in the following monitoring year, more in line with historically high levels of brownfield development.
- 7.19 It is important to look at land which has been contaminated, due to the potential requirements for remediation or avoidance of such land when considering development options. As shown in **Figure B.14** (see **Appendix B**) there are a number of historic landfill sites found across the Newport area. There is a larger cluster of them found to the south of the urban area of Newport, with a number found on or nearby to watercourses (including the Rivers Usk and Ebbw). These areas are likely to be releasing gases which contribute towards the presence of greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere (contributing to climate change) as well as having effects which are detrimental to human health. Land uses on land overlapping with or adjoining historic landfill sites are likely to be significantly constrained, or limited by the extensive remediation works which might be required in order to use the land safely.

Minerals

- 7.20 Mineral planning in Wales at the strategic scale requires collaboration between Local Authorities. Current evidence suggests that Newport does not have an adequate landbank for the required minerals. There is also a requirement for Local Development Plans to safeguard wharves and rail and investigate the importation of minerals, formulate policies, support the use of recycled aggregate as well as collaborating with other Mineral Planning Authorities to meet local needs (See **Figure 7.3** below).

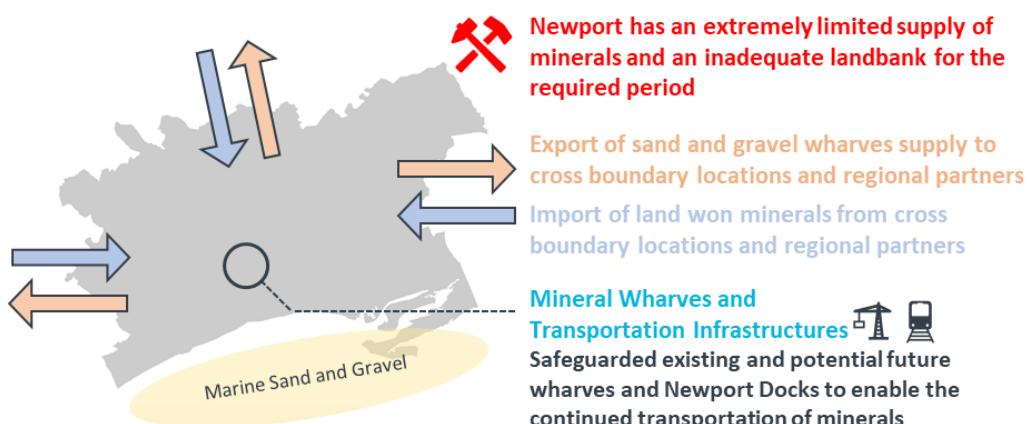


Figure 7.3 Mineral resources

- 7.21 **Figure B.16** (see **Appendix B**) shows the locations of safeguarded minerals, of which Newport has a relative scarcity, focused to the north. **Figure B.17** (see **Appendix B**) shows the small area to the south east of Newport falling within an area of sand contained in intertidal and banks, and a key resource area. The Regional Technical Statement (RTS) produced by the South Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party (SWRAWP) identifies that Newport is

required to make future provision within the LDP for crushed rock aggregates at 0.434 million tonnes per year (until the end of the plan period and for 10 years thereafter).¹⁰² The RTS notes that Newport currently has zero existing landbanks of permitted reserves for both sand & gravel and for crushed rock. Given the lack of active aggregate workings and mineral resource within the authority boundary, new proposals will either be required from industry and/ or cross-boundary regional partnerships will be required to help meet the requirement in the RTS .

- 7.22 Newport Docks are important for the import of marine sand and gravel beyond Newport. The South Dock comprises of a coal and minerals quay which offers storage for more than 80,000 tonnes of cargo with direct rail access.¹⁰³ In 2015 coal and minerals accounted for 8.08% of key cargo commodities at the Port of Newport.

Waste

- 7.23 With regards to Newport's municipal waste arrangements, the Council offers different waste services to residents and businesses to deal with the different waste streams¹⁰⁴:
- 7.24 Recyclable materials: recycling collections are carried out in partnership with Wastesavers, a community not for profit local organisation, and source-segregated materials are sent directly to different re-processors to be recycled. Collections are conducted weekly.
- 7.25 Food waste: food collections are also carried out by Wastesavers, and food waste is sent to the anaerobic digestion plant located in Bryn Pica, Aberdare. The project is managed in collaboration with neighbouring Local Authorities Rhondda Cynon Taff and Merthyr Tydfil, with a 15-year contract that started in July 2015. Collections are conducted weekly
- 7.26 Green waste: The Council operates in-house separate collections and all the green waste collected is sent to the composting facility operated by the Council at its Docks Way facility. Collections are scheduled on a fortnightly basis and stop for 3 months during the winter period.
- 7.27 Residual waste: Traditionally all the municipal residual waste was sent to the Council landfill site located at Docksway; however, the Council is always looking for alternatives to divert waste from landfill in application of the waste hierarchy set by the waste legislation, and joined Cardiff, Caerphilly, Vale of Glamorgan and Monmouthshire in an ambitious 25-year contract to build and operate an Energy from Waste facility. The plant, located at Trident Park, Cardiff, started operations on an interim basis in 2014 and the contract started on 1st April 2016. The Council now sends most of its residual waste to the incineration plant. Docksway landfill site is still in operation, mainly for commercial clients but also as an alternative disposal site for the residual waste that is not sent to the EfW facility. Collections of residual waste from households are scheduled on a fortnightly basis.
- 7.28 Other collections: the Council also provides other services such as special collections for bulky items that can be booked by residents through the Council's website or by contacting the Contact Centre or Information Station; also there are trade waste and recycling collection service available for businesses
- 7.29 Household waste recycling centre: the recycling facility located at Docksway site provides facilities for residents to bring in a wide range of recyclable and reusable materials, more information about the accepted materials, opening times etc.
- 7.30 The percentage of municipal waste reused, recycled and composted in Newport has exceeded the target set by the council by 2.37%. The percentage of energy from waste is slighter higher than the 2019/ 20 target, but has fallen slightly since last year. In addition, there has been a significant fall in waste sent to landfill (from 6.9% to 1.5%).¹⁰⁵



¹⁰² South Wales Regional Aggregate Working Party (2020) Regional Technical Statement 2nd Review [online] available at: [here](#)

¹⁰³ Associated British Ports (2015) The Port of Newport Masterplan 2015 – 2035

<https://www.southwalesports.co.uk/admin/content/files/ABP%20Newport%20-%20Master%20Plan%20Brochure.compressed-min.compressed.pdf>

¹⁰⁴ AMR, Ibid, p. 70.

¹⁰⁵ AMR, Ibid, p. 118.

- 7.31 The Welsh Government's ambition is for 70% recycling by 2025, with residual waste disposed of to high efficiency energy from waste facilities and as close to zero landfill as possible¹⁰⁶. In this regard, the percentage of energy from waste in Newport has slightly decreased, but has not met the council's target of 36%.¹⁰⁷
- 7.32 In 2014, Newport failed to meet its statutory targets and agreed to get support from the CCP to improve its performance. Under this programme, Newport City Council Officers worked with Welsh Government and WRAP from 2015 to 2017 to review the Council services, analyse all the different options available and come up with a tailored proposal that would ensure the Council met the set targets and avoid the imposition of fines.¹⁰⁸ Subsequently, the decision taken includes activities for improvements split into the three main service delivery areas:
- Household waste collections, with the restriction of residual waste capacity for domestic properties by introducing 120 litre wheeled bins for fortnightly collection of non-recyclable waste only, and the introduction of a new waste education and enforcement team to support the residual waste cap.
 - Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC), by developing a second HWRC.
 - Commercial waste collections, by developing recycling focused commercial waste collections.
- 7.33 With regards to waste disposal, Newport City Council has only one household waste recycling centre, a medium-sized purpose-built site located in the industrial south of the city close to Alexandra Docks and the Docks Way landfill site. As the only site in the city, it serves the entire population of Newport, which is much lower than the Wales average of one site per 17,000 residents.¹⁰⁹ It is however noted that the construction of a second HWRC is included in Newport's Corporate Plan as one of its 20 Commitments.¹¹⁰

Future baseline

- 7.34 The acceleration of the roll out of electric vehicles is likely to dramatically reduce issues relating to air pollution from motor vehicles. Whilst some air pollution originates from sources aside from the engine, this should help to reduce transport related air pollution issues in the long term.
- 7.35 Water availability both within Newport and in the wider region has potential to be affected by projected growth and by an increased risk of drought as a result of climate change. Whilst Wales and more specifically the Newport area is not anticipated to have issues relating to water resources, development has the potential to affect water quality through diffuse pollution, wastewater discharges, water run-off, and modification. Furthermore, pressures relating to climate and demographic changes alongside environmental obligations could place stresses upon particular aspects associated with water resourcing.
- 7.36 Future development has the potential to result in the loss of potentially valuable, best and most versatile agricultural land of Grades 1, 2 and 3a, especially to the east and west of the Newport area.
- 7.37 Mineral resources are in limited supply, with a significant need to work collaboratively with regional partners in relation to the importation and exportation of minerals. While Newport currently only has one HWRC, the construction of a second HWRC is included in Newport's Corporate Plan as one of its 20 Commitments by 2022.¹¹¹ This is anticipated to address any capacity related issues which may occur as a result of anticipated population increases and/or wider pressures.

¹⁰⁶ AMR, Ibid, p. 86.

¹⁰⁷ AMR, Ibid, p. 86.

¹⁰⁸ Newport City Council (2019- 2025) 'Newport Waste Strategy'[online] available at:
<https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/documents/s17652/NCC%20Waste%20Strategy.pdf>

¹⁰⁹ Newport Waste Strategy. Ibid. p. 9.

¹¹⁰ <https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/documents/s17652/NCC%20Waste%20Strategy.pdf>

¹¹¹ <https://democracy.newport.gov.uk/documents/s17652/NCC%20Waste%20Strategy.pdf>

Key issues

7.38 The context review and baseline information informed the identification of a number of key issues (problems and opportunities):

- Policy approaches are pushing towards a holistic and sustainable approach to the management, protection and use of natural resources, including through targeted measures to improve environmental outcomes relating to air quality, soil, land, water and waste in order to maximise beneficial outcomes to social, environmental and economic factors.
- Policy reinforces the need to consider the interrelationship between planned developments and the factors mentioned above, with emphasis being placed on the likely effects of climate change, the need for efficient uses of land, resource use efficiency and conserving the natural environment.
- Newport has eleven AQMAs. The latest monitoring report (2019) concluded that the majority of Newport's eleven AQMAs have shown a degree of improvement. However, most of the AQMAs are at / just above the objective level.
- Newport has a variety of water resources, including three reservoirs, four rivers, multiple tributaries and the coastal waster of the Severn Estuary.
- The Newport area also contains a small area which is safeguarded as a groundwater source protection zone.
- The vast majority of the waterbodies in Newport have an overall status of 'moderate', with one classified as 'poor' and one as 'good'.
- Newport's land is mostly unsuitable for agricultural uses due to its lower quality agricultural grading; however, there is some areas of higher quality land, particularly to the east and west of the LDP area.
- Some land across Newport is constrained by historic landfill sites, development within or near these sites will need to consider any necessary and appropriate remediation works.
- Newport generally has a good supply of brownfield land, demonstrated through high delivery rates of housing development on brownfield sites historically. It will be important to continue to identify and prioritise the use of brownfield land for development.
- Newport has a relatively sparse provision of land-based minerals, with no active mineral processing operations within the area's boundaries; it relies upon regional importations to meet its needs. Despite this, its infrastructure to support the transportation of minerals remains safeguarded, this includes Newport Docks, which are important for the import of marine sand and gravel beyond Newport..
- There have been positive results exceeding targets for recycling rates, long-term improvements to energy generated from waste and reductions in landfill waste.
- While Newport currently has only one HWRC which serves a large amount of people, the construction of a second HWRC is included in Newport's Corporate Plan as one of the 20 Commitments by 2022.

ISA objectives

7.39 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

ISA objective	Assessment questions – will the option/proposal help to:
To identify and pursue any opportunities to reduce, or at least, minimise population exposure to air pollution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce the need to travel?• Encourage journeys to be made by sustainable means (active travel or public transport)?• Avoid any adverse effects on air quality and for people exposed to poor air quality?• Improve air quality in areas identified as of concern?• Promote and facilitate the use of electric vehicles?• Promote good design to avoid impacts on air quality, such as the canyon effect, and incorporates and enhances green infrastructure networks to facilitate increased absorption and dissipation of NO₂ and other pollutants?
To make the best use of previously developed land and existing buildings to minimise pressure for greenfield development and protecting, where possible, higher grade agricultural land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimise the loss of potentially high grade agricultural land to developments which will not make use of the soil as an agricultural resource?• Encourage the use of previously developed land?• Encourage development-related remediation works which could reduce the presence of contaminated land in Newport?
To conserve, protect and enhance the water environment, water quality and water resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce water consumption?• Ensure an adequate supply of water can be provided to sustain the development considering current and future projections of water availability and water use?• Reduce the potential for contamination of waterbodies and courses?• Reduce the potential for agricultural practices to contribute towards nitrate-based pollution of waterbodies and courses?

8. Biodiversity and geodiversity

8.1 This theme focuses on biodiversity and geodiversity interests within and surrounding Newport.

Policy context

8.2 **Table 8.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the revised LDP ISA.

Table 8.1: Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to biodiversity and geodiversity

Document title	Year of publication
Planning Wales Act	2015
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	2015
Environment (Wales) Act	2016
National Development Framework (Future Wales: The National Plan)	2021
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
Nature Recovery Plan for Wales	2015
Welsh National Marine Plan	2019
South East Wales Area Statement	2017
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5: Nature conservation and planning	2009
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 12: Design	2016
Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan	2010
Newport Local Development Plan	2015
The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report	2019
The Second State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR2020)	2020
Severn Estuary European Marine Site Good Practice Guidance	2017

8.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- The Environment (Wales) Act introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty (Section 6 Duty). This duty applies to public authorities in the exercise of their functions in relation to Wales and will help maximise contributions to achieving the well-being goals. The Nature Recovery Plan supports this legislative requirement to reverse the decline in biodiversity, address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by putting nature at the heart of decision-making and increasing the resilience of ecosystems by taking specific action focused around the six objectives for habitats and species.
- Future Wales sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales identifies Newport as a Centre of National Growth, and as such the replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals reflecting the increased strategic role of the region. The emerging SDP for South East Wales also seeks to address regional factors which include planning for biodiversity; in particular the conservation of wildlife and habitats. Promoting Newport as a focus for growth will require careful management, protection and enhancement of biodiversity, supporting the long-term resilience of ecosystems. Future Wales states that the planning system will ensure wildlife is able to thrive in healthy, diverse habitats, both in urban and rural areas, recognising and valuing the multiple benefits to people and nature.
- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with PPW and supplementary TANs, which provide national planning policy in respect of biodiversity.

PPW highlights the role of the planning system in helping to reverse the decline in biodiversity and increasing the resilience of ecosystems, at various scales, by ensuring appropriate mechanisms are in place to both protect against loss and to secure enhancement. Planning authorities must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of their functions. This means development should not cause any significant loss of habitats or populations of species, locally or nationally and must provide a net benefit for biodiversity.

- TAN 5 (Nature Conservation and Planning) provides advice about how the land use planning system should contribute to protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation, notably setting out key principles of positive planning for nature conservation.
- Organisations around the Severn Estuary have come together to form the Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA) to coordinate their statutory duties. ASERA has identified that disturbance from some recreational activities can affect the protected birds, habitats and fish in the estuary. The ASERA Good Practice Guidance aims to raise awareness of the Severn Estuary European Marine Site and to ensure that human activities around the estuary are carried out in a way sympathetic to the nature conservation objectives of the site, making sure it's protected for future generations

Baseline summary

- 8.4 The location of international, national and local biodiversity designations, in addition to priority habitats present within Newport can be seen within **Figures B.18-B.20** within **Appendix B**.

European designated sites

- 8.5 Newport County Borough contains numerous European designated biodiversity sites. These are detailed below.

River Usk SAC and SSSI

- 8.6 The River Usk is both a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), designated due to its riparian habitat features, otters, and migratory fish. It is over 120km long from its source to its mouth and is an excellent example of a river running over sandstones and for its associated plant and animal communities. Its character spans a wide range of types from an upland, base-poor stream to a large lowland river with extensive tidal reaches and supports many migratory species and rare fish species such as sea lamprey, European eel, allis shad and twaite shad, as well as a large otter population.

- 8.7 There are several issues that should be considered for planning purposes with regards to preserving the integrity of the River Usk SAC.¹¹² These include:

- Placing timing restrictions on piling works, or any other activities which cause noise and vibrations;
- ensuring that development proposals do not adversely impact on water quality and quantity (by undertaking some/all of the following assessments: flood consequence assessment; foul sewerage assessment; land contamination assessment; or a site waste management plan); and
- considering any works which may disturb otters, by restricting working hours, and other mitigation measures such as installation of otter holts/appropriate planting.

- 8.8 Other key vulnerabilities for the River Usk SAC include:

- Water pollution that can be caused by discharges from sewage treatment works, urban drainage, engineering works such as road improvement schemes, contaminated land, and

¹¹² Newport City Council (2015): 'Sustainability Appraisal Report' [online] available at:
<https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/LDP-2011-2026/Sustainability-Appraisal-Report-Appendices-Volume-1.pdf>

- other domestic and industrial sources. The qualifying fish species are sensitive to pollution; therefore a deterioration water quality could prove detrimental to fish populations;
- Increased suspended solids in the water column resulting from surface run off in urban areas which can impact upon both migratory and spawning fish that are features of the River Usk SAC;
 - Rising sea levels that could result in a loss of otter habitats and the migration of fish. Additionally, any development that would reduce the availability of floodplain upstream for the River Usk could negatively effect upon the availability of otter habitat;
 - Extraction of water from the river, which can result in changes and loss to important fluvial habitats, consequently affecting fish populations through reduced recruitment and/or survival rates;
 - Vulnerable habitats which have the potential to be lost due to sea level rise; and
 - Recreational pressure.

Severn Estuary SAC, SPA, Ramsar Site, and SSSI

- 8.9 The River Usk discharges into the Severn Estuary, which is a Special Protection Area (SPA), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Ramsar site and SSSI. The Severn Estuary is designated as a SPA due to its internationally important assemblage of wintering birds, and as a SAC due to its estuarine habitat features and migratory fish. The Severn Estuary is also designated as a Ramsar ‘Wetland of International Importance’. The Severn Estuary is in the south of the Plan area, at the mouth of the River Severn.¹¹³
- 8.10 Planning considerations for the Severn Estuary SAC and Ramsar site include:¹¹⁴
- Ensuring that development proposals do not adversely impact on water quality and quantity. Developers may be required to undertake some/all of the following assessments: flood consequence assessment; foul sewerage assessment; land contamination assessment; or a site waste management plan;
 - placing timing restrictions may be on piling works, or any other activities which cause noise, vibrations; and
 - Conducting wintering and migratory bird surveys, and placing restrictions (e.g. in relation to timing, scale, location of works) depending on potential impact on wintering birds.
- 8.11 Other key vulnerabilities for the Severn Estuary SAC and Ramsar site include:
- Extraction of water from the estuary, which result in changes and loss to important fluvial habitats, consequently affecting the animal species for which the site is designated;
 - loss of habitats that are qualifying features of the Severn Estuary SAC, both indirectly and directly, which could affect the conservation status for the site. Developments potentially resulting with habitat loss include barrages;
 - water pollution, which can caused by discharges from sewage treatment works, urban drainage, engineering works such as road improvement schemes, contaminated land, and other domestic and industrial sources. The qualifying fish species are sensitive to pollution; therefore a deterioration water quality could prove detrimental to fish populations;
 - increased suspended solids in the water column resulting from surface run off in urban areas which can impact upon both migratory and spawning fish that are features of the Severn Estuary;
 - the salt meadows, which are one of the features of the SAC site that are sensitive to nitrogen oxides, therefore any increase from aerial pollution as a result of development could deteriorate the condition of the habitats; and
 - Recreational pressure.

¹¹³ ASERA (2016): ‘Severn Estuary SSSI’ [online] available at: <https://asera.org.uk/severn-estuary/sssi/>

¹¹⁴ Newport County Borough Council (2010) Wildlife and Development - Supplementary Planning Guidance [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/LDP-2011-2026/Wildlife-SPG.pdf>

Wye Valley Woodlands ('Coetiroedd Dyffryn Gwy') SAC

- 8.12 The Wye Valley Woodlands SAC is designated in both England and Wales due to its abundant and near-continuous semi-natural woodland, and is located approximately 9km east of the Plan area, at Lyndney. Lady Park Wood, one of the component sites within the boundary, is an 'outstanding' example of near-natural old-growth structure in mixed broad-leaved woodland and has been the subject of detailed long-term monitoring studies. In addition, the woods of the lower Wye Valley on the border of south Wales and England form an important area for woodland conservation in the UK, including one of the most extensive examples of *Tilio-Acerion* forest in the west of its range. Finally, Wye Valley is representative of yew *Taxus baccata* woods in the south-west of the habitat's range.¹¹⁵
- 8.13 Key vulnerabilities for the Wye Valley Woodlands SAC include:
- Inappropriate management techniques such as woodland regeneration, which is unfavourable due to the extensive deer grazing throughout the Wye Valley, which could also lead to habitat loss;
 - any development which would result in the disturbance in bat roost sites;
 - aerial pollution from the location of the woodland in industrialised South Wales alongside local quarrying and associated activities. Localised atmospheric pollution that could impact upon the species assemblages of the site; and
 - Recreational pressure.

Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Site ('Safleoedd Ystlumod Dyffryn Gwy a Fforest y Ddena') SAC

- 8.14 The Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Site is designated in Wales is contains the greatest concentration of the lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* in the UK, totalling approximately 26% of the national population. Further, the area also represents 6% of the greater horseshoe bat population *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*. This area has been designated on the grounds of these exceptional bat breeding populations, and the majority of sites within the valley and forest are maternity roosts. The bats are believed to hibernate in the many disused mines in the area.¹¹⁶ The SAC is located approximately 4.3km to the east of the assessment area.
- 8.15 Key vulnerabilities for the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Site SAC include:
- Disturbance to, and inappropriate management of, bat roost sites from noise and/or lighting and tree felling, which could disturb bat species;
 - loss of feeding and foraging habitats and flight lines for bats through changes in land management, such as a loss of linear features (e.g. hedgerows). These changes can deter bats from roosting and may affect bat populations in the area;
 - aerial pollution from future development, which can indirectly affect bats by impacting upon the habitats that the species use to forage/roost;
 - failing to ensure that adequate otter habitat is located along the river if development occurs on either side of the river could result in the decline of otters using it; and
 - disturbances as a result of recreational pressures such as noise, light, vibrations and dog walking and boating.

The River Wye ('Afon Gwy') SAC

- 8.16 The River Wye is designated primarily due to its' geological diversity and presence of water courses with *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation. The site is located 10km to the east of the Newport assessment area. There are features within the area, such as shales and sandstones, upper reaches, with characteristic bryophyte-dominated vegetation, and the lower reaches with extensive *Ranunculus* beds. There is a varied water-crowfoot *Ranunculus flora*; stream water-crowfoot *R. penicillatus* ssp. *pseudofluitans* is abundant, with

¹¹⁵ JNCC (n.d.): 'Wye Valley Woodlands/ Coetiroedd Dyffryn Gwy' [online] available at: <https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0012727>

¹¹⁶ JNCC (n.d.) 'Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Site' [online] available at: <https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0012642>

other *Ranunculus* species, including the less common river water-crowfoot *R. fluitans*. These features are important to the wider marine system due to their role in promoting fine sediment deposition and provide shelter and food for fish and invertebrate animals.¹¹⁷

- 8.17 In addition, there are a number of notable species present within the River, including the white-clawed crayfish *Austropotamobius pallipes*, sea lamprey *Petromyzon marinus*, Brook lamprey *Lampetra planeri*, River lamprey *Lampetra fluviatilis*, Twaite shad *Alosa fallax*, Atlantic salmon *Salmo salar*, Bullhead *Cottus gobio* and Otter *Lutra*.¹¹⁸
- 8.18 Key vulnerabilities from the River Wye include:

- Impassable obstacles between suitable spawning areas and the sea which can eliminate breeding populations of certain fish species, whilst otters can be deterred by noise and light pollution stemming from recreational use;
- the extraction of water from the river can result in changes and loss to important fluvial habitats, consequently affecting the animal species for which the site is designated;
- water pollution which can be caused by discharges from sewage treatment works, urban drainage, engineering works such as road improvement schemes, contaminated land, and other domestic and industrial sources; and
- increased suspended solids in the water column resulting from surface run off in urban areas for example, can impact upon both migratory and spawning fish that are features of the River Wye SAC.

Cardiff Beech Woods SAC

- 8.19 Cardiff Beech Woods SAC (designated in 2004) contains one of the largest concentrations of *Asperulo-Fagetum* beech forests in Wales and represent the habitat close to the western limit of its past native range in both the UK and Europe. The site is located 8km east of the Newport assessment area. The woods show mosaics and transitions to other types, including more acidic beech woodland and oak *Quercus* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior* woodland. Characteristic and notable species in the ground flora include ramsons *Allium ursinum*, sanicle *Sanicula europaea*, bird's-nest orchid *Neottia nidus-avis* and yellow bird's-nest *Monotropa hypopitys*. *Tilio-Acerion* ravine forests are woods of ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, wych elm *Ulmus glabra* and lime.¹¹⁹

- 8.20 Key vulnerabilities of the Cardiff Beech Woods SAC include:

- Potential recreational pressures on the SAC from Castell Coch Woodlands and Fforestganol a Chwm Nofydd experience, with potential adverse implications for the ground flora;
- aerial pollution from the location of the woodland in industrialized South Wales alongside local quarrying and associated activities. Localised atmospheric pollution that could impact upon the species assemblages of the site; and
- inappropriate management techniques such as illegal felling, or encouraging use in a particular sensitive area, which can lead to habitat loss.

Nationally designated sites

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

- 8.21 With regards to national sites, there are 13 SSSIs within the Plan area, listed below and shown within **Figure B.19 (Appendix B)**. The majority of SSSIs are situated in the southern part of the Plan area at the waterfront. These are presented in **Table 9.2**, overleaf.

¹¹⁷ JNCC (n.d.): 'The River Wye ('Afon Gwy') SAC' [online] available at: <https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0012642>

¹¹⁸ JNCC (n.d.): 'The River Wye ('Afon Gwy') SAC' [online] available at: <https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0012642>

¹¹⁹ JNCC (n.d.): 'Cardiff Beach Woods SAC' [online] available at: <https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/habitat/H9180/>

Table 8.2: SSSIs in Newport

Site name	Reason for site designation
Langstone-Llanmartin Meadows	Langstone-Llanmartin Meadows comprises two small areas of unimproved wet meadow containing a wide diversity of grassland and wetland plant communities. Associated species include meadow thistle <i>Cirsium dissectum</i> and fen bedstraw <i>Galium uliginosum</i> .
Parc Seymour Woods	Parc Seymour Woods comprises an area of coppiced sessile oak <i>Quercus petraea</i> woodland on the Old Red Sandstone, and is the last substantial semi-natural relict of the formerly extensive ancient woodlands of Wentwood Forest.
Penhow Woodlands	Penhow Woodlands, which is also designated as a nature reserve, and extends over three areas of ancient semi-natural woodland. The predominant tree species in the woods are Ash, Small-leaved Lime, Wych Elm and Wild Cherry, and the woodland area is an example of an increasingly scarce habitat in the UK. ¹²⁰
Plas Machen Wood	Plas Machen Wood is a small area of tall coppice woodland dominated by alder <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> on wet ground with a characteristic wet woodland ground flora.
Gwent Levels - Magor and Undy	The Gwent Levels – Magor and Undy SSSI is designated for three key features: its' reen and ditch habitat, insects and other invertebrates (notably, the silver colonel soldier fly) and the shrill carder bee. ¹²¹
Gwent Levels - Nash and Goldcliff	The Gwent Levels - Nash and Goldcliff SSSI is the only area in Wales that supports the rootless duckweed population. Notably, there is an interesting community where two species of hornwort grow together. Shrill carder bee is also a qualifying feature of this SSSI.
Gwent Levels - Redwick And Llandevenny	The Gwent Levels – Redwick and Llandevenny SSSI is noted for its range of aquatic plants and invertebrates associated with the reens and ditches of the drainage system. ¹²²
Gwent Levels - St. Brides	The Gwent Levels – St Brides SSSI are an example of one of the most extensive areas of reclaimed wet pasture in Great Britain. The regular maintenance of some reens provides conditions for submerged species such as hairlike pondweed <i>Potamogeton trichoides</i> and openwater emergents such as arrowhead <i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i> an opportunity to flourish. In addition, the area has a number of aquatic invertebrate fauna, is important in the Welsh context for its snails and dragonflies, and it is the only area on the Gwent Levels where the rare fly <i>Stenomicra cogani</i> has been recorded. ¹²³
Gwent Levels - Whitson	The Gwent Levels – Whiston is designated for three key features: its' reen and ditch habitat, insects and other invertebrates (notably, the silver colonel soldier fly) and the shrill carder bee. ¹²⁴
Gwlyptiroedd Casnewedd / Newport Wetlands	The Newport Wetlands SSSI, which is also designated as a National Nature Reserve, was designated in 2010. Its wide variety of habitats, including the 865 ha of inter-tidal foreshore, were created as compensation for the loss of the Taff/Ely Estuary SSSI at Cardiff Bay, following the completion of the barrage in 1999. ¹²⁵

¹²⁰ First Nature (2021): 'Penhow Woodlands Nature Reserve' [online] available at: <https://www.first-nature.com/waleswildlife/e-nnr-penhow.php>

¹²¹ CCW (2008): 'Gwent Levels – Magor and Undy SSSI' [online] available at: <https://qat04-live-1517c8a4486c41609369c68f30c8-aa81074.divio-media.org/M4-Newport/C%20-%20Core%20Documents/11.%20Ecology%20and%20Nature%20Conservation/11.3.7%20-%20CCW.%202008.%20Gwent%20Levels%20Magor%20%26amp%3B%20Undy%20SSSI.pdf>

¹²² Rush Solar Park Group (n.d.) : 'Environmental Statement' [online] available at: https://bsrenergy.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/01_ES_05_Chapter-5_Ecology-1.pdf

¹²³ Natural Resources Wales (1991): 'Gwent Levels – St Brides' [online] available at: https://naturalresources.wales/media/640899/SSSI_0341_Citation_EN0014d9a.pdf

¹²⁴ Natural Resources Wales (n.d.): 'Gwent Levels – Whiston' [online] available at: https://naturalresources.wales/media/636520/SSSI_0148_SMS_EN0013223.pdf

¹²⁵ ASERA (n.d.): 'What is an SSSI?' [online] available at: <https://aseria.org.uk/severn-estuary/sssi/#:~:text=The%20Newport%20Wetlands%20SSI%20was,of%20the%20barrage%20in%201999>.

River Usk (Lower Usk)/Afon Wysg (Wysg Isaf)	The River Usk comprises a large, linear ecosystem which acts as an important wildlife corridor, an essential migration route and key breeding area for many nationally and internationally important species, including a wide range of riverside breeding birds, otter, migratory and non-migratory fish species and invertebrates covered by the EC Directive 92/43/EEC. ¹²⁶
Severn Estuary	The SSSI designation covers approximately 15,000 ha of foreshore and inter-tidal habitat. It also forms part of a larger network which includes the Upper Severn Estuary SSSI and Bridgwater Bay SSSI. Within the Estuary itself are the three island SSSIs of Sully (near Barry), Flat Holm and Steep Holm. ¹²⁷
Gwent Levels - Rumney And Peterstone	The Gwent Levels – Whiston is designated for three key features: its' reen and ditch habitat, insects and other invertebrates (notably, the silver colonel soldier fly) and the shrill carder bee.

¹²⁶ Countryside Council for Wales (n.d.): 'River Usk SSSI' [online] available at: http://planapps.torfaen.gov.uk/START_files/Vol%202/Appendix%206/Appendix%206.2.1%20Surface%20Water%20Designations/river_usk.pdf

¹²⁷ ASERA (2016): 'Severn Estuary SSSI' [online] available at: <https://asera.org.uk/severn-estuary/sssi/>

National Nature Reserves (NNR)

- 8.22 Newport Wetlands Nature Reserve is in the south of Newport, and is owned and managed by Natural Resources Wales, working in partnership with RSPB Cymru, and Newport City Council. The Wetlands NNR is also designated as a SSSI. The wetlands encompasses wetland, reedbed and estuary habitats.¹²⁸

Ancient Woodland Inventory

- 8.23 Data from the National Inventory for Woodland and Trees indicates that Ancient Woodlands are present in Newport, mainly around the Usk Estuary in the south of the Plan area.

National Marine Character Areas

- 8.24 National Marine Character Areas (MCAs) are designated by Natural Resources Wales to protect the seascape and a character of local areas. In this regard, the Severn Estuary in Wales is designated as an MCA. The MCA comprises the Welsh part of the Severn Estuary, stretching from the national border with England to the western fringes of Barry. Numerous marine species are noted to reside in the MCA including sea lamprey and twaite shad populations, in relatively vast quantities for the UK. Tidal flats, saltmarshes and the extensive wet grasslands are of importance for wintering waterfowl and migratory birds.¹²⁹

Local designations

Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)

- 8.25 Government guidance advises that local authorities should designate Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) on sites which have high value for nature conservation or local wildlife or geological interest and are of particular value in community and education terms. Two such sites have been designated in Newport, at Allt-yr-yn and St Julian's Park.
- **Allt-yr-yn** was designated in 1994 and lies between the Monmouthshire-Brecon Canal and Allt-yr-Yn View. The LNR occupies the 32-acre site of the former Allt-yr-yn House and lido, and an old stone quarry. With regards to habitats, areas of the woodland at the LNR have been identified as ancient semi-natural woodland, noted for their biodiversity importance.¹³⁰
 - **St Julian's park** is a large open space between Christchurch Road and Caerleon Road, which consists of mixed deciduous woodland, semi-improved and amenity grassland and areas of bracken and scrub.¹³¹

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)

- 8.26 A Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) designation refers specifically to sites of significant nature conservation value. SINCs are the most important sites for biodiversity and nature conservation outside of legally protected sites such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). Their importance is significant in a more localised context than internationally or nationally designated sites.¹³²
- 8.27 **Figure B.19** (see **Appendix B**) shows that there are a large number of SINCs located throughout Newport, ranging in size and features. SINCs include:¹³³
- **Allt-yr-Yn SINC** - located to the south of the M4, designated for its mosaic of ancient semi-natural woodland, recent woodland, ponds, semi- and unimproved neutral grasslands.

¹²⁸ RSPB (n.d.): 'About Newport Wetlands Nature Reserve' [online] available at: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/newport-wetlands/>

¹²⁹ Natural Resources Wales (n.d.): 'MCA 29: Severn Estuary' [online] available at: <https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/674507/mca-29-severn-estuary-wales-final.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=131502192150000000>

¹³⁰ Newport City Council (n.d.): 'Local Nature Reserves' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Leisure-Tourism/Countryside--Parks/Wildlife-walks/Allt-yr-yn-local-nature-reserve.aspx>

¹³¹ Newport City Council (n.d.): 'St Julian's Park' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Leisure-Tourism/Countryside--Parks/Wildlife-walks/St-Julians-park.aspx>

¹³² Newport County Borough Council (2010) Wildlife and Development - Supplementary Planning Guidance [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/LDP-2011-2026/Wildlife-SPG.pdf>

¹³³ Newport City Council (2013) Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) Background Paper [online] available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/legislation-and-guidance/policy-advice-and-guidance>

- **Lliswerry Playing Fields and Angling Ponds SINC** - a recreational area amenity area with a neutral grassland and scrub communities.
- **Bettws Brook Corridor SINC** - Several SINCs make up the Bettws Brook Corridor which have all been designated for various reasons including woodlands, grasslands and watercourses. . Otters use the Brook and associated habitats.
- **St Julians Park SINC** - A large mosaic site of semi improved neutral and small unimproved neutral grassland areas with dense bracken, scrub and semi-natural woodland. Also areas of amenity grassland within site. Bulbous foxtail (*Alopecurus bulbosus*) near River Usk; Deptford Pink (*Dianthus armeria*) in North East Tip.

Urban Open Space

- 8.28 Urban Open Space is a term used to describe parks, green spaces, and other open areas such as playing fields. They can be highly managed environments or relatively natural areas. They are commonly open to public access and form a network of Accessible Natural Green Spaces across the authority.¹³⁴ These areas are important as they offer good recreational opportunities for people. They can be islands of nature, supporting biodiversity and providing a habitat for natural species in environments that are otherwise uninhabitable due to urban development. Appropriately managed urban open spaces can be places where local communities can enjoy nature in an urban setting.
- 8.29 Newport has some good examples of parks and open spaces, with the two main parks being Belle Vue and Beechwood. Belle Vue Park opened in 1894 and is a classic example of a Victorian Public Park including conservatory, pavillion, rockeries and bandstand and with examples of rare and unusual tree and shrub species.
- 8.30 Beechwood Park consists of the 30-acre grounds to Beechwood House which was built in 1878. The Park is a classic Victorian park, with rockeries, waterfalls and unusual plant specimens. Across the rest of Newport there are areas of open space and small urban woodlands which are used by the local residents, including Woodland Park, 19 Hills and Tredegar Park.
- 8.31 Urban greenspace is also located at Gaer Hillfort, Ridgeway and Tredegar Park with some sections of the Rivers Ebbw, Lwyd and Usk lowland river corridors providing tranquil and biodiverse sections.

Ponds

- 8.32 Newport has a number of ponds, creating a rich network across the county. Many are man-made and some are stocked for angling (such as Morgans Pond in Bettws and Lliswerry Ponds).¹³⁵ Allt-yr-Yn Local Nature Reserve also has a couple of ponds, as does Pilton Vale. Some of these are suitable habitat for the European-protected great crested newt, as well as other amphibians such as smooth and palmate newts, frogs and toads.

Monmouthshire-Brecon Canal

- 8.33 The Monmouthshire-Brecon Canal travels south through Newport until it reaches the M4. After passing under here it splits, travelling east towards Crindau where it joins the River Usk, and to the west it skirts Allt yr Yn Nature Reserve and the M4, before leaving Newport at Mount Pleasant, to the west of the borough.¹³⁶ The Canal provides a good habitat for many water fowl, amphibians and reptiles such as grass snake, as well as being known to support otter in some places and providing foraging habitat for bat species such as Daubenton's bat and common pipistrelle. There are also recent reports of water vole using some sections of the Canal. Prickly sedge has been noted along the Canal, as well as a nationally-notable moth, Calamotropha paludella (a pyralid moth), along the Bettws section.

¹³⁴ Newport City Council (date unknown) Newport City Biodiversity Action Plan [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Leisure-Tourism/Countryside--Parks/Biodiversity/Biodiversity-action-plan.aspx>

¹³⁵ Newport City Council (date unknown) Newport City Biodiversity Action Plan [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Leisure-Tourism/Countryside--Parks/Biodiversity/Biodiversity-action-plan.aspx>

¹³⁶ Ibid.

Priority habitats and species

8.34 The following priority habitats are biologically important in Newport:¹³⁷

- **Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland** - ash woodlands, wet woodland, wood pasture and parkland, mixed deciduous woodland and traditional orchards (over 200).
- **Freshwater** - rivers, streams, ponds, canals and lakes.
- **Wetlands** - lowland fens, reedbeds and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh.
- **Farmland** - hedgerows and arable field margins
- **Lowland grassland and heathland** - lowland meadows, calcareous, dry acid grassland, purple moorgrass and rush pastures, and lowland heathland.
- **Brownfield and urban** - brownfield sites, inland rock and scree, urban open greenspace, garden and allotments and churchyards.
- **Marine and coastal** - maritime cliff and slope, coastal saltmarsh and intertidal mudflats. In terms of priority species, of particular importance in Newport are the dormouse, bat, otter, water vole, fungi, small ranunculus moth and shrill carder bee.¹³⁸

Future baseline

- 8.35 Habitats and species have the potential to come under increasing pressure from the provision of new housing, employment and infrastructure within and surrounding the plan area. This could include increased disturbance (recreational, noise and light) and atmospheric pollution as well as the loss of habitats and fragmentation of biodiversity networks. The loss and fragmentation of habitats will be exacerbated by the effects of climate change, which has the potential to lead to changes in the distribution and abundance of species and changes to the composition of habitats.
- 8.36 Benefits for biodiversity have the potential to arise from the increasing integration of biodiversity considerations within forward planning and efforts to improve green infrastructure networks across the plan area, and regionally. To maintain and improve the condition of biodiversity in the future it will be important to not only protect and enhance important habitats but the connections between them.
- 8.37 Without the replacement LDP, speculative development would continue to come forward under the currently adopted LDP. The replacement LDP provides an opportunity to coordinate the delivery of growth to meet future needs, minimise impacts on biodiversity and seek strategic opportunities to deliver biodiversity net gain where possible.

Key issues

- 8.38 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:
- The plan area contains many sites designated for biodiversity at the international, national and local level. It will be important that any new development does not undermine the integrity of designated sites.
 - There are many priority habitats, urban and green spaces, coastal areas, and waterbodies that support overall ecological connectivity in the plan area. It will be important for any new development to ensure that this ecological network is supported and enhanced both locally and sub-regionally.
 - Future development should seek to maximise opportunities for biodiversity net gain, improving ecological links where possible.

¹³⁷ Ibid.

¹³⁸ Ibid.

ISA objectives

8.39 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

ISA objectives	Assessment questions – will the option/proposal help to:
Protect and enhance biodiversity within and surrounding the plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimise impacts on designated and important biodiversity and provide net gains where possible?• Protect and enhance ecological networks, including those that cross administrative boundaries?

9. Historic environment

9.1 This theme focuses on designated and non-designated heritage assets (including archaeology) and their setting.

Policy context

9.2 **Table 9.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the revised LDP ISA.

Table 9.1: Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to the historic environment

Document title	Year of publication
Planning Wales Act	2015
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	2015
Environment (Wales) Act	2016
National Development Framework (Future Wales: The National Plan)	2021
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
Historic Environment (Wales) Act	2016
Historic Environment Strategy for Wales	2013
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 12: Design (TAN) 20: Planning and the Welsh Language (2017)	2016
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The historic environment	2017
Placemaking Wales Charter	2020
Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales	2011
Cadw: Best-practice guidance	Various
Newport Local Development Plan	2015
Newport City Welsh Language Strategy	2017

9.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- The Historic Environment (Wales) Act will form part of a suite of legislation, policy, advice and guidance that will make important improvements to the existing systems for the protection and sustainable management of the Welsh historic environment.
- The Historic Environment Strategy for Wales recognises the contribution of the historic environment to the quality of life in Wales, and therefore sets out measures to enable the protection of local heritage and encourage public access, enjoyment and participation. Proposed measures will contribute to quality of life and quality of place, enhance people's life chances and address the tackling poverty agenda. They will also create individual and community confidence and a sense of belonging.
- Future Wales sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales identifies Newport as a Centre of National Growth, and as such the replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals reflecting the increased strategic role of the region. The emerging SDP for South East Wales also seeks to address regional factors such as housing, employment and infrastructure delivery, recognising that good planning ensures the right development is put in the right place. This helps to create healthy, vibrant places, protecting the natural environment and the historic environment. Promoting Newport as a focus for growth will require careful management, protection and enhancement of the built environment and

unique landscape and cultural heritage, which all contribute to social, economic and ecological resilience.

- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with PPW and supplementary TANs, which provide national planning policy in respect of the historic environment. Local Planning Authorities should not repeat national policy but include clear robust policies on design in their development plans which address local issues and should be based on relevant evidence. These should set out the planning authority's design expectations.
- TAN 12 (Design) identifies 'character' as one of the five aspects of good design. Objectives in this respect include 'sustaining and enhancing local character', utilising design to respond to 'recognisable and understood features and landmarks' and 'locally distinctive patterns and forms of development'.
- TAN 24 (Historic Environment) provides guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making, with specific guidance provided on how the following aspects of the historic environment should be considered:
 - world heritage sites;
 - scheduled monuments;
 - archaeological remains;
 - listed buildings;
 - conservation areas;
 - historic parks and gardens;
 - historic landscapes; and
 - historic assets of special local interest.
- The Placemaking Wales Charter builds on the strengthening focus on placemaking in policy and practice in Wales and aims to provide a common understanding of the range of considerations that go into placemaking. The charter outlines the following six placemaking principles that cover the range of considerations that contribute to establishing and maintaining good places:
 - People and community;
 - Movement;
 - Location;
 - Public realm;
 - Mix of uses; and
 - Identity.
- Cadw is currently producing a series of best-practice guidance publications that complement the legislative framework and associated planning policy and advice and support the sustainable management of the Welsh historic environment. All are informed by Cadw's Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales. Fourteen titles have been released so far, many of which are intended for local planning authorities, to support the development of policies and proposals relating to the protection and enhancement of the historic environment and the promotion of the Welsh language.
- The Newport City Welsh Language strategy sets out the methodology for promoting the Welsh language and facilitating the use of the language in communities within the City, recognising its cultural value.

Baseline summary

9.4 The location of designated heritage assets, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas and maritime assets are presented in **Figure B.21** and **Figure B.21** in **Appendix B**.

Listed buildings

9.5 There are a total of 435 listed buildings in the Plan area, the majority of which are clustered around the historic core of Newport. Nine are Grade I, 23 are Grade II* listed, and 401 are Grade II listed. Grade I listed buildings are detailed below:

- Parish Church of St Peter.
- Church of St Mary.
- Church of St Thomas.
- Tredegar House.
- Stable Block including Orangery.
- Transporter Bridge including E and W anchor chambers.
- Transporter Bridge including E and W anchor chambers.
- Transporter Bridge including E and W anchor chambers.
- St Woolos' Cathedral.

Scheduled monuments

9.6 In total, 71 scheduled monuments are present within the Plan area. A number of notable monuments are located around the historic area of Caerleon, and include Caerleon amphitheatre, the Caerleon civil settlement, the Great Bulmore Roman settlement, and the Caerleon Legionary Fortress.

Conservation areas

9.7 In total, there are fifteen Conservation Areas in Newport and these are listed below:

- **Beechwood Park** – designated in 1995, the area comprises mainly public parkland owned by Newport City Council located approximately 2.5 kilometres to the east of Newport City Centre.
- **Belle Vue Park** – designated in 1976, the area is centred on the late Victorian Belle Vue Park, approximately one kilometre to the south west of Newport city centre and immediately to the south east of the Stow Park conservation area.
- **Caerleon** – designated in 1970 and extended in 1977. The conservation area was appraised in 2019 and the boundary revised following a Council resolution on 31 January 2020. Further details are provided below.
- **Clytha** – The Clytha conservation area was designated on 25 June 1999, appraised in 2019 and the boundary revised following a Council resolution on 31 January 2020. Further details are provided below.
- **Kensington Place** – designated in 1995, the area is situated to the north of Chepstow Road (A48) just east of its junction with the B4591.
- **Lower Dock Street** – designated in 1995, the area contains over 240 houses and many commercial buildings ranging from traditional shops and offices to a Masonic Hall, a former customs house, a cattle market and a drill hall.
- **Lower Machen** – designated in 1976, the area is situated approximately 8km to the West of Newport City Centre, incorporates approximately 24 acres and contains 18 listed buildings, two of which (Machen House and St. Michael's Church) are Grade II*.
- **Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal** – designated in 1998, the area covers part of a canal network comprising two arms extending broadly north and north east from the Malpas area of Newport.

- **Redwick** – designated in 1985, and reappraised in 2002, the area is situated on the Gwent Levels approximately 11 kilometres to the south east of Newport city centre.
 - **St Woolos** – designated in 1985, and centred upon one of Newport's finest buildings, St. Woolos Cathedral, whose history dates back to before Norman times.
 - **Stow Park** – The Stow Park conservation area was designated on 11 April 1983. The conservation area was appraised in 2019 and the boundary revised following a Council resolution on 31 January 2020. Further details are provided below.
 - **The Shrubbery** – The Shrubbery conservation area was designated on 11 April 1983, appraised in 2019 and the boundary revised following a Council resolution on 31 January 2020. Further details are provided below.
 - **The Town Centre** – designated in 1987, extends from near the junction of High Street with the Old Green Crossing road junction in the north to the junction of Commercial Street and Hill Street in the south. There is considerable evidence of human activity dating from prehistoric times (circa 2000 BC) and increasing throughout the Iron Age and during the period of the Roman occupation.
 - **Tredegar House and Grounds** – covers the area of Tredegar House, gardens and parkland, north west of Newport.
 - **Waterloo** – designated in 2000, the area includes parts of Alexandra Road, Brunel Street, Watch House Parade and Mill Parade.
- 9.8 Four Conservation Areas Appraisals have been adopted for Caerleon, Clytha, The Shrubbery and Stow Park. These are discussed in further detail below. There are two draft Conservation Area Appraisals for The City Centre and St Woolos that are currently being progressed. The ISA scoping information will be updated to include further information on the appraisals once they are completed.

Caerleon Conservation Area

- 9.9 The Caerleon Conservation area demonstrates its rich history and how the Roman origins of the settlement and later medieval development has resulted in today's unique character and strong archaeological presence. The area was designated in 1970 and its boundaries re-defined in 2020 by the City Council.¹³⁹
- 9.10 Caerleon has substantial historical value as the site of one of only three permanent forts in Roman Britain. Linked to this is the very high archaeological value of the town and its environment. This is recognised in the numerous Scheduled Monuments prevalent across the whole of central Caerleon. Overall, the special interest of the Caerleon Conservation area is predominantly drawn from its substantial and significant Roman history, and secondarily from medieval and later development which, combined with the surviving Roman elements, has resulted in today's distinctive townscape. This combination of two significant strands of history results in Caerleon's unique character.¹⁴⁰
- 9.11 The narrow streets within central Caerleon notably restrict longer views across the Conservation Area, which are generally confined to short-range streetscapes funnelled by buildings lining the streets and terminating where another street runs perpendicular. This, together with glimpsed views between and around buildings, invites movement through the streets and around their many corners and junctions.¹⁴¹
- 9.12 Views are numerous and are especially important where the streets are lined with buildings identified as positive contributors and listed buildings, including:
- Along the north-west side of Goldcroft Common;
 - Moving along Norman Street;

¹³⁹ Newport City Council (2020): 'Caerleon Conservation area' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Planning-Housing/Planning/Conservation/Conservation-areas/Caerleon.aspx>

¹⁴⁰ Ibid.

¹⁴¹ Ibid.

- Moving along Backhall Street, especially at the junction with Church Street;
- Looking south-west down Museum Street;
- Moving up and down the High Street;
- Looking down Cross Street towards the junction with the High Street;
- Moving along the south end of Castle Street;
- Moving along Castle Lane, especially looking uphill from the north-east end; and
- Looking along Isca Road from either end.

9.13 At the south end of the Conservation Area, views are more open with a series of panoramic facilitates views northwards and southwards. The properties lining Isca Road have an open view across the river towards Monmouthshire. Key views within the Conservation Area are shown in **Figure 9.1** overleaf.

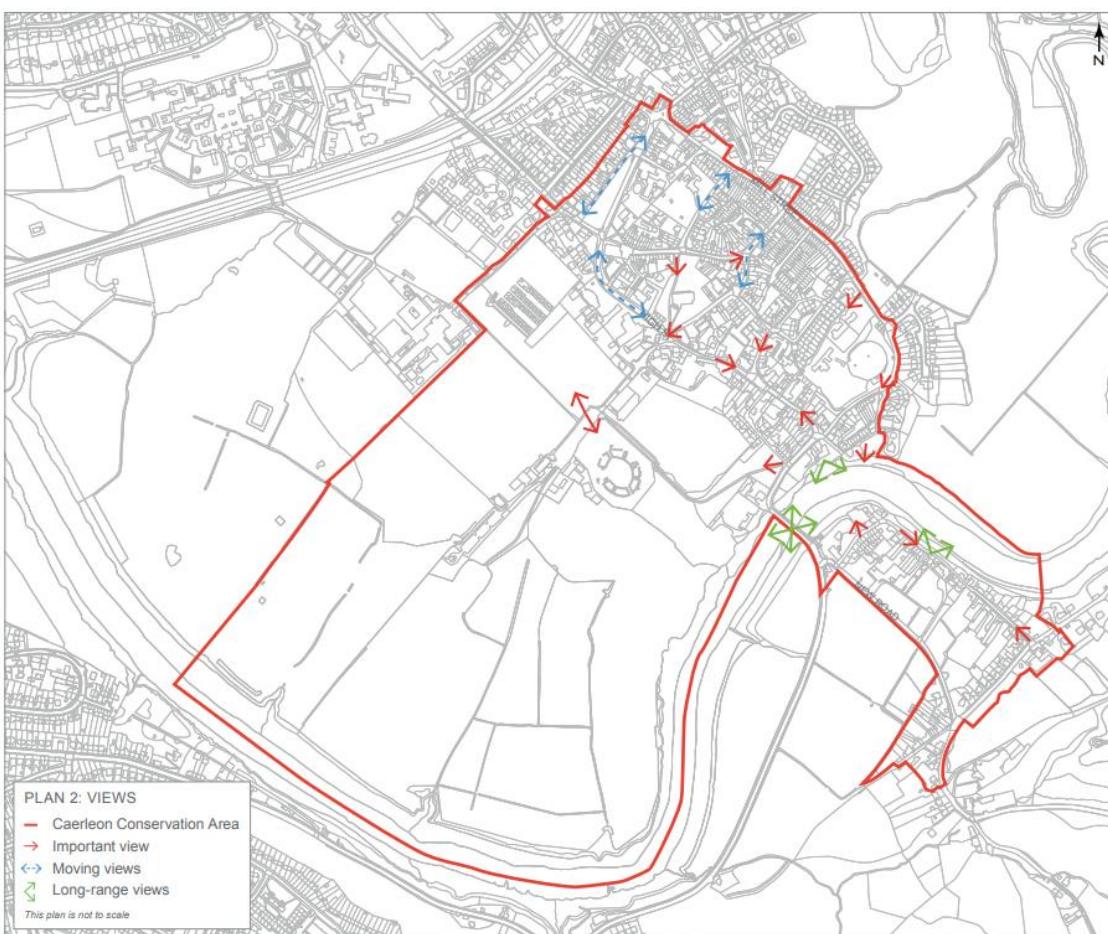


Figure 9.1: Views within the Conservation Area¹⁴²

- 9.14 The Conservation Area has two separate character zones connected via the bridge: the main core of Caerleon on the north side of the river, and Ultra Pontem on the south side. The centre of Caerleon is more compact and urban in nature with a network of different streets, whereas Ultra Pontem is quieter with only a handful of roads more akin to village lanes¹⁴³.
- 9.15 There is no single prominent architectural style in the conservation area; however, a general 'polite approach' is common. This style is typical of the Georgian style from the 18th century and illustrates the influx of wealth into Caerleon at this time.

¹⁴² Caerleon Conservation Area Appraisal, Ibid, p. 17.

¹⁴³ Caerleon Conservation Area Appraisal, Ibid, p. 13.

Clytha Conservation Area

- 9.16 The Clytha Conservation Area was designated 25 June 1999. The Archaeologically Sensitive Area which covers much of Newport City Centre comes close to the boundary of the Clytha Conservation Area but does not overlap it. The Conservation Area consists primarily of two parts: Clytha Square and Clytha Crescent, these being bisected by Cardiff Road. Both the square and the crescent are laid out according to typical 19th-century town planning styles. Although now significantly disguised by the large number of parked vehicles, the widths of the roads were historically quite large, emphasising that this was a more polite community compared to the more densely compacted workers' terraces further south towards the docks.
- 9.17 The Conservation Area is characterised by a strong Italianate influence on its architecture, which repeats a number of classical features. These are especially rich on the Clytha Square terraces. The south side has a series of subtle variations, resulting in individual and paired buildings which are slightly different from its immediate neighbours. Clytha Crescent is comparatively much simpler, with a plain stringcourse, corniced lintels and keystones. These terraces also contrast in scale, with only ground and first floor storeys, plus attic space. This is illustrative of the historically lower middle classes for whom these buildings were originally built.
- 9.18 Overall, the special interest of the Clytha Conservation Area is drawn from the uniqueness and integrity of its town planning, and the richness of its Italianate architecture. Key views within the Clytha Conservation Area are predominantly channelled by the streetscapes, and are shown in **Figure 9.2** below.¹⁴⁴
- Either side of Clytha Square (these views enhanced by the gentle slope); and
 - Along Clytha Crescent from either end and the junction with Mountjoy Place.

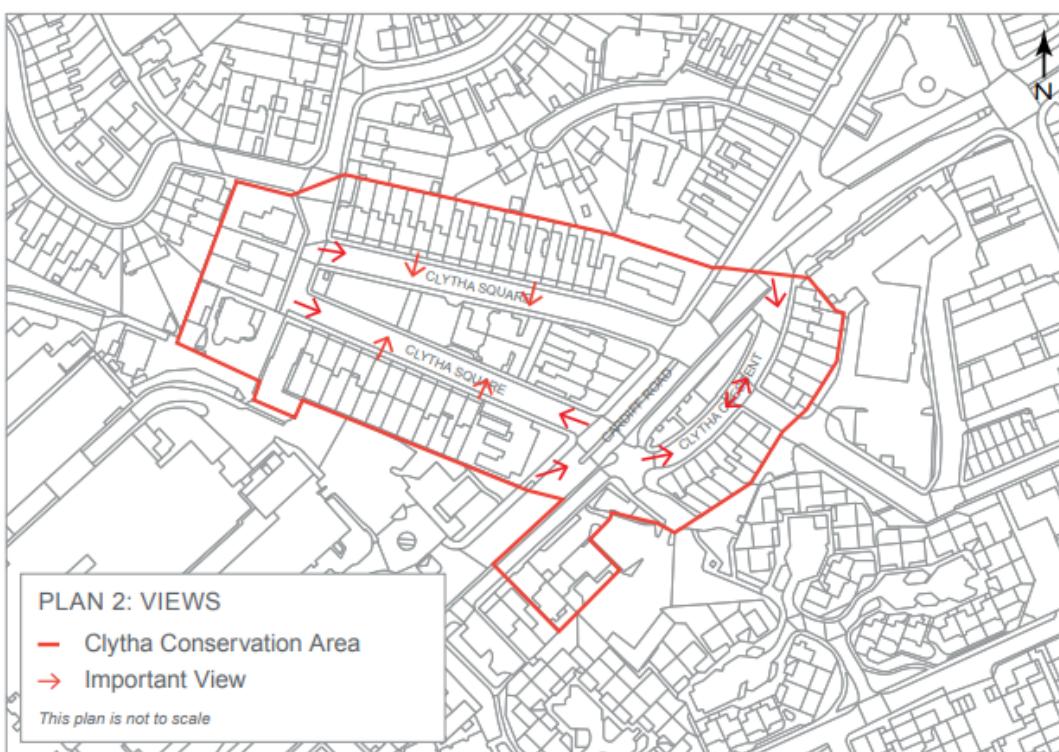


Figure 9.2: Key street views within the Clytha Conservation Area¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁴ Clytha Conservation area, Ibid. p. 13.

¹⁴⁵ Newport City Council (2020): 'Clytha Conservation Area Appraisal' [online] available at:

<http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Conservation/Conservation-area-appraisals/Clytha-CAA-14March19.pdf>

The Shrubbery Conservation Area

- 9.19 By the mid-late 1800s, suburban development spread outside central Newport into the surrounding fields, including Clytha Park (The Shrubbery). The Shrubbery is therefore an enclosed area with mature planting, limiting central views to a short range or a glimpse through tree cover. The Shrubbery Conservation Area was designated on 11 April 1983, it recognises its distinctly rural and green character, and the group of historic villas which are unusual features in the context of central Newport.¹⁴⁶
- 9.20 The architectural character throughout The Shrubbery Conservation Area varies. Most buildings are typically Italianate or Edwardian in style, but with little or no uniformity. Although the architectural style of the villas in the Conservation Area varies from building to building, there are a number of characteristic features. These include:
- Multiple gable ends on one building;
 - tall chimneystacks;
 - canted bays and turrets;
 - large sash windows;
 - the use of bargeboards and decorative ridge tiles on the Edwardian-style buildings;
 - quoin stones and eaves corbels the on Italianate-style buildings;
 - pitched roofs for the Edwardian-style buildings; and
 - hipped roofs for the Italianate-style buildings.
- 9.21 The views along Westfield Road are characteristically green with few built elements visible, often glimpsed through gates or above planted boundaries. The elevated positioning of the houses on the south side of the Conservation Area is a characteristic feature of views along Oakfield Road, including prominent houses on corner plots. Views along the northern edge of the Conservation Area have a very different character, with the boundary walls of the properties on the north side of Westfield Road being a prominent feature. In views along and towards the southern edge of the Conservation Area the mature planting dominates and contrasts the higher proportion of surrounding built area. Views out of the Conservation Area into the surrounding area are also notable, especially towards the Civic Centre and southwards where the topography slopes down towards the river. Key views within the Conservation Area are shown in **Figure 9.3** overleaf.

¹⁴⁶ Newport City Council (2018): 'The Shrubbery Conservation Area Appraisal' [online] available at: <http://onwww.newportfoodfestival.co.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Conservation/Conservation-area-appraisals/The-Shrubbery-Conservation-Area-Appraisal-09Aug18.pdf>

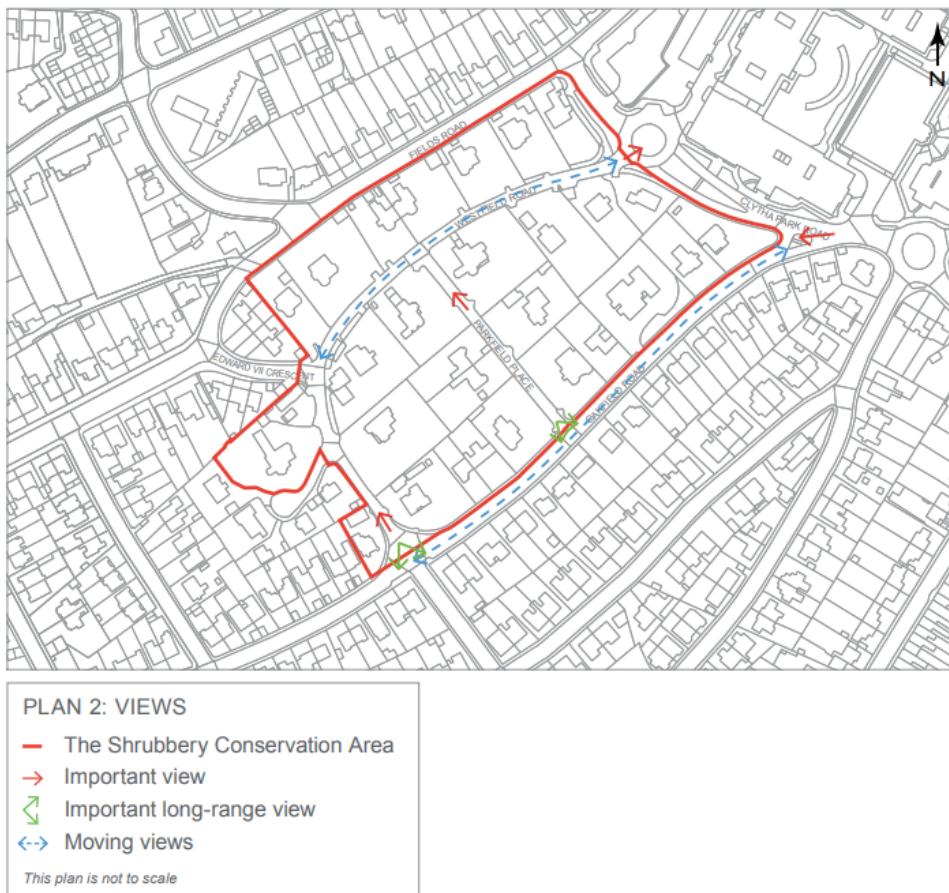


Figure 9.3: Views within the Stow Park Conservation area¹⁴⁷

The Stow Park Conservation Area

- 9.22 The Stow Park Conservation Area was designated on 11 April 1983. Development of Stow Park largely began in the early eighteenth century. On its eastern side, the Stow Park Conservation Area partially overlaps the town centre Archaeologically Sensitive Area, which highlights the importance of potential belowground features along the river front and around the City's historic routes. Stow Hill is a historically important thoroughfare as the medieval arterial route into the town from the south and, later, as a busy turnpike road associated with the high levels of trading activity before the docks moved south in the 20th century.
- 9.23 Although the architectural styles throughout the Conservation Area vary from building to building, there is a common palette of characteristic features, which include:¹⁴⁸
- Prominent gable ends;
 - tall chimneystacks;
 - hung tiles;
 - canted or squared bays, and turrets;
 - large windows, often with smaller lights in the upper pane;
 - half timbering;
 - barge boards;
 - ridge tiles; and

¹⁴⁷ Stow Park Conservation Area Appraisal (2018): 'Stow Park Conservation Area Appraisal' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Conservation/Conservation-area-appraisals/Stow-Park-Conservation-Area-Appraisal-10Aug18.pdf>

¹⁴⁸ Stow Park Conservation Area Appraisal (2018): 'Stow Park Conservation Area Appraisal' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Conservation/Conservation-area-appraisals/Stow-Park-Conservation-Area-Appraisal-10Aug18.pdf>

- sculpted detailing such as date stones.
- 9.24 Overall, the special interest of the Stow Park Conservation Area is drawn from its historical links with Newport's 19th-century commercial prosperity and the architectural richness this afforded in the growing suburbs. The ratio of greenery to buildings is also a highly significant characteristic of the Conservation Area and sets it apart from other suburbs.
- 9.25 Important views within the Stow Park Conservation Area are largely channelled by its streetscapes, especially at intersections where views are split down diverging streets; including the junction of Caerau Road and Caerau Crescent, and the north end of Stow Park Circle. The steep slope of Stow Park Avenue also contributes to views up towards Stow Hill and down towards Belle Vue Park, with the elevated position of the terraced houses on the east side of the road emphasising their presence. Key views within the Conservation Area are shown in **Figure 9.4** below.

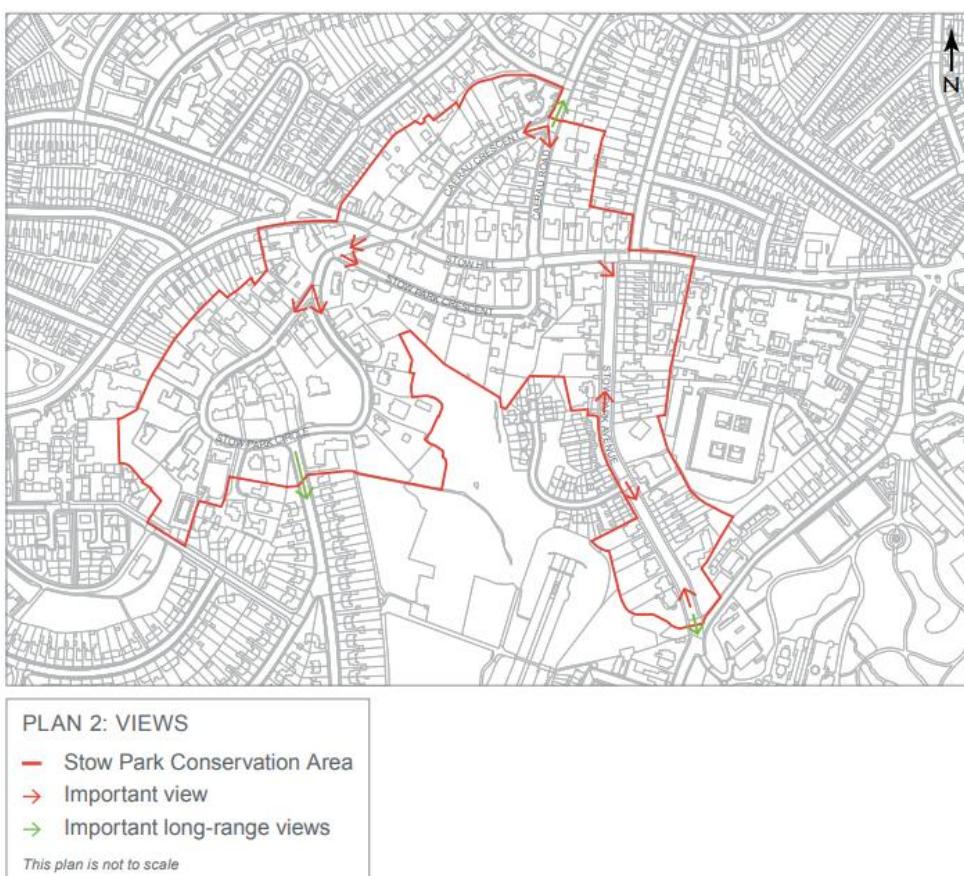


Figure 9.4: Views within the Stow Park Conservation area¹⁴⁹

Maritime heritage assets

- 9.26 The National Monument Record of Wales identifies numerous post-medieval monuments (shipwrecks) along the Newport waterfront and coast. The location of these maritime assets is presented in **Figure B.20** in **Appendix B**.

Archeologically Sensitive Notification Areas

- 9.27 Newport City Council has a rich and diverse archaeological heritage with in excess of 1,400 archaeological sites within its administrative area.¹⁵⁰ Where a concentration of archaeological remains has been identified or the presence of archaeological remains is suspected then those areas may be included in an Archaeologically Sensitive Area (ASA). However, it should be

¹⁴⁹ Stow Park Conservation Area Appraisal (2018): 'Stow Park Conservation Area Appraisal' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Conservation/Conservation-area-appraisals/Stow-Park-Conservation-Area-Appraisal-10Aug18.pdf>

¹⁵⁰ Newport City Council (2015): 'Archaeology & Archaeologically Sensitive Areas' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Supplementary-Planning-Guidance/Archaeology-SPG---August-Adoption-Version.pdf>

noted that archaeological sites that could have an impact on planning decisions also exist outside these defined areas.

- 9.28 Newport City Council has identified four Archaeologically Sensitive Areas in Newport (shown in **Figure 9.5** overleaf). These are Caerleon, The Levels, Lower Machen and Newport (Mediaeval Town).¹⁵¹

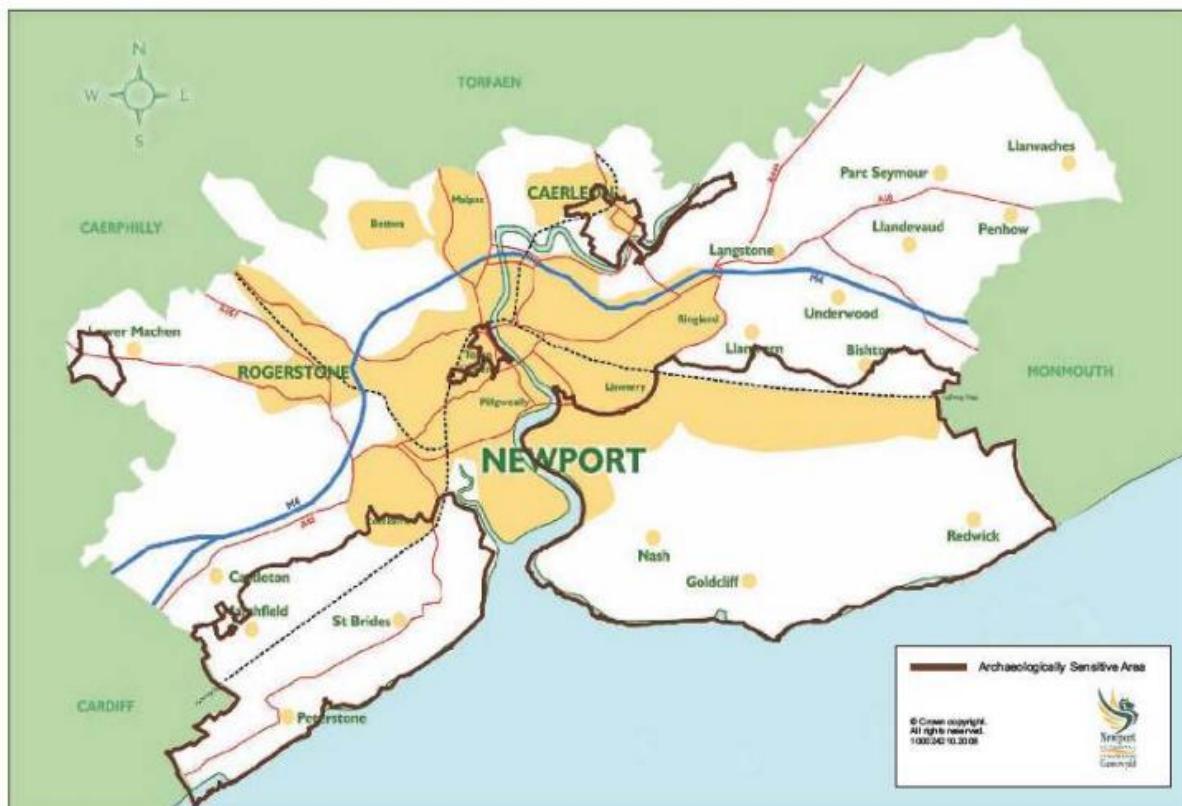


Figure 9.5: Newport Archeologically Sensitive Areas¹⁵²

Historic landscape

- 9.29 The Gwent Levels Historic Landscape is noted to be of 'outstanding historic interest' in Wales and are present within the Newport Plan area, spanning over the land adjacent to the coast (discussed further in **Chapter 10** of this report). The levels are a landscape of diverse environmental and archaeological potential. As well as the landscape itself, recent investigative work has shown that the Levels are particularly rich in buried archaeology, of national and international importance, both in the intertidal zone and inland of the sea wall. The Levels are also rich in earthworks preserving elements of the medieval and later landscape. These include several moated farmsteads, sea and reen-side banks and surface ridging in fields created to improve drainage. Over most of the Levels, prehistoric and Roman landscapes are sealed by later alluvium.¹⁵³

Buildings of local historic significance

- 9.30 It should be noted that not all the area's historic environment features are subject to statutory designations, and non-designated features comprise a large part of what people have contact with as part of daily life – whether at home, work or leisure. Although not designated, many buildings and areas are of historic interest and are important by local communities. In this

¹⁵¹ Newport City Council (2015): 'Archaeology & Archaeologically Sensitive Areas' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Supplementary-Planning-Guidance/Archaeology-SPG---August-Adoption-Version.pdf>

¹⁵² Newport City Council (2015): 'Archaeology & Archaeologically Sensitive Areas' [online] available at: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/Supplementary-Planning-Guidance/Archaeology-SPG---August-Adoption-Version.pdf>

¹⁵³ Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (n.d.): 'Historic Landscape Characterisation The Gwent Levels' [online] available at: http://www.ggat.org.uk/cadw/historic_landscape/Gwent%20Levels/English/GL_Features.htm

regard, policy has allowed the development of a 'local list' that notes several non-designated assets. These include churches, historic houses, barns and farmhouses and the old vicarage.¹⁵⁴

¹⁵⁴ Newport City Council (2013): 'Conservation of the Historic Environment: The Local List' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Planning-Documents/LDP-2011-2026/Local-List-June-2013.pdf>

Cultural significance

9.31 2011 Census data indicates that the total number of Welsh speakers has decreased by 1.8% over the period of 2001 – 2011. Data for Newport follows this general trend, whereby only 9.3% of residents are able to speak Welsh as per the 2011 Census (-0.7% from 2001).¹⁵⁵ Newport City Council is aiming to increase the number of Newport pupils in Welsh medium education from 934 in 2016-17, to 1,250 or more in 2022/23, in order to meet ambitions set by the Welsh Government to increase the number of speakers to 1 million by 2050.¹⁵⁶

Future baseline

9.32 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

- In the absence of the replacement LDP, designated and non-designated heritage assets are likely to continue to be afforded protection through national planning policy as well as currently adopted policies. The Welsh Government and Newport City Council will continue to promote the Welsh language and increase the number of Welsh speakers.
- Newport City Council is aiming to increase the number of Newport pupils in Welsh medium education from 934 in 2016-17, to 1,250 or more in 2022/23, in order to meet ambitions set by the Welsh Government to increase the number of speakers to 1 million by 2050.¹⁵⁷
- In the absence of the replacement LDP potential opportunities, in particular cross-boundary ones, could be missed to improve the landscape/ townscape and therefore enhance the historic environment.

Key issues

9.33 The context review and baseline information informed the identification of a number of key issues (problems and opportunities):

- There is a rich variety and distribution of designated and non-designated heritage assets present within and surrounding the plan area; the significance and setting of which should be considered in, and positively impacted upon by, new development.
- Development should be sensitively designed to maintain a strong sense of place, using the arrangement of streets, spaces, building types and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit.
- Opportunities to enhance public understanding of heritage assets should be sought.
- The heritage assets at risk in Newport could potentially deteriorate further without intervention or as a result of inappropriate development.
- All development should ensure that any necessary archaeological investigations are undertaken prior to any works.
- The number of Welsh speakers in Newport has been declining. There are opportunities during the process of the assessment to enhance and protect the Welsh language, such as providing access to key community and educational services to educate residents and promoting Welsh heritage by preserving and restoring key cultural areas.

¹⁵⁵ Stats for Wales (2001, 2011): 'Welsh speakers by local authority' [online] available at: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Welsh-Language/Census-Welsh-Language/welshspeakers-by-la-broaderae-2001and2011census>

¹⁵⁶ Newport City Council (2017): 'Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Council-and-Democracy/Equalities-and-Welsh-language-/Welsh/NCC-Welsh-Language-Strategy-2017-2022.pdf>

¹⁵⁷ Newport City Council (2017): 'Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022' [online] available at: <https://www.newport.gov.uk/documents/Council-and-Democracy/Equalities-and-Welsh-language-/Welsh/NCC-Welsh-Language-Strategy-2017-2022.pdf>

ISA objectives

9.34 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

ISA objectives	Assessment questions – will the option/proposal help to:
Preserve and enhance Newport's heritage resource, including its historic environment and archaeological assets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conserve and enhance the significance of buildings and structures of architectural or historic interest, both designated and non-designated, and their setting?• Conserve and enhance the special interest, character and appearance of conservation areas and their settings?• Conserve and enhance archaeological remains, and archaeologically sensitive areas, and support the undertaking of archaeological investigations and, where appropriate, recommend mitigation strategies?
Promote understanding of the Newport's cultural heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support access to, interpretation and understanding of the historic and cultural environment, including the welsh language?

10. Landscape

10.1 This theme focuses on designated and protected landscapes within or near to Newport City, as well as landscape character, landscape quality and visual amenity.

Policy context

10.2 **Table 10.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the revised LDP ISA.

Table 10.1: Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to the landscape

Document title	Year of publication
Planning Wales Act	2015
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	2015
Environment (Wales) Act	2016
National Development Framework (Future Wales: The National Plan)	2021
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
South East Wales Area Statement	2017
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 7: Outdoor advertisement control	1996
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 10: Tree preservation orders	1997
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 12: Design	2016
Placemaking Wales Charter	2020
<u>LANDMAP</u>	various
Newport Local Development Plan	2015

10.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- Future Wales sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales identifies Newport as a Centre of National Growth, and as such the replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals reflecting the increased strategic role of the region. The emerging SDP for South East Wales also seeks to address regional factors such as housing, employment and infrastructure delivery, while giving great weight to conserving and enhancing protected landscapes, as well as landscape character, and scenic beauty. Policy 19 within FW states that Strategic Development Plans should establish for the region “green corridors and nationally important landscapes”. Promoting Newport as a focus for growth will require careful management, protection and enhancement of the natural environment, recognising that landscapes support a range of activities and sectors, and are an asset in their own right.
- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with PPW and supplementary TANs, which provide national planning policy in respect of landscape. The PPW encourages effective and strategic placemaking, recognising that landscape and green infrastructure considerations are an integral part of the design process. PPW provides national policy on good design, and development plans and SPG should provide a clear context for design requirements in the local area.
- TAN 12 (Design) identifies ‘character’ as one of the five aspects of good design. Objectives in this respect include ‘sustaining and enhancing local character’, utilising design to respond to ‘landscapes and townscapes’ and ‘locally distinctive patterns and forms of development’.

- The Placemaking Wales Charter builds on the strengthening focus on Placemaking in policy and practice in Wales, and aims to provide a common understanding of the range of considerations that go into placemaking. The charter outlines the following six placemaking principles that cover the range of considerations that contribute to establishing and maintaining good places:
 - People and community
 - Movement
 - Location
 - Public realm
 - Mix of uses
 - Identity
- The PPW and relevant TANs further highlight the importance of designated biodiversity sites, habitats, woodland, historic features, agricultural land and cultural landscapes. The positive contribution that land remediation can make in terms of addressing despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land is also recognised.

Baseline summary

- 10.4 Newport is a coastal city, covering a geographical area of just over 84 square miles¹⁵⁸.
- 10.5 The Gwent Levels which are located on the land adjacent to the coast (see **Figure B.23** in **Appendix B**), either side of the River Usk's mouth are designated as both a Historic Landscape as well as a Registered Landscape of Outstanding and of Special Interest. The areas are split into two parcels, with Wentlooge to the West of the Usk and Caldicot to the east. Their defining features are shaped by the human 'hand-crafted' landscape, which shows evidence of settlements, enclosure and drainage from successive periods of land use. The levels are likely to hold rich archaeological potential, with deposits relating to earlier landscapes likely to be buried below the current land.
- 10.6 In terms of the Newport area's historic landscape (see **Figure B.24** in **Appendix B**), the coastal areas are highlights as outstanding value to the area, with previously mentioned historical significance and evidence of use over a long time period. The areas periphery contains mostly agricultural landscape with mixed regular and irregular fieldscapes. The majority of the remaining areas which are all build up are broadly consisting of settlements and industrial uses.
- 10.7 Considering the area's cultural landscape (see **Figure B.25** in **Appendix B**), there is a significant amount of land classified as urban, built-up development landscape where settlements exist. To the south of this, towards the coast lies some lowland, with intertidal coastal landscapes and lowland levels forming a buffer between this and the largely developed land. Further north of the developed land consists largely of both lowlands and uplands.
- 10.8 Although the dataset used is a fairly coarse, meaning that some landscape tranquillity indications are not entirely spatially accurate, it is useful to understand the role landscape plays, including sensory understandings of place. 'Tranquillity' has been defined as "an untroubled state, which is peaceful, calm and free from unwanted disturbances. This can refer to a state of mind or a particular environment"¹⁵⁹. Newport (as seen in **Figure B.26** in **Appendix B**) has some very minor amounts of land classified as 'undisturbed' in the south east and north east of the area. A band of land along the coastal land is classified as 'Zone A' alongside a parcel adjacent to the undisturbed land in the north east of Newport; this classification of land is considered to be less tranquil than 'Zone B', which makes up the vast majority of Newport's extent.
- 10.9 The following national landscape character areas can be found within Newport (**Figure B.23** in **Appendix B**), with further details provided in Table 10.2 overleaf. It should be noted that the

¹⁵⁸ Newport Corporate Plan. Ibid. p. 9.

¹⁵⁹ Natural Resources Wales (2021) Tranquil Areas Wales [online] [here](#)

three character areas which cover the vast majority of the area of Newport are the Gwent Levels, Newport, Cardiff and Barry and Wye Valley and Wentwood.

Table 10.2 Landscape character areas within Newport¹⁶⁰

Landscape character area	Description	Key features	Location
Gwent levels	A distinctive, flat, lowland landscape with a geometric patchwork of watercourses that run between fertile fields.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reclaimed landscape• Divided by the Usk estuary• Reens and hedgerows• Flood embankment to the sea• Fertile soils and agriculture• Wet pasture• Archaeologically significant• Relatively little settlement• Exposed landscape with open views• Major developments on its Fringes (including urban extension from Newport).	

¹⁶⁰ Natural Resource Wales (2014) National Landscape Character Areas <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/maps/nlca/?lang=en>

Newport, Cardiff and Barry

A distinctive, flat, lowland landscape with a geometric patchwork of watercourses that run between fertile fields

- Edge to the South Wales coalfield
- Heavily urbanised
- Ports
- Urban fringe and peri-urban areas
- Green Belt with lush fieldscapes and woodland
- Prominent landmark structures
- M4 motorway
- Green corridors



Wye Valley and Wentwood

A landscape which is characterised by picturesque scenery and woodland, the latter of which are of high ecological value. Whilst many of the character area's key features are not located within the section of this area which falls within Newport, Wentwood Forest is partially within the area alongside its picturesque views.

- Distinctive geology
- Wye Valley Woodlands
- Sheep and dairy pasture
- Large conifer blocks
- Fields enclosed by hedgerows
- Rich archaeological heritage
- Hamlets and villages
- Rural and tranquil character
- Long views



South Wales Valleys	<p>A landscape of many deep, urbanised valleys with a large amount of upland areas and industrial landscapes; its character is considered to be national iconic. It should be noted that this landscape character area only falls within a small part of the north eastern area of Newport and many of its key characteristics are not found within the LDP area boundary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Extensive Upland plateauxNumerous steep sided valleysRibbon urban and industrial areas in valleysExtensive remains of heavy industryContrasts of urban valley activity next to quiet uplandsLarge blocks of coniferous plantation and deciduous woodland fringesHeather, rough grassland and steep bracken slopesImproved pastures on some lower valley sidesField boundariesTransport routes restricted to valleys
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Central
Monmouthshire

A gently undulating landscape which consists of lowlands with hills, valleys and floodplains. The area is broadly rural with agricultural uses. Its area which falls within Newport is largely shaped by the meandering path of the River Usk. It should be noted that this landscape character area only falls within a small part of the north eastern area of Newport and many of its key characteristics are not found within the LDP area boundary.

- Silurian mudstones and shales
- An area of gently rolling hills, intervening valleys and the Usk flood plain
- Morainic deposits and fertile alluvial flood plains
- Hedge-bound fields
- Woodlands and mixed plantations covering many slopes and hill tops
- Mixed habitats containing a variety of rare tree species
- Small nucleated hamlets and villages
- The historic market town of Abergavenny
- Sheltered landscape has a peaceful rural character, with any significant modern intrusion confined to the road corridors of the A40 and A449



Future baseline

- 10.10 While the most valued coastal landscapes and those adjacent to it on the Gwent Levels are protected from development to some extent through environmental constraints present (i.e. flood risk), pressure from solar farms is a current issue. The development of community schemes are of particular concern on the Gwent Levels, with strategy groups forming in these areas.
- 10.11 Where development may encroach on open countryside in areas away from the coastal levels, these landscapes are generally less sensitive to development and as such landscape character may change, but this would be of a reduced loss compared to development on more sensitive land. Furthermore the RDLP provides an opportunity to deliver coordinated growth accompanied by strategic level mitigation and/or enhancements.

Key issues

10.12 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

- The Gwent Levels, along Newport's coastline are highlighted as a valuable historic landscape of outstanding and special interest, and proven archaeological potential. Overall, Newport's coastal areas and adjacent levels are considered to be of the highest value in the area and it will be important for the RDLP to ensure their long term protection and enhancement.
- Away from the coastline the landscape is predominately agricultural with mixed regular and irregular fieldscapes. New development should seek to protect and enhance existing valued landscapes and encourage their sustainable use and management. The majority of the remaining areas which are all build up are broadly consisting of settlements and industrial uses.
- Newport has three main national landscape character types, with the following key features:
 - Gwent Levels: Reclaimed lowland levels.
 - Newport, Cardiff and Barry: Largely urbanised with key transport infrastructures.
 - Wye Valley and Wentwood: Picturesque scenery and woodland, including long views towards the Severn Estuary.
- It will be important to protect key settlement identities, including setting; avoiding coalescence and supporting visually attractive places as a result of good design, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping.

ISA objectives

10.13 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

ISA objective	Assessment questions – will the policy/proposal help to:
To protect and enhance the quality and character of Newport's landscape, townscape, and seascapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that Newport's most valuable landscapes, townscapes and seascapes are conserved and enhanced?• Ensure that Newport's two areas of 'undisturbed' tranquil landscapes are preserved in their tranquillity?• Use natural landscape features to mitigate any potential effects on nearby and distance interpretations of its landscapes?

11. Climate change (mitigation and adaptation)

- 11.1 This theme focuses on activities in the replacement LDP area that contribute to climate change and climate change mitigation, as well as the effects of climate change, including flood risk, and climate change adaptation.

Policy context

- 11.2 **Table 11.1** presents the most relevant documents identified in the policy review for the purposes of the revised LDP ISA.

Table 11.1 Plans, policies and strategies reviewed in relation to climate change

Document title	Year of publication
The UK Climate Change Act	2008
UK (second) National Adaptation Programme 2018 to 2023	2018
Planning Wales Act	2015
Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act	2015
Environment (Wales) Act	2016
National Development Framework (Future Wales: The National Plan)	2021
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11)	2021
South East Wales Area Statement	2017
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 12: Design	2016
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 14: Coastal planning	1998
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 15: Development and flood risk	2004
Planning for Sustainable Buildings	2014
The National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales	2020
Placemaking Wales Charter	2020
Newport Local Development Plan	2015
Newport City Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	2014
Newport Carbon Management Plan	2015
The Second State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR2020)	2020

- 11.3 The key messages emerging from the review are summarised below:

- The Climate Change Act 2008 provides a framework at the UK level regarding the need to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The Act sets a legally binding target of reducing the UK's GHG emissions by 80% by 2050 compared with 1990 and requires a programme of rolling carbon budgets to be set to achieve this. The replacement LDP should set out policies and proposals to minimise environmental effects from new development and to promote use of renewable and low carbon technologies and minimising emissions of GHG emissions.
- Future Wales sets out the 20-year spatial framework for land use in Wales, providing a context for the provision of new infrastructure/ growth. Future Wales provides a framework at the Welsh level to respond to the need to mitigate and adapt to the effect of climate change, recognising the role of the planning system in leading the way in promoting and delivering a competitive, sustainable, decarbonised society. Notably, identifying Newport

as a Centre of National Growth presents strategic opportunities for the region, i.e., to help meet decarbonisation commitments and renewable energy targets. The framework therefore focuses on seeking to decarbonise key economic sectors, encouraging renewable and low carbon energy generation and enhancing the resilience of the natural environment. The emerging SDP for South East Wales also seeks to address regional factors; recognising the potential for planning to shape places in ways that contribute to radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, and deliver long-term resilience; including through reuse, regeneration and conversion.

- The replacement LDP will be required to be in general conformity with PPW which recognises that the planning system has a vital role to play in making development resilient to climate change, decarbonising society and developing a circular economy for the benefit of both the built and natural environment. PPW is supplemented by TANs, which together provide detailed planning policy and advice. Notably in relation to flooding, the general approach of PPW, supported by the TAN (TAN15 – Development and Flood Risk), is to advise caution in respect of new development in areas at high risk of flooding, by setting out a precautionary framework to guide planning decisions. The overarching aim of the precautionary framework is to direct new development away from those areas which are at high risk of flooding.
- When preparing the replacement LDP, the Council should consult with adjacent authorities and Natural Resources Wales and ensure that, as well as not being at risk itself, development does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere.
- The Cardiff Capital Region and City Deal seeks to promote strong, connected and sustainable growth throughout the region, supporting Welsh Government's objectives in relation to infrastructure and climate change. The deal aims to encourage investment, adaptation, and innovation within the ten local authorities and other key partners in its boundaries. Other local policies and plans will positively contribute towards tackling the causes of climate change and the need to deal with the consequences of climate change.
- The revised LDP should therefore set out policies and proposals for the promotion of sustainable growth within the area for the benefit of its resident population. Specifically, the replacement LDP should contain policies relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation, including flood risk, green infrastructure development, resource efficiency, air quality, water quality, sustainable transport and accessibility.

Baseline summary

11.4 Anthropogenic climatic changes have been the product of human related increases in greenhouse gas emissions, largely emitted from the burning of fossil fuels in the process energy production. The increases in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are resulting in climatic shifts and changes to weather patterns. It is important to consider how society is adapting to the changing climate, as well as mitigating its effects.

Climate change adaptation

11.5 Climate change is predicted to have effects relating to short-term changes to weather patterns as well as longer-term shifts in climatic trends. Weather patterns are predicted to see an increase in extreme weather events, including intense rainfall, heating, drought and cold snaps. Changes to climate are likely to lead to mean reductions in rainfall alongside mean increases in temperatures. It is also important to consider the seasonality of these shifts, with winters in the UK likely to be warmer and wetter and summers expected to be warmer and drier. Another consequence of climate change is rising sea levels, an issue which is exacerbated by storm surges which can lead to coastal flooding. Climate change adaptation refers to the actions taken to manage impacts of climate change by reducing vulnerability and exposure to its harmful effects, as well as exploiting any potential benefits.

11.6 In the context of Newport, effects are likely to be realised through fluvial flooding on low-lying land and land surrounding watercourses, from coastal areas (including potential flood risk on upstream land associated with inland watercourses which have the potential to be effected by

sea levels) as well as from surface water flood events, more often tied to areas of impermeable surfaces, often seen in urban areas.

- 11.7 As shown by **Figure B.27 (see Appendix B)**, in terms of fluvial flood risk, the River Usk runs through central Newport to the strong tidal waters of the Severn estuary. It has the highest tidal range of any city centre in the world. The character of the river is heavily influenced by the tidal range, with the tidal reach of the River extending upstream as far as Newbridgeon-Usk. The immediate surrounding area of the River Usk (through central Newport) is at high risk of flooding with areas further upstream (to the north east of the city of Newport) seeing some wider areas of low flood risk... Where the 'Afon Lwyd' tributary joins the Usk, to the east and south east of Caerleon, there are some large areas which are high flood risk alongside some medium and low risk areas running from the south east to the north and north east of the urban area. Further upstream on the Usk the Sor Brook joins as another tributary. For over 1km the administrative boundary of Newport follows this watercourse, which has some fairly substantial areas of high flood risk.
- 11.8 There is some further low and high flood risk found around Crindau Pill near to where it joins the Usk, this includes some residential and business land which is at low risk of flooding. Further upstream from this, across the M4 there are some substantial areas of high risk land which continues upstream along the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal, largely avoiding any land uses which would be classified as vulnerable to flooding. The Bettws Brooke which adjoins this watercourse has an area of high and medium flood risk which follows its course through Bettws, with some low flood risk land to its north, potentially placing residential properties at risk of flooding. To the west and south west of Newport there is some medium and high risk land which follows the course of the River Ebbw. Following this watercourse there is an area of low risk which places some residential and economic land uses at risk of flooding. Newport's western border follows the course of the River Rhymney which has areas of low, medium and high flood risk surrounding it.
- 11.9 Focusing on land to the east and west of the River Usk's mouth, where it joins the Severn Estuary, both the Wentlooge and Caldicot Levels are at risk of flooding from fluvial sources. These levels are also at low risk of coastal flooding (see **Figure B.28 within Appendix B**). This area of low coastal flood risk covers some inland areas of Newport to the east of the River Usk, placing some residential and economic land uses as well as important road infrastructure at risk. The coastal flood risk follows the River Usk, 'Afon Lwyd', Sor Brook and the Crindau Pill some way upstream, often following the extent of the fluvial flood risk and mostly being covered by areas classified as high risk.
- 11.10 Wales' 'Flood Alert Areas' cover the extent of the flood risk (at low, medium and high risk) outlined under the coastal and fluvial flood risks detailed above. 'Flood Warning Areas' also mimic these extents, however some stretches of some rivers across Newport are not included, such as part of the River Rhymney, Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal as well as some smaller streams in the east of the area (see **Figure B.29 within Appendix B**).
- 11.11 In terms of flood defences, large areas of the coastal lowlands along the Severn Estuary benefit from coastal flood defences, with some river and sea flood defences present to the south west of Newport, nearby to the land at risk of flooding near to the River Ebbw, south west of Maes-glas. There are also flood defences present within the urban area of Newport, at areas where coastal flood risk has been identified. Areas in southern Brynglas which are at risk of flooding also benefit from coastal and river flood defences. Other than these areas identified, flood defences are present to the south of Caerleon (coastal) and to the north of Newport (river).
- 11.12 The Newport coast is covered by the Severn Estuary Shoreline Management Plan (SMP).¹⁶¹ Newport falls within seven SMP Policy Units, in three different theme areas - 'Wentlooge', 'Newport, the River Usk and surrounding area' and 'Caldicot Levels'. Key issues identified for

¹⁶¹ Severn Estuary Coastal Group (2016) Shoreline Management Plan [online] available at: <https://severnestuarycoastalgroup.org.uk/shoreline-management-plan/smp2-action-plan/>

the area in relation to coastal flooding, coastal erosion, and ecological habitats have been set out below, including relevant SMP policy areas:¹⁶²

- **Coastal flooding** - Defences will need to be replaced as they reach the end of their serviceable life. Replacement will need to take account of interactions between coastal, river and surface water flooding.
- **Coastal erosion** - There is limited erosion in most areas (NEW1 - 5), however erosion is likely in some areas as sea levels rise (WEN2).
- **Ecological habitats** - Coastal squeeze will result in the loss of intertidal habitats in some areas (WEN2, NEW1, CALD1). Opportunities to create habitat through MR should be investigated (WEN2, CALD1).

11.13 In terms of flood risk from surface water and small watercourses (see **Figure B.30** within **Appendix B**), there are areas at risk across Newport, though the extent of each area at risk is generally small. Surface water flood risk is generally more prevalent in urban areas, especially in the city of Newport, where there are some fairly extensive areas of identified surface water flood risk. Key infrastructures such as transport are generally at greater vulnerability to surface water flood risk due to its potential to prevent travel and associated disruption. Considering this, within the city of Newport there are areas of both railway and road which are at risk of surface water flooding. In general, due to concretisation and a relative lack of permeable surfaces, urban/built-up areas are generally at greater risk from surface water flooding.

¹⁶² Severn Estuary Coastal Group (2016) Severn Estuary Coastal Management Plan [online] available at: https://severnestuarycoastalgroup.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2016/03/SE-SMP2-planning-leaflet_Newport_draft_v1.pdf

11.14 Natural solutions to reducing flood risk can come in the form of green infrastructure, including tree cover. Permeable surfaces provided by greenspace helps to reduce surface water runoff, which in turn helps to reduce flood risk. Trees provide interception, reducing the volume of water reaching the ground during rainfall events, helping to reduce flood risk. In this sense, it is important to look at the levels of green infrastructure within urban areas (rural areas are generally open countryside which are less likely to have issues relating to surface water runoff). As shown in **Figure 11.1** below, there are some patchy areas of green infrastructure within the urban area of Newport, with a generalised trend showing a reduction in prevalence and size towards the centre of the city. In relation to urban tree cover, **Figure 11.1** shows areas of Newport to the west of the River Usk generally has a higher density of tree cover than areas to the east. Caerleon, Bettws and Malpas all also have higher densities of tree cover than those areas of Newport to the east of the Usk.

11.15 Where green infrastructure also has a role to play in terms of urban cooling which can mitigate the effects of extreme heat, the above spread of greenspace and trees is relevant. As such, areas to the west of the River Usk in the city of Newport are less likely to benefit from the cooling effects of tree cover, with central areas more likely to see more extreme heating effects of climate change. That said, in terms of heating, the role the existing green infrastructure plays and the differences between the provisions in different areas of Newport would not be expected to see significant variations in heating which are of a magnitude enough to have significant effects upon each area.

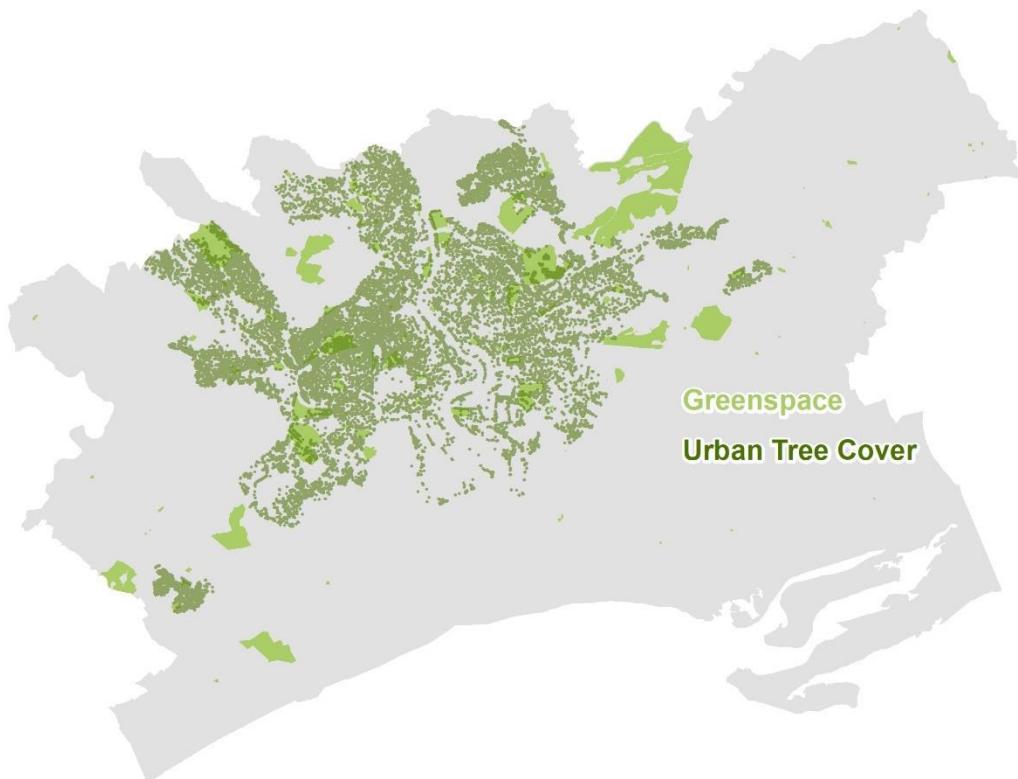


Figure 11.1: Greenspace and urban tree cover within Newport¹⁶³

¹⁶³ AECOM, 2021 Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100019741. Crown Copyright and Database Right.

Climate change mitigation

11.16 In mitigating climate change and its damaging consequences, it is important to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and decarbonise the economy. It is important to focus on different sources of CO₂ in order to better understand how targeted approaches can have the most significant effects.

Carbon Dioxide Emissions

11.17 **Figure 11.2** shows overall declines in CO₂ emissions across all three scales of comparative geography between 2005 and 2018. It is notable that whilst Newport's emissions increased in the first year of measurements, they have decreased by a larger proportion than Wales and the UK for the same timeframe. Per capita emissions in the UK as a whole are lower than in Newport and Wales, which have relatively similar levels. It should be noted that from 2017-2018, Newport's emissions increased slightly.

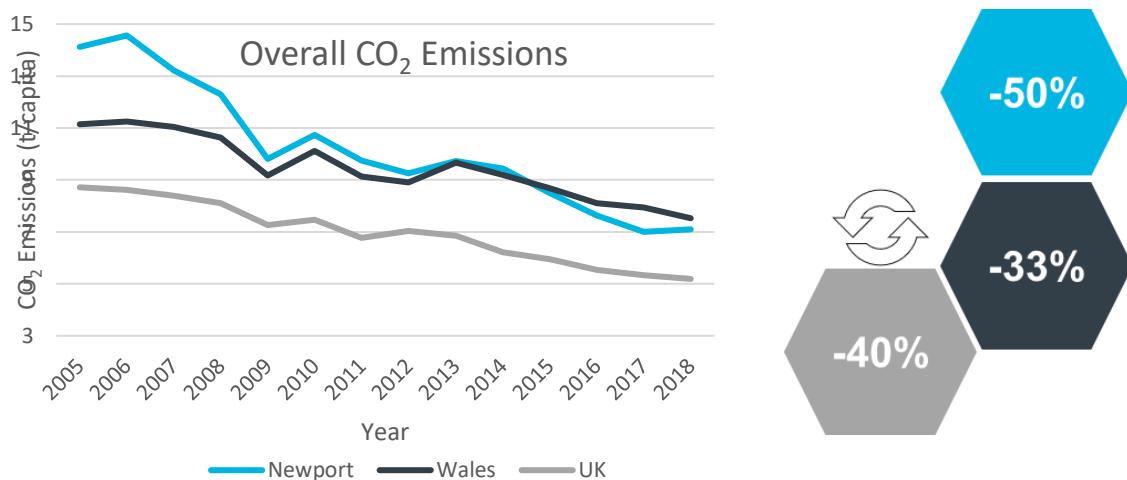


Figure 11.2: Graph showing CO₂ Emissions per capita¹⁶⁴

11.18 **Figure 11.3** shows overall declines in industrial and commercial CO₂ emissions across all three scales of comparative geography between 2005 and 2018. Newport's emissions increased in the first and final years of measurements, however overall they have seen a significantly larger proportionate decline than seen in Wales and the UK. Per capita emissions in the UK as a whole are lower than in Newport and Wales, with Newport's lower than Wales'.

¹⁶⁴ DBEIS, 2020

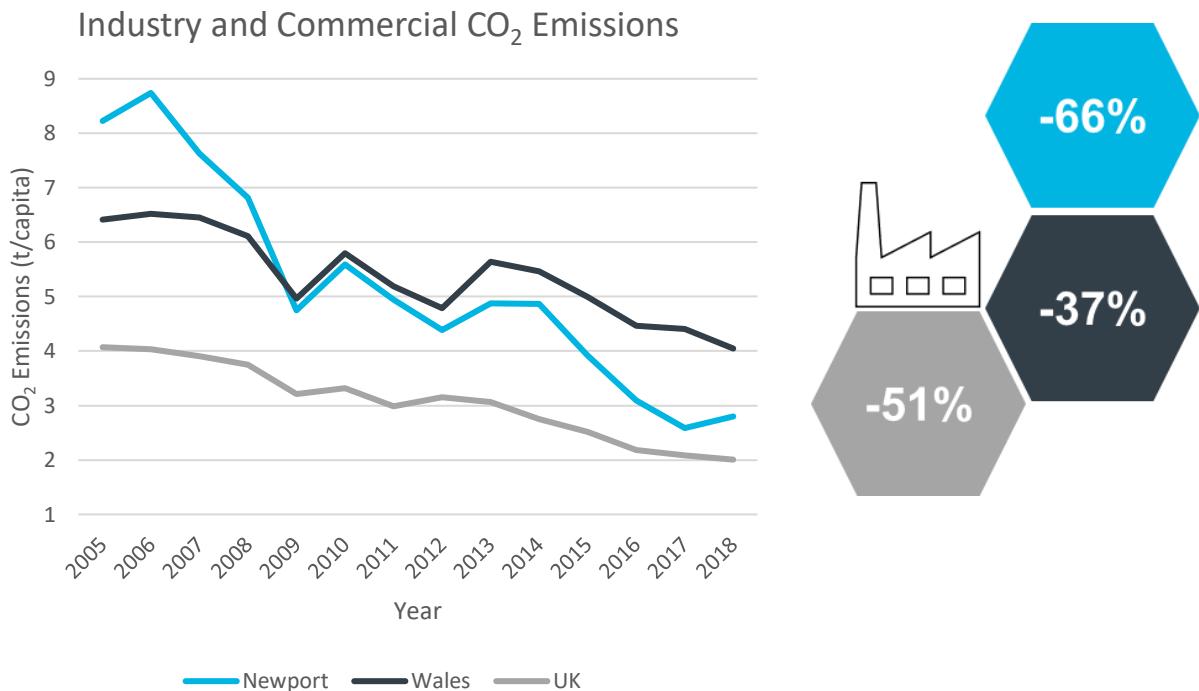


Figure 11.3: Graph showing CO₂ emissions per capita from industrial and commercial sources¹⁶⁵

11.19 Figure 11.4 below shows overall declines in domestic CO₂ emissions across all three scales of comparative geography between 2005 and 2018. The rates of decline are broadly aligned across the three scales and Newport has the lowest domestic emissions across the whole timeframe.

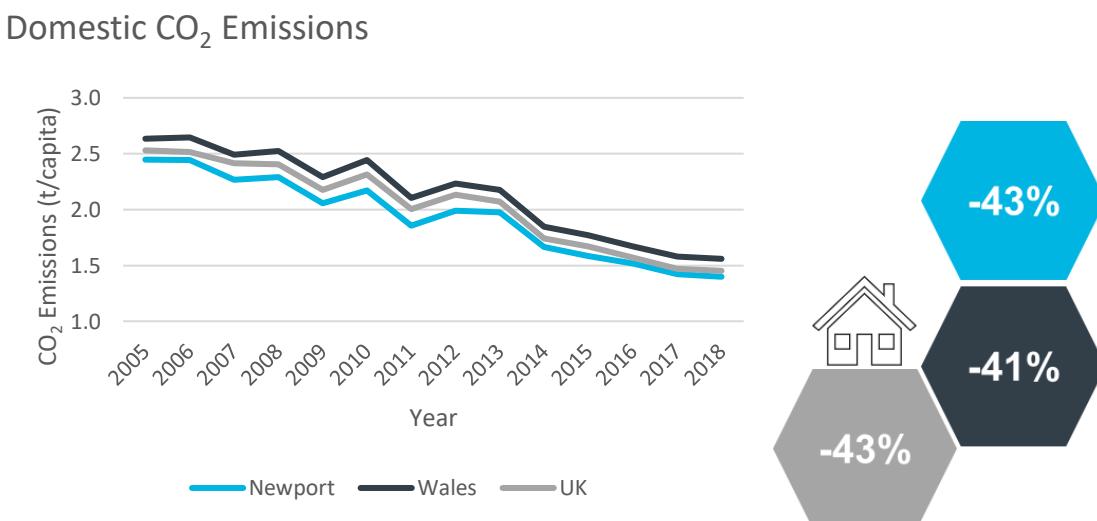


Figure 11.4: Graph showing CO₂ emissions per capita from domestic sources¹⁶⁶

11.20 Figure 11.5 overleaf shows overall declines in transport related CO₂ emissions across all three scales of comparative geography between 2005 and 2018. The rates of decline are broadly aligned across the three scales, with Wales showing a slightly reduced rate of decline when compared to Newport and the UK as a whole. Whilst there has been declines, Newport's CO₂ emissions from transport are significantly higher than per capita figures in Wales and the UK. It

¹⁶⁵ DBEIS, 2020

¹⁶⁶ DBEIS, 2020

is notable that whilst all three scales of geography saw a slight increase in transport related emissions between 2013 and 2016/17, Newport saw a larger increase than Wales and the UK.

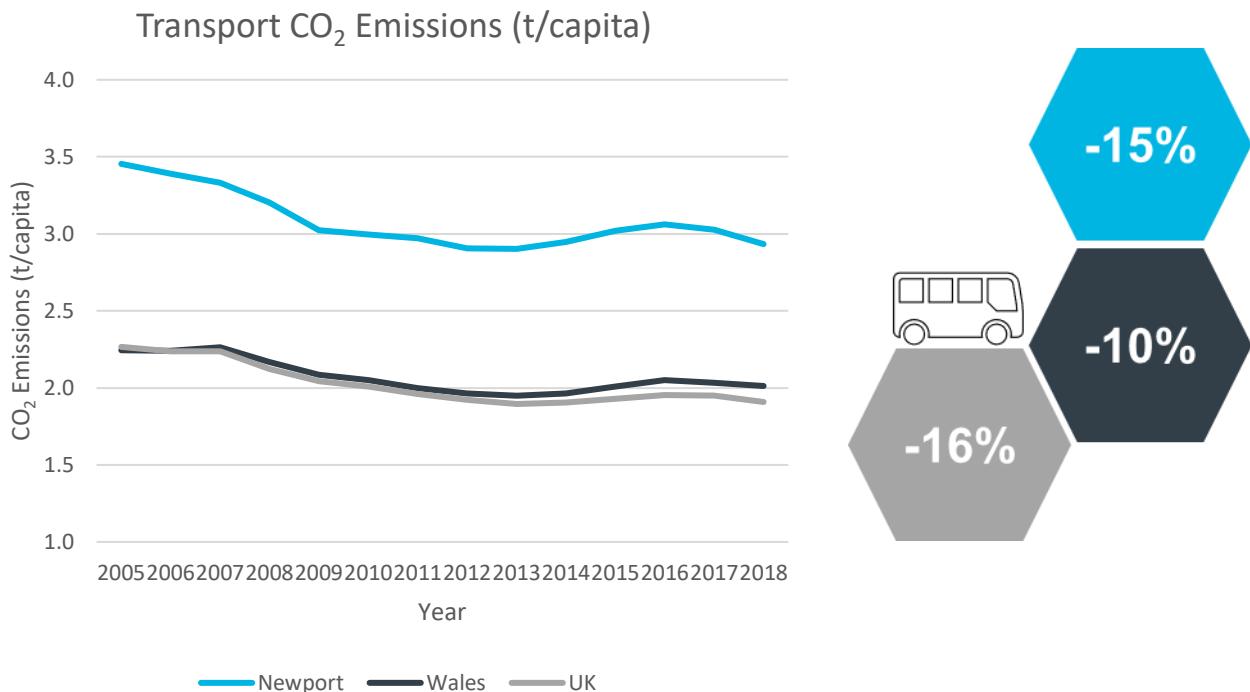


Figure 11.5: Graph showing CO₂ emissions per capita from transport related sources¹⁶⁷

11.21 **Figure 11.6** shows that when considering the area of each scale of geography, Newport has significantly higher CO₂ emissions than Wales and the UK, though it should be noted that this is inherently tied to the rural-urban balance of a particular geography.



Figure 11.6: Graphic showing CO₂ emissions relative to the area¹⁶⁸

11.22 Since 2011, according to the data available from the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC)¹⁶⁹, CO₂ emissions in Newport have fallen to 7.7 tonnes. The UK Government target of reducing emissions by 3% per annum from 2011 would mean Newport needed to be at 8.08 tonnes per capita in 2017. Newport is at 7.7 tonnes and is therefore exceeding the target.

¹⁶⁷ DBEIS, 2020

¹⁶⁸ DBEIS, 2020

¹⁶⁹ Department for Energy and Climate Change (2016): 'Local Authority Carbon Dioxide Emissions, 2014' [online] available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/533670/Local_Authority_CO_2_Emissions_Statistical_Release_2014.pdf

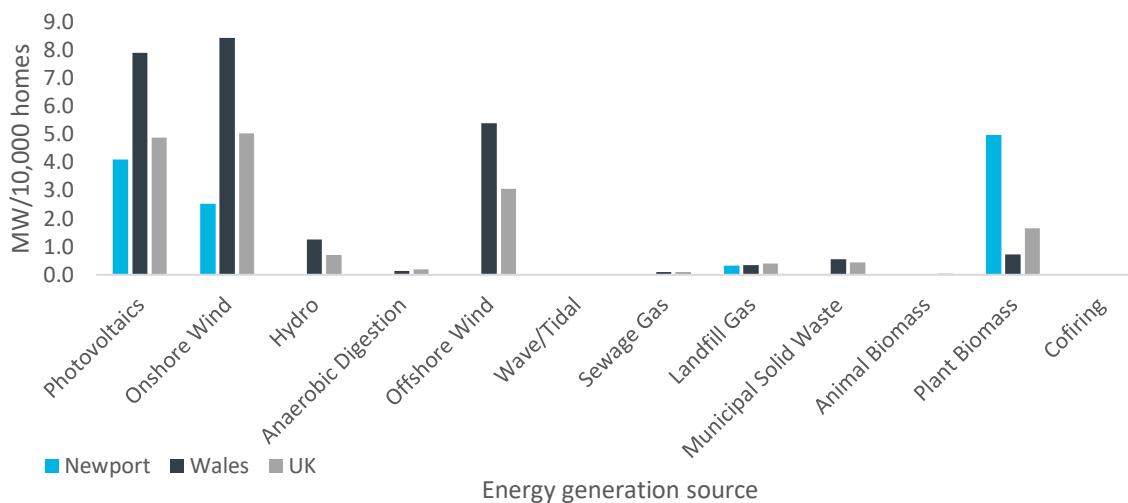


Figure 11.7: Installed renewable energy generation capacity. (DBEIS, 2019)

11.23 It is also important to consider renewable energy generation. As **Figure 11.7 and 11.8** shows, Newport's key renewable generation sources are from photovoltaic units, onshore wind, landfill gas and plant biomass. For each of these sources it generated proportionately less than average energy that seen across Wales and the UK as a whole, apart from plant biomass energy, for which, relative to the number of homes within each geography, it generates significantly higher amounts of energy, compared to Wales and the UK. In general, Wales outperforms averages for Newport and the UK in terms of renewable energy generation.

Newport's Key Renewable Energy Generation Sources

MW per 10,000 homes (installed capacity)

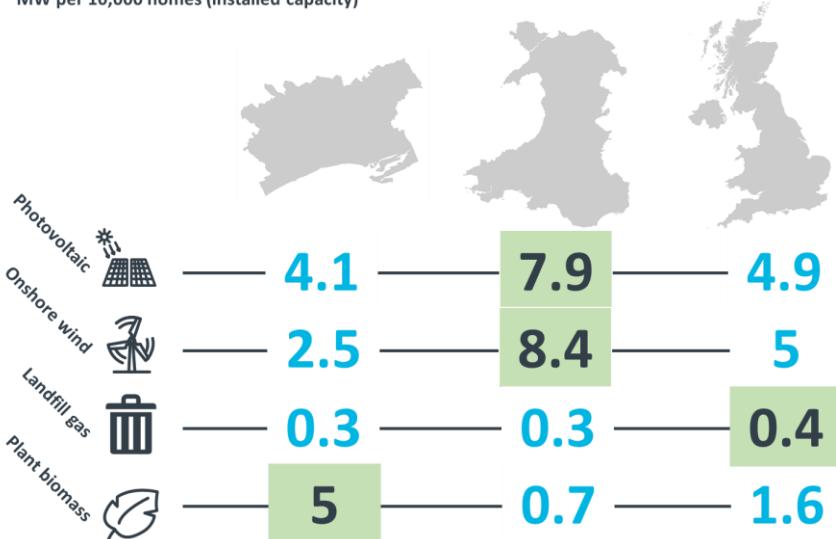


Figure 11.8: Newport's key renewable energy generation sources

11.24 In central Newport there is a heat network opportunity area located approximately 200 metres south east of Newport Train Station, demonstrating that this central and built-up area shows the greatest potential for delivering heat networks. In terms of pre-assessed areas for wind energy, there are not any within Newport, however on higher ground to the north west of the area there are some areas which have been assessed and offer a presumption in favour of large scale wind energy development (in line with Future Wales).

Transport

11.25 As shown in Figure 11.10, per capita transport related emissions are significantly higher in Newport than in Wales and the UK. Areas with lower transport related emissions often have high rates of people travelling by sustainable means. Modes of transport encompassed under this broad categorisation include public transport (bus, train, tram etc) as well as active modes of travel (walking and cycling). This is discussed in further detail within Chapter 6 (Transportation).

Future baseline

11.26 New development could have the potential to increase flood risk through factors such as increased risk of overtopping of coastal and river flood defences, changing surface and ground water flows, overloading existing inputs to the drainage and wastewater networks or increasing the number of residents exposed to areas of existing flood risk and potential elevated flood risks in the future.

11.27 Climatic and weather pattern changes towards higher mean temperatures and extreme heating events are likely to be seen in the future, this can be expected to have more pronounced effects upon urban areas and in particular vulnerable populations within these areas. This is likely to necessitate the pursuit of opportunities to design cooling solutions into development, such as shading, increased green infrastructure and ventilation.

11.28 Further to the above heating and potential increase in the prevalence of drought, agricultural practices may be adversely effected, with implications for crop yields potentially affecting supply chains and food prices.

11.29 National and international policy and agreements have begun to show a more urgent stance in relation to approaches designed to combat and adapt to the effects of climate change. If this trajectory continues then it may be likely that a greater release of funding will be available for local schemes to adapt to the effects of climate change.

11.30 The policy agreements and urgency with which the matter of climate change is being focused upon is likely to increase over time. This will be expected to lead to policies which restrict the use of fossil fuel emitting activities and support energy efficiency measures, helping to drive down CO₂ emissions.

11.31 It is likely that renewable energy generation will increase over time across a range of sources, as well as from sources enabled through the development of new technologies. Newport is likely to take advantage of community/ locally owned renewable energy schemes throughout the City.

Key issues

11.32 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

- There is a need to decarbonise across all sectors of society (including the economy, energy, infrastructure, lifestyles), with further need to take measures to reduce the levels of carbon in the atmosphere. Energy reduction and efficiency measures are imperative if targets are going to be met.
- Planning must play a key role in ensuring that communities and infrastructure are resilient to the negative effects of climate change, by avoiding risk in the first instance and seeking to mitigate risk if options are unavoidable.
- There is a fairly significant amount of coastal and fluvial flood risk across Newport, with some areas in residential and economic land uses at risk.
- Surface water flood risk is found more commonly in urban areas, with some key transport infrastructure at risk.

- While flood risk management is in place throughout Newport, there are areas which could benefit from new forms of coastal and river flood risk management.
- Central Newport has low levels of green infrastructure, including trees.
- Newport shows potential for heat network opportunities.
- Newport's per capita transport related emissions are significantly higher than Wales and the UK's equivalent figures.

11.33 Whilst Newport's key renewable energy generation sources are photovoltaic, onshore wind, landfill gas and plant biomass, all except for plant biomass are outperformed by national averages.

ISA objectives

11.34 Considering the key issues discussed above, it is proposed that the ISA should include the following objective and assessment questions:

ISA objectives	Assessment questions – will the policy/proposal help to:
Support the resilience of the Newport Area to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding from fluvial, coastal and surface water sources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avoid development in areas at risk of flooding, taking into account the likely future effects of climate change?• Increase resilience of the built and natural environment to the effects of climate change?• Ensure that the potential risks associated with climate change are considered in new development in the plan area?• Improve and extend green infrastructure networks in the plan area to support climate change adaptation?• Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff (either within the plan area or downstream)?• Minimise flood risk for key infrastructures, such as transport and power?
Reduce Newport's contribution to climate change from activities which result in greenhouse gas emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase the number of new developments meeting or exceeding sustainable design criteria?• Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable sources?• Offer the opportunity to exploit opportunities for a heat network in Central Newport?• Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources?• Reduce the need to travel or the number of journeys made?• Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport?• Ensure rural development does not contribute towards further increases in high energy use and unsustainable travel?

12. Next steps

Subsequent stages for the ISA process

- 12.1 Scoping (the current stage) is the first stage in a five-stage ISA process:
- Scoping
 - Appraise reasonable alternatives, with a view to informing preparation of the Pre-Deposit plan/ Preferred Strategy, and subsequent assessment of the Pre-Deposit plan/ Preferred Strategy;
 - Prepare the ISA Report with a view to informing consultation;
 - Consultation on the ISA Report; and
 - Publish a 'statement' at the time of plan adoption in order to 'tell the story' of plan-making/ ISA (and present 'measures decided concerning monitoring').
- 12.2 Accordingly, the next stage after scoping will therefore involve the development and assessment of reasonable alternatives. This includes Candidate Sites and strategic options for the overall level and distribution of growth.

Consultation on this Scoping Report

- 12.3 Public involvement through consultation is a key element of the ISA process. At this scoping stage, the SEA Regulations require consultation with statutory consultation bodies but not full consultation with the public. The statutory consultation bodies are Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and Cadw.
- 12.4 Despite this, the public and wider stakeholders are being invited to comment on the content of this Scoping Report, in particular the identified key issues and the proposed ISA framework.
- 12.5 All comments received on the Scoping Report will be reviewed and will influence the development of the ISA where appropriate.

Appendix A ISA framework

This appendix presents the sustainability topics, objectives and assessment questions that form the ISA framework. The ISA framework draws together the ISA objectives identified under each theme through scoping, with the aims of addressing the key issues identified for each theme. Taken together the ISA objectives form a methodological framework guiding the subsequent assessment. Furthermore, these objectives have been linked to the relevant wellbeing goals established through the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Theme	ISA objective	Assessment questions - will the plan/ policy help to:	Relevant wellbeing goal
Economy and employment	Support a strong, diverse and resilient economy, with innovative responses to changing conditions and support for a strong future workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the nationally important role of Newport's economy in the South East Wales Region and Western Gateway, and as part of the Cardiff Capital Region? Provide sufficient land for businesses to grow? Support the creation of accessible new jobs? Ensure the capacity of educational facilities keep pace with population growth? Enhance the vitality and resilience of the town centre and retail centres? Safeguard existing employment areas? 	A Prosperous Wales A Resilient Wales A More Equal Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Globally Responsible Wales
Population and communities	To provide a sufficient quantity of good quality market and affordable homes, and community infrastructure, in sustainable locations to meet identified needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet the identified housing needs, including affordable, for Newport City? Ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures to meet the needs of all sectors of the community? Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities? Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities, including specialist services? 	A Resilient Wales A Healthier Wales A More Equal Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language
	To enhance design quality to create places for people that maintain and enhance community and settlement identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve cross-boundary links between communities? Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities, including specialist services 	A Prosperous Wales A Resilient Wales A Healthier Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language
Health and wellbeing	To improve the health and wellbeing of residents within Newport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage healthy lifestyles and reduce health inequalities? 	A Resilient Wales A Healthier Wales

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote access to health, social, recreational and leisure facilities for all sectors of the community? • Enhance multifunctional green infrastructure networks throughout the plan area? • Provide and enhance the provision of community access to open/green space? • Improve access to the countryside for recreation? 	A More Equal Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language
Equality, diversity and inclusion	To reduce poverty and inequality; tackle social exclusion and promote community cohesion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce inequalities and deprivation across Newport? • Improve equality of opportunities amongst all social groups? • Contribute to a reduction in crime and social disorder and the fear of crime, promoting safer neighbourhoods? • Promote, strengthen and enhance the cultural identity of Newport? • Protect and provide improved local, social, recreational and leisure facilities for all sectors of the community, and improve access to them to maximise opportunities for community development and social welfare? • Ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures to meet the needs of all sectors of the community? • Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities? • Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities, including specialist services? • Promote Newport's bilingual public services and increase the use of the Welsh language in Newport?
Transport and movement	Increase sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the need to travel through sustainable patterns of land use and development? • Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel? • Enable transport infrastructure improvements? • Support the uptake of low carbon transport? • Contribute towards the EV charging network? • Facilitate working from home and remote working? • Provide improvements to and/ or reduce congestion on the existing highway network?
Natural resources	To identify and pursue any opportunities to reduce, or at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the need to travel?

	least, minimise population exposure to air pollution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage journeys to be made by sustainable means (active travel or public transport)? Avoid any adverse effects on air quality and for people exposed to poor air quality? Improve air quality in areas identified as of concern? Promote and facilitate the use of electric vehicles? Promote and facilitate enhancements to green infrastructure networks to facilitate increased absorption and dissipation of NO₂ and other pollutants? 	A More Equal Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Globally Responsible Wales
	To make the best use of previously developed land and existing buildings to minimise pressure for greenfield development and protecting, where possible, higher grade agricultural land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise the loss of potentially high-grade agricultural land to developments which will not make use of the soil as an agricultural resource? Encourage the use of previously developed land? Encourage development-related remediation works which could reduce the presence of contaminated land in Newport? 	A Resilient Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Globally Responsible Wales
	To conserve, protect and enhance the water environment, water quality and water resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce water consumption? Ensure an adequate supply of water can be provided to sustain the development considering current and future projections of water availability and water use? Reduce the potential for contamination of waterbodies and courses? Reduce the potential for agricultural practices to contribute towards nitrate-based pollution of waterbodies and courses? 	A Resilient Wales A Globally Responsible Wales
Biodiversity	Protect and enhance biodiversity within and surrounding the plan area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise impacts on designated and important biodiversity and provide net gains where possible? Protect and enhance ecological networks, including those that cross administrative boundaries? 	A Resilient Wales A Healthier Wales A More Equal Wales A Globally Responsible Wales
Historic environment	Preserve and enhance Newport's heritage resource, including its historic environment and archaeological assets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserve and enhance the significance of buildings and structures of architectural or historic interest, both designated and non-designated, and their setting? Conserve and enhance the special interest, character and appearance of conservation areas and their settings? Conserve and enhance archaeological remains, and archaeologically sensitive areas, and support the undertaking of 	A Prosperous Wales A Resilient Wales A Healthier Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language A Globally Responsible Wales

		<p>archaeological investigations and, where appropriate, recommend mitigation strategies?</p>	
	Promote understanding of the Newport's cultural heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support access to, interpretation and understanding of the historic and cultural environment, including the welsh language? 	A Resilient Wales A Healthier Wales A More Equal Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language A Globally Responsible Wales
Landscape	To protect and enhance the quality and character of Newport's landscape, townscape, and seascape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that Newport's most valuable landscapes, townscapes, and seascapes are conserved and enhanced? Ensure that Newport's two areas of 'undisturbed' tranquil landscapes are preserved in their tranquillity? Use natural landscape features to mitigate any potential effects on nearby and distance interpretations of its landscapes? 	A Prosperous Wales A Resilient Wales A Healthier Wales A More Equal Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language A Globally Responsible Wales
Climate change	<p>Support the resilience of the Newport Area to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding from fluvial, coastal and surface water sources.</p> <p>Reduce Newport's contribution to climate change from activities which result in greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid development in areas at risk of flooding, taking into account the likely future effects of climate change? Increase resilience of the built and natural environment to the effects of climate change? Ensure that the potential risks associated with climate change are considered in new development in the plan area? Improve and extend green infrastructure networks in the plan area to support climate change adaptation? Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff (either within the plan area or downstream)? Minimise flood risk for key infrastructures, such as transport and power? 	A Resilient Wales A Healthier Wales A More Equal Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Globally Responsible Wales
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of new developments meeting or exceeding sustainable design criteria? Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable sources? Offer the opportunity to exploit opportunities for a heat network in Central Newport? Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources? Reduce the need to travel or the number of journeys made? 	A Prosperous Wales A Resilient Wales A Healthier Wales A More Equal Wales A Wales of Cohesive Communities A Globally Responsible Wales

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- Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport?
 - Ensure rural development does not contribute towards further increases in high energy use and unsustainable travel?
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Appendix B Figures

