

July 2016

# Background Paper Renewable Energy Study

Joint Local Development Plan

Anglesey and Gwynedd



CYNGOR SIR  
YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL

**JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN ANGLESEY AND GWYNEDD**

**Background Paper – Renewable Energy Study**

**1.0 Introduction**

1.1 Proposed Change NF33 introduced additional text into paragraph 7.2.24 of the Renewable Energy Technology section of the Deposit Plan to reflect further work that the Councils were undertaking in relation to the potential of allocating areas of opportunity for renewable energy schemes or other low carbon technologies. This was in response to the letter dated the 10 December 2015 by the Minister for Natural Resources in light of an update to the 'Practice Guidance: Planning for Renewable and Low Carbon Energy – A toolkit for Planners' (Sept 2015) (toolkit).

1.2 This report draws together two work streams undertaken to assess the potential for areas of opportunity to be identified in the Plan for wind turbine clusters and solar PV farms.

Work stream 1

1.3 ARUP undertook work on 'Scoping Renewable Energy Opportunities in Gwynedd' (DC.012), and similar work was undertaken on Ynys Môn in 2013 which led to the 'Renewable Energy Capacity Assessment for Anglesey' (DC.013). The Councils have reviewed potential wind cluster areas identified within these reports against the findings of the Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study (DC.020) to ascertain whether any of these areas should be allocated as areas of opportunity within the Plan.

Work stream 2

1.4 Due to changes in the 2015 toolkit, which introduced solar PV farms as an additional technology to be assessed, the Councils commissioned work to ascertain whether there is potential opportunity areas within the Plan area for solar PV farms. This work also applied the findings of the Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Study.

1.5 The findings of both the above work streams concluded that there are no areas of opportunity for wind turbine clusters, however, there are opportunities for solar PV farms. In light of this the Councils suggest that an additional Policy is introduced within the Plan to deal specifically with solar PV farms development with an associated amendment to Policy ADN2 to reflect that solar PV farms would not be dealt with under this existing policy. It is considered that these changes are appropriate and if the Inspector agrees the issue can be treated as a Matter Arising Change during the Examination.

1.6 The remainder of the report is set out as follows:

- Appendix A – Potential Areas of Search for Wind Farm Development
- Appendix B – Assessment of the potential for solar PV farms in Gwynedd and Ynys Môn.
- Appendix C – Amendment to the Renewable Energy Technology Section in the Deposit Plan
- Appendix CH – Inset Maps of the Opportunity Areas for Solar PV farms.