Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION   CEREDIGION County Council

Ceredigion Local Development Plan
Topic Paper
Welsh Language

Submission Version

December 2011

Bryan Thomas, MCIEH, FRSH

Cyfarwyddwr Adran y Gwasanaethau Amgylcheddol a Thai,
Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron SA46 0PA
Ffôn 01545 570881 Ffacs: 01545 572117

Director of Environmental Services and Housing,
Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron SA46 0PA
Tel: 01545 570881 Fax: 01545 572117

Contents

Note for Reader

Please note that this is the most up to date Topic Paper in relation to this specific policy area.

The Topic Paper is intended to help explain and justify the LPA's approach in relation to this particular topic in the Ceredigion Local Development Plan (2007-2022).

The Topic Paper provides a synopsis of the key documentation and evidence that has informed the Ceredigion LDP in relation to this topic.

During the production of the LDP the Topic Paper has been a living document as new evidence emerged and guidance was released/ superseded. Previous versions of the Topic Paper were made available at both Preferred Strategy (March 2009) Stage and at Deposit Stage (December 2010). Those versions have now been superseded by this Submission Version (December 2011) of the Topic Paper.

1. Review of Policy Context

1.1.1 The Welsh language is a major part of the social and cultural fabric of Wales. The future development and sustainability of the language is reliant on a wide range of factors, particularly education, demographic change, community activities and a sound economic base to maintain thriving Welsh communities.

2. Guidance and Strategies

2.1.1 The following section provides the up to date position regarding the relevant guidance and strategies at international, national and regional level, its relevance to the LDP and how it has been used or addressed in the LDP.

2.2 Planning Policy Wales Edition 4 (WAG, February 2011)

2.2.1 According to 'Planning Policy Wales' (PPW) (WG, February 2011) the land use planning system should take account of the needs and interests of the Welsh language and in so doing contribute to its well being.

2.2.2 PPW (WG, February 2011) requires that when formulating policies that the local planning authority (LPA) provide a reasoned justification on how they have taken the needs of the Welsh language into account in plan preparations and how any policies relating to the language interact with other plan policies.. Based on the guidance and information within PPW, the Welsh language has been a consideration throughout the LDP process. A number of specific policies have also been created in relation to the Welsh language, these are:

- DM02: Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language: Statements and Assessments; and
- DM08: Bilingual Signs and Place Names

2.3 Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20 (WAG, 2000)

2.3.1 Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20 contains guidance on the integration of the Welsh language into UDP policy making and echo's that set out in PPW (WAG, 2010). The TAN also outlines how the distribution of economic growth can affect the character of different areas including the linguistic balance. The TAN also emphasises the importance of the role of the Welsh language during consultation, signs and advertising, and in determining planning applications. The guidance outlined in the TAN must be taken into account during the LDP's preparation (that is, it is relevant to LDPs as well as UDPs), and provision for the Welsh language must be made at all stages in the process. Much of the guidance regarding policies is quite general, allowing local authorities to deal with the language in a manner best suited to themselves. This probably reflects the fact that there is significant variation in the proportion of Welsh speakers between

authorities and the uncertainty on how the planning system can best support the language.

2.3.2   Based on the guidance and information within PPW and the TAN, the Welsh language has been a consideration throughout the LDP process. A number of specific policies have also been created in relation to the Welsh language, these are:
- DM02: Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language: Statements and Assessments; and
- DM08: Bilingual Signs and Place Names.

2.3.3   The Welsh language was also taken into account when developing the LDP's settlement strategy. By centring growth in the most sustainable locations, and by providing for some growth to meet some of the need in other areas, it is the aim of the Plan to encourage community cohesion, interactions and the use of the Welsh language.

2.4   Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) (WAG, 2002)

2.4.1   The Wales Spatial Plan (WSP) identifies the Welsh language as an important factor contributing to the distinctiveness of Wales. It states that Wales is becoming a more bilingual nation, with 40% of Welsh speakers now living in urban areas, with an increasing proportion being under 25. At the same time, however, the percentages speaking Welsh in the rural communities, where the language has traditionally been strong, are continuing to fall gradually.

2.4.2   The LDP's Strategy Policies, namely S01- S07 support this strategy as do Policies DM02: Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language: Statements and Assessments; and DM08: Bilingual Signs and Place Names specifically in relation to the Welsh language.

2.5   Iaith Pawb (WAG, 2003)

2.5.1   Iaith Pawb: A National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales (WAG, 2003), is a national action plan which sets out a strategy to ensure that the Welsh Language is not only supported but also has the right environment to flourish.

2.5.2   The LDP's Strategy Policies, namely S01 -, S07 support this strategy as do Policies DM02: Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language: Statements and Assessments; and DM08: Bilingual Signs and Place Names specifically in relation to the Welsh language.

2.6   Wales Spatial Plan Update 2008

2.6.1   The Wales Spatial Plan Update 2008 states that the Welsh language has a significant role to play in our [Central Wales] communities and a key priority will be to develop the area in accordance with the Iaith Pawb's vision of creating a modern bilingual society. The Spatial Plan Group has developed guidance to assist public bodies and practitioners with regard to how and when consideration should be

given to the needs and benefits of the Welsh language in the context of the Wales Spatial Plan. This will be used as a tool to appraise the options/proposals being considered under the various Wales Spatial Plan workstreams. Ceredigion County Council has however decided to use a modified methodology set out in Planning and the Welsh Language: the way ahead (2005), as it provides more detailed and locally relevant information than the options/proposals set out in the Wales Spatial Plan (see Policy DM02 for more detail as to the LPA's approach through the LDP).

2.6.2   The LDP's Strategy Policies, namely S01-S07 support this strategy as do Policies DM02: Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language: Statements and Assessments; and DM08: Bilingual Signs and Place Names specifically in relation to the Welsh language.

2.7   Planning and the Welsh Language: The Way Ahead (Welsh Assembly Government, and other bodies, 2005)

2.7.1   Planning and the Welsh Language: the way ahead (2005) is a methodology for assessing the impact of new development on the Welsh language. It was commissioned by a consortium of local authorities and was piloted with an aim to report on its implementation in spring/summer 2008. In the area of Gwynedd County and Snowdonia National Park between April 2007 and June 2008 only six applications were requested to provide Community and Language Statements, while no applications required Full Community and Language Impact Assessments. Of the six Community and Language Statements only one application was considered by committee to have a cumulative impact that would have a significant impact on the Welsh Language. The refusal was dismissed at appeal although the language was not a leading factor in the decision. In this instance the inspector attached little weight to the guidance because of its pilot status.

2.7.2   Despite the limited information collected during the pilot, Gwynedd Council resolved to adopt the guidance, without modification, as interim guidance to support the policies of the Eryri Local Plan and agreed that its principles should be carried forward to support the policies of the emerging LDP.

2.7.3   Based on this methodology, Ceredigion have decided to go for a broader approach to assessments, incorporating elements relating to community impact into the toolkit, the rationale behind this being that community and language are intrinsically linked. This was the favoured approach of the stakeholder group set up to discuss matters relating to the Welsh language (see Appendix 2).

2.8   Ceredigion Unitary Development Plan Proposed Modifications version (UDP) (CCC, 2006)

2.8.1   Ceredigion Unitary Development Plan Proposed Modifications version (UDP) (CCC, 2006) recognises the Welsh language as a key component of the community and attempts to take into account its needs and interests. However, it also recognises that planning alone is not the only factor affecting the state and sustainability of the language. The policies contained in the UDP essentially mirrors the guidance contained within TAN 20. These policies will be superseded when the LDP is adopted however their content and application has helped influence the drafting of the LDP.

2.9   Ceredigion Community Strategy: Ceredigion 2020 (Ceredigion County Council, 2003)

2.9.1   Ceredigion's Community Strategy (CCC, 2003) states that the Welsh language is an integral and important part of the culture and heritage of the area. People must be able to use their language of choice and support be given to the use of the language. Ceredigion County Council has been active in forming Dyfodol Dwyieithog - Bilingual), which has been working to promote and support the use of the language in business, cultural activities, and the community.

2.9.2   The Strategy details 6 actions aimed at increasing the use of the language in Ceredigion:
   a.   Initiatives to increase the economic, social and cultural use of the language at community level;
   b.   Ensure that Welsh Language issues are factored into policy development and delivery of services across all Community Strategies as per County Council Welsh Language Scheme;
   c.   Promotion and support of initiatives to encourage Welsh speaking parents to pass the language on to their children;
   d.   Ensure advice and support relating to the use of the language to public, private, business and voluntary organisations;
   e.   Initiatives encouraging individuals to learn and use the language; and
   f.   Promote greater use of Welsh in Schools.

2.9.3   The Community Strategy is one of Ceredigion's key documents along with the LDP, the Ceredigion Young Persons Plan and the Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Strategy and its aims should be taken into account when designing the LDP's Welsh Language policies. The role that the LDP will be able to play in achieving these objectives will inevitably be tangential given that these strategies do not relate to land use planning directly.

2.9.4   The LDP has been able to help facilitate some of the aims of the thematic group through various policy approaches. In particular, policies DM02: Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language:

Statements and Assessments; and DM08: Bilingual Signs and Place Names support criterion b in the list below paragraph 2.9.2, above.

2.10   Ceredigion's Welsh Language Scheme 2006-2009 (CCC, 2006)

2.10.1   Ceredigion's Welsh Language Scheme starts from the principle that it will treat the Welsh and English Languages on the basis of equality. The scheme identifies how Ceredigion County council will implement this principle in the provision of services to the public within the County. As part of the implementation, all policy documents are made available in both Welsh and English.

2.10.2   This has been reflected in the LDP process by the LA ensuring that the LDP document itself has been available bilingually at all stages.

3.   Local Context/Information and Evidence

3.1.1   The following Section briefly describes Ceredigion's cultural and linguistic character and how this information has influenced the content and production of the LDP.

3.2   Overview

3.2.1   Ceredigion is home to one of the strongest Welsh speaking communities in Wales, with 54.8% of the resident population possessing an understanding of the language. This relatively strong representation of Welsh speakers means that the language is very much part of Ceredigion's social fabric and that it is appropriate that this be taken into account in the formation of land use policies. From the late 18th century and through the first half of the 20th century Ceredigion, as did much of rural Wales, suffered from a prolonged period of depopulation, resulting in a general loss in the number of Welsh speakers living in the county. By 1961, Ceredigion had lost a quarter to a third of its 1871 population.   Furthermore, this depopulation was a more persistent feature of rural areas. In towns such as Aberystwyth, some reversal of the trend was apparent by the 1960s, but rural areas such as Tregaron, were still experiencing out-migration of the more mobile, skilled and ambitious, and those motivated by a lack of local capital or property.

3.2.2   Despite sustained depopulation and out-migration, these rural areas maintained a high proportional level of Welsh speakers (Figure 3.1); they are precisely those areas which form the traditional Welsh speaking heartlands, sometimes referred to as Y Fro Gymraeg (Balsom, 1985). However, given the age profile of the population, the dependency of the local economy on transfer payment from central government, and the decline of local services by the 1960s, it is questionable whether this situation could be described as sustainable in the medium to long term. That is, without a change in continuing

depopulation, these communities are at the edge of a step change, a true 'tipping point' of population decline.

Figure 3.1. Proportion of individuals able to speak Welsh in 2001 aged 3 and over according to electoral wards (2001 Census).
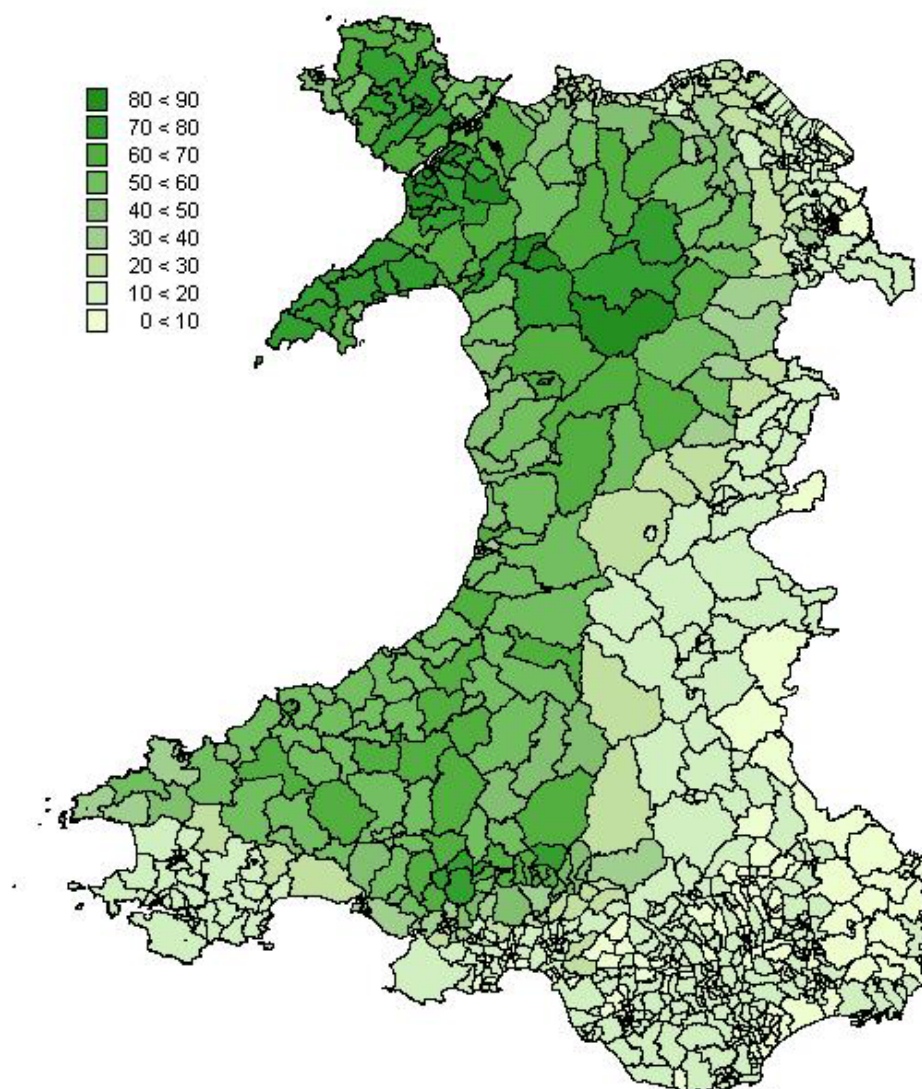
Map designed by the Welsh Language Board
Source: Table CAS146 2001 Census.
© Crown Copyright 2004. Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO.

3.2.3   Since the 1960s, the loss of the local population has been partially counterbalanced by immigration, from outside the County. This growth has been apparent in a number of other areas in the UK defined as 'remote and rural'. These were often areas which had also seen depopulation in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Consequently, even a fairly modest rate of re-population, has often resulted in a large rise when expressed as a percentage of population overall. Therefore, a rise in population, often leads to a fall in the proportion of Welsh speakers, most notably in larger settlements. Since the 1980s the +3 age group within the population (as defined by the 2001 National Census) of Welsh speakers has grown, however the proportion of Welsh speakers overall has continued to drop, albeit at a slower rate.

3.2.4   The most accurate information available regarding the proportion of Welsh speakers within Ceredigion is derived from National Census data. However, changes in the methodology have brought the exact rate of this change into contention. When figures between 1991 and 2001 are compared directly, the proportion of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion falls from 59.1 % to 52.0 %, a difference of 7.1 %. However, direct comparisons between these years are not possible because, as of 2001, Higher Education students were counted as living at their term time address, rather than their home address.

3.2.5   Ceredigion has two universities, Aberystwyth and Lampeter, the former having the largest student population, and combined forming a population of some 6,800 individuals. Only around 1,500 of these speak Welsh, and therefore significantly affect the proportion of Welsh speakers when added to Ceredigion's comparatively low permanent population. When taking this factor into account, between 1991 and 2001, the proportion of Welsh speakers fell from 59.1 % to 54.8 %, a difference of 4.3 %. Using the figures mentioned above, it is possible to compare Ceredigion with Wales' other Unitary Authorities. However, a study by Aitchison and Carter (2004) shows there has been a growth in both numbers and proportions of Welsh speakers in many 'non-heartland' areas. Unitary Authorities thought of as traditional Welsh speaking heartlands (Y Fro Gymraeg) have shown a decline in the proportion of Welsh speakers. Although, Ceredigion has shown one of the largest declines, a difference of 4.3 %, from 59.1 % in 1991 and 54.8 % in 2001, this difference is not of a totally different order from that seen in Carmarthenshire (-4.5 %) or Gwynedd (-3.4 %).

Figure 3.2. Proportion of Welsh speakers including HE student population by electoral ward (2001 Census).

Electoral Ward	Population (Individuals)	Welsh Speakers (%)	Electoral Ward	Population (Individuals)	Welsh Speakers (%)
Tref Llandysul	1471	70	Llansanffraid	2426	55
Tregaron	1185	68	Llangybi	1710	55
Llanwenog	1832	65	Llanfarian	1403	55
Aberaeron	1480	64	Beulah	1586	54
Aberteifi-Rhyd-y-Fuwch	1200	64	Penbryn	2039	52
Llanfihangel Ystrad	1990	63	Llandysiliogogo	1906	52
Aberteifi –Mwldan	1694	63	Melindwr	2107	52
Llanrhystud	1437	62	Llanbedr Pont Steffan	2803	51
Tirymynach	1817	60	Aberteifi –Teifi	1154	50
Lledrod	2172	59	Aberporth	2434	49
Ystwyth	1943	59	Ceinewydd	1085	47
Llandyfriog	1771	58	Aberystwyth Bronglais	1904	43
Ciliau Aeron	1952	58	Borth	2175	43
Troedyraur	1374	58	Llanbadarn Fawr-Padarn	1235	40
Pen-parc	2290	58	Aberystwyth Penparcau	2979	40
Trefeurig	1615	57	Faenor	2362	39
Llangeitho	1547	57	Aberystwyth Rheidol	2404	35
Llanarth	1504	57	Aberystwyth Gogledd	1931	31
Ceulanamaesmawr	1860	56	Aberystwyth Canol	2149	29
Capel Dewi	1350	56	Llanbadarn Fawr-Sulien	1608	23

3.2.6   The decline in the +3 proportion of Welsh speakers (persons over three years of age) has been far from homogeneous throughout the county, and detailed analysis of the data indicates some quite significant differences between electoral wards, as different processes are in train at a local level (Table 3.2). In 2001, with the exception of Capel Dewi, Lledrod, Llandyfriog, Ceulanamaesmaer, Beulah, Aberaeron and Tregaron, all wards show an increase in the number of Welsh speakers. Although no ward has shown a growth in the number of Welsh speakers as a proportion of the +3 population, some wards such as Borth, Llangybi, Aberporth, Trefeurig and Llanfarian have shown over a 10 % rise in Welsh speakers. However, the proportion of Welsh speakers in these areas has only declined by a relatively small amount.

3.2.7   It is possible that the growth in the number of Welsh speakers (Figure 3.3), is in part a result of long-standing local education policies, as well as Welsh education policies that have provided most children between the ages of 0 - 15 with an education in the Welsh language for the past decade. This process of education will lead to an increase in numbers of Welsh speakers in certain age groups. This may account for the large number of Welsh speakers in Borth, for example, which has a growing school age population. It could be argued that these new Welsh speakers do not use the language in the same way as the 'lost speakers' of twenty or thirty years ago, for whom Welsh was the language of daily work, society and culture, who may not have moved outside a Welsh language environment. There is a difference between the social context of language use of these 'new' speakers and the former context of language use in rural areas of several decades ago. However, the health of the language can only be maintained or improved through a variety of responses, including education of second language speakers, maintaining the economic social and cultural vitality of local communities, encouraging Welsh use and proficiency through other local and national policies, etc.

Figure 3.3. Proportion of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion by age group, including HE populations. (2001 Census).
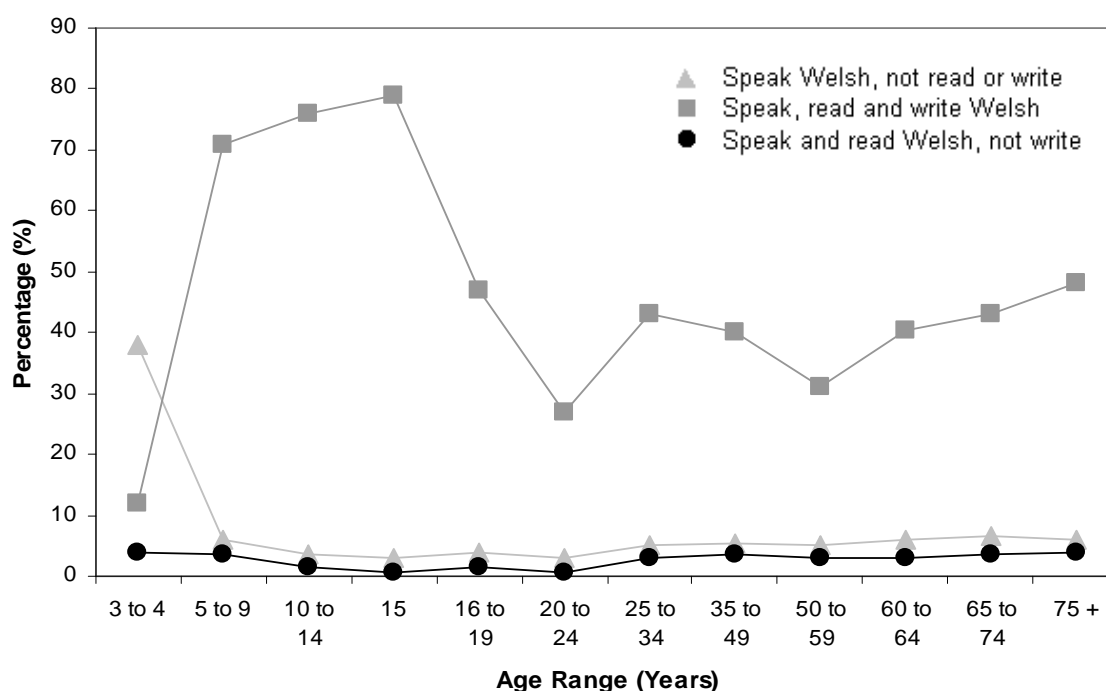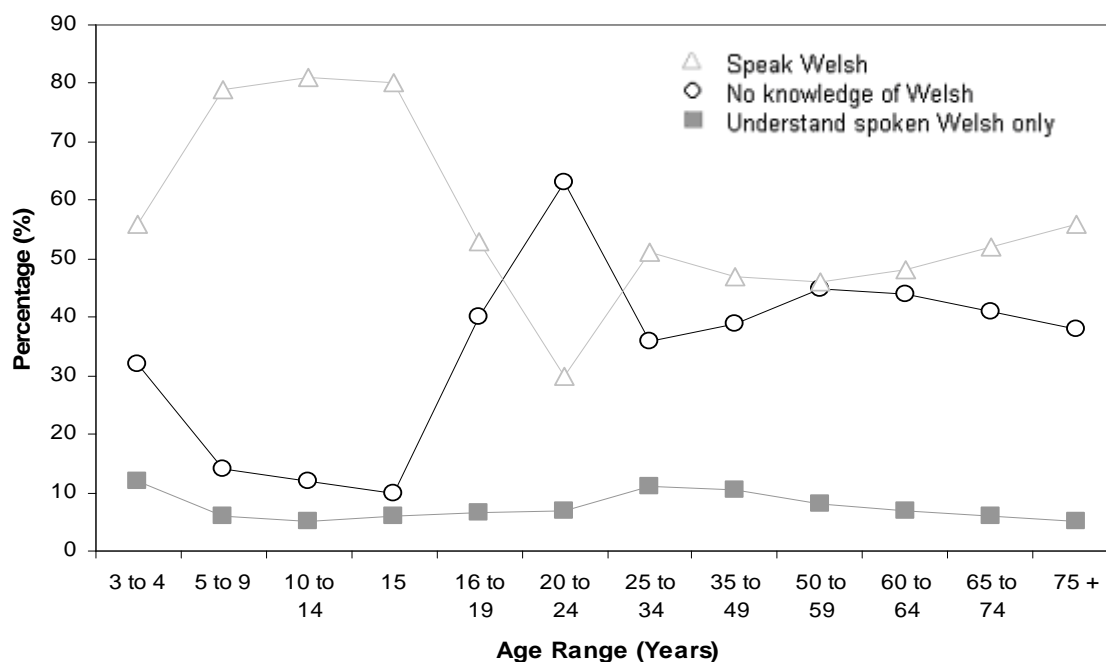
3.2.8   Another factor that may be influencing the use of the language is the increasing recognition of the economic benefits of Welsh, both by employers and by employees. According to the Welsh Language Board, in response to the growing expectations of their customers employers throughout Ceredigion, and Wales in general - in the public, private and voluntary sectors - are becoming aware of the possible benefits of using the language, such as:

   a. improving the quality of customer service,
   b. attracting new customers,
   c. increasing customer loyalty,
   d. harnessing goodwill at relatively low cost,
   e. gaining a marketing edge over competitors, and
   f. enhancing public relations efforts.

3.2.9 Increasingly organisations in all sectors have been offering more bilingual services, and consequently the demand for people with bilingual skills has increased. It is recognised that in the workplace, the ability to speak or write in both Welsh and in English is a valuable skill. The need for bilingual skills may vary from one organisation to the next, depending on its location what type of service it provides and how it deals with its customers, with the public sector leading the way.

3.2.10 It is likely that over the next decade in Wales, this situation will continue to develop, in response to customers' wishes and expectations. There will be jobs at all levels for which an ability to work bilingually will be desirable, if not essential, which will consequently have an effect on the health of the language. This is one of the major factors which continues to drive the demand for Welsh-medium education and vocational training, as young people and their parents recognise the economic value of the Welsh language.

3.2.11 The health of the Welsh language in Ceredigion encompasses many complex issues. It might be argued that Welsh is in a better position as a community language, within those communities where there has been an increase in the number of Welsh speakers, and where the proportion has shown only a slight decline; but where community life remains vital. There is indeed, an argument that a community language, which is capable of growing whilst adapting to changing social contexts, which utilises the growing pool of non-first language Welsh speakers, will be in a far healthier state to react to the challenges of social change in the 21st Century.

3.2.12 The Welsh language therefore needs to be considered as part of the planning process. The LDP has done this in a number of ways.

3.2.13 The most significant way in which the LDP considered the Welsh language was through its Strategic Policies. While it was impossible to ascertain what the magnitude of the impact of the overall level of growth of 6,000 new homes on the Welsh language would be, it was clear that should no growth take place, then a shortage of housing would result, negatively effecting those in need, many of whom would be Welsh speakers. Therefore, by providing an appropriate level of growth across the County, it was considered that the LDP would create opportunities for local people (of which it has been demonstrated that around 50% have knowledge of Welsh) to access local housing, employment and services and therefore, remain living in the area.

3.2.14   It was also concluded during the process that it is impossible to tell how a particular level of growth for a particular Settlement or Settlement Group, for instance, the 2058 houses allocated to Aberystwyth, would influence the language. However, the way in which the Strategy focuses growth across the county in a sustainable manner, which allocates an appropriate level of growth for the different sized settlements (51% for Urban Service Centres, 24% for Rural Service Centres, and 25% for other locations), strengthens Ceredigion's network of communities and along with them the Welsh language. Locating the majority of growth and development in the most sustainable locations (the Service Centres as identified by the LDP) should encourage community cohesion, facilitate community interactions, support services and create an environment where the language can be used on a day to day basis. In the settlement's linked to the Service Centres the aim of the LDP is to allow enough development to meet some of the needs of local communities, thereby allowing some opportunity for local people, who are by and large Welsh speakers, to live and work in their local area. The Sustainability Appraisal found that these policies, namely S01: Strategy, S02: Urban Service Centres, S03: Rural Service Centres, S04: Settlements and locations other than Service Centres, S05: Providing opportunity for economic growth, S06: Providing opportunity for housing growth and S07: Target for Affordable Housing, would all have minor positive effects in relation to the Welsh Language.

3.2.15   It is worth noting that Policy S08: Allocated Sites, was not assessed in this way, as it is procedural and cannot be assessed. The Candidate Site Assessment exercise was used to assess the likely effects of sites suggested for allocation on various economic, social and environmental factors. It was decided that since the Welsh language was not a physical entity, then the choice of one site over another within a particular settlement would not have any site specific effects. All sites were therefore assessed as having a neutral effect on Sustainability Objective 10: Promoting communities through the promotion of the Welsh Language. Instead, the Objective was used to assess the LDP's strategy as a whole, which sets out the level of growth forecasted and how it would be distributed throughout the County. Only positive effects were found in this regard.

3.2.16   The LDP does also have a number of specific policies that will ensure that the Welsh language is a material consideration at the planning application stage. These policies are DM02: Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language: Statements and Assessments (see Section 8 for further details); and DM08: Bilingual Signs and Place Names. Further information on these can be found in Section 8. The issue of bilingual signs was raised by stakeholders as being a key issue in promoting the language. It was felt that previous policy approaches had been too weak and that a stronger approach should be taken by the LDP. Policy DM08 has reflected this issue.

4.   Engagement

4.1.1   Issues relating to the Welsh Language were considered throughout the Local Development Plan process. General Stakeholder events were held on the 6th June and 10th July 2008. A specific event was held to discuss Welsh language policy on 17th June 2008.

4.1.2   Through these events it was agreed that an approach similar to Gwynedd County Council and Snowdonia National Park (see paragraph 2.7.1) would be needed and so the Welsh Language Objective and Strategic Policy were written with such an approach in mind:

> Objective 8: To support the development of the Welsh Language and promote inclusive bilingual communities within Ceredigion.

> Strategic Policy 14: In selected areas specialised Welsh Language Assessments will be piloted in order to determine where and when such assessments would be best applied.

4.1.3   At the time of the Preferred Strategy consultation, uncertainty remained over the usefulness of Welsh Language Assessments. It was therefore decided to go for a conservative approach of piloting the assessments in specific parts of the County, and to monitor the results before introducing it to the remainder of Ceredigion.

4.1.4   Following consultation, a second Welsh Language specific stakeholder event was held on 25th September 2009, which aimed to look in more detail at how such assessments could be implemented. One of the matters under consideration was whether or not the assessments should be applied to only part of the County (a pilot area or areas). It was felt by the Stakeholders however that piloting the assessments in limited parts of the County could be problematic. For example, it was thought that piloting the approach could discourage development in those parts of the County. Through engagement it was clear that the Deposit LDP should look at introducing the assessments throughout the county and to monitor the policy's effects on an annual basis (see Section on monitoring below).

5.   Implications of any Drivers of Change

5.1.1   The drivers of change were identified early on in the Plan process and were outlined in the Preferred Strategy version of the Topic Paper. Between 1991 and 2001 the number of Welsh speakers in the county increased partly as a response to Welsh classes for anyone under the age of 16. This trend is likely to continue as education policies with regard to the Welsh language have been strengthened recently (Ceredigion Schools' Welsh Language Strategy, February 2008) and are likely to make a further impact in the coming years.

5.1.2   Population change will probably be the most powerful driving force in the County's socio-linguistic composition. The outward migration of Welsh speakers, combined with the inward migration of non-Welsh speakers will affect the proportion who speak the language in the County.   This is further complicated by internal migration affecting wards and settlements on a local level.

5.1.3   Once adopted, the LDP itself will become a driver for change. The Plan aims to support and enhance the use of the language in communities and to ensure that development does not have a negative effect on its use. The aim of the Plan's strategy is to strengthen the sustainability of what is a largely rural County, through focussing development key centres across the County. This should ensure that it is easier for those in rural areas to remain within their communities and thus work against the forces that tend to undermine the language, increasing community cohesion, encouraging community interactions and the use of the language on a day to day basis. In locations outside the Service Centres, the Plan aims to meet at least some of the needs arising locally by allowing local people, who by and large have an understanding of Welsh, to live within their local area. The provision of Affordable Housing will also help provide housing for local people in affordable need.

6.   Issues to be Addressed through the LDP (includes an indication of any opportunities or constraints that exist)

.
6.1.1   It is clear from national guidance that planning is expected to assist in maintaining the well-being of the Welsh Language.

6.1.2   Policies such as phased development may limit the impact on existing communities by preventing a sudden influx of new residents many of whom may be non-Welsh speakers. This is a matter that is important in terms of successful community integration generally, not just in relation to the language.

6.1.3   Affordable housing policies may be able to play a limited part in sustaining the Welsh language by assisting local people to buy property within the county.   However such policies, according to guidance cannot, discriminate on the grounds of language, and therefore at best will only have a limited impact on linguistic structures within the county.

6.1.4   It is important to recognise that there is a significant difference between the areas which have the highest proportion of Welsh speaker (Tref Llandysul, 70%) and the areas which have the lowest (Llanbadarn Fawr Sulien, 23%). Differing policy approaches may therefore be prudent, for example Pembrokeshire JUDP (PCC & PNP, 2006) normally only apply their Welsh language policy to community

wards that have a proportion of Welsh speakers higher than 30%. However, discussion with Stakeholders (see Section 4 above) concluded that to ask for assessments in some areas but not others would be problematic (see Section 8 of this paper for further detail).

6.1.5   Snowdonia National Park Authority and Gwynedd County Council have each produced 'Technical Guidance: Planning and the Welsh Language' (2007) which are designed to support communities where 50% or more of the population speak Welsh. The guidance is based on the language assessment methodology outlined in 'Planning and the Welsh Language: the way ahead' published in 2005 which was produced by the Welsh Government in conjunction with several local authorities. The guidance was piloted for a 6 month period beginning in April 2007, with an aim to report on its implementation in spring/summer 2008. See section 4 for further details.

6.1.6   Consideration has been given as to whether a similar approach should be adopted in Ceredigion's LDP.

6.1.7   The broad location of development also has a contribution to make in supporting the Welsh language. See paragraphs 3.2.13 to 3.2.14.

6.1.8   Ensuring that there is sufficient opportunity for the County's economy to grow will assist in retaining young people. This should assist the language as this is the age group that will have benefited from compulsory Welsh language education. See paragraph 3.2.13 to 3.2.14.

6.1.9   Encouraging the use of the Welsh language by private and public businesses through signage also has a role to play (see Policies below).

LDP Key Issues

6.1.10   Across all topics there were hundreds of issues in total. These issues were then further summarised as a key issue or issues for inclusion in the LDP document itself. This process helped identify the key matters to be addressed and allowed the reader to get a feel for the issues in a few succinct points rather than having to read the long hand version. Although summarised the full list of issues remain a key context for understanding the key issue(s). Officers therefore continued to refer back to the full list in order to ensure that the key issue and its context were fully addressed when drafting the LDP. The LDP Preferred Strategy key issue relevant to this topic area was :

Key Issue 6: Welsh Language
With over 50% of the population having an understanding of the Welsh language, there is a need to ensure, as far as possible, that development fosters and strengthens the language.

6.1.11   Comments on this issue were received during the consultation of the Preferred Strategy, details of these comments and how the LPA has responded can be found in supporting documents to the Initial Consultation Report (2010).There was objection to a perceived negative phrasing of the Key Issue, as it was felt that 'so far as possible'; implies the LA believes planning has little impact and therefore the Key Issue needs expanding. This was not considered appropriate as the current wording recognises the limitations of the planning system.

6.1.12   Another objection was received requesting that the % of 'Welsh speakers that do not 'understand Welsh', should be used in planning considerations. However, it is not considered useful in this instance to try and distinguish between those who speak and those who understand Welsh. Singling out Welsh speakers would require a definition of what a Welsh speaker is e.g. what ability must a person have to be classed as a Welsh Speaker. It also raises issues about how the language is used in day to day life, for example, people may speak it but they may never use it. In addition, the health of the language requires more than just existing speakers be taken into account. Its health can only be maintained or improved through a variety of responses including education of second language speakers and those who only have an understanding, maintaining the economic, social and cultural vitality of communities, encouraging Welsh use and proficiency through local and national policies etc. Having only the % of Welsh speakers as a consideration could therefore have a limiting effect on the Plan's ability to encourage the use of the language..

6.1.13   These comments did not therefore lead to any changes in the key issue originally identified in relation to the Welsh language so it was carried forward without modification into the Deposit version of the Plan as KI 5.1.

6.1.14   The Key Issue relevant to this topic underpins elements of the Vision for Ceredigion. In respect of the Welsh language, the Vision states "It [Ceredigion] will be home to a vibrant network of engaged and bilingual communities, both urban and rural, whose residents enjoy good health and wellbeing".

6.1.15   An objection was received to the Key Issue, which is applicable to the Plan as a whole, similar objections were received to Policies such as S01, S02, S03, S04, S06, DM20 and certain allocated sites. In summary, the objection was that the LDP has not considered the effect of the proposed level of growth on the Welsh Language and culture and consequently, the LDP was likely to damage its character and sustainability.

6.1.16   However, none of these comments resulted in a change to the LDP for the following reasons:

- The LA consider that the justification it sets out in the 'Topic Paper: Housing (Submission Version)' regarding the level of housing to be allowed in individual Service Centres remains valid and justified.
- The LA also considers the justification for its Settlement Strategy approach, which is set out in the Topic Paper: Settlement Strategy and remains valid and justified.
- That the Settlement Strategy does consider the language and that while it may be impossible to tell how a particular level of growth for a particular Settlement or Settlement Group would influence the language, the way in which the Strategy focuses growth across the county strengthens Ceredigion's network of communities and along with them the Welsh language (see paragraphs 3.2.13 to 3.2.14 for more details),
- As this topic paper demonstrates, the effect of the LDP on culture and the Welsh Language has been a consideration throughout the plan making process and further to that, 'Policy DM02: Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language: Statements and Assessments', provides a means of measuring the effects of development, be it housing or otherwise, at planning application stage on the language and culture where the development is on a non allocated site or is progressing at odds with the LDP.
- Affordable housing will be required as part of the development of each site allocated for housing (see Allocated Sites Schedules in Volume 2 of the LDP), which has synergistic benefits in that it in part aims to address local affordable need.
- In terms of employment provision, Policy S05 takes a permissive approach to encouraging employment developments. The Plan recognizes that over 60% of the potential jobs that could be created during the plan period won't be suitable for locating on a business or industrial park (home working, small businesses etc). The Plan recognises that in Rural Service Centres which don't already have a business or industrial park that it is better to retain flexibility for applications to be considered rather than allocate land specifically. Thus, economic development is supported in smaller settlements (e.g. Rural Service Centres), which helps support the local community and, in turn, the Welsh Language. See Topic Paper: Employment and the Rural Economy for full justification of this approach.

7.   LDP Objectives

7.1.1   The following Section outlines how the Objectives have evolved during the LDP process. As part of the Preferred Strategy further consideration was given to addressing the key issues through a set of Objectives for the LDP that would help address the issues and realise the Vision. These Objectives resulted from a combination of a number of different approaches.

7.1.2   The Key Stakeholder Group had a key role to play in this process and met on the 1st October 2008 to discuss the proposed Objectives.

During this meeting the proposed Objectives were discussed and comments were received; feedback was also received via email.

7.1.3 In relation to the Objective set out for the Welsh Language the Key Stakeholder Group were happy with the draft objective developed.

7.1.4 Officers also referred back to the original Stakeholder events held at the start of the process which helped underpin work on the Preferred Strategy in general.

7.1.5 The LDP Objective was assessed for its compatibility with the Sustainability Objectives. That is to say, are the steps necessary to pursue the LDP Objective likely to be the same as those that would arrive at the Sustainability Objective. This assessment also allows the reverse consideration. i.e. will pursuing the Sustainability Objective help in pursuing the LDP Objective. The assessment demonstrated that the LDP Objective for the Welsh Language was either compatible or had no relationship with the Sustainability Objective. Therefore, no amendments were made to its wording.

7.1.6 The Objective included in the LDP Preferred Strategy was as follows:

> Objective 8: To support the development of the Welsh Language and promote inclusive bilingual communities within Ceredigion.

7.1.7 Details of comments received regarding this Objective as part of the LDP Preferred Strategy consultation, along with the LPA response it set out in papers accompanying the Initial Consultation Report (2010). As can be seen from that table, these comments did not lead to a change in the wording since they either supported the existing wording.

7.1.8 Taking into account all of the above the same Objective was taken forward to the Deposit Version of the LDP. No comments were received during the consultation of the Deposit LDP in relation to this objective.

8. Developing LDP Policies

8.1.1 The following Section considers how the LPA developed its LDP policies in relation to this specific topic area. The first part of the Section looks at how the policies evolved up to and including the Deposit Version. The last part of the Section looks at whether any further changes were necessary subsequent to the Deposit Version.

8.2 Up to and including the Deposit Version

8.2.1 A Strategic Policy was developed at the Preferred Strategy stage by referring to the issues identified throughout and also the comments and suggestions raised from engagement events and the Key Stakeholder Group.

8.2.2   The policy aimed to allow the LDP to meet the Objective by creating a means of collecting information on the effects of development on the language. This information would then be used to inform the LA on what sort of planning conditions might be needed to ensure that the Welsh language is properly accounted for as part of the development.

8.2.3   An appraisal of the Strategic Policy was undertaken using the SA/SEA framework, similar to the one developed in the SA Scoping process. During the appraisal effects were assessed and considered including time scale, performance, secondary, synergistic and cumulative effects, and their appropriate relationships between one another. The assessment demonstrated that the Strategic Policy for the Welsh Language would have only positive or neutral effect on the Sustainability Objective. Therefore, no amendments were made to its wording.

8.2.4   The Preferred Strategy Policy was as follows:

> Strategic Policy 14: In selected areas specialised Welsh Language Assessments will be piloted in order to determine where and when such assessments would be best applied.

8.2.5   The Preferred Strategy set out 25 Strategic Policies in total. These policies were intended to illustrate the key policy matters that would need to be further developed and addressed in the Deposit Version of the LDP. The policies in the Deposit Version have therefore evolved from the 25 policies set out in the Preferred Strategy. Policies in the Deposit Version are not however referred to as 'strategic policies', in the same sense. Instead the policies fall into one of 3 categories based on what they aim to do:
- 'Strategy Policies' (Section 6): these policies set out the Strategy approach in terms of the location and level of growth;
- Specific Type of Land Use Proposals' (Section 7): policies which set out the consideration in relation to specific types of land use, retail, housing etc; and
- Development Management Policies (Section 8): policies which should be considered regardless of the type of development being put forward.

8.2.6   The LDP sets out clearly that all 3 categories of policy are needed to achieve the Vision and hence none are referred to as Strategic as such. However, the policies in Section 6 do set out a few key policies which underpin the whole Strategy, matters relating to level of growth and distribution. These policies form the basis for many of the policies that follow in sections 7 and 8 of the LDP.

8.2.7   The following text further explains how the LA have evolved the policy relating to the Welsh language and bilingual communities between the Preferred Strategy and the Deposit.

8.2.8   Details of comments received regarding this Strategic Policy as part of the LDP Preferred Strategy consultation, along with the LPA response is set out in documents accompanying the Initial Consultation Report (2010). As can be seen from that report, these comments did not themselves lead to a change of wording. The LPA suggested wording put forward by Representors did not clarify or improve the wording of the policy.

8.2.9   In terms of the Deposit version, it was however considered, based on stakeholder involvement, that the policy would need amending. This was because the Stakeholder Group agreed that applying a pilot approach to the assessments would be problematic. The ethos of the Preferred Strategy policy however remains, that there is a need to assess potential implications on the Welsh language. This ethos was translated into policy DM02: Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language: Statements and Assessments. Through consultation with the Stakeholders, it was decided to broaden the scope of the policy to also include matters of community, the rationale behind that being that language and communities are intrinsically linked. The amended policy now reads as follows:

> **Policy DM02:**
> **Sustainable Communities and the Welsh Language:**
> **Statements and Assessments**
>
> Development will be permitted providing that it is not likely, because of its size, scale or location, to have a negative impact on the social, linguistic or cultural cohesion of communities.
>
> To be able to make an informed decision on whether a proposed development could have impact on the social, linguistic or cultural cohesion of communities, applications for new development will be required to include a:
>
> 1.   Community and Linguistic Statement in relation to a small scale development; or
> 2.   More detailed assessment in the form of a Community and Linguistic Impact Assessment to in relation to developments of a larger scale.
>
> Statements and Assessments must be in line with the SPG: Community and the Welsh Language.

8.2.10 While the Sustainability of the Plan produced mostly uncertain assessments, it is expected that the policy will help ensure that the Welsh language is properly considered at the planning application stage. Monitoring, conducted through both the LDP and the SA/SEA, will help inform the LA how the policy is working and what the future effects are likely to be.

8.2.11   Whilst Policy DM02 covers the key elements in relation to assessing the potential impact of development on the Welsh language, it does not deal with one of the other key matters raised by Stakeholders – bilingual signs. The LA have therefore included policy DM08: Bilingual Signs and Place Names. The Policy aims to encourage the use of Welsh names in new for new developments and advertisement that require planning permission. Stakeholders expressed a desire to make bilingual signs a compulsory requirement, however, this was not possible as is would not be compatible with national guidance.

8.2.12   Paragraph 3.2.14 has already noted that it was impossible to ascertain what the magnitude of the impact of the overall level of growth of 6,000 new homes on the Welsh language would be, it was however clear that should no growth take place, then a shortage of housing would result, negatively effecting those in need, many of whom would be Welsh speakers. This would be the same re all types of growth, not just housing. Therefore, by providing an appropriate level of growth across the County, it was considered that the LDP would create opportunities for local people (of which it has been demonstrated that around 50% have knowledge of Welsh) to access local housing, employment and services and therefore, remain living in the area.

8.2.13   Paragraph 3.2.14 above also sets out that it was not possible to tell how a particular level of growth for a particular Settlement or Settlement Group, for instance, the 2058 houses allocated to Aberystwyth, would influence the language. However, Furthermore, the way in which the strategy focuses growth across the county, which allocates an appropriate level of growth for the different sized settlements (51% for Urban Service Centres, 24% for Rural Service Centres, and 25% for other locations), strengthens Ceredigion's network of communities and along with them the Welsh language.

8.2.14   The Sustainability Appraisal found that policies S01: Strategy, S02: Urban Service Centres, S03: Rural Service Centres, S04: Settlements and locations other than Service Centres, S05: Providing opportunity for economic growth, S06: Providing opportunity for housing growth and S07: Target for Affordable Housing, would all have minor positive effects in relation to the Welsh Language were found in this regard. It is worth noting that Policy S08: Allocated Sites, was not assessed in this way, as it is procedural and cannot be assessed.

8.2.15   The wording of the policies included in the LDP have been influenced by matters discussed in this Topic paper (guidance, evidence, local context etc).

8.3   Policy changes post Deposit Version

8.3.1   The main concerns raised in response to the consultation on the LDP Deposit Version are set out full in the Consultation Report 2011 (see

Appendix). The Consultation Report also includes details as to how to view the LPA response to specific representations.

8.3.2   Welsh Language policies received both supporting and objecting comments during the Deposit Consultation. However, the most common comment received in relation to this topic was that the LDP did not take account of the Welsh language and that the level of growth proposed would be damaging. These are discussed below:

Welsh Language and the LDP
As has been previously noted a number of objections were received to various sections of the LDP, stating that the LDP has not considered the effect of the proposed level of growth on the Welsh Language and culture and consequently, the LDP was likely to damage its character and sustainability. As has been previously noted, none of these objections resulted in a change to the LDP, the reasons for which, are given in Section 8.2 of this document.

DM02: Sustainable Development and the Welsh Language: Statements and Assessments

8.3.3   Numerous objections were received, largely from the same agent representing numerous clients, to this policy, most of which complaining that the policy was ambiguous and that it was unclear when statements and assessments were needed. The LPA disagrees with those points as it considered that the policy's supporting text does make the requirements very clear, for it states within paragraphs 8.20 and 8.22 as to when both Statements and assessments would be needed. Furthermore, draft Supplementary Planning Guidance was made available alongside the LDP within Appendix 1 of Ceredigion Local Development Plan Background Paper: Supplementary Planning Guidance Overview and Draft Frameworks (2010), which repeated the information provided in the LDP and contained details of the level of detail that would be expected from a statement or assessment. No change was therefore made in response to these objections. However, on consideration the LA did feel that there was more that could be done to clarify the matter, and so the following Focused Change (FC/067/PolDM02) has been suggested for the policy:

> Development **whose impact has not already been assessed through the plans formation** will be permitted providing that it is not likely, because of its size, scale or location, to have a negative impact on the social, linguistic or cultural cohesion of communities.
>
> To be able to make an informed decision on whether a proposed development could have impact on the social, linguistic or cultural cohesion of communities, applications for new development **on windfall sites, or on allocated sites if not in**

complete accordance with the LDP, will be required to include a:

1. Community and Linguistic Statement in relation to a small scale development; or
2. More detailed assessment in the form of a Community and Linguistic Impact Assessment to in relation to developments of a larger scale.

8.3.4   This change ensures that it is clear, as has been stated in paragraph 8.20 of the LDP, that the statements and assessments will not generally be required in relation to allocated sites, since the effect of this development on the Welsh Language and culture has already been considered through the LDP process.

DM08: Bilingual Signs and Place Names
8.3.5   Only one comment was received in relation to policy DM08, requesting that an amendment be made to the text of paragraph 8.86 to make the paragraph more factually accurate in its reference to LANDMAP's Cultural Landscape layer. This resulted in a Minor Change to the LDP to enact this request.

9.   Supplementary Planning Guidance
9.1.1   Owing to the complexity of the requirements of Community and Linguistic Statements and Community and Linguistic Impact Assessments, detailed guidance will be provided through SPG.

9.1.2   This SPG will provide an overall guidance which helps support the Authority's Vision and provide guidance of the Authority's expectations in relation to the assessments. The SPG will provide a means of:
   a.   Raising awareness amongst prospective developers of the need to fully consider the links between development and the character of communities;
   b.   Identify development proposals that will at the outset maintain or enrich the social, linguistic and cultural pattern of communities;
   c.   Identify development proposals that can be modified as a result of discussions to ones that maintain or enrich the social, linguistic and cultural pattern of communities; and
   d.   Identify exceptions where the evidence shows that there is no opportunity to modify the proposal in a manner that will reduce the impact on the social, linguistic and cultural pattern of the community and that there are justifiable reasons for recommending the planning application's refusal.

9.1.3   The SPG will be developed and consulted on soon after the adoption of the Plan, however, a draft has been attached to Ceredigion Local Development Plan Background Paper: Supplementary Planning Guidance and Draft Frameworks, Submission Version (Ceredigion

County Council, 2011d)to aid with understanding the implications of the statements/assessments guidance.

10.   Monitoring

10.1.1   When the LDP is adopted the LPA must complete send an Annual Monitoring Report to the Welsh Assembly Government each year. This report will consider how successful the LDP has been in meeting the plan's Objectives.

10.1.2   In order for monitoring to be meaningful and useful there has to be a measurement of something. Measuring the success of Welsh Language policies may be difficult because there can be many different factors, many unrelated to land use planning, which may affect the development of the language.

10.1.3   Monitoring will be conducted through both the LDP and the Sustainability Appraisal.

10.1.4   The LDP sets out a framework for monitoring the effects of the Plan's Welsh Language Policies:
   a.   DM02 and DM03 will be monitored through the % of new developments completed with Welsh place names. The target of thes aspect of monitoring will be to see an increased number of new developments with Welsh names; and
   b.   DM02 will also be monitored through case studies to identify a correlation between the requirement of Community and Welsh Language statements and assessment recommendations and planning conditions.

10.1.5   The Sustainability Appraisal Report contains a list of potential indicators that may be used to monitor the success of the policies. These include:
   a.   The Percentage and number of people who are Welsh speakers (i) aged 3 or over (ii) children aged 3 to 15.
   b.   The (i) number and (ii) percentage of pupils eligible for assessment, in schools maintained by the LA, receiving Teacher Assessment in Welsh (first language): (i) at the end of Key Stage 2 and (ii) at the end of Key Stage 3.
   c.   The percentage of bilingual signs.

10.1.6   If the monitoring suggested that the policy was either ineffectual or unnecessary, it could then be amended at review.

Appendix 1 – References

Author & Date	Title etc
Aitchison, J. and Carter, H. 1994	A Geography of the Welsh language 1961-1991, Cardiff University of Wales Press, Cardiff.
Bolsom, D. 1985	The Three-Wales Model, *The National Question Again - Welsh Political Identity in the 1980s*, J. Osmond (ed.), Gomer, Cardiff
Ceredigion County Council, 2003	Ceredigion 2020: The Community Strategy
Ceredigion County Council, 2006a	Ceredigion Unitary Development Plan 2001-2016 Proposed Modifications
Ceredigion County Council, 2006b	Ceredigion Welsh Language Scheme 2006-2009
Ceredigion County Council, 2008	Ceredigion Schools' Welsh Language Strategy
Ceredigion County Council, 2011a	Topic Paper: Housing (Submission Version)
Ceredigion County Council, 2011b	Topic Paper: Settlement Strategy (Submission Version)
Ceredigion County Council, 2011c	Topic Paper: Employment and the Rural Economy (Submission Version)
Ceredigion County Council, 2011d	Ceredigion Local Development Plan Background Paper: Supplementary Planning Guidance and Draft Frameworks (Submission Version)
Gwynedd County Council, 2007	Technical Guidance: Planning and the Welsh Language
Gwynedd County Council, 2009	Gwynedd County Council Unitary Development Plan
HM Government, 1993	Welsh Language Act (1993)
Office for National Statistics, 2001	2001 Census
Pembrokeshire County Council and Pembrokeshire National Park Authority, 2006	Pembrokeshire Joint Unitary Development Plan 2000-2016
Snowdonia National Park Authority	Technical Guidance: Planning and the Welsh Language
Tewdwr-Jones, M., Gallent, N. and Mutale, E., 2004	Linguistic Impact Assessment Research Study
Welsh Assembly Government, 1997	Technical Advice Note 20: The Welsh Language (Unitary Development Plans & Planning)

Welsh Assembly Government, 1998	Planning Circular 53/88 "The Welsh Language; Development Plans and Planning Control",
Welsh Assembly Government, 2002	Planning Policy Wales
Welsh Assembly Government, 2003	Iaith Pawb: A National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales, 2003
Welsh Assembly Government, 2004	Wales Spatial Plan: Peoples, Places, Futures
Welsh Assembly Government, and other bodies, 2005	Planning and the Welsh Language: the way ahead
Welsh Assembly Government, 2006	Welsh Language Scheme
Welsh Assembly Government, 2007	Iaith Pawb and Welsh Language Scheme Annual Report 2006-2007
Welsh Assembly Government, 2008	Wales Spatial Plan 2008 Update
Welsh Language Board, 2007	Language Transmission in Bilingual Families
Welsh Language Board, 2004	Spreading the Word: The Welsh Language 2001

Appendix 2 – Table of Involvement

Person/Organisation Contacted	Reason/Outcome of Contact	Date of Contact
Forward Planning and Policy Section. Gwynedd CC	Research into policy approaches regarding the Welsh Language. Replied with documents and links to relevant policies.	16/01/2008
Forward Planning and Policy Section, Pembrokeshire CC	Research into policy approaches regarding the Welsh Language. Replied with documents and links to relevant policies.	16/01/2008
Forward Planning and Policy Section, Snowdonia National Park	Research into policy approaches regarding the Welsh Language. Replied with documents and links to relevant policies.	16/01/2008
Project Officer, CERED	CERED are conducting a series of studies in the form of local Welsh language profiles. I have arranged to be sent their information.	21/01/2008
Forward Planning and Policy Section, Denbighshire CC	Research into policy approaches regarding the Welsh Language. Replied with documents and links to relevant policies.	21/01/2008
Forward Planning and Policy Section, Carmarthenshire CC	Research into policy approaches regarding the Welsh Language. Replied with documents and links to relevant policies.	30/01/2008
Stakeholders	Meeting with stakeholders to discuss objectives and vision of the LDP. Information on the aspirations of stakeholders regarding Options for Vision, Objective and Policies obtained.	06/06/2008
Stakeholders	A specific event to discuss Welsh language policy with stakeholders from Ceredigion and neighbouring authorities. Information gained on approaches taken by other local authorities and a consensus on	17/06/2008

	the approach to be taken by Ceredigion County Council achieved.	
Stakeholders	Meeting with stakeholders to discuss objectives and vision of the LDP. Information on the aspirations of stakeholders regarding Options for Vision, Objective and Policies obtained.	10/07/2008
Key Stakeholders	Meeting with Key Stakeholder Group to discuss key options for the LDP. Information on the aspirations of stakeholders regarding Options for Vision, Objective and Policies obtained.	15/09/2008
Key Stakeholders	Meeting with Key Stakeholder Group to discuss key options for the LDP. Information on the aspirations of stakeholders regarding Options for Vision, Objective and Policies obtained.	1/10/2008
Council Members	Objectives and Options were discussed with the Council Members. Information on the aspirations of council members regarding Options and, Objectives.	6/10/2008
Council Members	Objectives and Options were discussed with the Council Members. Information on the aspirations of council members regarding Options and, Objectives.	14/10/2008
Key Stakeholders	Draft Vision, Objectives, Options and Preferred Options were sent out to the KSG. Information on the aspirations of stakeholders regarding Options for Vision, Objective and Policies obtained.	21/10/2010
Cabinet Members	Draft Vision, Objectives, Options and Preferred Options were discussed with Cabinet. Information on the aspirations of Cabinet Members regarding Options for Vision, Objective and Policies obtained.	28/10/2008

Council Members	Draft Vision, Objectives, Options and Preferred Options were discussed with Council. Information on the aspirations of Council Members regarding Options for Vision, Objective and Policies obtained.	11/11/2008
Stakeholders	A specific event to discuss Welsh language policy with stakeholders from Ceredigion and neighbouring authorities. Discussion on how the implementation of the policy set out in the Preferred Strategy could be implemented. It was felt that piloting the assessments in limited parts of the County could be problematic. Through engagement it was clear that the Deposit LDP should look at introducing the assessments throughout the county and to monitor the policy's effects on an annual basis.	25/09/2009
Stakeholders	Various emails to and from Stakeholders to discuss changes made to the policy and the development of the emerging SPG.	25/09/2009 to 24/12/2010