

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 09 March 2026 16:14
To: LDP <LDP@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk>
Subject: Response to RLDP

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I would like to submit the following responses to the RLDP for the Vale of Glamorgan.

Conservation /Green Wedge - land between Llantwit Major and Llanmaes Ste ID 436 Proposal Number DNP (6)

In order to preserve the conservation status of Llanmaes as a small rural village community with agriculture as its mainstay, including a Church dating back to 1234, ancient ruins, listed dwellings, the setting up of this Green Wedge is essential. It will also ensure there is no risk of coalescence between Llanmaes and the nearby small town of Llantwit Major.

Llanmaes is a small, but thriving community accessed from Sigginston, St Mary Church, St Athan, Eglwys Brewis, and indeed Llantwit Major by a network of narrow unclassified lanes. These are enjoyed by walkers, horse riders, cyclists and of course shared by motor vehicles, including numerous working agricultural traffic. The proposed Green Wedge would serve to conserve this village as part of a network of small villages, which it is important to preserve, and is of particular relevance as Llanmaes will form part of a group of villages as part of the Boundary Commission's recommended changes.

Retail - Land at Bridge House Farm Site ID 379 Proposal Number SP12(2)

In 2022 LIDL submitted a planning application for a supermarket on a parcel of land which had in the past been part of Bridge House Farm. The farmhouse itself had stood vacant for a number of years until it was recently purchased and is being restored as a family home.

The application attracted a great deal of concern and objections based on the fact that this development would result in both visual and physical coalescence between Llanmaes and Llantwit Major. Its entrance would be directly off the main access lane to Llanmaes, close to the main road junction, managed by traffic lights and pedestrian crossing.

The planners at the Vale of Glamorgan recommended refusal of this application based on the fact that the site was outside the RLDP's defined strategic growth area and other associated concerns. However at the planning meeting, a small number of Councillors argued in favour of the development, based on the need for 'cheap food', and as such the application was approved. Since this meeting, the application has been referred to PEDW, and their initial assessment that an appeal should be heard, the application has been escalated to a full enquiry at great expense to all parties. This 'cheap food' option not quite such a special offer after all.

In order to overcome the situation that this overturning of the planners' recommendation has created, a simple remedy would be for the Welsh Government to offer an alternative site to LIDL. The nearby Northern Access road, which was built at considerable cost to the taxpayer for commercial and residential development has easy access, pedestrian and cycle way, together with Bus stops with shelters, though no current bus route. A Win / Win solution.

Flood Alleviation

The need for a flood alleviation scheme for Llanmaes is acknowledged on several occasions in the Deposit Plan , though unfortunately there are no specific proposals. Having lived in Llanmaes for 7 years, I have witnessed regular flooding from surface water over the wetter months when the village stream and drains are unable to cope with the volume of water. This water then overwhelms the sewage system in the village resulting in raw sewage flooding a number of homes as well as the village playing field . This flooding also results in road flooding in at least 3 places around the village lanes. This has become an annual occurrence, and despite intervention from Welsh Water , the situation has not been resolved. A Welsh Government grant for an alleviation scheme has to date not been implemented and this scheme needs to be revived for the safety of the village residents.

I trust the comments I have made above will be considered with the seriousness they deserve. Our rural communities deserve to be maintained for the wellbeing not only of the residents, but the environment as a whole. Llanmaes enjoys an abundance of wildlife which needs to be preserved . Seeing a pheasant alongside a woodpigeon crossing the road restores one's faith in our surroundings. Alongside the acres of wheat and corn ,they need those green field sites as do we.

Yours sincerely

Bethan Pocock
(village resident)

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