

John Griffiths AC / AM  
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd a Datblygu Cynaliadwy  
Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref MB/JG/7702/11  
Ein cyf/Our ref

Lord Dafydd Ellis Thomas,  
Chair,  
Sustainable Development  
Committee,  
National Assembly for Wales,  
Cardiff Bay.

22 December 2011

*Dear Dafydd,*

I refer to your question to Peter Burley, Director for Planning Inspectorate Wales, on 23<sup>rd</sup> November about whether local development plans are being developed in line with Welsh national energy policy. He said he would provide a note for you on this issue. Given the Welsh Government's role in the development plan process, the information you sought is outlined below.

The Welsh Government is a statutory consultee in respect of all Local Development Plans (LDPs), which means that at both the preferred strategy and deposit stage my officials scrutinise plans and policies to ensure they comply with national planning policy. Crucial to this process is the evidence submitted by local planning authorities to support their conclusions. In addition, the Welsh Government appears at the public examination of LDPs, to outline national policy and the plan's compliance or not with it, to the independent Inspector as appropriate.

I can confirm that adopted LDPs do comply with our national planning policy for energy. Currently there are five adopted LDPs (Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, Caerphilly, Rhonda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil and Snowdonia National Park) which have all been subject to such scrutiny. All these plans incorporate a policy framework on energy matters which is aligned with national policy. The combination of LDP policies and national planning policy facilitates the delivery of the Welsh Government's energy policy. Such an approach will be replicated for the remaining LDPs coming forward across Wales.

*Best wishes*

**John Griffiths AC / AM**  
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*Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)*

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