

# South West Wales CJC

7 December 2022

## Strategic Planning Update



Cyngor **Abertawe**  
**Swansea** Council

# Overview

- ❑ **Strategic Development Plan (SDP)** a statutory requirement - stated in legislation as the primary planning output of CJC
- ❑ SDP will provide the development blueprint for the SW Wales Region – **full development plan status**
- ❑ Future **LDPs must be consistent** with SDP framework
- ❑ SDP focusses on significant issues/topics of **wider than local significance**: scale/numbers of housing growth; strategic scale allocations for new development; strategic areas for protection (e.g. Green Belts); infrastructure commitments; etc.

# Progress so far

- ❑ Only **minimal budget agreed for 22/23** = no substantive SDP work has been or will be undertaken this year
- ❑ **Options put forward** regarding potential timescales, budgets, resourcing and management for 23/24
- ❑ **Cross boundary collaboration** on projects is advancing to inform LDPs within the region
- ❑ **WG Manual on SDPs** has been issued for informal comments by end Dec22 [full consultation Summer 23]

# What does CJC need to agree?

- Engagement and comms with WG** – officials and political
- Timescales** – commencement date and period of production
- Budget**
- Staff Resources and Management**

# Issues and Risks

- No identified budget to deliver SDP**
- No existing resources within LPAs**
- Use of existing resources [e.g. secondments] = delay to delivery of LDPs**
- Council's risk going over LDP end dates**
- Staff recruitment problems**
- Lack of budget and existing resource = No SDP work**

# Recommendations

## ❑ Engagement with WG

- Formally request clarification from WG any funding options
- CJC to agree, in principle, SWW planning region response to WG SDP Manual consultation [specifically highlight objection to proposed 5 year plan preparation time]

## ❑ Timescale for SWW SDP

- Unless WG funding forthcoming, delay commencement of substantive SDP work until year 24/25 at earliest
- Estimated SDP adoption date end of 2031 [6.5 years]

## ❑ Budget Implications

- **23/24** – nominal budget only
- **24/25** – if future agreement to commence SDP, funding is required for recruitment and associated [estimated £200k initial year budget]
- **25/26 onwards** – funding required to advance subsequent SDP key stages, which will require additional recruitment and associated costs [estimated £500k annual budget]