

POWYS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN Wind and Solar Local Search Areas (LSAs) LDP Policy RE1 & associated maps (Further Focussed Changes Consultation)

Below are brief notes that you may find useful in preparing your response to the LDP but if you would like a more detailed analysis this can be found on an additional page in this menu. Please feel free to 'mix and match' as you feel appropriate.

No consideration of impact on Landscape character and visual impact (including historic landscape and archaeology)

LANDMAP not used to constrain LSAs. Powys uplands are rich in diverse historic and cultural landscapes and broad swathes have been identified as Solar LSAs. Cumulative impacts of different technologies together and of major grid transmission infrastructure not considered.

Failure to consider associated grid transmission infrastructure

Renewable developments of scale envisaged will require additional large-scale transmission infrastructure to further detriment of landscape.

Failure to take account of impact on local residents (noise etc) and income loss from tourism.

Landscape is the major driver of Powys tourism industry.

Failure to take account of impact on biodiversity, including soils with their carbon sequestration

Full Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (a legal requirement) has not been properly carried out for policy RE1 (renewable energy).

Policy does not reflect local energy need

New renewable energy target of 600MW not proportionate to local need.

Conflict of proposed policy with TAN 8, Wales's existing national wind energy policy

TAN8 established Strategic Search Areas (SSAs) with the implicit objective of maintaining landscape character outside of SSAs. Powys already has more land area within SSAs than any other county and should not be expected to contribute unreasonably, to the detriment of the landscape and economy.

Conflict of proposed policy Environment (Wales) Act & Welfare of Future Generations Act

The proposed policy fails to acknowledge that renewable technologies have an environmental cost. Also fails to include public participation in considering sustainability issues.

Conflict of proposed policy with Powys LDP Objectives In particular not safeguarding assets such as landscape and historic environment

Undermines democracy

Major policy change at late stage reduces opportunity for residents to have meaningful impact on their LDP.