

To deliver the sustainable development of waterways in Wales, Welsh organisations need to develop effective working relationships with the private, public and voluntary sectors. By working in partnership, we can respond to the needs of local communities to help deliver economic, social and environmental benefits to the wider corridor. These benefits are achieved by bringing together a diverse range of funding from within partnerships and from external sources. British Waterways has a proven track record in securing funding from Welsh, national UK or European sources.

Examples include:-

Adfywio

The regeneration of Trevor Basin, Llangollen Canal.

British Waterways

Using funds to develop moorings and other facilities for boaters.

Charitable Trusts and Foundations

Manifold Trust – contribution towards the restoration of Newhouse Lock on the Montgomery Canal.

The Waterways Trust

Interpretation at Trevor Basin, Llangollen Canal.

Countryside Council for Wales

Access improvements around Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, Llangollen Canal.

Enfys (New Opportunities Fund)

Development of Dragonfly Trail – a circular trail for the local community in Welshpool.

European Regional Development Fund

Towpath improvements, Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal.

Heritage Lottery Fund

Development of Conservation Management Strategy, Montgomery Canal – to guide the sustainable restoration and ongoing management of this ecologically important waterway.

Interreg IIC

A joint project for the restoration and development of the Monmouthshire & Brecon and Montgomery Canals, in association with partners in Ireland, Belgium and The Netherlands.

Landfill Tax Credit Scheme

Restoration of Tamplin Locks, Newport.

Local authority funding

Monmouthshire County Council - towpath surfacing at Llanfoist near Abergavenny.

New Deal

Development of heritage skills – construction of lockgates in Newport area.

Private Investment Funds

Welsh Kitchens, Goytre Wharf – restaurant specialising in Welsh food.

Voluntary Sector Contributions

Restoration of Burgedin Lock, Montgomery Canal – Shropshire Union Canal Society funding and voluntary labour.

Wales Tourist Board

Access for people with disabilities at Talybont-on-Usk.

Welsh Development Agency

Development of new visitor mooring basin at Llangollen.

However, the overall market for funding is getting increasingly competitive. Successful fund raising needs a clear plan and targeted actions designed to demonstrate clear delivery of the objectives set out by the proposed funders.

To ensure the potential benefits of the waterways in Wales are effectively and efficiently realised, clear plans with measurable outputs need to be put in place to achieve a vision developed in Wales. To this end comments are sought on the document as a whole. In particular answers to the following questions are sought. It would be helpful if you could set out your reasons for your views.

1. Is the strategic approach outlined in this document the right one? In particular:
 - a. Are all the right projects included? If no, which other projects should be taken into account?
 - b. What is the most appropriate timescale to deliver the projects?
2. How could the scope of the document be extended?
For example
 - a. What other waterways and waterspaces should be included?
 - b. What other plans or projects should be included?
3. How should we prioritise actions between themes (economic regeneration, rural recovery, sustainable living, cultural vitality, Wales in the wider world) and between projects?
4. To get the most from our work we need to ensure synergy between this vision and plan and other plans and programmes.
 - a. What other organisations' plans and programmes should be taken into account?
 - b. Would a working group containing the main navigation authorities, ASPBs, local authorities and representatives of the National Assembly for Wales be an effective way to give focus to increased activity?
 - c. What would be the most appropriate structure and working methodology for this group?
 - d. Which other organisations, structures and mechanisms should the group relate to?

British Waterways will produce a report on the consultation with recommendations for future action, and report its findings to the Minister for Environment.

Timetable

The deadline for responses to this consultation is Friday 20 June 2003.

For options on returning your comments, please refer to the contact details in the consultation response form or visit:

www.britishwaterways.co.uk/Wales

7.1 National Assembly for Wales

7.1.1 Plan for Wales and Learning to Live Differently

Waterways projects can help towards achieving the following commitments contained in *A Plan for Wales*¹.

- A Modern Economy
 - Help communities help themselves²
 - FMD recovery plan
 - To set a fresh direction³
 - Make the best use of Wales' natural environment respecting sustainable development⁴
 - Wales and the world⁵
 - Promote Wales internationally and further develop tourism in Wales
 - Maximise opportunities available as a result of the Ryder Cup coming to Wales in 2010
- Where we live⁶
 - To improve our environment
 - Enhance biodiversity
 - Improve public access...maximise potential community benefits
 - Support sustainable development projects with the National Parks
 - Conserve our historic environment
 - Raise awareness of historic landscape
 - Protect important sites
 - Grant-aid conservation of historic buildings, sites and monuments
 - Conserve and present to the public the historic monuments in state care
- Support Rural Wales⁷
 - Rural development
 - Develop income and employment in sectors other than agriculture, through the Rural Development Plan and the use of European Structural Funds
 - Help rural post offices, shops and other small businesses
 - Promote community regeneration and capacity building in rural areas
 - Helping the land based economy
 - Work with partners to diversify the economic base through NEDS and EU and other funds

7.1.2 A Winning Wales

This plan will help towards the achievement of the selected targets below in the National Economic Development Strategy – *A Winning Wales*.

- Supporting business⁸
 - Ensure ESF used to best effect
- Setting a fresh direction⁹
 - Enhance the attractiveness of the Welsh countryside
- Establishing Wales in the World¹⁰
 - Implement WTB Tourism Strategy – Achieving our Potential
- Creating Strong Communities¹¹
 - Ensure regeneration funds used to maximum effect
 - Consider rolling our sub-regional regeneration frameworks
- Supporting Rural Wales¹²
 - Implement the Rural Development Plan
 - Increase emphasis on agri-environmental schemes
- Implement the Rural Recovery Plan¹³

7.1.3 Rural Development Plan

Waterways can help with the following key priorities in the Rural Development Plan.¹⁴

- Priority 1 – To create stronger agriculture and forestry sectors
 - Diversification to provide multiple activities or alternative incomes
 - Encouragement for tourist and craft activities
- Priority 2 – To improve economic competitiveness of rural communities and areas
- Priority 3 – To maintain and protect the environment and rural heritage¹⁵
 - Help land use be more sustainable
 - Improve access to services, support community regeneration and promote social inclusion¹⁶

7.1.4 Creative Future

Waterways can help achieve the objectives in the strategy, in particular in the following areas.

- *Priority Action Plan 4 – Culture and Communities*¹⁷
 - Fundamental role of Local Authorities
 - Community regeneration plans should include cultural objectives
- *Priority Action Plan 6 – Culture and the Economy*¹⁸
 - Culture can be a springboard for economic prosperity
 - Cultural Tourism – history, language culture and way of life are distinct assets
 - Rural and industrial heritage help with positioning Wales
 - WTB Cultural Tourism Strategy¹⁹
 - Make more accessible

1 See generally Section 3

2 Ibid and Sections 4.2.1, 4.2.4

3 Ibid

4 Ibid and Section 4.2.3

5 See Sections 3.2, 3.3, 3.4.2, 4.2.4

6 See Sections 3, 4.2.2, 4.2.3

7 Ibid and Section 4.2

8 See Section 3

9 Ibid and Section 4.2

10 See specially Section 3.2

11 See Section 3 and specially Section 4.2.1

12 Ibid and Section 4.2

13 Ibid

14 Ibid

15 See specifically Section 4.2.3

16 See specifically Sections 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.5

17 See Sections 3 and 4.2.1

18 See Section 3 and specially Section 4.2.4

19 See Section 2.2.1

- Add value to visitor experience
- Develop product
- Research and develop niche markets

7.2 Assembly Sponsored Public Bodies

7.2.1 Wales Tourist Board

Waterways can help meet the following objectives in the Wales Tourist Board strategy *Achieving Our Potential* and of the *Adfywio Scheme* for rural recovery for tourism²⁰.

- Objective 1 – To market Wales more effectively as an attractive all year round tourism destination
- Objective 2 – To exceed the expectations of visitors to Wales by providing high standards and ensuring that investment in tourism is responsive to their changing needs
- Objective 4 – To embrace a sustainable approach to tourism development which benefits society, involves local communities and enhances Wales' unique environmental and cultural assets

As cultural assets waterways have the ability to contribute to the achievement of the WTB's Cultural Tourism Strategy aims to: make culture more accessible²¹, to add value to the visitor experience, to develop the cultural tourism product by developing the waterway niche market²².

7.2.2 Welsh Development Agency

Waterways can particularly help in relation to the WDA's sustainable development strategy in the following areas.

- Building Sustainable Communities²³
 - Use of Welsh products /services
 - Accessibility²⁴
 - Improve vitality, attractiveness and viability of town centres
 - Reuse of brown field sites and old buildings
 - Design best practise for biodiversity and landscape²⁵
- Managing Environment and resources
 - Minimise impacts
 - Create benefits where possible

In terms of the WDA's Corporate Plan waterways can make a contribution to:

- Supporting the Rural Economy²⁶
 - Farm diversification
 - Environmental management
 - Tourism

- Micro-businesses
- Support for competitive communities²⁷
 - Partnership with LA's to deliver holistic community regeneration plans
- Market Town and Small Towns and Villages Initiatives²⁸

7.2.3 Countryside Council for Wales

Waterways can help to achieve the following strategic objectives set out in *A Better Wales – The Natural Environment of Wales in 2010*²⁹.

- A Wales that is more distinctive in landscape character and includes greater biodiversity
 - Expanded wetlands
 - Sustainable farming
 - More nature reserves and green spaces
 - Remove invasive species where they compromise natural habitats, detract from character and cause loss of amenity
 - Restore and better manage hedgerows adding to landscape value
- That the land and sea supports more wildlife and their habitats³⁰
 - Improve survival of species under threat, including
 - Water vole
 - Floating water plantain (British Waterways is lead partner for this species)
 - Local nature reserves
- Restoration work to reduce fragmentation of habitats
 - Developments will be done in ways that minimise impacts on and maximise opportunities for habitats and species
- That economic development respects the natural environment including its cultural and historic aspects
 - Greater understanding of interrelationships between environment, economy and social objectives
 - Strengthen tourism by statutory right of access³¹
 - Opening Glyndwr's Way
 - Develop tourism potential of nature reserves and walking trails
 - Develop eco-tourism
- A Wales in which there is greater access to countryside and coast for all its people and its visitors, giving enjoyment and well being³².
 - Countryside and Rights of Way Act implementation
 - Access for all projects
 - More urban nature reserves and green spaces

20 See generally Sections 3 and 4

21 See Sections 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.4

22 Ibid

23 See generally Section 4.2.1

24 See specially Section 4.2.2

25 See specially Section 4.2.3

26 See Sections 3, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.4

27 See Sections 3.3 and 4.2.1

28 See generally Sections 3.4 and 4

29 A feature of all work and see Section 4.2.3

30 Ibid and as further described in the CCW's Sustainable Development Action Plan

31 See specially Sections 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.4

32 See specially Section 4.2.2

Summary of Organisations

British Waterways manages and cares for a 2000-mile network of canals and navigable rivers across Wales, Scotland and England. It works with a broad range of public, private and voluntary sector partners to improve quality of life through delivering social, economic and environmental benefits.

Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments' mission is to protect, conserve, and to promote an appreciation of the built heritage of Wales. Cadw has responsibility for the conservation, presentation, and promotion of the built heritage of Wales. It secures the preservation of ancient monuments and historic buildings, grant aids the repair of ancient monuments and historic buildings and manages 129 ancient monuments in Wales in direct State care.

The **Countryside Council for Wales** is the statutory advisor to Government on sustaining natural beauty, wildlife and the opportunity for outdoor enjoyment throughout Wales and its inshore waters.

Environment Agency Wales is part of the Environment Agency for England and Wales. It has major statutory responsibilities for the regulation, monitoring and management of land, water and air environments and processes that affect them. Its main functions include integrated pollution prevention and control, waste regulation, flood defence, water resources, fisheries, recreation, conservation and navigation.

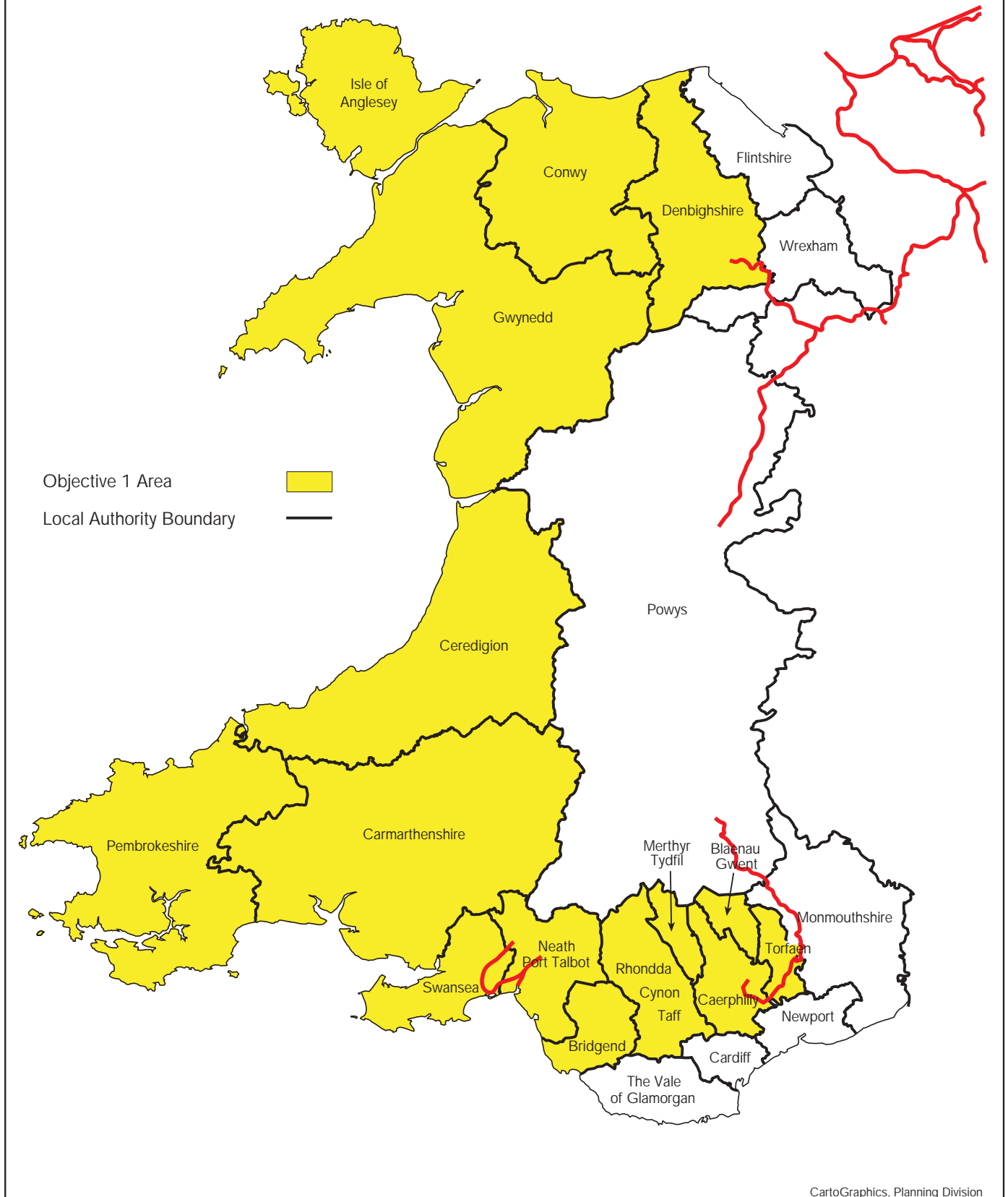
The **Wales Tourist Board** aims to encourage visitors to Wales and to promote the provision and improvement of tourist facilities and amenities.

The **Welsh Development Agency** is in business to provide solutions for companies in Wales to improve their competitiveness through enhanced technology and innovation, creating a knowledge driven economy.

OUTLINE OF RESTORATION SCHEDULES

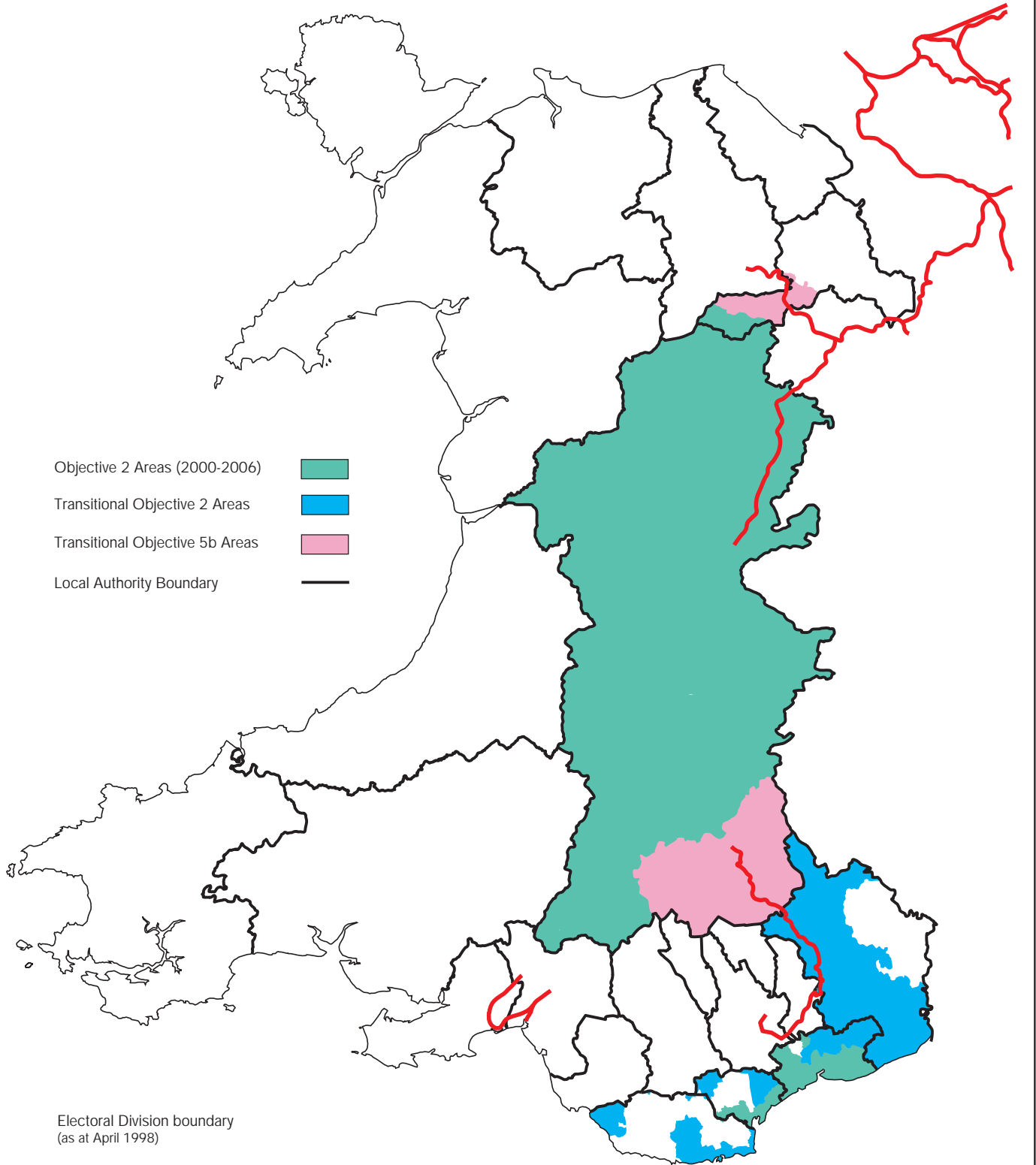
Project	Item	Delivery time			
		2002	2003-2005	2005 +	Continuing
Montgomery Canal Restoration					
Conservation Management Strategy	Prepare	✓	✓		
	Implement	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Environment Impact Assessments	✓	✓	✓	✓
Create/manage new nature reserves	Gulfsfield		✓		✓
	Others			✓	✓
Introduce and operate new leisure facilities	Burgedin			✓	✓
	Maesbury		✓		✓
	Llanymynech			✓	✓
	Welshpool		✓		✓
Engineering works	Shropshire Phase 3a	✓			
	Shropshire Phase 3b-4a		✓		
	Shropshire Phase 4b-5b			✓	
	Powys - Ardleen		✓		
	Powys – Maerdy Crossing, Channels, Vrnwy, Flood and Wern aqueducts, Walls Bridge and Tannat Feeder			✓	
Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal Restoration					
Environment Impact Assessments		✓	✓	✓	✓
Phase 1	Newport to Ty Coch	✓	✓		
Phase 2	Crindau Pill Marina			✓	
Phase 3	Reconstruction from Ty Coch to Five Locks Cwmbran		✓	✓	
Phase 4	Cwmbran Aqueduct			✓	
Phase 5	Crumlin Arm		✓	✓	
Marketing		✓	✓	✓	✓
Monitoring		✓	✓	✓	✓

Objective One Programme Area 2000-2006



CartoGraphics, Planning Division

Objective Two Programme Areas 2000-2006 and Transitional Programme Areas



For further information:

Mid and North Wales

Burgedin Lock Cottage, Arddleen

Llanymynech, Powys, SY22 6RU

T 01938 590079

F 01938 590081

South Wales

The Wharf, Govilon, Abergavenny,

Monmouth, NP7 9NY

T 01873 830328

F 01873 831788