Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION CEREDIGION County Council

Ceredigion Local Development Plan
Draft Issues
Employment & the Rural Economy

2008

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1. Issues to be Addressed through the LDP (includes an indication of any opportunities or constraints that exist)

Problems and opportunities from SA/SEA work:

- A lack of information regarding specific employment needs exists for the county.
- There is a lack of designated employment land around Aberystwyth.
- There is also a lack of employment units across the county
- There is a decline in traditional industries (agriculture).
- A lack of up-to-date information exists in data associated with employment.
- There is growth in “high-end” employment sectors at QinetiQ and IGER.
- A growth in the “value-added” sector in the county has been observed, particularly in the food sector.

From WSP Draft Area Statement:

- Availability and frequency of transport
- Lack of childcare
- A low wage economy
- Poor ICT

From RDP:

Weaknesses

- Peripheral to main economic centres
- ICT and Transport infrastructure often inadequate
- Labour and skills shortages
- Low productivity and income
- Lack of community capacity
- Higher cost of service provision
- Declining sectors in economy
- Low population density

Opportunities

- ICT and facilitation of a substantially knowledge-based economy
- Expanding business sectors compatible With rural economy including tourism
- And renewables
- Supporting ‘strategic hubs’ and significant Centres
- Demand led growth in HE/FE
- Strong base for innovation and technology Transfer both locally and to meet wider
- markets –FCW, IGER, AberTechnium, new and existing businesses

- Potential to retain and attract skilled Workforce/ entrepreneurs
- Safeguard and enhance quality of natural And built environment to promote quality
- of life and local economy
- Targeted and managed infrastructure Development
- Unique development of UAV sector
- Growing community capacity

Threats

- CAP reform and EU expansion
- Out migration of young and qualified
- Further effects of globalisation
- Demographic imbalance
- Lack of investment in infrastructure.