

# Sustainability Indicators

Responding to the data from the public meetings, the Local Authority agreed Sustainability Indicators with the partner organisations over a series of meetings.

## What are Sustainability Indicators?

Indicators are measurements that tell us how we are performing, the condition of something we value, or sometimes the pressures that affects it.

**The intention is to produce a picture of measurable facts about our communities and their environment that will be published each year in the Local Authority's Annual Report and supplied to every home.**

This process of informing everyone with regularly up-to-date facts enables them to see which problems are improving, those that are stubbornly not moving and also those deteriorating. This information will empower local people and local organisations to make better choices based on local facts rather than perception.

The Sustainability Indicators that have been chosen by the relevant partner organisations to illustrate the state of

an issue, ideally relate directly to the main issues discussed by the community at their meetings.






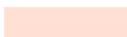

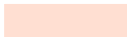






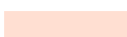


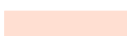





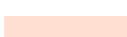
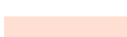
**It is on these Indicators that we would welcome your views.**

Please bear in mind that we can't always get the data on the precise element we may wish to measure, but may sometimes have to settle for a pressure that affects it.

The UK National set of Sustainability Indicators contain 147 core indicators, with 15 of these selected as Headline Indicators (see Appendix III). The Welsh Assembly have published 35 additional indicators. If an indicator proposed for Tawe Afan Nedd appears on the UK list or the Welsh list you will find a **(UK)** or **(W)** in brackets after it, **(H)** means it is a Headline indicator for the UK. However, the majority of indicators originated locally from community raised issues or local agencies' priorities.



## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Waste and Natural Resources

- Waste tonnages for Neath Port Talbot produced by:
  - domestic housing, commercial and industrial sectors (H) 
- Amount of Hazardous Waste produced (W) 
- Tonnage of waste recycled under the following categories:
  - glass 
  - Paper 
  - Metal 
  - Plastics 
  - Oil (W) 
- Furniture recycled by the 4 Valleys Furniture project – number of items 
- Number of fridges to have CFCs removed 
- Number of households composting 
- Number of households with door to door recycling collections 
- Number of recycling sites to which the public can have access 
- Number of schools involved in practical recycling schemes 
- Energy efficiency – number of properties receiving HEES grants for energy conservation 
- Energy consumption of the 3 main Civic Centre buildings 
- Energy consumption in our schools 
- CO2 emissions from energy use (modelled from local housing and traffic) (UK) 
- Mineral sites – number of:
  - small mines 
  - Opencast sites 
  - Quarries 
  - Sand and gravel pits 
- Mineral sites – Number of complaints for:
  - noise 
  - Dust 
  - Blasting 
- Number of persons working in the minerals industry 



- Quantity of worked land restored to:
  - Agriculture █
  - Nature conservation (including woodlands) █
  - Commercial forestry █
- Tonnage of recycled aggregates used in Highways Schemes █
- Number of derelict (historical) tip sites awaiting reclamation. █
- Number of alternative energy schemes for wind, water, solar and biomass:
  - i. being developed █
  - ii. contributing to the grid █
  - iii. sustaining local facilities **(W)** █
- Flooding – number of properties flooded. █
- Volume of water abstracted by Welsh Water and Industry █
- Volume of water consumed █
- % of water lost by leaks. **(W)** █

### Positive Local Initiatives aimed to influence the indicators on Waste and Natural Resources

In 2003 the new Waste to Energy Plant at Jersey Marine will begin taking our domestic waste and recycling more than 60% of it. This does not mean we can forget about our waste as some 30% of the remaining ash will continue to go to landfill, so we still need to try to reduce our waste by buying less packaging and composting at home. Unwanted items of furniture are collected by the Furniture Initiative and passed to families on low incomes.

HEES grants are available to reduce the cost of energy efficiency measures in the home.

Awel Aman Tawe are looking into the feasibility of a community run wind farm in the upper Aman Valley, putting its profits back into the community, local people will be voting on the project as part of a comprehensive community consultation.



## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Pollution

### Land Quality


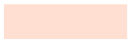
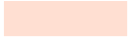


- Hectares of contaminated land not under development █
- Tonnage of litter collected from the streets and roads █
- Tonnage of litter collected from the litter bins on the respective  
Port Talbot and Neath town pedestrianisations █
- Number of litter bins across the County Borough █
- Number of substantiated incidents of flytipping █
- Successful prosecutions on flytipping and littering taken by the  
Department of Environmental Health and the Environment Agency █
- Number of Poop-scoop bags provided to the public by the Council █
- Amount of dog fouling on the Aberavon Seafront █

### Water Quality

- Number of public failures of EU drinking water quality **(UK)** █
- Compliance for Aberavon with the bathing water directive **(UK)** █
  - (i.) good quality, (ii.) fair quality **(H)** █
- Number of uncontrolled mine water discharges (orange water) █
- Number of River Care Groups operating in our catchments █
- Number of River Care clean ups/enhancements completed █
- Tonnage of rubbish collected from the rivers and canals █
- Quality of minewater after treatment going into:
  - (i) Abergarwed (ii.) Pelenna █

### Air Quality

- Number of days when local air quality falls below the UK quality standards for:
  - PM10s (fine particles or dust) █
  - Sulphur dioxide █
  - Nitrogen dioxide █
  - Carbon Monoxide █
  - Benzene █

	1, 3 – Butadiene		
	Lead	(H)	
•Course dust fallout (average for year) at:			
	Onllwyn Washery		
	Selar Opencast		
	Corus		

### Positive Local Initiatives aimed to influence the indicators for Pollution

Free poop scoop bags available from the Council to encourage people to clean up after their dogs.

Community and school litter picks can be organised at any time of the year not just National Spring Clean Week in April.

The Neath Port Talbot Clean Rivers project now have groups adopting stretches of each of our rivers, to keep clear of rubbish and

improve for wildlife. They welcome new volunteers or new groups.

The Airwise Strategy is working to reduce air pollution.

The planting of new street trees and woodlands to lock up air pollutants while helping wildlife and cheering up our towns.





## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Wildlife and Countryside

### Biodiversity

- Hectares of National Priority habitat established ▬
- Hectares of National Priority habitat brought under management ▬
- Hectares of National Priority habitat lost to development ▬
- Hectares of Ancient woodland site under restoration management ▬
- Hectares of actual Ancient Woodland lost ▬
- Hectares of Actual Ancient Woodland under appropriate conservation management ▬
- Hectares of Rhododendron eradicated ▬
- Number of farms within Tir Gofal (Agri-environment) Scheme **(W)** ▬
- Hectares under Tir Gofal Management ▬
- Population number of wild farmland and woodland birds **(W)** ▬
- Number of salmonids (trout and salmon family who like clean water) in each river catchment ▬
- Extent and number of SSSIs ▬
- Number of SSSIs in favourable condition ▬
- Number of developments with net Biodiversity gain ▬

### Access to Countryside

- % length of public right of way not easy to use ▬
- % of public rights of way sign posted from public highways ▬

### Conifer Plantation

- The % of forest clear felled ▬
- Number of hectares of conifer woodland converted to broadleaf or other habitat ▬

### Greenfield Development

- Number of new homes built on previously developed land **(H)** ▬
- Area of land previously developed (brownfield) now built on ▬

- Number of new homes built on greenfield sites
- Area of greenfield site lost to development
- Area of brownfield site developed by business/industry
- Area of greenfield site developed by business/industry
- Number of hectares under Country Park Management
- Number of hectares of formal parks
- Number of countryside ranger led walks
- Number of hectares of Public Open Space

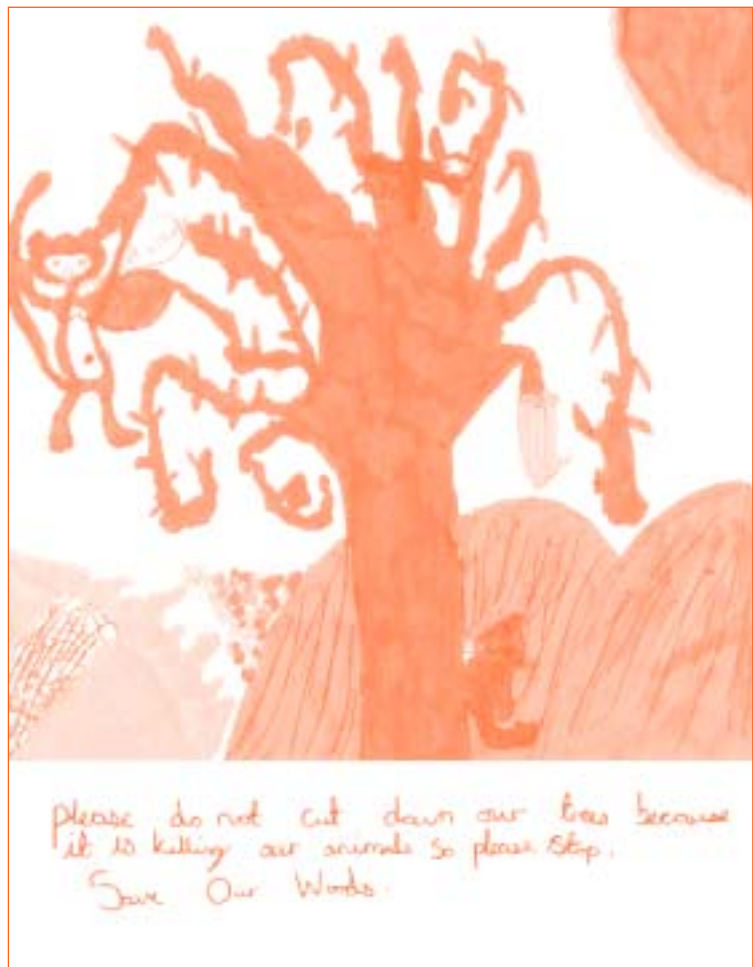


### **Positive Local Initiatives aimed to influence the indicators for Wildlife and Countryside**

Neath Port Talbot Biodiversity Forum is made up of the local wildlife organisations and experts and have produced the Local Neath Port Talbot Biodiversity Action Plan. It contains targets to help all local wildlife from our Red Kites and Otters to our Newts and Beetles.

The Unitary Development Plan is currently under consultation and will be aiming to steer developers to brownfield sites where possible.

Forest Enterprise in Rheola is currently surveying for Red Squirrels with the help of local students.





# Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Work including Voluntary Work

## Tourism

- The number of visitors ▬
- The number of attractions/sites visited ▬
- The amount of money spent by visitors ▬

## Voluntary Work



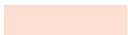
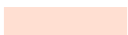

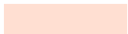
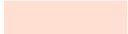
- Number of volunteer drivers on the Community Car Scheme ▬
- Number of volunteer drivers on the Community Minibus Scheme ▬
- Number of known new voluntary organisations created ▬
- Number of member voluntary groups affiliated to Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service ▬
- Total of grants and funds brought in to Neath Port Talbot by Voluntary Organisations ▬

## Work and Businesses

- Number of registered female unemployed ▬
- Number of registered male unemployed ▬
- % of workforce registered unemployed in:Neath Port Talbot ▬
- Wales ▬
- UK (H) ▬
- % of long term unemployed (more than 2 years) ▬
- Number of people going through New Deal ▬
- Number of Newdealers into jobs ▬
- Number of vacant business units provided by the Authority ▬
- Number of occupied business units provided by the Authority ▬
- Number of enquires received about business units provided by the Authority ▬
- Rent arrears as a % of rental income ▬
- Number of individuals on Business Start Up courses (W) ▬
- Number of enquiries to Business Connect wishing to start up business ▬





- GDP for Wales with value added figure for Neath Port Talbot (GDP less cost of imports to production) **(H)** 
- Number of VAT registered companies 
- Average gross weekly earnings 
- Number of people working on Community Enterprise Projects 
- Number of local companies with an environmental management system (EMAS or ISO 14001) 
- Number of companies in waste exchanges 
- Number of companies generating some/all of their own energy from renewable sources **(W)** 

### **Positive Local Initiatives aimed to influence the indicators for Work**

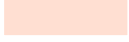


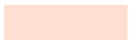

The building of business and industrial units to the BREEAM excellence rating (building construction for energy conservation), as has been done on the Baglan Energy Park, should be applauded and repeated as the norm.

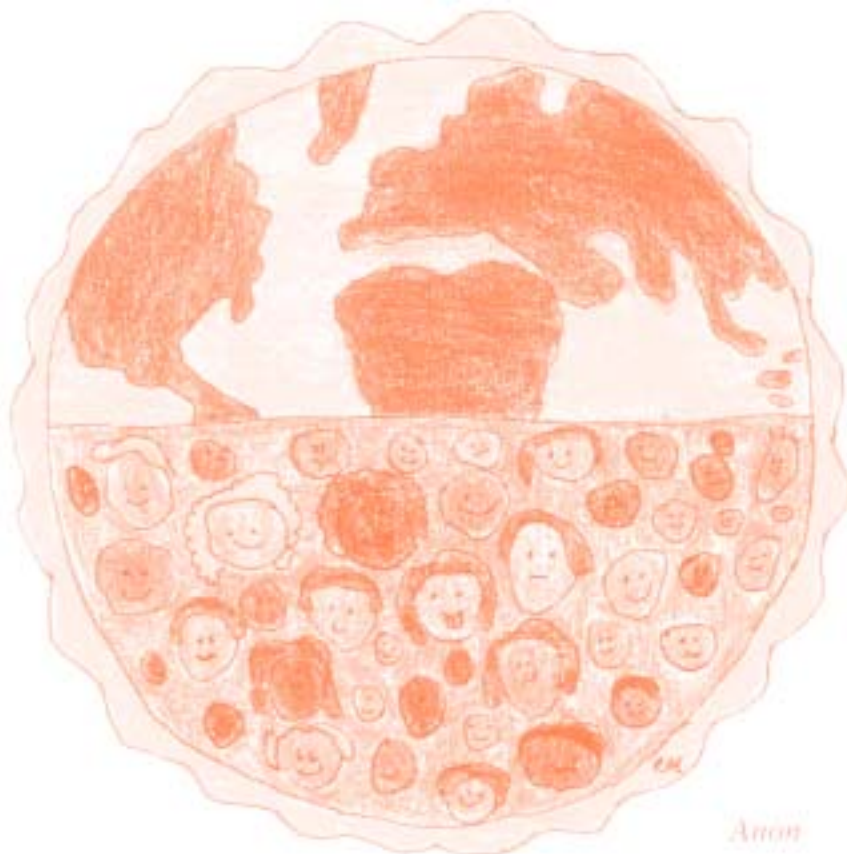
Projects such as the Dulais Valley Job Search Initiatives where the new vacancies from the job centres are displayed locally in the villages to avoid costly and unnecessary journeys to the town's job centre.

Sustainable Tourism initiatives such as the National Trust halving their admission charges to those who arrive by public transport or bicycle.










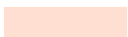



The local Community Development Trusts such as Ystalyfera Development Trust, Amman Valley Enterprise, Dulais Valley Partnership, Dove, Glynneath Training Centre and New Sandfields Sustainable Regeneration. These set up the support local people need to form new businesses and also childcare facilities to enable local people to take advantage of new opportunities.

## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Poverty

- Number of children in low income households (H) 
- Adults without qualifications and in work less households 
- Single elderly people in fuel poverty 
- Houses judged unfit to live in (H) 
- Number of local wards in the top 50 on the Welsh Multiple Deprivation Index. 



## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Health

- Life expectancy in years (H) 
- Deaths due to Lung Cancer in men under 75 (W) 
- Deaths due to Lung Cancer in Women under 75 (W) 
- Deaths due to Suicide (W) 
- Deaths due to Breast Cancer in women 50-74 (W) 
- Deaths from Coronary Heart Disease in under 65s (W) 
- Deaths from Coronary Heart Disease for 65-74 year olds (W) 
- Number of people admitted to hospital with respiratory illness e.g. Asthma 
- Hectares of land converted to organic production (W) 
- Number of schools with active anti smoking campaigns 
- Number of confirmed cases of food poisoning 
- Number of cases of meningitis 
- % of babies born with a low birth rate 
- Number of babies born to young people under 18 
- Number of schools implementing healthy eating schemes 

### What a load of rubbish!

What a load of rubbish,

filling up the bins,

Couldn't eat my dinner,

Tuesday, we didn't win.



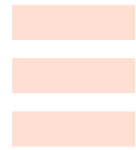


## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Access to Local Facilities

(Unfortunately due to commercial sensitivity no figures are available from bus or rail companies on passenger numbers and routes)

- Total number of paying passengers on the Council subsidised bus services
- Number of subsidised routes
- Number of trains travelling to Cardiff each week
- Number of clients using the Community Car Schemes
- Miles travelled by the Community Car Schemes
- Number of journeys travelled by the Community Cars
- Number of voluntary groups using the Community Minibuses
- Number of members in the Shop Mobility Scheme
- Number of times the Shop Mobility service is used
- Number of community facilities (halls) available across the area
- Number of community facilities with disabled access
- Number of Park and Ride schemes
- Number of passengers using the Park and Ride service
- Number of communities without a bank/cashpoint
- Number of communities without a chemist
- Number of communities without a doctors surgery
- Number of communities without a public toilet
- Number of walking buses to school
- Number of children delivered to school by car
- Number of children travelling on a school bus
- Total number of children in school
- Number of Local Authority staff who travel to work by car
- Number of Local Authority staff who travel to work by cycle
- Number of Local Authority staff who travel to work by public transport
- Number of Local Authority staff who walk to work
- Length in Kilometres of leisure cycling routes
- Length in Kilometres cycle routes to travel to work/shops

- Number of cars travelling along the M4
- Number of HGVs travelling along the M4
- Number of vehicles using local “A roads”



### **Positive Local Initiatives aimed to influence the indicators for Access to Local Facilities**

Glanymor Primary School has four separate “Walking Buses” travelling to the school daily made up of 20 parents and over 100 pupils taking part.

The Road Safety Unit working with Community Police Officers are endeavouring to train over 75% of Year 6 pupils to Cycling Proficiency each summer, in order to encourage safe cycling to schools.

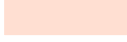
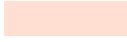










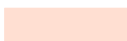

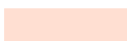





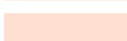
One-Stop-Shop offices have been set up in Pontardawe to enable local residents to access the main Council services without travelling to the main Civic Offices in Neath and Port Talbot.

Both of the Shopmobility schemes in Neath and Port Talbot are proving very popular and successful.





## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Personal Safety (Crime)

•Local Crime Figures	(H)	
•Number of Community Police Officers		
•Number of Communities covered by a Community Police Officers		
•Number of Neighbourhood Watch Groups operating		
•Number of staffed CCTV cameras		
•Number of incidents logged from CCTV staff screening		
•Number of vehicles reported stolen		
•Number of prosecutions for speeding with fixed penalty (£60) and penalty points		
•Number of traffic calming schemes (roadhumps, restrictions painted on road surface/road narrowings)		
•Number of schools with projects on Road Safety		
•Number of drivers on the driver improvement scheme		
•Number of complaints of vandalism (criminal damage)		
•Number of schools vandalised		
•Cost of school repairs due to vandalism		
•Number of burglaries reported		
•Number of people arrested as alcohol-related criminals		
•Number of schools participating in the “validate” scheme		
•Number of people attending the drugs treatment course		
•Number of drug supply arrests		
•Number of drug possession arrests		
•Number of drug related offences		

### Positive Local Initiatives aimed to influence the indicators for Personal Safety (Crime)

The Community Policing Service is the epitome of everything Agenda 21 is trying to achieve in communities which coupled with the Neighbourhood Watch initiative – Think Local Act Local. Many of the

Community Police Officers use public transport to travel from village to village, thus maintaining their link with people. Neighbourhood Watch is about local people tackling their own problems, using their own strengths.



## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Access to Education, Information and Training

- Number of schools used by the Community at least once a week
- Number of schools involved in tree planting schemes
- Number of schools achieving the Eco School Award
- Number of schools accessing the local environmental INSET
- Number of 16-24 year olds engaged in vocational training
- Number of 19 year olds without an NVQ level 2 or equivalent. (W)
- Number of 15 year olds leaving full time education without any qualifications (W)
- Number of 16-18 year olds without qualifications (W)
- Number of 5-11 year olds in classes over 30 pupils (W)
- Number of 11 year olds achieving at least level 4 in their SATs tests (W)
- % of 15 year olds achieving 5 or more
- GCSE grades A\*-C (or equivalent) (W)
- % of 15 year olds gaining at least 5
- GCSE grades A\*-G (or equivalent) (W)
- Number of clients accessing the “Learn Direct” helplines (W)
- Number of local Learning Action Centres (of varying sizes) across the area
- Number of students enrolled within the county for further education
- Number of local student enrolled outside the county for further education
- Local Student Retention rate (drop out from courses completely)
- % of adults with functional literacy skills (W)
- % of adults with functional numeracy skills (W)
- Number of parents and children in Family Literacy Programme (W)
- Number of parents and children in Family Numeracy Programme (W)
- Learning participation levels over 16 years (excepting workplace training) (W)
- Number of training courses provided by the Voluntary Sector
- Number of training places available on Voluntary Sector Courses
- Number of voluntary organisations taking up the opportunities for training



## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Culture and Recreation

- Number of playing fields bookings (W)
- Number of playing field sessions cancelled due to bad weather/poor condition
- Number of adults (16+) participating in Sports – indoor & outdoor (biennial data) (W)
- Number of playschemes delivered in partnership with the local community
- Number of theatrical/arts/cultural performances taking place
- Number of known festivals organised by the community for the community
- Number of playgrounds fully equipped
- Number of playgrounds that are dog proof
- Number of playgrounds that are awaiting refurbishment
- Number of allotments in use
- Number of vacant allotments
- Number on allotment waiting list
- Number of vacant allotments.
- Number of drop in youth facilities
- Number of community partnership schemes for youth provision
- Number of children who speak Welsh assessed by Headteacher (W)
- Proportion of people aged 3 and over who can speak Welsh (W)

### Positive Local Initiatives aimed to influence the indicators for Culture and Recreation

Familiar dates in the calendar – the September Neath fair and the Pontardawe and Port Talbot Festivals receive praise from all quarters and bring a sense of ownership and community belonging.

The increase in patronage for Welsh Language education both for school children and adults increases and reinforces the sense of cultural identity.





Pontardawe Arts Centre, as a restored derelict building, is now bringing a variety of Arts to local people. The County Borough is quite well blessed with sports facilities, the bonus will be to make them more accessible to those on low incomes, sport obviously helps peoples health as well as their sense of belonging.

The voice of young people has often been ignored, now that there is a New Youth Council for the area, they will at last be given the voice they deserve and hopefully they will decide to have an Environmental Committee as part of their Council.

## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Physical Appearance of Towns and Villages

- Number of demolition orders placed on derelict buildings ▬
- Number of land reclamation schemes undertaken ▬
- Number of new street trees planted in Towns and Villages ▬
- Number of landscaping schemes not tied to new developments ▬
- Number of new Tree Preservation Orders ▬
- Number of new Woodland Preservation Orders ▬
- Number of listed building identified as being at risk ▬
- Number of trees planted as a result of planning decisions ▬
- Number of trees lost as a result of planning decisions ▬

## Proposed Sustainability Indicators for Nice Board Comments

It is very difficult to provide Sustainability Indicators to measure such subjective issues as people appreciation of local landscapes, the feeling of belonging, community spirit and friendships. However any suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

Below are some of the quotes taken from our residents about the things they value in their community.

*"Friendly Villagers, evrryone knows everyone else"*

*"Good Community Spirit"*

*"The People"*

*"Don't and never underestimate the enthusiasm and concern of our young people. They do passionately care and are aware that the future is in their hands"*

*"The area is really pretty (under all the litter!). It has excellent communications to Cardiff, Swansea, the Gower etc. It is generally a quiet and a happy place to live"*

*"Crynant is a lovely village it has beauty and is friendly. I hope we will be able to put things right by Agenda 21 as a little help can go a long way"*

*"Still a community, with access locally to cultural and recreational facilities"*

*"Balance of countryside and historically interesting post industrial areas"*

*"Tafarnau da - Good pubs!"*