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## **Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council Local Development Plan Examination Matters Arising Changes**

### **Comments of the Countryside Council for Wales**

#### **MAC SO4: Policy SP10**

CCW has concerns about the deletion of former point D which sought to protect features of ecological or geological interest. Although new point f addresses the requirement to produce a net gain in biodiversity, reference to the requirement to protect features of geological interest has been lost from the policy.

This could be amended by adding a new supporting sentence/paragraph to the policy to state that *'Features which make a significant contribution to the character, quality and amenity of the landscape including features of geological interest.'*

Or alternatively;

by amending *biodiversity* in new point f to **'nature conservation'**. This would be consistent with the definition of *'nature conservation'* in TAN5 *Nature Conservation and Planning* which includes the conservation of biodiversity and geodiversity.

#### **MAC SO7: DM1 (2a)**

CCW welcome the proposed amendment and considers it meets tests of soundness CE1 and CE2.

#### **MAC S12: DM5**

CCW welcome the proposed amendments and consider that they meet tests of soundness CE1 and C2.

#### **MAC S21: DM14**

CCW welcome the proposed amendments and consider that they meet test of soundness C2.

#### **MAC S25:DM19**

CCW consider the proposed amendments meet Test of Soundness C2

#### **MAC CO2 Objective 7**

CCW welcomes the improved clarity to the objective which helps ensure that the plan flows more logically and meets test of soundness CE1.

#### **MAC CO3 Objective 12**

CCW welcomes the improved clarity to the objective which helps ensure that the plan flows more logically and meets test of soundness CE1.

