

The Powys Built Heritage Strategy Oct 2010 - Sept 2015

Progress Report: Nov 2011

The Powys Built Heritage Strategy was formally adopted by Powys County Council in October 2010. The Strategy was prepared to define the responsibilities of Powys County Council in relation to the historic built environment and set out the strategic direction, through a vision, objectives and actions for the work of the Built Heritage Team.

The strategy is primarily an internal document that sets out strategic action points assisting with defining the forward work programme for the team. These action points feed into the Service Strategy, prepared annually by the Head of Regeneration & Development and the three year Business Plan, prepared by the Service Manager for Policy & Regeneration. The team's performance is measured by its success in meeting the aforementioned service strategy and business plan and with achieving the action points set out in the Built Heritage Strategy.

The action points contained within the strategy assisted with defining the work programme for the team over the last year and a number of these action points have now been achieved and significant progress has been made towards achieving the Vision and objectives of the Service. The following table sets out each Action point and provides an update on the existing situation, showing what has been achieved.

Our Vision:

To provide quality specialist services necessary for customers, to ensure the protection, enhancement and appreciation of the built heritage and local distinctiveness of Powys and to secure the asset for future generations.

The **objectives** have been identified as follows:

- To identify, understand and maintain local distinctiveness and use this information as an overarching concept to inform policies, current practices and future work
- To develop and maintain a comprehensive information base relating to all aspects of the historic environment
- To provide sound advice and guidance to colleagues and customers and promote good practice
- To promote partnership working with the Public, colleagues, partners and other agencies to achieve the Vision

- To promote and increase access, knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of the built heritage
- To protect and where possible enhance the built heritage of Powys to ensure it is safe-guarded for enjoyment by future generations

| Built Heritage Strategy Action Plan Oct 2010 | | Priority | Progress 2010/2011 | How achieved (examples) |
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| SERVICE AREA: Conservation Support within Powys County Council | | | | |
| PRIMARY Action Point 1 | <i>Provide support to other Council Sections and Departments in relation to heritage issues.</i> | High | Substantial progress 2011 Ongoing | COB workd with Highways re Brecon Cemetery (Aug2011). CG wkg with Asset Mngt on schools modernisation (Sept / Oct / Nov 2011). DL & CG wkg with Asset Mngt on various PCC owned buildings (2011). ID & CG wkg with Private Sector Housing on LB works (Aug / Sept / Oct 2011). CG wkg with Leisure & Rec on Cons Club Grdns (Sept / Dec 2011) |
| <i>Additional Action Point 1:</i> | To undertake a project to agree with Development Management (DM) the roles and responsibilities with regard to the provision of pre-application advice, enforcement, discharge of conditions, conservation area advice etc. (Linked to Additional Action Point 40) | Medium | Ongoing | Workshop with Building Control & Planning 25th March 2011. Mngr to attend DM Mngr meetings? Raised the issue on monitoring of conditions with Head of DM Aug 2011. Assured that restructure will resolve. CG / CO'B Raised issue of monitoring / enforcement within Ceredigion shared services project. |
| <i>Additional Action Point 2:</i> | Work with DM to develop a training programme for DM officers and to provide at least one training item to DM per year | Medium | Partly achieved. | Training in Ceredigion (Cadw & CG), although Powys DC officers not able to attend. |

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| <i>Additional Action Point 3:</i> | Per year until all relevant sections completed – to work with one council department / section and develop relationships and / or projects and provide appropriate training in relation to their work with the historic environment. | Medium | Partly achieved | CG / DL working with Asset Management & BC |
| <i>Additional Action Point 4:</i> | To undertake a project which will assess the need, feasibility and desirability of using an existing group or setting up a group to enable the development of links with all sections of the Council to discuss Built Heritage issues. | Medium | Achieved 15/2/2011 | Use existing groups - no additional work burden |
| <i>Additional Action Point 5:</i> | Training sessions / information to Members as required, using Members Information Bulletin and other resources to deliver one event / bulletin per year. | Medium | Achieved 2011 | Expression of interest in providing member training submitted to democratic services. CG / PM attendance at Sustainability Standards Day (071011) and provision of 'Market Stall' - approx. 60 elected members attended. |
| <i>Additional Action Point 6:</i> | Develop one guidance note / leaflet / DM briefing note for internal use per year until sufficient are provided. | Medium / Low | Achieved (further work ongoing) | 4 guidance leaflets produced 2010. Justification Statements Guidance Note and Examples (south). Technicians using justification guidance. (Further work: Validation req's. How to submit a 'good LBC app'.) Severn Valley leaflets in progress |
| <i>Additional Action Point 7:</i> | To undertake a project which will assess the need, feasibility and desirability of setting up an Advisory Panel/s or liaison group or similar (perhaps with a wider remit than just conservation areas) to provide additional advice on conservation issues in relation to planning applications. | Low | Not yet assigned | |

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| <i>Additional Action Point 8:</i> | To undertake a project which will assess the need, feasibility and desirability of setting up a liaison group to enable the development of links with all sections of the Council to discuss Built Heritage issues. | Low | Achieved | Use existing groups e.g. Asset Management Working group |
| SERVICE AREA: Conservation Support for the Public / External Customers | | | | |
| PRIMARY Action Point 2: | To provide a wide range of information and guidance in a range of accessible formats. | High | Substantial progress 2011 Ongoing | |
| <i>Additional Action Point 9:</i> | To produce two guidance leaflets for external customers per year until a sufficient amount of information has been provided. | High | Achieved (additional work ongoing) | 4 x guidance leaflets produced 2010. (Additional using Severn Valley finance) |
| <i>Additional Action Point 10</i> | Promote pre-application advice services to internal and external customers (see Additional Action Point 1 above) | High | Ongoing | |
| <i>Additional Action Point 11:</i> | Publish at least two news article per year (in relation to providing advice for the Public / customers) | Medium | Achieved | Severn Valley scheme / Talgarth / Machynlleth |
| <i>Additional Action Point 12:</i> | One training session / talk to agents / owners in a three year period | Low | Achieved | Town & Community Councils talks, Llanwrtyd workshops, Severn Valley training, Discovering the Character of Towns Seminar, Thursday Club - Llanwrtyd |

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| SERVICE AREA: Built Heritage Funding Schemes | | | | |
| PRIMARY Action Point 3: | Run, as appropriate, schemes which would help meet the vision and objectives as set out in the Heritage Strategy. | High | Achieved | Powys Historic Buildings Grants, Llanfair Caereinion, Severn Valley, Machynlleth, Talgarth |
| <i>Additional Action Point 13:</i> | Deliver the Severn Valley Built Heritage Scheme as part of the Severn Valley Strategic Regeneration Programme | High | Achieved | On-going |
| <i>Additional Action Point 14:</i> | To set up and agree a list of criteria for allocating funds on a transparent and equitable basis | High | Achieved | Achieved for Severn Valley and PHBG |
| SERVICE AREA: Heritage Projects | | | | |
| PRIMARY Action Point 4: | Run projects (e.g. enhancement or educational projects) relating to the historic environment in Powys as and when resources and opportunities occur that meet with the aims and vision of the Heritage Strategy. | Medium | Substantial progress and some completed (Run and/or contributed to) | War Memorial Officer project in progress, Cornwall Lewis Memorial, Conservative Club Gardens, Welshpool Motte & Bailey, Leighton Farm repairs |
| SERVICE AREA: Conservation Areas | | | | |
| PRIMARY Action Point 5: | To produce at least one conservation area appraisal (with management plan) per year, looking to address the various aspects of managing conservation areas. | High | Achieved 2011 | Llanwrtyd Wells draft complete, Builth Wells, Newtown and Machynlleth on-going |

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| <i>Additional Action Point 9:</i> | To produce two guidance leaflets for external customers per year until a sufficient amount of information has been provided. | High | Achieved (additional work ongoing) | 4 x guidance leaflets produced 2010. (Additional using Severn Valley finance) |
| <i>Additional Action Point 1:</i> | To undertake a project to agree with DM the roles and responsibilities with regard to the provision of pre-application advice, enforcement, discharge of conditions, conservation area advice etc. (Linked to Additional Action Point 40) | Medium | Ongoing | |
| <i>Additional Action Point: 15</i> | To ensure, in conjunction with DM, that an appropriate service is provided in relation to trees in conservation areas as set out in Welsh Office Circular 61/96 paras 42-44. | Medium | Ongoing | SLA with DM, Ian Simpson Collaboration Project |
| <i>Additional Action Point 16:</i> | Provide general advice regarding what it means to live in a conservation area on the website. | Medium | Achieved | Leaflet to download and dedicated webpage |
| <i>Additional Action Point 17:</i> | Provide downloadable and printable maps of all conservation areas on the website | Medium | Achieved | Maps provided |
| <i>Additional Action Point 18</i> | Provide downloadable and printable maps of all Article (4) Directions | Medium | Achieved | Maps provided |
| <i>Additional Action Point 19:</i> | Provide general advice regarding what it means to live in an Article (4) Direction area (on website and as hard copy leaflet) | Medium | Partially achieved | General advice on website, leaflet for Machynlleth in draft |
| <i>Additional Action Point 20:</i> | Use the website to help consult with local communities regarding appraisal work | Medium | Achieved 2011 | Llanwrtyd Sept / Oct 2011 |
| <i>Additional Action Point 21:</i> | Provide a downloadable copy of appraisal documents on the website as they become available | Medium | Achieved 2011 | Llanwrtyd Sept / Oct 2011 |
| <i>Additional Action Point 22:</i> | Update the website as necessary in relation to conservation area work / | Medium | Achieved 2011 | General advice on website |

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| | information | | | |
| <i>Additional Action Point 23:</i> | Resource permitting carry out two enhancement projects in conservation areas per year. | Medium | Achieved 2011 | Severn valley scheme / Talgarth / Machynlleth |
| <i>Additional Action Point 24:</i> | Assess and potentially designate new conservation areas to fulfil our statutory requirement. | Medium / Low | Ongoing | Llanwrtyd Wells (consultation in progress), Vrynwy, Builth Wells in progress |
| <i>Additional Action Point 7:</i> | To undertake a project which will assess the need, feasibility and desirability of setting up an Advisory Panel/s or liaison group or similar (perhaps with a wider remit than just conservation areas) to provide additional advice on conservation issues in relation to planning applications. | Low | Not yet assigned | |
| <i>Additional Action Point 25:</i> | To undertake a project to assess the need, feasibility and desirability of setting up advertising control schemes in conservation areas in conjunction with local businesses to address guidance set out in Welsh Office Circular 61/96 paras 36-41. | Low | Not yet assigned | Brecknockshire Area of special advertising control. CA Mangt Plans. |
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| SERVICE AREA: Listed Buildings at Risk | | | | |
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| PRIMARY Action Point 6: | <p>Develop a strategy to target the most vulnerable Buildings @ Risk and use Council resources (and where feasible resources from elsewhere) to reduce their @ risk status. The strategy should address ways of reducing the numbers at risk and develop action points to prevent buildings from deteriorating to the @ risk status. It should also explore the different aspects of Buildings @ Risk as set out in the sections below:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">- The Buildings at Risk Survey</p> <p>- Built Heritage Funding Schemes</p> <p>- Direct Action</p> | High | Substantial progress - Ongoing | In progress. Draft strategy complete - out for internal consultation |
| <i>Additional Action Point 26:</i> | To link the Building @ Risk survey with the GIS system to allow more efficient and widespread use of the survey throughout the Council | Medium | Ongoing | Part achieved - linked to Google Maps |
| <i>Additional Action Point 27:</i> | To provide training to other council departments as necessary to allow them to use the Building @ Risk survey to assist them with their work and provide support to the Built Heritage Team | Medium | Ongoing | Chris Jones and Julian Edwards contacted to explore how best to roll out Sept 2011 |
| <i>Additional Action Point 28:</i> | To ensure the Building @ Risk survey is updated at least every five years and with every new designation | Medium | Achieved 2010, 2011 - Ongoing | Survey 2009 current till 2014, new entries added - ongoing |
| <i>Additional Action Point 29:</i> | Maximise existing Built Heritage Fund resources with match funding | Medium | Achieved 2010, 2011 | Severn Valley scheme / Talgarth / Machynlleth |

SERVICE AREA: Raising the Profile of Built Heritage

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| PRIMARY Action Point 7: | To undertake projects that raise the profile of the Built Heritage Service both within the Council and externally with partners and customers. | High | Achieved and ongoing | |
| <i>Additional Action Point 30:</i> | Publicise, disseminate and implement the Built Heritage Strategy. | High | Achieved and ongoing | Web version, hard copies to stakeholders, Sustainability Standards Day |
| <i>Additional Action Point 31:</i> | Ensure the Heritage Strategy is taken into account when Business Plans, Departmental Strategies, Council priorities etc are drawn up | High | On-going | Single Delivery Plan. Regen Strategy. PCP. Shared Services collaboration. LDP Topic Paper |
| <i>Additional Action Point 32:</i> | Consult with customers in relation to what information should be provided via the website | High | Achieved and Ongoing | On-going - website consultation, people's panel and agents forum consultation achieved Oct 2011. |
| <i>Additional Action Point 33:</i> | Formulate system to gauge customer satisfaction and carry out annually | High | Not yet assigned | |
| <i>Additional Action Point 34</i> | Continue to measure performance on built heritage funding schemes through monitoring questionnaires | High | Ongoing | on-going |
| <i>Additional Action Point 35:</i> | Research the desirability and feasibility of agreeing a joint strategy / SLA with the BBNP Built Heritage Team | Medium | Ongoing | work with BBNP on-going (informal) and formal assistance r.e. BBNPA Cons Officer work |
| <i>Additional Action Point 36:</i> | Consider and evaluate options for producing a regular newsletter and/or other methods of keeping customers (both internal and external) informed and regularly updated about the historic environment of Powys, the Built Heritage Team and its work. | Medium | Ongoing | Electronic newsletter. Text. |

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| <i>Additional Action Point 37:</i> | Provide / facilitate one public talk / training session in a three year period. | Medium | Achieved | Town & Community Councils talks, Llanwrtyd workshops, Severn Valley training, Discovering the Character of Towns Seminar, Thursday Club |
| <i>Additional Action Point 38:</i> | Produce at least two press releases per year to raise the profile of the Built Heritage Service. | Medium | Achieved 2011 | See Action point 11. |
| <i>Additional Action Point 39</i> | Share examples of good practice within the authority relating to the historic environment and bring them to the attention of the relevant Members or officers. | Medium | Achieved and ongoing | On-going. Sustainability Standards Day |
| <i>Additional Action Point 3:</i> | Per year until all relevant sections completed – to work with one council department / section and develop relationships and / or projects and provide appropriate training in relation to their work with the historic environment. | Medium | Partly achieved | CG / DL working with Asset Management & BC |
| <i>Additional Action Point 40:</i> | Investigate the desirability and feasibility of achieving delegated responsibility from Cadw for deciding LBC applications (Linked to Additional Action Point 1) | Medium | Ongoing | Ian Simpson review. Mtg with Cadw early 2012. |
| <i>Additional Action Point 41:</i> | Develop interpretative materials as part of achieving the action points as set out in the Heritage Strategy. | Medium / Low | Achieved and ongoing | THI boards, guided tour etc. Cornwall Lewis Memorial in progress |
| <i>Additional Action Point 42:</i> | Develop a project to raise awareness of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest | Medium / Low | In progress | Website, leaflet |

SERVICE AREA: Buildings of Local Architectural or Historic Interest

PRIMARY Action Point 8:

Produce and adopt a List of Buildings of Local Architectural or Historic Interest as set out in Welsh Office Circular 61/96 para. 48.

Low

Not yet assigned

Additional Action Point 43:

Develop SPG or similar r.e. buildings of local architectural or historic interest.

Low

Not yet assigned

Additional Action Point 44:

Produce advice / guidance for owners / occupiers r.e. buildings of local architectural or historic interest.

Low

Not yet assigned

Additional Action Point 45:

Review 'local list' five years after adoption

Low

Not yet assigned

Additional Action Point 46

Re-issue advice and guidance to owners / occupiers at suitable intervals

Low

Not yet assigned

Use Conservation Area appraisal work and set up draft list on shared drive. Link with LDP progress