

Cynllun Eryri

*Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal for
the National Park Management Plan (“Cynllun Eryri”)*

Volume 1 - SA Report

January 2020

Table of Contents

1.	Introduction and Background	4
1.1	Background.....	4
1.2	Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment	4
1.3	SA/SEA Guidance.....	5
1.4	The National Park Purposes	5
1.5	Purpose of Cynllun Eryri.....	5
1.6	Purposes and structure of the SA Report	6
1.7	The Sandford Principle	8
1.8	Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).....	8
2.	The SA Processes.....	9
2.1	Adopted Approach	9
2.2	SA Progress to Date.....	9
2.3	Consultation and Involvement.....	12
3.	Review of Relevant Plans Policies and Programmes	13
3.1	Introduction.....	13
3.2	SEA Directive Requirements.....	13
3.3	Key Findings of the Review	14
4.	Evidence Base and Current Environmental and Sustainability Issues	16
4.1	SEA Directive Requirements.....	16
4.2	Purpose of the Baseline Data Collation.....	16
4.3	Methodology for Gathering the Baseline Data	17
4.4	Data Limitations	17
4.5	Sustainability Baseline and Key Issues and Opportunities.....	18
4.6	The 'Business as Usual' Scenario.....	30
5.	Assessment Methodology.....	32
5.1	Requirements of the SEA Directive	32
5.2	Objectives, Guide Questions, Indicators and Targets	32
5.3	Relationship between SEA Directive and SA Framework.....	41
5.4	Compatibility between SA Objectives	41
5.5	Assessment of Cynllun Eryri's Outcomes	42
5.6	Assessment of Cynllun Eryri	42
5.6.1	Assessment of the Vision for the Future of Snowdonia	42
5.6.2	Assessment of the Outcomes and Policies	43
5.7	Cumulative / Synergistic Effects.....	44

6.	Strategic Options Development and Assessment	46
6.1	Requirements of the SEA Directive	46
6.3	Compliance with SEA Directive and Regulations	48
7.	Sustainability Performance of the Vision and Outcomes	50
7.1	The Vision	50
7.1.1	Introduction	50
7.1.2	Recommendations from Initial Consultation.....	50
7.1.3	The Vision for Snowdonia	50
7.1.4	Sustainability Commentary of the Vision of Cynllun Eryri.....	51
7.1.5	How the Vision has been influenced by SA	51
7.2	Sustainability Appraisal of Outcomes	51
7.2.1	Introduction	51
7.2.2.	Summary of Compatibility Matrix.....	52
7.2.3.	Summary of full assessment of Outcomes	53
7.3	Cumulative and Synergistic Effects	57
7.3.1	Introduction	57
7.3.2	The Assessment of Cumulative and Synergistic Effects.....	57
8.	Monitoring Framework.....	60
8.1	Introduction	60
8.2	Requirements of the SEA Directive.....	60
8.3	Approach.....	60
8.4	Proposed Monitoring Framework	61
8.5	Management and Responsibilities.....	77
9.	Next Steps	78

1. Introduction and Background

1.1 Background

The Snowdonia National Park is Wales' largest and longest established National Park, designated in 1951. It covers an area of 213,400 hectares and has a resident population of around 25,700, over 58% of whom are Welsh speakers.

The Snowdonia National Park features a wealth of different landscapes and townscapes, in addition to a 60km coastline. Snowdonia also incorporates large areas of woodlands (deciduous and non-deciduous), and over 96,000 hectares of moorland. The varied landscapes of Snowdonia dictate that the approach to its management and monitoring is on an 'area-to-area' basis, rather than a 'one size fits all' approach. The economy of the area is based on agriculture (which in many ways has influenced the form of the current landscape) and also tourism. Snowdonia also benefits from a strong sense of community identity.

The SNPA is a single purpose planning authority with 18 Members elected by the constituent Authorities (Gwynedd Council and Conwy County Borough Council) and the Welsh Government (WG).

With partners, the Snowdonia National Park Authority (SNPA) has prepared its National Park Management Plan ("Cynllun Eryri") for the Snowdonia National Park (hereinafter referred to as the National Park). As part of the process, a combined Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is being undertaken. The term SA shall be used to refer to the combined SA/SEA for the remainder of this report. This report documents the SA process for Cynllun Eryri in accordance with the SEA Directive and Regulations¹.

A SA Scoping Report was prepared for the SA of Cynllun Eryri, and released for statutory consultation in July 2018 alongside the Consultation Report for Cynllun Eryri.

Following the receipt of consultation responses, the draft version of Cynllun Eryri has been prepared and has been assessed as part of the SA Process. This SA Report documents this assessment.

1.2 Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

SA is a process for assessing the social, economic and environmental impacts of a plan and aims to ensure that sustainable development is at the heart of the plan making process. It is a legal requirement that Cynllun Eryri is subject to SA.

The principle of ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and in the future, lies at the heart of sustainable development. SA is an essential tool for ensuring that the principles

¹ The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment) was transposed into domestic law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 ("The SEA Regulations").

of sustainable development are inherent throughout the preparation of Cynllun Eryri and that it broadly complies and contributes to relevant planning guidance. The overarching aim of the process is to ensure better decision making and planning.

Cynllun Eryri has been drafted in the true spirit of partnership. At all stages of the Plan making process, consultation and co-production have informed the overall objectives and the practical content. This focussed and transparent process has meant that decision making has been based on the combined views and experience of a range of organisations across the statutory organisations, businesses, voluntary bodies and local communities over an on-going iterative work programme. Sustainable development has been at the core of the discussions and decisions on how the final Plan should look from the outset.

1.3 SA/SEA Guidance

The following guidance documents have been consulted throughout the SA process:

- ODPM et al (2005) A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive
- CCW (2007) National Park Management Plans Guidance

Consultancy guidance has been provided to produce the initial Scoping Report. The main appraisal work has been undertaken by Snowdonia National Park Authority

1.4 The National Park Purposes

In the National Park it is essential to make sure that all policies focus on and prioritise the purposes and duties of National Park Authorities as set out in the Environment Act 1995.

The National Park purposes are to:

- Conserve and enhance natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage.
- Promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment (of the Park) by the public.

In pursuing these purposes, the Authority has a duty to:

- Seek to foster the social and economic well-being of local communities.

Cynllun Eryri will therefore have an impact on the National Park's environment and on the social and economic wellbeing of local communities. The plan needs to deliver strategy and policy that reflects the needs of the local community within the context of the special status that National Park designation brings.

1.5 Purpose of Cynllun Eryri

Under Section 66 (1) of the Environment Act 1995 each National Park Authority is required to prepare and publish a NPMP. Once adopted it forms the principal vehicle for ensuring

that the statutory provisions of the Environment Act are met. Cynllun Eryri is a wide-ranging plan that guides the management of all aspects of the Snowdonia National Park.

It will be the single-most important policy document for the National Park and will set out the guiding principles, a vision, long term aims and policies for the management of all of the different aspects of the National Park.

The Plan brings together those who shape and influence the National Park behind a common vision for the future. The plan focuses on co-ordinated efforts to ensure that through sustainable development, the National Park remains deserving of protection status, by conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area and prompting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the Special Qualities by the public; while at the same time fostering the economic and social well-being of the local communities within the National Park.

Cynllun Eryri has to be subject to SA in accordance with the requirements of the SEA Directive² as it is a plan which is subject to adoption by an Authority and is required through a legislative procedure.

1.6 Purposes and structure of the SA Report

The SA Report provides a summary of the SA process, and also documents the findings and recommendations of this assessment. This SA Report will be consulted upon alongside the final draft version of Cynllun Eryri. It will be issued to all statutory consultees and made available for public viewing. The Draft Cynllun Eryri should be read in conjunction with the SA Report.

Table 1 outlines the contents and structure of the SA Report. Volume 1 of this SA Report comprises the main text and includes a summary of the assessment results. The appendices to this report are presented in a separate Volume 2.

Section of SA Report	Outline Content
Non Technical Summary (Separate document)	Simple summary of the SA process and SA Report (a legislative requirement)
Abbreviations	Abbreviations used in this report
1: Introduction and Background	Provides background to the SA and Cynllun Eryri and includes the purpose and the structure of the SA Report
2: The SA Process	Outlines the key elements of the SA process. Provides a summary of the SA process undertaken to date.

² Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment

	Provides details of how to comment upon this SA Report.
3: Review of Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes	Sets the context for Cynllun Eryri within the hierarchy of the international, national and regional sustainability objectives. Identifies the key findings of the PPP review. The full review is presented in Appendix B of Volume 2.
4: Evidence Base and Current Sustainability Issues	Characterises the environmental and sustainability baseline for the National Park and highlights the key sustainability issues and opportunities.
5: Assessment Methodology	Outlines how the components of Cynllun Eryri have been assessed through the SA process.
6: Strategic Options Development and Assessment	Reviews the process of developing the core Outcomes of Cynllun Eryri and limitations.
7: Sustainability Performance of the Vision and Outcomes	Provides an assessment of the Vision and Outcomes of Cynllun Eryri against the SA Objectives Framework, and of the main cumulative and synergistic sustainability effects of Cynllun Eryri.
8: Monitoring Framework	Outlines a framework for future monitoring of the significant effects of implementing Cynllun Eryri.
9. Next steps	Outlines the next steps in the development of Cynllun Eryri and its SEA/SA
Volume 2: Appendix A: Scoping Report Consultation Responses	Comprises copies of the consultation responses to the Scoping Report.
Appendix B: Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes	Review of other relevant plans, policies and programmes that have influenced the SA process and the development of Cynllun Eryri.
Appendix C: SA Objective Compatibility	A compatibility matrix of the SA Objectives to identify any potential areas of inconsistency between the objectives.

Appendix D: Compatibility of Cynllun Eryri Outcomes and the SA Objectives	A compatibility matrix of the SA Objectives and the Cynllun Eryri's Outcomes to identify any potential areas of inconsistency or conflict.
Appendix E: Assessment of the Outcomes	Matrices assessing the Long Term Outcomes of Cynllun Eryri against the SA Framework
Appendix F: Cumulative Effects Assessment	Assessment of potential effects that could be realised as a result of the implementation of the preferred strategies by receptor topic

Table 1: SA Report Structure

1.7 The Sandford Principle

During plan preparation, areas of irreconcilable conflict may arise between National Park purposes. The "Sandford Principle" has been established which states that conservation purposes shall prevail. Current policies have been created within this understanding, and the SA process has been mindful of this principle.

1.8 Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

European Union Directive 97/62/EC, the "Habitats Directive", requires that any plan or programme likely to have a significant impact on a Natura 2000 site which is not directly concerned with the management of the site for nature conservation, must be subject to an Appropriate Assessment.

The Natura 2000 network comprises Special Protection Areas (SPAs) classified under the EC Birds Directive 1979 and Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under the Habitats Directive. However, as a matter of policy WG expects authorities to treat all Ramsar sites, and potential SPAs in Wales as if they are European sites for the purposes of determining whether development proposals will significantly affect them.

A separate HRA will be undertaken for Cynllun Eryri and will run in parallel to the SA process. A HRA report has been produced for the plan and will be distinct from the SA Report. The guidance is very clear about the need to keep the processes distinguishable, despite their inevitably being some overlap between them. The overarching aim of the HRA will be to determine, in view of a site's conservation objectives and qualifying features, whether the plan, either in isolation and/or in combination with other plans, would have an adverse effect on the integrity of the designated site.

2. The SA Processes

2.1 Adopted Approach

By combining the SA and SEA processes, this SA considers environmental, social and economic issues and their interactions, thereby ensuring the principles of sustainable development are integrated into NPMP development.

The SA process is intended to be an iterative process that takes a long-term view of how Snowdonia National Park is expected to develop with regard to social, economic and environmental aspects. In addition, it provides a mechanism to ensure that the development of Cynllun Eryri is influenced by sustainability objectives that reflect local, regional and global concerns.

The SEA Directive sets the legislative framework for the SEA process and was transposed into UK law in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, Statutory Instrument 2004 No. 1633.

2.2 SA Progress to Date

SA Stage and Task	Element of SA Process	Key Inputs and Processes
Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope: A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives A2: Collecting baseline information A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems A4: Developing the SA Framework A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA	Scoping	The SA process commenced in early 2018 with the production of the Scoping Report for the SA of Cynllun Eryri. The Scoping Report contained: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A characterisation of the environmental, social and economic baseline within the National Park.• A review of relevant plans, programmes and policies that could influence the SA and the development of Cynllun Eryri.• The identification of key sustainability issues and opportunities.• The SA Framework, against which the elements of Cynllun Eryri would be assessed.
	SA Framework	The SA Framework was developed through the scoping stage, and acts as the main tool for assessing the sustainability of Cynllun Eryri. It contains a series of SA Objectives and guide questions, which address the full cross-section of sustainability issues, covering environmental, economic and social goals for the National Park. The SA Objectives and guide questions are presented in section 5.2
	Scoping Consultation	The Scoping report was issued for public consultation alongside the Consultation Document for Cynllun Eryri in July 2018. The scoping report was issued to the two statutory consultees – NRW and Cadw.

		No responses were received upon consultation of the Scoping SA Report.
Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects B1: Testing the plan objectives against the SA Framework B2: Developing the plan options B3: Predicting the effects of the draft plan B4: Evaluating the effects of the draft plan B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the plan	SA Report and consultation	<p>This SA Report documents the entire SA process. The Report is issued for consultation alongside the draft version of Cynllun Eryri, to all statutory consultees and stakeholders for comment.</p> <p>Cynllun Eryri has been co-produced by a Partnership of bodies. The draft Plan has emerged from this robust process which has at its core adopted and embedded pertinent elements of sustainable development – Details are outlined in Chapter 6.</p> <p>Has been prepared alongside the draft Plan for public consultation in February – March 2020.</p> <p>Public consultation phase runs from 3rd February – 13th March 2020.</p>
Stage C: Preparing the SA Reports C1: Preparing the SA Reports		
Stage D: Consulting on Draft Plan and the Sustainability Report D1: Public participation on the preferred options of the plan and the SA Report D2: Assessing significant changes D3: Making decisions and providing information		
Stage E: Monitoring		The SA Report contains a monitoring framework that should be used to monitor the significant sustainability effects of implementing Cynllun Eryri. Monitoring will commence when Cynllun Eryri is formally adopted.

Table 2: SA Progress to date



Figure 1: Summary of the process for creating Cynllun Eryri

2.3 Consultation and Involvement

Cynllun Eryri has been produced entirely through a process of continuous consultation and stakeholder involvement. The Plan would therefore not exist in its current format had it not been for the input of communities and organisations with an interest in the area. Figure 3 (above) shows the extent of this process. The draft Plan is a result of close continuous co-production by a range of stakeholders in the area.

The SA Report is being issued for consultation alongside the Draft Version of Cynllun Eryri. Please address any consultation responses to Angela Jones, Partnerships Manager at the address below:

Snowdonia National Park Authority, National Park Offices, Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd.
LL48 6LF.

The documents are available to view on the Authority's website at:
www.eryri.llyw.cymru/cynlluneryri and paper copies are available on request.

3. Review of Relevant Plans Policies and Programmes

3.1 Introduction

A review of other plans, policies and programmes (PPP) that may affect the SA of Cynllun Eryri was undertaken in 2018 in order to identify the relationship between them and the NPMP. This included:

Identifying any external social, economic or environmental objectives, indicators or targets that should be reflected in the SA process

Identifying any baseline data that should be included in the SA

Identifying any external factors that might influence the preparation of the plan

Identifying any external aims or objectives that would contribute positively to the plan

Determining whether there are any clear potential conflicts or challenges between other identified PPPs or sustainability objectives and the emerging NPMP

The key principles of these PPP's have been taken forward to positively influence the direction of Cynllun Eryri. In addition, the review of the PPP's helped to direct the preparation of the SA Framework.

Relevant PPP's established during and since 2018 have also been included in the final draft of the Plan ready for public consultation, for example Welsh Governments *Valued and Resilient: The Welsh Government's Priorities for the Areas of outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks (2018)*; Climate Emergency Declaration in April 2019; along with various active consultations such as *Sustainable Farming and Our Land (2019)*; *Clean Air Plan for Wales: Healthy Air, Healthy Wales (2019)*.

It is also recognised that at a time of great political uncertainty, it is unclear whether the impact of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union will have a significant impact upon government policy and funding priorities.

3.2 SEA Directive Requirements

The SA Directive stipulates activities which must be undertaken as part of the SA. The activities relevant to the review of the PPPs are presented in **Box 1**:

Box 1: SEA Directive Requirements Applicable to PPPs

The SEA Directive requires that the SA covers:

‘the relationship (of the plan or programme) with other relevant plans and programmes’ (Annex1(a))

‘the environmental protection objectives, established at international (European) Community or national level, which are relevant to the plan or programme...and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation’ (Annex 1, (e))

3.3 Key Findings of the Review

The review of the PPPs is driven by the geographical scope of the plan being assessed and its position in the plan-making hierarchy i.e. is it a national, regional or local plan. The review of PPPs has, therefore, included consideration of international, national, regional and local level plans. The full PPP review is presented in **Appendix B of Volume 2**. Some of the key themes/aims arising from the review are listed below:

- Protection and enhancement of biodiversity and the natural environment including the landscape (and townscape).
- Recognise the primacy of nature conservation objectives, and clearly take note of these designations in setting SA objectives and defining options
- Biodiversity is being maintained and enhanced, whilst the resilience of ecosystems is increased.
- Protection and enhancement of cultural heritage resources and the built environment.
- Minimize pollution and ensure sustainable land management practices.
- Protection and enhancement of water resources.
- Recognition of the challenge of climate change and implanting appropriate adaptive action to deal with it.
- Recognition of the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- Achievement of resource efficiency and development of more sustainable patterns of production and consumption.
- Prudent use of natural resources.
- Promote sustainable tourism and reflect the Welsh Government desire for growth in the high quality tourism sector
- Encourage use of sustainable design initiatives (through the LDP).
- Promotion of sensitive and sustainable waste management.
- Recognition of the importance of open spaces, sport and recreation and the contribution that they make to enhancing quality of life.

- Strengthening Welsh national identity.
- Improve visitor accessibility to Welsh culture.
- Necessity to ensure that new housing development meets local needs e.g. in relation to affordability (through the LDP).
- Promotion of more sustainable transport choices (e.g. public transport facilities) and improved accessibility.
- Provision of high quality services that are as accessible as possible.
- Achievement of an overall improvement in quality of life for all residents.
- Regeneration of rural communities and livelihoods.
- Improved economic diversification.
- Increased employment opportunities.
- Enhanced health of people living in the National Park.
- Extension of local democracy and local action.
- Public consultation and access to information supporting decision-making processes

The SA process has a key role to play in identifying the likely and significant consequences of Cynllun Eryri's actions and policies. It acts as a decision-aiding tool to help establish the relative merits and hence the most sustainable options to be taken forward, and also to attempt to mitigate any adverse consequences. As part of this, the review of PPP aids the testing of the emerging plan by informing the breadth and focus of the Sustainability Framework.

4. Evidence Base and Current Environmental and Sustainability Issues

4.1 SEA Directive Requirements

Box 2 outlines the legislative requirements for this element of the SA process.

Box 2: SEA Directive Requirements for Baseline Data Collation

The SEA Directive requires that the SEA covers:

‘relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without its implementation of the plan or programme’ and, ‘the environmental characteristics of the areas likely to be significantly affected’ (Annex 1(b), (c))

‘any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC’ (Annex 1 (c))

Annex 1 of the SEA Directive is very specific in the topics that have to be considered as part of the SEA. These topics are: biodiversity; population; human health; flora; fauna; soil; water; air; climatic factors; material assets; cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage; landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. The baseline data collation process, therefore, also needs to gather data about these topics. As this is also an SA, the baseline data collation process should also ensure that sufficient data is gathered about social and economic issues in the National Park, for example in relation to education, housing, community spirit and economic prosperity and performance.

4.2 Purpose of the Baseline Data Collation

Characterising the environmental and sustainability baseline, issues and context is an important activity in defining the SA Framework. It involves the following elements:

- Characterising the current state of the environment of the National Park including social and economic aspects.
- Using the collated information to identify existing problems and opportunities which should be considered in the SA and when preparing Cynllun Eryri, through influencing the breadth and focus of the Sustainability Framework in particular.

4.3 Methodology for Gathering the Baseline Data

The baseline data for the SEA has primarily been collated through the 2016/17 digital State of the Park Report and other datasets operated by the Authority and partner organisations. The digital State of the Park Report provides the benchmark for monitoring and provides information that can be used to improve future plans like Cynllun Eryri. The digital State of the Park Report currently includes information about:

- Climate change
- Water quality
- Soil quality and contamination
- Acid deposition
- Biodiversity
- Geodiversity
- Designated areas
- Cultural heritage
- Rights of way and public access
- Tranquillity
- Public understanding and awareness of the National Park
- Traffic and transport
- Population and age structure
- Quality of life

The State of the Park Report has been updated as part of the SA process to ensure that it addresses all of the SEA Directive topics and provides information about trends and spatial patterns throughout the National Park. A revised digital State of the Park Report has, therefore be produced and forms the evidence base for the SA.

The State of the Park Report data can be viewed on the SNPA website:
<http://www.snowdonia.gov.wales/looking-after/state-of-the-park>

As well as the digital version, summarised data was presented in the ‘Consultation Document’ as part of the initial consultation.

Cross cutting themes emerging from the review of relevant international, national and regional Plans Policies and Programmes as described in Chapter 3, has also informed the baseline data set.

4.4 Data Limitations

Although the Snowdonia National Park is monitored by several organisations, which has enabled a wealth of information to be gathered, there remain a number of data gaps. This is because, for example, some areas of the National Park are studied in greater depth than others, and different data types are gathered in each area.

In some instances, as data is collated for the two constituent authorities (Gwynedd and Conwy) but not specifically for the National Park, anomalies will exist and best estimates have been used. It is envisaged that these estimates will become more accurate with time as data trends are analysed. The process of updating the State of the Park Report will be able to highlight these data gaps and will indicate where specific data sets are required.

Where possible, the revised State of the Park Report has presented trend data. However, this has not always been possible owing to a lack of data or the comparability of data sets through time. By ensuring that all areas of uncertainty and data gaps are documented, the State of the Park Report will be transparent.

4.5 Sustainability Baseline and Key Issues and Opportunities

The sustainability issues and opportunities for the National Park were identified through:

- Initial consultation with key stakeholders through Fforwm Eryri (the Partnership formed to create and action the new National Park Partnership Plan).
- The review of relevant PPPs (see **Appendix B of Volume 2**)
- The baseline data collation (see the digital State of the Park Report and initial consultation document)
- The experience of SNPA officers in relation to issues faced when working on behalf of the Authority

The key sustainability issues and opportunities are summarised below and identified in detail in **Table 4**. Although these have been grouped, many are indirectly linked and are therefore closely related. All of these issues have potential environmental, social and economic implications, and have therefore been taken into consideration when finalising the draft of Cynllun Eryri which for final public consultation. The issues and opportunities have also been taken into account during the SA process.

- The need to reduce the outward migration of young people
- The implications of an aging population on key services and amenities
- The need to protect and enhance the natural resources of the National Park that are recreational resources and provide benefits for health and well-being
- The proportion of National Park residents with a limiting long term illness is lower than the overall figure for Wales
- The low wage economy
- Fluctuations in the tourism economy
- Recreational pressures in certain areas of the National Park
- The high number of holiday homes in the National Park adds further pressure to the sustainability of communities and the housing market
- Decline in the percentage of LBAP species in an improving status
- The need to protect the Welsh language and cultural identity
- The quality and number of affordable homes
- Adapting to the threat and risks associated with climate change e.g. flooding
- Poor water quality in some areas of the National Park

- Deterioration in quality of costal landscape as a result of development
- The need to reduce carbon emissions
- The attrition of Snowdonia's historic environment and landscapes which include a wealth of built heritage and archaeological remains
- The peripheral nature of the area and its accessibility to other locations
- The high quality of the environment, which needs to be protected and enhanced. This includes a number of internationally important nature conservation sites including Ramsar sites, SPAs and SACs
- The poor transport network and the limited public transport system
- The need to increase employment opportunities which will have knock on impacts upon overall quality of life
- The quality of the employment opportunities available in the National Park
- The limited access to services
- The need to develop the economy and economic growth

Table 3: Summary of Key Sustainability Issues and Opportunities in the National Park

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	<p>The National Park supports a very rich biodiversity. There are 14 SACs, 3 Ramsar sites, 4 SPAs, 107 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and 21 National Nature Reserves within the National Park, as well as the Dyfi Estuary which is an UNESCO World Biosphere Site.</p> <p>There is an active commitment to raising awareness of the need to protect and enhance biodiversity in the National Park with a number of initiatives being pursued to promote engagement and interest at all levels. This is something that can also be furthered through work undertaken as part of Cynllun Eryri.</p> <p>The Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) identifies the most important habitats and species found in Snowdonia. Habitats and Species Action Plans (H/SAPs) contained in the document reinforce the importance of these areas and species, not only in terms of their national and international significance but also their local importance. Regular monitoring is undertaken of the H/SAPs and to date it has identified that the condition of LBAP species is generally better than the LBAP habitats, however recently there has been a decline in the percentage of LBASP species in an improving status.</p> <p>There are significant challenges as a result of the spread of invasive species throughout the Park. In particular, their impact on biodiversity through competition, predation, hybridisation, transfer of pathogens, diseases and parasites.</p>	<p>Opportunities should be sought to protect and enhance all aspects of biodiversity e.g. important habitats and protected species, as well as those sites protected by legislation.</p> <p>It is also essential that the aspects of the natural environment which support biodiversity resources are protected from inappropriate development which include water resources and soils.</p> <p>Opportunities should be sought to raise awareness of the need to protect all biodiversity resources across the Park and to encourage proactive and positive change in land management that will help to protect the Park from the risks posed by climate change.</p> <p>Opportunities exist to improve forestry management and to promote renewable projects in the National Park as well as increasing the extent of native woodland coverage.</p>

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
Landscape	<p>The National Park landscape includes rugged mountains, high moorland, wooded valleys, lakes, waterfalls, estuaries and coast which all contribute towards the Special Qualities of the National Park.</p> <p>The majority of the areas within the National Park are classified as being tranquil and it is essential to protect this tranquillity, particularly from issues such as the impacts of recreation including parking, organised events and crowding at popular sites.</p> <p>A number of land management schemes have been developed and applied in the National Park which have been making a positive contribution towards the National Park's environment and landscape.</p> <p>The quality of the coastline of the National Park has gradually deteriorated in recent years with significant development occurring in coastal towns leading to a loss of distinctive landscape features e.g. saltmarshes. Very few parts of the coastline have an unspoilt character.</p>	<p>It is essential that landscape character and quality is protected and enhanced in the National Park. In seeking to protect the landscape of the National Park it will be essential to consider the potential effects of lighting and noise upon tranquillity and the landscape.</p> <p>In addition to considering the wider strategic preservation of the Park's landscape, opportunities should be sought where appropriate to enhance the design and landscaping at the local level to improve the quality of the local environment.</p>
Air quality and climatic factors	<p>Data for Gwynedd and Conwy indicates that air quality is good in the National Park, as Air Quality Standards are being met.</p>	<p>Opportunities should be sought to reduce levels of traffic, tackle areas of congestion and promote the use of public transport and electric vehicles.</p> <p>New developments should be encouraged to adopt sustainable design principles, energy efficiency and the use of renewables e.g. the inclusion of solar panels and low carbon technologies.</p>

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
		<p>The carbon footprint of new developments should be reduced e.g. through more efficient and effective communities, sustainable land management, transport accessibility and development location/design.</p> <p>The degradation and loss of peat should be avoided to maximise carbon sequestration associated with this type of habitat.</p> <p>Opportunities should be sought to reduce the threat and risks associated with climate change e.g. rising sea levels and flooding. There is a need to investigate and facilitate adaption of wildlife to climate change, and establish connectivity and habitats/species corridors.</p>
Water resources	<p>Water quality in the watercourses across the National Park is generally good. However, agricultural activities and disused mines are a key factor affecting water quality and diffuse pollution can be difficult to control. Many of the watercourses and water bodies in the National Park are also designated sites for conservation reasons.</p> <p>The quality of the beaches in and around the National Park is good and a number of the beaches have achieved Blue Flag status.</p> <p>A particular challenge in Wales relates to managing water supply and the high levels of variation in demand throughout the year. One of the biggest challenges is</p>	<p>The quality and condition of the water environment is critical to the wider environment and quality of life. Opportunities should be sought to improve water quality.</p> <p>New development should be encouraged to incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems to control runoff from new development.</p> <p>Through Cynllun Eryri, water saving measures and the need to conserve water resource should be promoted.</p>

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
	<p>maintaining public water supply during the summer months when Wales has a large influx of tourists. However, this responsibility lies with Dwr Cymru. Although there could be opportunities through Cynllun Eryri to promote the sustainable use of water resources.</p>	
Geology and soils	<p>Land within the National Park is largely classified as Grade 5. Whilst there are no areas of very good or excellent quality, the effective management of agricultural soils is essential owing to the importance of agriculture for the local economy.</p> <p>There is a need to raise awareness across the National Park of the importance to protect soil resources and improve land management techniques.</p> <p>The Snowdonia National Park has a unique visible geological character that is a fundamental part of its outstanding landscape and scenery, formed and shaped by complex processes of evolution and climate change. It contains a wealth of nationally and locally important geological and geomorphological features, and has a wide range of soil types that are influenced by the underlying geology and rock types and also the land management practice/activity upon it. Geological designations within the National Park include SSSIs and a number of Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological sites (RIGS).</p> <p>Human actions have recently impacted upon geological and soil resources through pressures such as commercial afforestation and natural tree regeneration and</p>	<p>There is a need to protect and enhance all soil functions e.g. carbon sequestration and infiltration.</p> <p>The degradation and development of peat soils should be avoided.</p>

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
	erosion due to recreational activities and overgrazing.	
Minerals, waste and recycling	<p>A variety of minerals including slate, hard rock and metals including gold, copper and lead are found in the National Park and have been extracted. However, there is generally a lack of information about hard rock resources and quality in the National Park.</p> <p>There is a lack of local building stone in the National Park which is needed for house construction. Other types of stone sourced from outside the National Park can look out of place and adversely affect the quality of the townscape.</p>	<p>Opportunities should be sought to minimise waste generation and for sustainable waste management principles to be adopted in new development.</p> <p>If new mineral workings are developed to source local building stone, the potential environmental effects must be thoroughly assessed prior to their development.</p>
Cultural Heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage	<p>Within the National Park there are 14 Conservation Areas, 1900 Listed Buildings (13 Grade 1 and 119 are Grade 2*), a World Heritage site (Harlech Castle), a potential World Heritage site and cultural landscape and 377 Scheduled Monuments. All of these features contribute towards the distinctive landscape of the Park and its historic character. In addition to the sites protected by legislation, it is important to recognise that there are numerous other undesignated features in the National Park that are also worthy of protection in their own right and form a valuable component of the National Park's heritage.</p> <p>Cadw maintains a register of Historic Parks and Gardens within Wales. They are graded on the basis of historic importance and value. There are currently 21 Historic Parks and Gardens within the National Park. Whilst they are not</p>	<p>All cultural heritage features in the National Park should be protected and enhanced.</p> <p>In addition to preserving statutory sites it is important to ensure that the wider historic landscape is protected and that cultural heritage issues are taken into consideration in all new developments that occur in the Park.</p> <p>Opportunities should be sought to improve understanding and appreciation of cultural heritage resources.</p> <p>There is a need to protect the Welsh language and distinctive cultural identity.</p>

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
	<p>statutorily protected there is a requirement for local planning authorities to treat them as material consideration when determining planning applications.</p> <p>Many of these heritage sites are also valuable tourist destinations that contribute to the National Park's economy, for example Harlech Castle.</p> <p>There are a number of other good examples of local architectural vernacular across the National Park and these traditional buildings whilst not necessarily being protected by legislation should be protected.</p>	
Transportation	<p>A number of strategic roads traverse Snowdonia, of which the primary route is the A55 dual carriageway, which links the authorities along the North Wales coast. This route was designed to carry long distance heavy goods vehicles travelling between North West Wales, Ireland and Europe. Other significant trunk roads include the A487, A5, A470, A494, and A458 which link major settlements to focal centres and connect Gwynedd and Conwy to other areas of England and Wales. The A470 through Lledr Valley and the A487/A470 Caernarfon to Dinas Mawddwy routes carry through traffic from Mid and South Wales. In recognition of this, the A470 and part of the A487 have been identified as major North-South links of national importance.</p> <p>Meeting the travel and transport needs of local people, visitors and the business community in Snowdonia is a considerable</p>	<p>Opportunities should be sought to reduce dependence on the private diesel/unleaded cars and increase public transport use and use of EV's.</p> <p>There are some areas of the National Park where access to public transport is inefficient, this can cause segregation and inequalities in access to services.</p> <p>It will be important to ensure, through the LDP, that any new employment sites can be easily accessed by public transport.</p> <p>Parking and public transport in busy areas is consistently presented as an issue for residents and visitors. This should be addressed with a revised infrastructure approach working with all stakeholder groups.</p>

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
	<p>challenge. Settlements and communities within Snowdonia are dispersed and the populations are small. The geography and topography of Snowdonia, along with the dispersed availability of employment opportunities means that there is a high reliance upon private cars, with 33% of the population travelling more than 6 miles to work.</p> <p>An effective public transport network will also support the economic aspiration of the wider region through facilitating employees commuting and reducing the impact of rising fuel costs upon the workforce.</p> <p>With the rise in affordability and availability of electric vehicles, alternative opportunities arise for sustainable transport. However, there are no rapid EV chargers (take 20-40 minutes to fully charge) in the National Park, and only 11 fast chargers (3-5 hours) (as of June 2018).</p> <p>The Snowdonia Green Key Initiative focused on sustainable transport networks within the National Park. It aimed to improve the frequency and quality of the service, as well as helping achieve the strategic aim of encouraging people to use public transport. An enhanced bus service also benefited local people, with the aim to provide access to a near urban standard of frequency and reliability.</p> <p>The majority of tourists visiting the National Park arrive by car. There is limited recent data, but in 2003 this was at around 3 million.</p>	

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
	<p>Work from home is very prevalent in Snowdonia and there may be opportunities to increase working from home through infrastructure improvements. The National Park includes 2756km of Public Rights of Way. 87.5% of these are footpaths and 10% are bridleways.</p>	
Population and health	<p>It is estimated that Snowdonia's population will shrink by 6.6% by 2030. There has also been a trend in recent years of out-migration of young people owing to a lack of availability of employment opportunities and difficulties associated with housing affordability. This is leading to an increasingly aging population in the National Park.</p> <p>There is a high percentage of people over 65 living in the National Park which has implications for the provision of key services and amenities.</p> <p>The natural resources of the National Park are a key recreational resource that offer benefits for well-being and health, which must be protected and enhanced.</p> <p>Despite having proportionately more people aged 65 and over than the Welsh average, the proportion of National Park residents with poor health is lower than the overall figure for Wales.</p>	<p>Opportunities should be sought to improve health and well-being in the National Park.</p> <p>There is a need to reduce the outward migration of young people and to provide a viable and coherent population, able to provide and support vital services, the local economy and to provide vitality and vibrancy in the National Park settlements.</p> <p>Opportunities should be provided for all sections of the population to be able to access and enjoy the high quality environment of the National Park.</p>
Economy	<p>Snowdonia has a relatively low wage economy with tourism and agriculture being the main employment sectors. Agriculture in the National Park is almost entirely pastoral; predominantly beef and</p>	<p>There is a need to create employment opportunities that encourage the younger population to continue living in the National Park.</p>

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
	<p>sheep farming, but with a small dairy sector.</p> <p>Studies have been undertaken into the availability and requirements of employment land within the National Park which shows that there is generally sufficient land either on existing industrial sites or allocated land close to the National Park to meet the current employment needs.</p> <p>A number of employment centres that are important to the National Park lie outside the National Park's boundaries and include: Machynlleth, Tywyn, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Porthmadog, Penrhyndeudraeth, Llandudno Junction, Llandygai and Caernarfon.</p> <p>Within the National Park there has been public sector investment in the development of business parks at Dolgellau and Y Bala.</p> <p>The top industries of employment in the National Park are Health and Social Work (12.9%), Wholesale and Retail (12.7%), Education (12%), Accommodation and Food Service activities (11.6%), Construction (9.9%) and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (7.2%). The industries reflect the area's ageing population, and reliance on tourism.</p>	<p>There is a need to develop the economy and economic growth related to the National Park purposes e.g. increased diversification which would in turn lead to improved skills.</p> <p>Agricultural diversification opportunities exist within the National Park, provided that they are undertaken in a manner that do not adversely affect the natural environment. There may be opportunities to improve land management practices through diversification schemes.</p> <p>There is a need to effectively manage the effects of tourism on the National Park environment. Furthermore, economic diversification is needed such that employment opportunities are available during the low tourist season.</p> <p>Opportunities should be sought to further improve understanding of the Special Qualities of the National Park through the NPMP and create employment opportunities linked to them.</p>
Housing	Housing is one of the key concerns for many in the National Park and there is a lack of affordable housing both to rent and buy. Incomes in the National Park are generally low and there are limited opportunities for higher paid employment. The high number of holiday homes in the National Park adds further pressure on the sustainability of	<p>Through the LDP new housing developments in the National Park need to meet local needs in terms of quality and tenure.</p> <p>Through the LDP it should be ensured that areas allocated for housing development are well connected to employment</p>

SA Topic	Key Sustainability Issues	Key Sustainability Opportunities
	communities and the housing market. This has led in part to out-migration and a changing population structure within the National Park. This is likely to have long-term effects on the sustainability of communities unless action is taken to address the issue.	opportunities and have access to public transport links.
Deprivation and living environment	<p>The local authority areas of Gwynedd and Conwy were some of the least deprived in Wales in 2014 under the Multiple Index of Deprivation.</p> <p>One of the key issues affecting quality of life in the National Park is lack of affordable housing, and access to services.</p> <p>There is a very high quality environment within the National Park and this contributes positively to quality of life and overall health and well-being.</p>	<p>There is a need to maintain and enhance community cohesion and local distinctiveness, e.g. through increased availability of local services, opportunities for young people, and protection of the Welsh language.</p> <p>The natural beauty of the National Park contributes significantly to quality of life in the National Park and should be protected and enhanced. In promoting new development and accessibility to services through the LDP, there should be careful consideration given to the potential effects of such development on the natural environment.</p>

4.6 The 'Business as Usual' Scenario

The 'Business as Usual' scenario has been assessed as it provides a benchmark against which the performance of Cynllun Eryri can be compared. The 'Business as Usual' scenario assumes a continuation of the existing situation, i.e. reliance upon the existing NPMP.

Continuing without a revised NPMP would see protection of Special Qualities, community vitality and economic viability through the previous Management Plan and the Eryri Local Development Plan. There would, therefore, continue to be some degree of protection afforded to the natural environment in the National Park through international and national level policy, in terms of land-use. There would, however, be more limited opportunities for effective management and enhancement, and those socio-economic and environmental trends and sustainability issues identified within the baseline study (chapter 5) would continue to evolve without targeted interventions.

In the long-term there could therefore be a gradual deterioration in landscape character and quality, as there would be more limited opportunity for positive management or enhancement opportunities, and there may be a lack of strategic co-ordination with respect to the need to adapt to the threats posed by climate change. Without the revised NPMP, there would be more limited opportunities to encourage integrated and locally responsive sustainable management actions.

There are existing issues in the National Park, as a result of the highly dispersed settlement pattern which has led to a reliance upon the private car to access services, facilities and employment. The NPMP presents an opportunity (alongside place Plans such as Cynllun Yr Wyddfa) to try and work with public transport providers to improve more sustainable connections across the Park. Without the NPMP, there would be limited scope to build upon existing successes like the Snowdon Sherpa and so opportunities could potentially be missed to reduce travel by private car.

A significant amount of the Snowdonia National Park is designated as a Special Protection Area or a Special Area of Conservation because of its high quality and distinctive natural environment. Whilst the ongoing management of such sites already occurs, there might be limited opportunity without the NPMP to influence the behaviour of land managers, residents and visitors to ensure that there is continuous improvement of the condition of these sites and also the wider biodiversity resources across the National Park.

In the long-term there is the risk of potentially adverse effects upon cultural heritage resources and the historic environment. Whilst national protection of some heritage features would continue, there would be a lack of strategic policy at the National Park level which could result in the gradual loss of resources or the Special Quality of Historic Landscapes. Opportunities would also be more limited to encourage the use of the Welsh language and to promote the cultural identity of the National Park to both residents and visitors, another of the Special Qualities of Snowdonia National Park.

A 'Business as Usual' scenario has therefore, not be taken forward and rather a new NPMP has been developed which will protect and enhance the National Park's Special Qualities

and help to ensure that it is able to adapt to future challenges such as climate change and the locally specific issues that will arise from it. Development of the NPMP has also provided vital opportunities to improve collaboration between different groups of stakeholders, managers and the public and to encourage a wider appreciation and understanding of the Special Qualities of the National Park.

5. Assessment Methodology

5.1 Requirements of the SEA Directive

Box 3 identifies the activities which are required to comply with the SEA Directive as part of the assessment process.

Box 3: SEA Directive Requirements Applicable to Assessment of Effects and Mitigation

Information to be provided in the Environmental Report includes:

- *'the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term, permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects' (Annex 1 (f) and footnote)*
- *'the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan and programme...' (Annex 1 (g))*
- *'an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information' (Annex 1 (h))*

5.2 Objectives, Guide Questions, Indicators and Targets

The SA Framework underpins the assessment methodology and comprises a series of SA Objectives that are used to test the sustainability performance of Cynllun Eryri's components. The SA Objectives have been devised using the SEA topics and informed by the issues and opportunities identified through the baseline data collation. This was supplemented with direction from the key international, national, regional and local planning documents identified in **Appendix B of Volume 2**.

The Sustainability Framework's objectives are intended to be over-arching and aspirational. However, to ensure that the issues of particular relevance to the Snowdonia National Park are considered during the assessment, a series of guide questions have been developed to

support each objective. These guide questions have been used to assist the consideration of the likely impacts of the achievement of an SA Objective.

Indicators have also been devised for each objective as they relate to the baseline data collation process. They assist the assessment because the supporting baseline evidence helps to determine how current trends might be influenced by a particular policy/action within Cynllun Eryri.

Table 4, Table 5 and 6 present the objectives, guide questions and indicators used to assess Cynllun Eryri. Owing to the different focus and purpose of the plan, the last three columns of the tables indicate which objectives are to be used to assess the plan and provides an explanation why. This approach has been discussed and recommended by the statutory bodies in previous years. The objectives have been grouped under the National Park's purposes and a separate table has been produced for each.

Table 4: Objectives, guide questions and indicators to measure the first purpose

Conserve and enhance natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage				
No	SEA/SA Objective	Guide Questions	Indicators	Directive topics
1	To protect and enhance landscape character and quality	Will it protect and enhance all landscape character types? Will it protect tranquillity?	LANDMAP data Extent of tranquil areas in the National Park	Biodiversity, flora, fauna, landscape
2	Sustainable Tourism	Are there common understandings of thresholds? Are proactive measures being undertaken to protect Special Qualities from negative impacts of Recreation?	Agreed thresholds Policies are in place and widely used Research findings	Biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, material assets, cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape
3	To reduce soil contamination and promote the remediation of contaminated land	Will it facilitate the removal of contamination and promote remediation?	Number of planning applications which include site remediation	Soil, human health, population
4	To protect and enhance biodiversity	Will it protect and enhance habitats and species?	Number and area of designated sites	Biodiversity, ecosystems, resilience, habitats, species, invasive species

		<p>Will it facilitate the sustainable management of key wildlife sites?</p> <p>Will it work towards achieving favourable conservation status?</p> <p>Will it protect areas of ancient woodland?</p> <p>Will it protect designated wildlife sites?</p> <p>Will it protect the integrity of European designated sites?</p>	<p>Conservation status of designated sites</p> <p>Area of ancient woodland</p> <p>Area of woodland</p> <p>Total area of land managed in line with conservation objectives</p> <p>INNS number and coverage is lessened</p>	
5	To maintain and, where necessary, safeguard the Snowdonia National Park's geology and geomorphology	<p>Will it protect Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGs)?</p> <p>Will it protect and enhance the enjoyment of geological resources?</p>	<p>Number of RIGs in the National Park</p> <p>Number of Geological Conservation Review Sites</p>	Soil, landscape
6	To safeguard the historic environment including built	Will it protect: Scheduled Monuments	Number of Scheduled Monuments	Cultural heritage, including architectural and

	heritage, archaeology and the historic landscape	Listed Buildings Conservation Areas Registered Parks and Gardens	Condition of Scheduled Monuments Number of Listed Buildings Buildings 'At Risk' in Snowdonia Number of Conservation Areas Number of historic parks and gardens Historic landscape characterization (LANDMAP)	archaeological heritage, landscape
7	To value and protect diversity and distinctiveness	Will it protect local diversity and distinctiveness?	See indicators for landscape/townscape character and protecting heritage and Welsh language.	Landscape, cultural heritage, material assets
8	To conserve, promote and enhance Snowdonia's cultural heritage and the Welsh language	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language?	Percentage of Welsh speakers in the National Park	Cultural heritage, population
9	To ensure that the location and design of new development is	Will it increase flood risk?	Areas of Flood Risk in the National Park	Climatic factors, water, population, human health

	acceptable in terms of the potential consequences of flooding	<p>Will it increase the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems?</p> <p>Will it reduce vulnerability to the effects of climate change?</p>	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice on flood risk.	
10	To safeguard the quality and quantity of water resources	<p>Will it protect and improve water quality?</p> <p>Will it ensure the sustainable use of water resources?</p>	<p>River water quality</p> <p>Coastal water quality</p> <p>Estuary water Quality</p> <p>Location of main salmon rivers</p>	Water, population
11	To minimise waste, increase re-use and recycling	<p>Will it increase levels of recycling and re-use?</p> <p>Will it promote the take-up of sustainable waste management techniques?</p>	New schemes implemented to reduce waste	Material assets, biodiversity, population

Table 5: Objectives, guide questions and indicators to measure the duty

Foster Economic and Social Well-Being				
No	SEA/SA Objective	Guide Questions	Indicators	Directive topics
12	To promote and facilitate improved community involvement	Will it develop opportunities for community involvement for all? Will it promote a sense of belonging and well-being for all?	Percentage of adults who feel that they can influence decisions affecting their neighbourhood Percentage of residents satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live.	Population
13	To encourage sustainable diversification in agriculture and forestry	Will it encourage the uptake of local diversification schemes?	Employment by sector Annual uptake of diversification schemes	Population
14	To improve the local skills base	Will it increase relevant skills levels?	Number of people attending up skilling workshops/events	Population
15	To provide learning opportunities	Will it increase levels of participation in education and learning? Will it increase educational attainment?	Variety and scope of involvement activities on offer Percentage of resident population aged 16-74 with no qualifications	Population

		Will it promote Lifelong Learning?		
16	To promote good transport links to support the local economy	Will it reduce travel distances between home and jobs? Will it reduce traffic congestion?	Average distance travelled to work Congestion hotspots	Population
17	To aid the creation of local employment opportunities and businesses related to National Park purposes	Will it increase the number of SMEs	Number of SMEs Number of VAT registrations by sector	Population

Table 6: Objectives, guide questions and indicators to measure the second purpose

Promoting Understanding and Enjoyment				
No	SEA/SA Objective	Guide Questions	Indicators	Directive topics
18	To promote access for all through the CRoW Act.	Will it promote access for all through the 'CRoW Act'?	Areas of National Park defined as open access land	Population, human health
19	To promote learning opportunities, information provision and interpretation	Will it promote the use of the Welsh language in the provision of information and interpretation? Will it increase information provision and interpretation?	Interpretation schemes implemented Number of new educational/information/interpretation signs % of Welsh speakers working in the sector	Population, human health
19	To increase participation in a wide range of activities and experiences	Will it increase participation in outdoor pursuits?	Tourist numbers participating in ranges of activities Variety of business offers and models existing	Population, human health

5.3 Relationship between SEA Directive and SA Framework

Table 7 demonstrates which SA objectives correspond with the SEA Directive topics. When developing the objectives care has been taken to ensure that an objective has been developed for all SEA Directive topics.

SEA Directive Topics	SA Objective
Biodiversity, Fauna and Flora	1, 4, 11
Population	2, 3, 8, 12, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19
Human Health	2, 3, 9, 18, 19
Water	9, 10
Soil	3, 5
Air	2
Climatic Factors	9
Cultural Heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage	6, 7, 8
Landscape	1, 5, 6, 7
Material Assets	7, 11

Table 7: Relationship between the SA Objectives and the SEA Directive Topics

5.4 Compatibility between SA Objectives

Good practice guidance recommends that an internal compatibility test of the SA objectives is undertaken to identify any areas of potential incompatibility. The full compatibility assessment is presented in **Appendix C**.

No significant areas of incompatibility have been identified; rather areas of potential uncertainty regarding compatibility have been identified. The compatibility of these objectives has been recorded as uncertain as it is not known how the developments will occur, for example in the case of Governmental policy decision following Britain's withdrawal from the European Union.

5.5 Assessment of Cynllun Eryri's Outcomes

The SEA Directive requires that reasonable alternatives to the plan are assessed during a plan's development. This is considered in more detail in Chapter 6. Cynllun Eryri has been developed entirely through a co-operative process and as a result of Partnership authoring, led by Snowdonia National Park Authority. Through Fforwm Eryri (representatives of 22 organisations, businesses and communities within the National Park) Outcomes, Policies and Actions have only been included after full agreement. Fforwm Eryri also includes representation from our statutory consultees NRW and Cadw therefore their observations on preferred approaches were have been fully integrated in any policy formation and refinement.

The organic nature of the entire process from initial consultation to presentation of this draft Plan for final public consultation, has ensured that alternatives to 'Strategic Options' - or Outcomes as called in this Plan - have been debated and analysed through the formative meetings, data gathering and final drafting. This process has been robust and in depth, as outlined in *Figure 3: Summary of the process for creating Cynllun Eryri*, in Chapter 2. The final draft version of Cynllun Eryri open for public consultation from February 2020, is a reflection of complete stakeholder input.

Further detail on Options development and assessment is documented in **Section 6** of this SA Report.

5.6 Assessment of Cynllun Eryri

The following elements of Cynllun Eryri have been assessed against the SA Objectives:

- The agreed Vision for the Future of Snowdonia
- Preferred Outcomes and Policies

5.6.1 Assessment of the Vision for the Future of Snowdonia

The Vision has been appraised against the SA Objectives, and the key strengths, weaknesses and recommendations identified. Recommendations have been made to offset or alleviate any adverse impacts that have been predicted, or to enhance any opportunities that have been identified. These comments are presented in **Section 7.1**.

5.6.2 Assessment of the Outcomes and Policies

Cynllun Eryri comprises the Outcomes, Policies and Actions that will be used to protect and enhance environmental, social and economic assets within the National Park. Each of the Outcomes has been assessed against the SA Objectives to determine their key sustainability strengths and weaknesses. Recommendations have been made to offset or alleviate any potential conflicts, or to enhance any opportunities that have been identified. This was achieved through the use of a matrix see Table 8.1 and an extract of the matrix is presented in Table 8.

When undertaking the assessment, the symbols assigned in the matrix were justified in the commentary box along with any uncertainties and assumptions. The 'level of uncertainty' clarifies the accuracy of the predicted impact being realised. The assessment sought to identify the spatial scale over which impacts would be realised. The spatial scales considered are:

- *Effect in Snowdonia National Park* – whether impacts would be realised in the settlements in the National Park and the immediate environs.
- *Regional/Transboundary* – whether impacts would be realised outside of the settlements in the National Park.

The results of the assessment of the Strategic Objectives are presented in **Appendix E of Volume 2**.

Table 8: Assessment Notation Used to Complete the Matrices

Impact	Description	Symbol
Major Positive impact	The objective contributes to the achievement of all elements of the SA Objective.	++
Positive Impact	The objective contributes partially to the achievement of the SA Objective but not completely.	+
No Impact/ Neutral	There is no clear relationship between the objective and/or the achievement of the SA Objective or the relationship is negligible.	⊙
Negative Impact	The objective detracts from the achievement of some elements of the SA Objective.	–
Major Negative Impact	The objective detracts from the achievement of all elements of the SA Objective.	– –
Uncertain impact – more information required	It is not possible to determine the nature of the impact as there may be too many external factors that would influence the appraisal or the impact may depend heavily upon implementation at the local level.	?

Positive and Negative Impacts	The objective has a combination of both positive and negative contributions to the achievement of the SA Objective.	+/-
Level of Uncertainty		
	There is a high degree of uncertainty in the impact prediction.	High
	There is a medium degree of uncertainty in the impact prediction.	Medium
	There is a low degree of uncertainty in the impact prediction.	Low
Permanent Impact	A receptor would experience a permanent change as a result of the option/policy.	Permanent
Temporary Impact	A receptor would experience a temporary change as a result of the option policy.	Temporary

In the matrix extract presented above, the likely duration of the impacts is also recorded. Short-term impacts are those that will be realised between one and five years, medium-term impacts will be realised between five and 10 years and long-term impacts will be realised after a period of more than 10 years.

Assessment Assumptions

When undertaking the assessment it was vital to remember that Cynllun Eryri should be read as a whole and as such, certain SA Objectives in the plan which might have the potential to result in adverse sustainability effects that could actually be avoided or mitigated through the application of other relevant Outcomes in the plan.

It was also necessary to consider the purpose of each Outcome when assessing it.

While the process of assessing each objective is very valuable, as it helps to highlight the key strengths and weaknesses of each, all the objectives must be considered collectively, emphasising the importance of assessing cumulative effects (refer to Section 5.4.5 below).

5.7 Cumulative / Synergistic Effects

The SEA Directive requires that an assessment is undertaken of cumulative and synergistic³ effects. Furthermore, whilst each of the constituent parts of Cynllun Eryri have been assessed against the SA Objectives it is important to understand the overall effects of the plan, as the plan will be implemented as a whole, rather than in discrete sections.

³ Synergistic effects interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects.

Section 8 of this report presents an assessment of the likely cumulative and synergistic effects of Cynllun Eryri. Cumulative and synergistic effects of Cynllun Eryri could be realised in the following ways:

Cumulative effects between objectives could feasibly arise. For example, individual objectives could have incremental impacts on the baseline which when combined with other objectives could have cumulative or synergistic impacts, both positive and negative.

Individual objectives may have impacts on a number of receptors which could influence other topics either cumulatively or synergistically. Cumulative effects assessment is, therefore, best addressed using a receptor based approach, rather than one focussed upon SA Objectives and this has been adopted for Cynllun Eryri. Further details are presented in Section 8.

6. Strategic Options Development and Assessment

6.1 Requirements of the SEA Directive

The SEA Directive stipulates activities which should be undertaken as part of the overall assessment process. The statutory activities relevant to the consideration of reasonable alternative options for emerging policies alternatives are outlined in **Box 4**.

Box 4: SEA Directive Requirements Applicable to Alternatives

The Environment Report should consider 'reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme' and give 'an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with' (Article 5.1 and Annex I(h)).

6.2 Consideration of Reasonable Alternative Options – Cynllun Eryri's Organic Evolution

The preceding section of this report sets out the methodology used for the appraisal of emerging plan vision, objectives and actions. For more conventional strategies and plans than Cynllun Eryri, (those that for example set the framework and criteria that determine the granting of permissions or licenses for on-the-ground actions or development), a key function of Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal is to influence the early stages of emerging policy options. Ordinarily this is to steer plan-making bodies towards prioritising the most sustainable - but reasonable – alternative policy options available as it considers the objectives and strategic direction of the particular plan.

In this case, it is essential to recognise that Cynllun Eryri is not a conventional plan that might for example allow or restrict permissions or licensing for actions or activity on the ground or in the community, or to determine criteria of or for financial assistance or deliver grant aid directly. Its purpose is to express consensus and then steer the work of many agencies, individuals, businesses, organisations and communities to carry out their various activities in a holistic and synergistic way so as to drive a more sustainable future for the National Park and its valued Special Qualities. It is also a plan immersed within a complex framework of sustainable development policy and constraints across many sectors. By its very nature it is a plan purposed to deliver the principles of sustainable development most fitting and responsive to Snowdonia's special needs, sensitivity, trends and

challenges, but also opportunities, as identified and supported by its key users.

In this context, and as emphasised throughout this report, a broad spectrum of environmental, social and rural development policy and legislation set out at European Community and National levels (such as the statutory purposes and duty for National Parks) - taken together – fundamentally constrain the ability to entertain objectives, or actions which do not fundamentally support locally responsive sustainable development outcomes.

Acknowledging the highly influential policy context that Cynllun Eryri must operate within, the NPA and its stakeholder partners within Fforwm Eryri have prepared and considered appropriate responses to the sustainability issues identified across three broad headings and reflecting National Park purposes and duty (Environment, Well-being and Economy) from the outset of plan development. Through working groups, expert panels and extensive public consultation a process of organic plan preparation and continuous stakeholder participation has taken place, and is mapped out at Figure 1 of this report (Chapter 2). The initial consultation held between the 9th of July and 30th of September 2018 formed part of the wider process of developing the new National Park Management Plan. In the consultation document, Snowdonia National Park Authority set out the current environmental and socio-economic context and vision for the future, but not policy approaches. A series of workshops discussed and evolved these with key partners who will now help to deliver Cynllun Eryri. This approach has allowed for continuous iterative consensus building in reaching revised strategic policy directions over an extended period, rather than at a single or multiple pre-determined stage(s). During this extended period since 2018 the broad policy framework has evolved and been fundamentally shaped by sustainability considerations as well as other significant plan constraints and influences.

Therefore it can be seen that the core principles of partnership working and consensus building that is at the heart of this management plan's development, with the coming together of a very wide spectrum of stakeholder expertise and functions, has combined with the policy context to generate an iteratively evolved plan, outside and beyond conventional staged drafting and re-drafting and consequent consultation periods. Conventional drafting and consultation practice has to a large extent been superseded by partnership, co-operation and on-going joint authorship of the plan by many stakeholders with continuous engagement across stakeholders and the public.

In this context, jointly prepared and agreed proposals for the strategic direction of Cynllun Eryri have evolved with sustainable development at its very heart, and been shaped and refined by the broadest spectrum of National Park communities, businesses, visitors, managers and guardians,

who ultimately will be charged with the responsibility implementing those actions.

The result of this process is that Cynllun Eryri's vision, objectives and actions have not evolved from a range of discrete alternative approaches as more conventional policy frameworks might do. Reasonable alternative options in relation that could be tested against Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal processes did not evolve as a consequence of Cynllun Eryri's particular preparation, and consequently, this element of the Strategic Environmental Assessment process has had limited effect in determining plan direction. In the context of Cynllun Eryri, other influences inherently ensure the Plan's further sustainable development objectives.

6.3 Compliance with SEA Directive and Regulations

Whilst recognising this apparent divergence from conventional Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal process and practice, it is appropriate to have regard to the SEA Directive and Regulations which set the legal context for appraisal and compliance, and variation within its provisions. Article 5 of the SEA Directive notes in relation to Environmental Reports that *"1. Where an environmental assessment is required under Article 3(1), an environmental report shall be prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given for this purpose is referred to in Annex 1."*

Annex 1 of the Directive goes on to set out the requirements of the Environmental Report. It states *"(h) an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information."*

The critical considerations in this respect in relation to the draft Cynllun Eryri are the extent to which the plan making process has been able to generate and then consider *reasonable* alternative policy approaches. Alternative approaches which are not reasonable outcomes of the particular plan need not be considered. As identified in this section, the organic evolution of the Plan's vision, objectives and subsequent listed actions has effectively superseded an approach of developing alternative approaches as a positive consequence of the way all key stakeholders - and importantly statutory agencies charged with advising on compliance and implementation, have been engaged from the outset at the heart of drafting the plan. The emergence of a consensus driven, organically evolved plan has not generated

a stand-alone stage of alternative option formulation and consideration, lending itself to the assessment against Directive criteria.

The Directive recognises that Environment Reports should highlight difficulties in assessing reasonable alternative options. In this case the explicit assessment of the environmental and sustainability effects of the preferred Cynllun Eryri have not been explicitly assessed simply as a consequence of the evolution of the plan itself. From the outset alternative options have been iteratively disregarded in the pursuit of a joint stakeholder-developed consensus for the sustainable development focus of the plan. There is a very high degree of confidence however that the effect of the Plan's vision, objectives and actions are fundamentally supportive of sustainable development objectives and likely effects, as examined in the following chapter of this Report.

7. Sustainability Performance of the Vision and Outcomes

7.1 The Vision

7.1.1 Introduction

The Vision for Snowdonia has been appraised to determine its compatibility with the SA Objectives. The results of this assessment are presented in the following sections.

7.1.2 Recommendations from Initial Consultation

The Vision presented in the initial consultation was assessed for its broad compatibility against the SA Objectives. The assessment identified that the Vision and the SA Objectives were largely compatible with each other. The only recommendations emerging from stakeholder responses were for the Vision to focus more upon enhancement, rather than merely protection and for long-term issues and threats like climate change to be cited explicitly. Following the receipt of consultation comments, the Vision for Snowdonia was revised.

7.1.3 The Vision for Snowdonia

The Vision for Snowdonia included in Cynllun Eryri is presented in **Box 5** below.

Box 5: The Vision for Snowdonia

A culturally rich National Park with a thriving green economy, world class visitor experience and a major contributor to the well-being of our nation.

By 2045 Snowdonia will continue to be a protected and evolving landscape, safeguarded and enhanced to provide a rich, varied and resilient natural and historic environment; providing wellbeing benefits nationally and internationally. National Park purposes will be delivered through a diverse and prospering economy adapted to the challenges of climate change and founded on natural resources – its landscape qualities, opportunities for learning and enjoyment, cultural and natural heritage. With thriving bilingual and inclusive communities, partnership working will have demonstrated that more can be achieved through working together.

Communities will have adopted innovative solutions in a changing world – a low carbon economy will have strengthened residents' link with the environment, providing a better standard of living and ensuring Snowdonia's reputation as an internationally renowned National Park and one of the nation's breathing spaces.

7.1.4 Sustainability Commentary of the Vision of Cynllun Eryri

The Vision commits to ensuring that the landscape, biodiversity and historic environment resources are protected and this positively fulfils many of the SA Objectives relating to the protection of the cultural and natural environment. The Vision's focus upon delivering a diverse and prosperous economy positively fulfils the SA Objectives relating to the creation of a sustainable economy and in the long-term could help to benefit the skills base of the National Park. There is also an emphasis placed upon the need for a 'sense of place' and bilingual and inclusive communities positively fulfilling those SA Objectives addressing accessibility to amenities and facilities, sustainable communities and community involvement. A strong sense of place is essential to creating feelings of 'belonging' and 'ownership' amongst communities. The emphasis placed upon culture and the Welsh language is also essential to meet the SA Objectives relating to the conservation, promotion and enhancement of Snowdonia's cultural heritage and the Welsh language and should benefit community vitality and help to foster a good understanding of the Park's heritage in the long-term.

The role of partnership working is a key strength of Cynllun Eryri and demonstrates that achieving the Vision is dependent upon the work of others and should help to encourage more active involvement in National Park issues in the future.

7.1.5 How the Vision has been influenced by SA

Based upon the above documented discussions, the following amendments were made to the Vision to strengthen it:

- A clear commitment to enhancement, rather than just protection was included.
- Reference has been included to the long-term threat of climate change and the need for appropriate mitigation and adaptation to protect the character and quality of the National Park.

7.2 Sustainability Appraisal of Outcomes

7.2.1 Introduction

The Outcomes presented in the final draft version of Cynllun Eryri are:

1	Any negative impacts of recreational activities on the National Park are being reduced
2	Biodiversity is being maintained and enhanced, whilst the resilience of ecosystems is increased.

3	We are prepared for the impacts of climate change and are reducing our carbon footprint.
4	Snowdonia is at the forefront internationally in successfully tackling invasive species, pests and diseases that impact on native species.
5	Communities, businesses and visitors play an active role in caring for the National Park's landscapes, habitats, wildlife and cultural heritage
6	Snowdonia is a leading example in Wales of how to care for and champion cultural heritage and the historic environment.
7	Our Special Qualities are well protected.
8	The National Park is having a positive impact on the well-being of our nation.
9	Residents and visitors can access a variety of routes in the National Park aimed to improve physical and mental health.
10	Our Special Qualities are widely recognised and understood.
11	Sustainable options for parking and transport are achieved.
12	Our visitor facilities are high quality and landscape sensitive.
13	The language, culture and heritage of Snowdonia is being celebrated, supported and strengthened.
14	Jobs and opportunities encourage people to settle in the area.
15	We are implementing solutions for affordable housing to buy and rent.
16	Local communities are supported to thrive in all aspects of well-being.

Table 9: Outcomes of Cynllun Eryri

7.2.2. Summary of Compatibility Matrix

Each of the Outcomes of Cynllun Eryri have been assessed against the SA Objectives in a compatibility matrix to determine their compatibility and to identify any potential areas where new Objectives need to be established or the existing ones clarified, see **Appendix D**.

The Methodology in Chapter 5.6.3 outlines how Cynllun Eryri's Outcomes have been assessed against the SA Objectives to determine their key sustainability strengths and weaknesses.

Appendix D presents the compatibility of Cynllun Eryri's Outcomes with the SA Framework. It uses the following key:

✓ = Objectives are compatible

- X = Objectives/aims are potentially incompatible
- 0 = There is no link between objectives
- ? = The link between the objectives is uncertain

All 16 Outcomes outlined in Cynllun Eryri have been assessed as either compatible with the SA Framework or that there is no link (and therefore they are not subject to assessment).

No significant conflicts were therefore identified through the compatibility assessment.

7.2.3. Summary of full assessment of Outcomes

Appendix E presents the full detailed assessment of the Outcomes of Cynllun Eryri, which have been identified across the three broad headings of the Plan and reflecting National Park purposes and duty (Environment, Well-being and Economy).

Table 8 presents the key used in **Appendix E** to assess the Outcomes against the SA Objectives.

Each SA Objective has been cross referenced with the content of Cynllun Eryri and the Outcomes have been assessed in terms of:

- Scale of effect (short, medium or long term)
- Scale of effect on the spatial scale i.e. within Snowdonia National Park and Regional/Transboundary impacts
- Positive / Neutral / Negative Impacts and the level of certainty of these
- Whether the impact would be permanent or temporary
-

Table 8. Assessment Notation Used to Complete the Matrices

Impact	Description	Symbol
Major Positive impact	The objective contributes to the achievement of all elements of the SA Objective.	++
Positive Impact	The objective contributes partially to the achievement of the SA Objective but not completely.	+
No Impact/ Neutral	There is no clear relationship between the objective and/or the achievement of the SA Objective or the relationship is negligible.	⓪
Negative Impact	The objective detracts from the achievement of some elements of the SA Objective.	—
Major Negative Impact	The objective detracts from the achievement of all elements of the SA Objective.	--
Uncertain impact – more information required	It is not possible to determine the nature of the impact as there may be too many external factors that would influence the appraisal or the impact may	?

	depend heavily upon implementation at the local level.	
Positive and Negative Impacts	The objective has a combination of both positive and negative contributions to the achievement of the SA Objective.	±/-
Level of Uncertainty		
	There is a high degree of uncertainty in the impact prediction.	High
	There is a medium degree of uncertainty in the impact prediction.	Medium
	There is a low degree of uncertainty in the impact prediction.	Low
Permanent Impact	A receptor would experience a permanent change as a result of the option/policy.	Permanent
Temporary Impact	A receptor would experience a temporary change as a result of the option policy.	Temporary

Appendix E presents the detailed and structured assessment findings and recommendations, and is summarised as follows:

Outcome	Overall sustainability Effect	Comment
Eryri's Environment: Our natural and historic assets and stunning surroundings are cared for and enhanced	Positive	The Outcomes in this section of Cynllun Eryri were assessed to have a major positive, long-term impact in 6 areas of the Sustainability Objectives framework, within the NP and with a permanent effect and low risk of uncertainty. These areas are: Protect and enhance landscape character and quality; Safeguard National Park geology and geomorphology; Protect and enhance biodiversity; Value, protect and enhance the historic environment including built heritage, archaeology and historic landscape; Value and protect local diversity and distinctiveness including townscape character; To promote mechanisms for waste minimisation, increased re-use and recycling.

		<p>In a further 7 areas they were assessed to have a positive impact within SNP, with permanent results and a low risk of uncertainty.</p> <p>In the above 13 areas, these Outcomes were also expected to have an overall positive effect at the transboundary/regional level.</p> <p>7 of the Sustainability Objectives are not directly relevant to this Outcome, but are covered in detail in other areas of Cynllun Eryri.</p>
Eryri's Health and Well Being: Eryri provides a wealth of opportunities to learn and discover and at the same time, improve our well-being	Positive	<p>The Outcomes in this section of Cynllun Eryri were assessed to have a major positive, long-term impact in 6 areas of the Sustainability Objectives framework, within the NP and with a low risk of uncertainty.</p> <p>These areas are: Conserve, promote and enhance Snowdonia's cultural heritage and the Welsh language; To promote understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public; To promote and facilitate improved community involvement; To provide learning opportunities; To promote good transport links to support the local economy; To promote understanding, valuing and enjoyment of the language and of the cultural heritage in its broadest sense.</p> <p>In a further 6 areas they were assessed to have a positive impact within SNP, with permanent results and a low risk of uncertainty.</p> <p>In the above 12 areas, these Outcomes were also expected to have an overall positive effect at the transboundary/regional level.</p>

		8 of the Sustainability Objectives are not directly relevant to this Outcome, but are covered in detail in other areas of Cynllun Eryri.
Eryri's Community and Economy: Eryri is a great place to live, develop and work	Positive	<p>The Outcomes in this section of Cynllun Eryri were assessed to have a major positive, long-term impact in 5 areas of the Sustainability Objectives framework, within the NP and with a low risk of uncertainty.</p> <p>These areas are: Conserve, promote and enhance Snowdonia's cultural heritage and the Welsh language; To promote understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public; To promote understanding, valuing and enjoyment of the language and of the cultural heritage in its broadest sense; To promote and facilitate improved community involvement; To provide learning opportunities.</p> <p>In a further 8 areas they were assessed to have a positive impact within SNP, with permanent results and a low risk of uncertainty.</p> <p>In the above 13 areas, these Outcomes were also expected to have an overall positive effect at the transboundary/regional level.</p> <p>7 of the Sustainability Objectives are not directly relevant to this Outcome, but are covered in detail in other areas of Cynllun Eryri.</p>

Table 10: Summary of Outcomes assessment

Table 10 and **Appendix E** clearly shows that *none of the Outcomes of Cynllun Eryri have been assessed as having a negative impact*. Many are considered to have a major positive and positive impact leading to more sustainable futures for the Special Qualities of the National Park, with many having a reach beyond the boundaries of the National Park. Levels of uncertainty in the assessment findings are generally low and many of the core positive impacts are judged as being permanent additions to the National Park area and its surroundings. A number of the outcomes suggest neutral performance indicators, consequent to there being no likely and

significant effect of those proposed joint actions to the particular component of Eryri's community, economic or environmental Special Qualities and understanding and enjoyment thereof.

Considering the likely and significant effects of implementing the actions of Cynllun Eryri against sustainable development objectives specifically reflecting current trends and issues across the National Park, there is a clear likelihood that the framework of future management actions across Snowdonia will lead to more positive sustainability outcomes.

This findings summary is not unexpected given the fundamentally sustainable principles which drive the purpose of the National Park Management Plan, and the statutory framework and legal context in which it is prepared. Moreover the duties of statutory body partners and the fundamental sustainability focus of the broad range of stakeholder partners who have been central to the development of the plan, have come together to produce an inherently sustainable framework of Outcomes with broad scope and holistic effects.

7.3 Cumulative and Synergistic Effects

7.3.1 Introduction

As described in Section 5 of this report, there are a number of different types of cumulative effects. This section of the SA Report presents an assessment of the cumulative⁴ and synergistic⁵ effects of Cynllun Eryri on social, economic and environmental receptors in the National Park.

7.3.2 The Assessment of Cumulative and Synergistic Effects

The identification and assessment of cumulative and synergistic effects has been undertaken by adopting a receptor-based approach, as suggested by good practice guidance (see 3.1). This essentially means considering the impacts on a topic by topic basis, e.g. biodiversity, landscape, etc. rather than defining impacts by SA Objective.

Appendix F presents the assessment of potential effects that could be realised as a result of the implementation of the preferred strategies by receptor topic. The receptor topics include the SEA Directive topics but also cover wider social and economic topic areas. An indication is provided of the likely direction of the impacts, some explanatory commentary highlighting how specific areas of Cynllun Eryri could

⁴ Cumulative effects can occur when several developments have insignificant effects but when combined together they result in a significant effect, or several individual effects of a plan (e.g. air, noise, pollution) have a combined effect.

⁵ Synergistic effects occur when effects interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects.

lead to such cumulative effects, the related topic areas that could be affected and any key mitigation measures or recommendations that have been considered by Plan makers.

The key points from this are summarised as:

- Outcomes related to biodiversity, flora and fauna are likely to have a positive cumulative effect as a number of the Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri focus upon protecting and enhancing habitats and species across the National Park.
- Outcomes related to air quality are likely to have a positive cumulative effect in the long-term, owing to the focus upon sustainable tourism and transport, restoring, expanding and improving the resilience and species mixture of native trees and woodlands, soils and peat.
- Outcomes related to climatic factors are likely to have a positive cumulative effect owing to the strong focus throughout Cynllun Eryri upon the need to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.
- Outcomes related to water resources are likely to have a positive cumulative effect due to a focus in Cynllun Eryri on the sustainable use of water resources and the protection and improvement of water quality.
- Outcomes related to geology and soils are likely to have a positive cumulative effect due to the clear commitment to the need to protect and enhance geodiversity.
- Outcomes related to material assets are likely to have a positive cumulative effect as a number of Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri address the establishment of sustainable waste management projects and promote sustainable modes of transport.
- Outcomes related to population and health are likely to have a positive cumulative effect as there is a clear commitment throughout Cynllun Eryri to protect and enhance the natural environment, as well as improve accessibility to local services and amenities for all sectors of the population.
- Outcomes related to cultural heritage are likely to have a positive cumulative effect as there are a number of Strategic Objectives in Cynllun Eryri that seek to protect and enhance cultural heritage resources. There is a clear focus upon protecting the diversity and distinctiveness of the National Park and its Special Qualities.
- Outcomes related to landscape and townscape are likely to have a positive cumulative effect as Cynllun Eryri seeks to protect and enhance all aspects of the built and natural environment in the National Park which should benefit landscape/townscape.
- Outcomes related to economy are likely to have a neutral (but potentially positive in the long-term) cumulative effect, as Cynllun Eryri is not focused upon allocating land or upon providing new employment opportunities. However, there could be some indirect cumulative benefits as a result of the implementation of the Plan.
- Outcomes related to housing are likely to have a neutral cumulative effect as housing needs and the allocation of land for housing in the National Park is addressed in the LDP. Cynllun Eryri supports and promotes the actions outlined in the LDP.

- Outcomes related to deprivation and living environment are likely to have a positive cumulative effect as Cynllun Eryri seeks to raise awareness and understanding of the National Park's Special Qualities, as well as protecting and enhancing the Park's natural and built environment. Collectively, the Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri should improve quality of life for residents in the National Park.
- Outcomes related to education and qualifications are likely to have a neutral cumulative effect as although throughout Cynllun Eryri there is a focus upon awareness raising and providing learning opportunities, it is not considered likely that there will be significant cumulative changes to educational attainment in the National Park as a result of its implementation, rather a greater awareness of issues pertinent to the National Park's Special Qualities.

8. Monitoring Framework

8.1 Introduction

This section provides an outline monitoring framework and advice for monitoring the significant effects of implementing Cynllun Eryri. Monitoring is an on-going process integral to the implementation of the Cynllun Eryri, and can be used to:

- Determine the performance of the plan and its contribution to objectives and targets.
- Identify the performance of mitigation measures.
- Fill data gaps identified earlier in the SA process.
- Identify emerging negative sustainability effects.
- Confirm whether sustainability predictions were accurate.

8.2 Requirements of the SEA Directive

The activities relevant to monitoring that are stipulated in the SEA Directive are outlined in **Box 6**.

Box 6: SEA Directive Requirements Applicable to Monitoring

‘Member States shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes.... in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action’ (Article 10.1).

The Environmental Report should provide information on a ‘description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring’ (Annex 1(i)).

8.3 Approach

The monitoring framework has been developed to measure the impacts of implementing Cynllun Eryri using indicators that are appropriate to the scope and potential impacts of the plan.

Table 11 presents the monitoring framework and explains the effects that will be monitored and why.

As well as monitoring specific indicators linked to the implementation of Cynllun Eryri, contextual monitoring of social, economic and environmental change has been included, i.e. a regular review of baseline conditions in the National Park.

In addition to undertaking monitoring specific to the SA process, annual monitoring will be undertaken for Cynllun Eryri itself to determine progress against the Outcomes, Policies and the Action Plan. This will be presented as a report to National Park Authority Members by the Partnerships Manager (or relevant SNPA Officer) as well as to Fforwm Eryri. The results will be published in an Annual Monitoring Report and 5 yearly SoPR Updates. The regular monitoring will inform biennial updates of the Action Plan. The content of Cynllun Eryri will be reviewed at five yearly intervals. The effects of Cynllun Eryri's Outcomes will therefore be subject to significant scrutiny on a regular basis.

8.4 Proposed Monitoring Framework

Table 11 provides a framework for monitoring the effects of the Cynllun Eryri and determining whether the predicted environmental effects are realised. The framework is based around the SA Framework objectives and includes the following elements:

- The potentially significant impact that needs to be monitored.
- A suitable monitoring indicator.
- An explanation of why that monitoring indicator has been used.
- The potential data source.
- The frequency of the monitoring.

Cynllun Eryri will run until 2025 and this is a significant period of time over which it will need to be monitored. Monitoring indicators proposed for the management plan will be used wherever possible for sustainability monitoring. Strong parallels exist between the objectives of Cynllun Eryri and the sustainability appraisal so such efficiencies should be expected and offer sensible and cost effective approach. The framework outlined in Table 11 has therefore been built upon the findings of the SA, the indicators that will be used to monitor Cynllun Eryri by the SNPA and good practice guidance.

For a number of the proposed indicators identified in the monitoring framework, there is limited or no existing baseline information available. It may therefore be necessary, prior to initiating this monitoring framework for the SNPA to gather additional information about the status of such indicators across the National Park. The indicators selected for the monitoring process have been focused as far as possible upon the actions and purpose of Cynllun Eryri. A key theme of Cynllun Eryri is upon awareness raising and changing behaviours and attitudes. Monitoring such changes and the extent to which such change might have influenced environmental resources is very difficult to determine.

Table 11: Framework for monitoring the effects of the Cynllun Eryri

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
Manage the effects of climate change through mitigation and adaptation	<p>Cynllun Eryri seeks to raise awareness about climate change across the National Park.</p> <p>It will be important to determine whether the Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri result in the use of more renewable energy technologies in the National Park.</p> <p>Retaining peatland soils will be particularly important and the effective management of such soils should be monitored.</p>	<p>Number of homes in the National Park upgrading to renewable alternatives through Planning applications.</p> <p>Ratio of renewable energy (solar, domestic wind and hydro project planning permissions granted against planning applications per year).</p> <p>Areas of woodland, peat and organic soils increased and restored.</p> <p>Feasibility of adopting a Climate Vulnerability Index approach to National Park assets.</p>	There are a number of Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri that seek to raise awareness of climate change in the National Park and also promote changes in attitudes and behaviours to ensure that appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures are in place.	SNPA NRW	Annually
Ensure that the location and design of new development is	Cynllun Eryri itself will not determine where new development is situated.	Number of new developments in flood zones.	Cynllun Eryri has the potential to raise awareness of the need to	Environment Agency	Annually

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
acceptable in terms of the potential consequences of flooding.	<p>However, it could help to highlight the risks associated with climate change and encourage more sensible approaches to the siting of new development in the long-term. This could be monitored to determine the effect upon behaviour and attitudes.</p> <p>The NPMP also promotes good quality, sustainable design and it will be important to monitor the extent to which sustainable design occurs across the National Park.</p>	Number of new developments incorporating SuDS as a ratio of total planning permissions granted.	use sustainable design and also avoid flood risk.	SNPA	
Protect and enhance landscape character and quality.	Cynllun Eryri includes a number of Outcomes addressing the need to protect and enhance landscape character.	Quantity of Outstanding and High value landscape as defined under LANDMAPs five aspects, cultural, geological, landscape	Monitoring changes to the character and quality of the landscape of the National Park will be very difficult. However, it is envisaged that LANDMAP	SNPA NRW	Every five years.

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
		habitat and visual and sensory.	should be a useful tool to assist this process.		
Protect and enhance air quality.	It is not predicted that the Cynllun Eryri will result in adverse effects on air quality. However, some contextual monitoring could be undertaken to support other monitoring e.g. Tranquillity. In the long-term there could be some improvements to air quality as a result of the Outcomes in the NPMP that seek to reduce travel distances and promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport.	Air pollutant levels in the National Park – based upon Air Quality Review and Assessments for Gwynedd and Conwy.	To provide background environmental information about the National Park.	Gwynedd and Conwy Councils	When an update of the air quality review occurs.
Conserve the quality of soils through reducing contamination and	The improved management of soils is promoted through the Cynllun Eryri and it will be important to monitor	Total area of peatland where restoration actions have been delivered.	To ensure that the most valuable soils in the National Park are protected and their	SNPA	Annually

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
protecting soil function	whether key soil resources like peatland soils are being appropriately managed.	<p>Number of Peatland Code projects supported. Number of trees and woodland Carbon Code projects supported.</p> <p>Number of planning applications which include site remediation and the area of land remediated.</p> <p>Area of peat and organic soils lost as a result of new planning applications. Areas of peatland soil that are being actively managed by land owner.</p>	management enhanced where possible.		
Safeguard National Park geology and geomorphology	There are Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri that address the protection of geodiversity and so effects should be positive. However,	<p>The condition of RIGS in the National Park.</p> <p>The number of RIGS managed in accordance</p>	To monitor the condition of RIGS and to better understand what affects their condition and also to understand how effectively they are	<p>RIGS Groups</p> <p>SNPA</p>	Every five years.

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
	effects on the condition of sites of geodiversity value should be monitored, although it should be noted that the condition of such sites will be affected by more than just the Plan.	with a bespoke management plan.	managed across the National Park.		
Protect and enhance biodiversity	There are a series of Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri that seek to ensure that biodiversity is being maintained and enhanced, whilst the resilience of ecosystems is increased, and so effects are predicted to be positive. However, information should be collated in relation to the condition of sites to determine the effectiveness of the Cynllun Eryri's implementation.	<p>Condition of Designated sites including SPAs, SACs, Ramsar, SSSI, NNR.</p> <p>Condition and status of LBAP species and habitats.</p> <p>Number of invasive species management programmes implemented across the National Park.</p> <p>Number of habitat restoration projects</p>	<p>To monitor how the condition of habitats and species is changing in the National Park and whether the Outcomes are being achieved and are benefitting biodiversity resources.</p> <p>To determine whether habitat/species management and restoration initiatives are being developed across the National Park.</p>	SNPA NRW	Annually

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
	However, it is not only Cynllun Eryri that will affect the condition and extent of key biodiversity resources in the Park, but also the actions of other bodies and it will be important to determine how effective the Cynllun Eryri has been in encouraging the development of new biodiversity initiatives across the National Park and also the enhanced management of these resources.	<p>initiated in the National Park.</p> <p>Area of native woodland across the National Park that is actively managed.</p> <p>Number of land managers aware of the Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Heat mapping of areas of Habitat Vulnerability to cross reference with visitor impact.</p>			
Value and protect and enhance the historic environment including built heritage, archaeology and historic landscape.	There are a number of Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri that seek to protect and enhance cultural heritage resources and so effects are predicted to be positive. There is also a focus upon awareness	Condition of Conservation Areas and the extent to which new development is consistent with the Conservation Area Management Plans.	To determine how the condition of heritage resources is changing through time and whether awareness is being raised.	SNPA Cadw Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	Annually, although it will only be possible to monitor the effects on condition of Conservation Areas once the management plans have been developed and

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
	raising and promoting new initiatives linked to cultural heritage. It will be important to monitor the success of implementing these policies and whether enhancements are occurring.	<p>Condition of Scheduled Ancient Monuments.</p> <p>Number of Listed Buildings at risk.</p> <p>Number of community events per annum related to the cultural heritage of the National Park.</p> <p>Number of historic environment courses being run in the National Park.</p>			condition assessments completed.
Value and protect local diversity and distinctiveness including townscape character.	There is a specific Outcome in Cynllun Eryri addressing protection and enhancement of local diversity and distinctiveness. It will be important to monitor whether diversity and distinctiveness is being protected and whether	<p>Condition of Conservation areas and the extent to which new development is consistent with the Conservation Area Management Plans.</p> <p>Number of new developments with</p>	<p>To ensure that new development complements and positively contributes to the townscape.</p> <p>Awareness and appreciation of this Special Quality of the National Park is</p>	SNPA Cadw Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	Annually, although it will only be possible to monitor the effects once condition assessments have been completed.

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
	the focus upon sustainable design in the NPMP is positively influencing the townscape and also attitudes of the National Park residents towards it.	<p>design statements as a percentage of the total number of planning applications.</p> <p>Number of developments granted planning permission achieving green design awards as a percentage of the total number of planning applications granted each year.</p> <p>Number of National Park residents proud of their home towns and environment (a new survey would be needed to monitor this).</p>	understood and celebrated.		
Conserve, promote and enhance Snowdonia's cultural heritage and the Welsh language	There is a clear focus in Cynllun Eryri upon protecting and enhancing the linguistic identity of the National Park and celebrating the Park's heritage. It will be	<p>Percentage of Welsh speakers in the National Park and their distribution.</p> <p>Number of Welsh language initiatives</p>	To determine whether the distribution of Welsh speakers in the National Park is changing.	SNPA and Census.	Every five years

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
	important to determine whether such initiatives are being developed and if there is an effect upon the prevalence of Welsh speaking across the Park.	introduced per annum across the National Park.			
To safeguard the quality and quantity of water resources.	<p>Cynllun Eryri addresses the need to protect and improve water quality and it will be important to monitor whether water quality improves across the National Park, although multiple factors influence water quality and not just the actions of the Cynllun Eryri.</p> <p>The effectiveness of Cynllun Eryri in promoting more sustainable patterns of water use should also be monitored.</p>	<p>Percentage of Snowdonia's rivers that are classified as Very Good, Good or Fairly Good chemical and biological quality.</p> <p>Blue Flag and Green Coast Award Beaches in Snowdonia.</p> <p>Bathing and estuary water quality.</p> <p>Number of new developments incorporating water saving devices.</p>	To determine whether water quality is being protected it is proposed that there will be a focus initially upon those watercourses that are designated for or feed into sites designated for nature conservation purposes. However, the quality of watercourses could change as a result of multiple factors, i.e., things outside the control of Cynllun Eryri and so the causes for any changes will need to be discussed with the Environment Agency.	Environment Agency	Every five years

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
To promote mechanisms for waste minimisation, increased re-use and recycling.	The effect of the Cynllun Eryri upon encouraging more sustainable waste management practices should be monitored.	Number of waste management and recycling initiatives established across the National Park.	To monitor levels of litter and recycling in the National Park.	SNPA	Every five years
To promote understanding and enjoyment of the National Park by the public	The effect of Cynllun Eryri upon raising awareness of the Special Qualities of the National Park amongst residents and visitors and the number of new initiatives/ actions implemented that focus upon the Park's Special Qualities. It will also be important to monitor whether such opportunities are being provided for all sectors of society.	<p>Number of new learning opportunities in the Park linked to the Special Qualities.</p> <p>Number of new websites and improvements to existing website regarding the National Park's Special Qualities.</p> <p>Number of visitor inquiries at National Park Visitor Centres.</p> <p>Number of visitors to Carneddau/Glyderau, Cadair Idris and Snowdon.</p>	To determine whether there is an increased understanding of the Park's Special Qualities through time.	SNPA	Every five years

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
		<p>Number of new information boards in the National Park per annum and the topics they are addressing.</p> <p>Number of new recreational facilities within the National Park that are accessible to all e.g. those with visual impairments, those using wheelchairs.</p>			
Promote understanding of the factors contributing to climate change and individual community actions to mitigate the impacts and to adapt.	To determine whether the Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri are increasing awareness of climate change and promoting individual adaptation measures.	<p>Number of people attending courses at Plas Tan y Bwlch (and the types of courses being attended).</p> <p>Percentage of residents in the National Park travelling to work by public transport, walking or cycling.</p>	To understand whether awareness of climate change is increasing and whether individuals are adapting their behaviour to mitigate against such change.	SNPA	Every five years.

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
		Work programme of Biodiversity Officer.			
To promote understanding, valuing and enjoyment of the language and of the cultural heritage in its broadest sense.	To determine whether the Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri are being effectively implemented and are raising awareness of cultural heritage across the Park.	<p>Number of people attending courses at Plas Tan y Bwlch.</p> <p>Number of linguistic and cultural heritage based exhibitions/ initiatives organised per annum in the National Park.</p> <p>Visitor numbers at key cultural sites e.g. Yr Ysgwrn</p>	To understand whether active measures are being taken in the National Park to promote an understanding of linguistic and cultural issues.	SNPA	Every five years.
To promote and facilitate improved community involvement	To determine whether community spirit and cohesion is improving across the National Park and whether there is improved access to community facilities.	<p>Percentage of people in each Community Council satisfied with the National Park as a place to live.</p> <p>Number of local community initiatives, e.g. fetes, craft sales per annum.</p>	To monitor the collective success of Cynllun Eryri in securing greater community spirit and cohesion. However, this is something that can be very difficult to monitor and could be affected by a wide range of factors.	SNPA Community Councils	Annually

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
		<p>Responses to public consultations issued by the National Park.</p> <p>Work programme of wellbeing and volunteer officer.</p>			
To promote good transport links to support the local economy.	<p>To determine whether the Outcomes in Cynllun Eryri are helping to reduce travel by private car and also if improved ICT infrastructure is leading to increased home working.</p> <p>It will also be important to monitor whether improvements are being made to the National Park's public transport network.</p>	<p>Average distance travelled to work.</p> <p>Percentage of the National Park population working from home.</p> <p>Number of new public transport schemes/ services implemented per annum in the National Park and the spatial distribution of these improvements.</p> <p>Percentage of the National Park population travelling to</p>	These indicators will help to determine whether connections in the National Park are being improved and how they are affecting travel and working patterns.	<p>SNPA</p> <p>Community Councils</p> <p>Public transport service providers</p> <p>Census data</p>	Annually and every five years for the average distance travelled to work.

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
		work using public transport, walking or cycling.			
To aid the creation of local employment opportunities and businesses related to National Park purposes.	Cynllun Eryri could encourage creating job opportunities, new initiatives and business opportunities through its Outcomes and the development of such opportunities should be monitored.	<p>Economic activity rates in the National Park.</p> <p>Number of new employment developments with data collected about location and type of employment.</p> <p>Number of new businesses per annum in the National Park linked to 'green technologies'.</p> <p>Number of new business start-ups in the National Park.</p>	To determine whether new businesses are being created and if they are linked to National Park purposes.	SNPA Business Eye Service Census data	Annually.
To improve the local skills base.	There is a focus in Cynllun Eryri upon raising awareness and providing	Number of people attending courses at Plas Tan y Bwlch (and	These indicators would help to determine whether new learning	SNPA	Annually

SA Objective	Effect to be Monitored	Monitoring Indicator	Justification for Use of Indicator	Data Source	Review Timescale
To provide learning opportunities.	more opportunities for both residents and visitors to have the opportunity to learn more about the National Park and raise their skills levels in the process. It will be important to monitor whether such opportunities are being provided and if they are affecting skills levels. It is, therefore, proposed that monitoring for these two SA Objectives should be undertaken in tandem.	<p>the types of courses being attended).</p> <p>Number of linguistic and cultural heritage based exhibitions/ initiatives organiser per annum in the National Park.</p> <p>Number of new web-based learning opportunities related to the National Park's purposes.</p> <p>Work programme of wellbeing and volunteer officer.</p>	opportunities are being provided. Measuring the effect upon local skills levels will be more difficult to monitor.		

8.5 Management and Responsibilities

The monitoring data will be collated in a structured manner so that patterns and trends can be identified and remedial action implemented. Data could be collated in a tabular format and record the following:

- The SA Objective.
- The indicator being used.
- The data recorded.
- The trend, i.e., is the situation improving or deteriorating.
- The need for remedial action.
- The remedial action to be taken.
- The date for the implementation of remedial action.

However, it is currently anticipated that remedial action will not be needed as there are no significant adverse effects anticipated as a result of Cynllun Eryri Outcomes.

The monitoring process may identify that some of the Outcomes are not being implemented as effectively as they could be and this should trigger the review of the associated Action Plan to ensure that efforts are targeted accordingly in future years.

9. Next Steps

Table 12 summarises the next steps in the production of Cynllun Eryri and the SA process.

Table 12 Next Steps in the SA Process

Stage in the Process	Target Date
Consultation on the Final SA Report and Cynllun Eryri.	3 February – 13 March 2020
Collation of representations and modifications to Cynllun Eryri .	March / April 2020
Publication of the final Cynllun Eryri.	May 2020