

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION



CEREDIGION County Council

**Ceredigion Local Development Plan
Draft Issues
Environment: Environmental Protection**

2008

Bryan Thomas, MCIEH, FRSH

Cyfarwyddwr Adran y Gwasanaethau Amgylcheddol a Thai,
Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron SA46 0PA
Ffôn 01545 570881 Ffacs: 01545 572117

Director of Environmental Services and Housing,
Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron SA46 0PA
Tel: 01545 570881 Fax: 01545 572117

1. Topic Paper: Environmental Protection

1.1 Issues to be addressed through the LDP

1.1.1 A number of issues, (problems and opportunities) have been identified within this topic area and should be considered through the LDP, either to ensure conditions do not worsen or to help promote mitigation. These include:

- a. soil erosion;
- b. contamination derived from air deposition;
- c. soil acidification may present a problem to some sensitive habitats within Ceredigion;
- d. a legacy of heavy metal contaminated soil as a result of metal mining. Associated problems include: dangerous structures, inhalation of contaminated dust; and heavy metal contamination of water sources;
- e. low level ozone presents a risk to human health. This is known to be a greater problem in rural areas. Permitted concentrations were exceeded in locations across Ceredigion in 2006. The problem is worse during hot summer conditions and so the permitted concentrations are expected to be exceeded at increased frequency as a result of climate change;
- f. ozone may also present a problem to some sensitive habitats within Ceredigion;
- g. high air quality standards are required for a number of food manufacturers within the County;
- h. the need to reduce the use of private vehicles is required to help minimise air pollution;
- i. there is a minor issue with ammonia levels at Cwmystwyth;
- j. acidification of water courses;
- k. water quality issues associated with sheep dip have been identified along with diffuse pollution from possible fertilizer use;
- l. there is a trend of increasing chemical water (river) quality, but decreasing biological water (river) quality. This is associated with diffuse pollution as above;
- m. a lack of sewerage capacity (addressed within the Utilities Topic Paper) can also have an impact on surface water quality;
- n. bathing water standards have been affected by heavy rainfall during 2007 at the time of sampling; two blue flag awards have been lost within the County in 2007. This problem may increase as a result of climate change;
- o. water availability (addressed within the Utilities Topic Paper) may become an issue as a result of climate change;

- p. there may be some risk of landslips in parts of the County; further mapping may be required to help quantify this matter;
- q. areas at risk of Radon exist within the County and should be considered for new development in areas identified by the Radon Atlas of England and Wales. It is however the responsibility of the developer to investigate this issue;
- r. specific policies addressing the potential impact of noise pollution may be required, this has been identified as a data gap;
- s. a question remains as to whether a specific policy approach is required for the Cambrian Mountains. However, this is likely to be a cross cutting matter and would need to consider issues discussed in a number of other topic papers; and
- t. the need to reduce pollution incidences through the planning system, in addition to those outlined above, will include the need to ensure that development is located in suitable locations. For example, locating any potentially polluting development away from sensitive habitats and residential areas.