**Plan Drafting**

The drafting of your Place Plan can begin quite early on in the plan making process (see the notes on *Introduction* below for example) and should be led by some identified members of your team. (Find out more about setting up a Place Plan team in the Brecon Beacon National Park Authority’s Place Plan guidance document. LINK)

Your Place Plan will be based on the issues your Place Plan team, together with the local community and stakeholders, have identified. The issues identified inform what the plan will address.

The plan should complement existing statutory documents, such as the Local Development Plan and Well-Being Plan. It will be important to engage with your local authority, especially if the aim is for the Place Plan to be adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Once your plan is completed it will be important to use it to deliver on aspirations and guide the development of your place in the future. It will be good to review the plan at some point.

**The aim of a Place Plan is to:**

* Establish the important issues for your community.
* Set out an evidence-based approach to the future development of your place.
* Map out a framework, through the Vision and Objectives.
* Enable positive and proactive input into the local planning system, offering you more influence over planning decisions.
* Inform funding applications for identified actions and projects.
* improve the working relationship between you and your Local Authority (and possibly other service providers).

**Your Place Plan might typically include:**

* **Introduction**:
* General purpose of the Place Plan and outline of what it covers.
* Set out who wrote the plan, why they wrote it and it’s status (is it adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance?).
* Location and Key Characteristics of your place, using maps to illustrate key points.
* Planning context.
* **Vision**: A short statement about your community’s aspirations for the future:
  + Make itconcise and locally distinctive.
  + It can cover what the area will be like in 5, 10 or 15 years time.
  + Think about including what facilities will be needed and what it will be like to live and work there.
  + It should be aspirational, but grounded in your place.

**Example: Mold Town Plan 2017–2030 VISION**

*“By the year 2025, Mold will be an economic driver for North East Wales and a must-see destination for visitors to the region.*

*The local community, their families, friends and tourists will be able to enjoy the benefits offered by the Town’s heritage and its natural and economic assets.*

*This will be supported by the shopping experience offered by the range of successful customer-focused retail, tourist and professional businesses creating wealth and new job opportunities”*

* **Consultation**: How you have developed your plan with the genuine involvement of as many local people and relevant stakeholders as possible.
* **Issues:** A list of the key issues identified in the plan making process.
* **Key themes and Objectives:** Separating out the difference aspects of you plan in to themes and then breaking it down into specific objectives, or aims for making things better on the issues identified. The objectives for your plan will help to deliver your vision. The objectives should be broad statements of intent.
* **Guidance and Projects**: This is the main part. It could have a section per theme (or there could be just one theme!) explaining some principles behind each theme, the detailed guidance points and projects will set out, in practical terms, how the plan objectives will be delivered.
* Links back to show how your guidance and projects link to policies in your authority’s **Well-Being Plan** and **Local Development Plan**.

And all this needs good research in the form of strong, topical **Evidence**. See the Evidence Collection Toolkit (<http://www.placeplans.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/TOOLKIT-Evidence-Collection.pdf>) for more information.

And, very importantly, as every community and every place is different, what your plan covers is very much up to you, as is how long it is. For a small rural community it could be just 10 pages, for a large town it might be 40 pages. Please discuss this with your Local Authority but the final decision on all of this is ….. **yours**.