

NORTH WEST CARDIFF GROUP

JOINT STATEMENT: AUGUST 2013

CARDIFF DRAFT 'NO STATUS' DEPOSIT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The North West Cardiff Group - Radyr & Morganstown Community Council, St Fagans Community Council, Pentyrch Community Council, Llandaff Society, and Radyr & Morganstown Association - has agreed the following joint statement:

We welcome publication of the "No Status" Draft Deposit Local Development Plan (LDP) by Cardiff Council, but are disappointed that it contains few changes from the Preferred Strategy published in November 2012. In particular it does not address the evidence from the Council's own Transport Report, and work undertaken by our Transport Consultants, showing that the Preferred Strategy is unworkable.

We note that feedback cannot be taken as a formal response but wish to record that whilst welcoming the slight reduction in housing numbers, the inclusion of a Green Belt North of the M4, inclusion of a North West Rapid Transit Corridor and policies supporting development of the City in ways that maintain and enhance its green, sustainable and liveable credentials, we believe that the Draft Deposit Plan is still fundamentally flawed because:

1. the transport strategy cannot provide sustainably for the scale of development proposed in North West Cardiff;
2. the housing is unlikely to be delivered in the 13 years remaining of the current plan period, and could well result in an unsustainable pattern of development;
3. the plan's details on new infrastructure required by the scale of development envisaged are vague and provide no certainty of delivery;
4. the supporting Infrastructure Plan (not yet published) will fail to specify the type, location and timing of the infrastructure required, and sources of funding.

We welcome the recent Written Statement by Edwina Hart AM on Rail Priorities including reference to the fact that she has "commissioned further work to develop the Metro concept". Construction of a new rail line from Cardiff Central to Beddau and other sustainable transport **IN ADVANCE OF DEVELOPMENT IN NORTH WEST CARDIFF** is absolutely essential for delivery of a sustainable and liveable City. More work is needed to develop this from concept to viable project stage to ensure its deliverability. Partnership working and innovative funding mechanisms will be needed if the development plan for Cardiff is to be truly "in the public interest" (as required by para of 1.2.1 Planning Policy Wales).

We support Cardiff Civic Society's response to the draft Deposit Plan which argues strongly for a more detailed commitment to delivery. **It is simply not good enough for the City Council to produce an LDP for the Capital City of Wales which leaves so much to chance.**

NOTE: Each member of the North West Cardiff Group will continue to monitor LDP documents as they emerge and will respond to formal consultation individually, reflecting the above concerns as well as other locally important issues.