



## SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

# WELL-BEING STATEMENT 2021-2026

Adopted by the Authority March, 2021

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is about improving the economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being of Wales. Public bodies in Wales must work to achieve a shared vision, expressed in the Act as the seven national well-being goals:

A Prosperous Wales	A Resilient Wales	A Healthier Wales	A More equal Wales	A Wales of Cohesive Communities	A Wales of Vibrant Culture and thriving Welsh Language	A Globally responsible Wales
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Public bodies subject to the Act have a legal duty to adopt the sustainable development principle when setting well-being objectives and in taking steps to achieve those objectives. In the Act the sustainable development principle is represented by the five ways of working, which are:



This document sets out Snowdonia National Park Authority's revised well-being objectives, describes how they will help us achieve the seven well-being goals for Wales and establishes the rationale and the steps we will take to achieve them. Underpinning our well-being objectives, are our Sustainable Development principles, Vision, Service Priorities and Corporate Work Programme.



# WELL-BEING STATEMENT 2021-2026

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# WELL-BEING STATEMENT

## 2021-2026

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Snowdonia National Park Authority is committed to the principles of Sustainable Development and Continuous Improvement. This document forms a key element in the system by which the Authority establishes its work programme and monitors performance and improvement
- 1.2 The Authority's Well-Being Statement is the document which details the Authority's corporate vision and priority outcomes. The document is a high level strategic document which identifies the Authority's guiding principles and key priorities. The Well-Being Statement helps to shape what new initiatives and projects/programmes the Authority may develop or bid for in the coming years as well as highlight any areas for improvement.

### 2. BACKGROUND TO ADOPTING NEW WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES FOR 2021-26

- 2.1 In 2018-19 Snowdonia National Park Authority combined its improvement objectives into its Corporate Plan (well-being statement) and produced one document. This approach was consistent across the three National Park Authorities and supported and audited by the Wales Audit Office.
- 2.2 Since the publication of the "Valued and Resilient" report in July 2018, which identified Welsh Government's priorities for the Designated Landscapes of Wales, the Authority's well-being objectives are required to meet the 10 cross-cutting themes found in the document:
  1. Landscapes for everyone
  2. Exemplars of the sustainable management of natural resources
  3. Halting the loss of biodiversity
  4. Green energy and decarbonisation
  5. Realising the economic potential of landscape
  6. Growing tourism and outdoor recreation
  7. Thriving Welsh language
  8. All landscapes matter
  9. Delivering through collaboration
  10. Innovation in resourcing
- 2.3 The disapplication (with caveats) of the Local Government Measure 2009 allows the Authority to adopt longer term objectives which will facilitate better alignment of the Authority's work with the Park Management Plan, Local Development Plan, reporting mechanisms and establishment of realistic and SMART'er objectives for annual work programmes.
- 2.4 The Wellbeing and Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 stipulates that the Authority must carry out sustainable development and in doing so must set and publish objectives ("well-being objectives") that are designed to maximise its contribution to achieving each of the

well-being goals, and take all reasonable steps (in exercising its functions) to meet those objectives.

- 2.5 The Authority is required to reflect purposes and duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 1995.
- 2.6 In 2019 Members agreed on the need to review the Authority's objectives to ensure that they better reflected and aligned with the priorities identified in the documents 2.2 – 2.5 above and accommodate Welsh Government's priorities for the designated landscapes of Wales.
- 2.7 A timeline was adopted by the Authority to adopt new wellbeing and strategic objectives for the period 2021-26.

A series of Member and/or staff facilitated engagement sessions were held throughout 2020 during which key areas were identified. Three main themes emerged, two outward and one inward facing. Aligned with the three main themes further five sub themes were developed to provide focus:

#### **RESILIENT ENVIRONMENTS:**

1. Improve recreation management and any negative effects of recreation
2. Responding to the challenges of climate change
3. Improving the management and understanding of our cultural heritage
4. Addressing the challenges and opportunities of post Brexit land management scenarios
5. Addressing the decline in nature.

#### **RESILIENT COMMUNITIES:**

1. Maintaining and increasing the quality of life of residents
2. Supporting young people
3. Promote sustainable tourism to add value to local communities
4. Promote and actively support the Welsh language
5. Develop a local economy which supports both the designation and the management of Snowdonia as a National Park.

#### **RESILIENT WAYS OF WORKING:**

1. Developing a skilled workforce,
2. Developing and promoting best practice,
3. Effective partnership working,
4. Modernising governance arrangements,
5. Maintain and improve the understanding and support of local communities to the work of the National park.

- 2.8 During the summer of 2020, the Authority held an initial informal consultation with stakeholders to gauge whether the initial themes reflected the aims and vision of the National Park Authority whilst utilising the resources available in the most sustainable way. Feedback confirmed the themes and provided suggestions for changes and further improvement.

A formal consultation took place late 2020 prior to further Member/Staff sessions to discuss, consider and develop final draft well-being objectives and a Corporate Work Programme.

- 2.9 The position of the Authority like all other sectors has changed dramatically due to the need to protect public health against the Covid-19 pandemic and the requirements of dealing with the threat to society. Accordingly, this has necessitated changes to both the Authority's Service Priorities and to some elements of the well-being objectives themselves so as to enable the Authority to concentrate efforts and resources on where it is needed.

### 3. SERVICE PRIORITIES

3.1 In developing its service priorities and well-being objectives the Authority takes regard to key legislation and strategic policy statements, other relevant plans and the views of staff, its members, key stakeholders and members of the public including:

- The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Natural Resources Policy
- Remit letter issued on an annual basis by the Welsh Government to the Authority
- Delivery of the National Park Management Plan (Cynllun Eryri)
- Reports by Wales Audit Office on the Authority
- Gwynedd & Mon and Conwy & Denbighshire Public Service Boards Well-Being Plans
- Consultation responses and the views of stakeholders.

3.2 **OUR SERVICE PRIORITIES FOR THE COMING FINANCIAL YEARS ARE SET OUT AS FOLLOWS:**

- ensure that the objectives in Cynllun Eryri, the National Park Management Plan, are delivered successfully by ourselves, our partners and our stakeholders in order to improve the state of the Park;
- ensure that the statutory planning function is adequately resourced and effectively managed in order to meet national policy, customer expectations and support sustainable communities;
- sourcing new income streams to support Park purposes and the Authority;
- ensure that we are fully engaged with and delivering against the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and priorities of Valued and Resilient;
- demonstrating both locally and nationally the benefits of a National Park Authority to manage such a special place as Snowdonia for both now and for future generations;
- protect our staff, residents, users and the National Health Service against the spread of Covid-19 virus at a local, regional and national level;
- ensure that both staff and members are adequately supported in their working arrangements in such a period and that the wellbeing of staff is supported;
- deal with the operational needs and financial pressures resulting from the constraints and challenges of operating in a challenging environment and the required measures in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic and years beyond;

3.3. **HOW THE AUTHORITY GOES ABOUT ITS BUSINESS IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT IN THESE ECONOMIC TIMES AND IN THIS CONTEXT THE AUTHORITY WILL ADOPT THE FOLLOWING APPROACH:**

- further embedding sustainable development as a core principle that guides all our work;
- by working with our partners, adopting an enabling and facilitating role in attaining our purposes;
- will fully evaluate long term financial and other commitments of all potential projects;
- working with our communities in attaining the vision of the Authority.

## 4. WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

4.1 The Well-being of Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 ("the Act") gives a legally binding common purpose namely the seven well-being goals. The seven well-being goals are as follows:

A Prosperous Wales	A Resilient Wales	A Healthier Wales	A More Equal Wales	A Wales of Cohesive Communities	A Wales of Vibrant Culture and thriving Welsh Language	A Globally responsible Wales
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The Act applies to national government, local government, local health boards and other specified public bodies such as this Authority.

For the Authority the core duty in the Act (the well-being duty) is that we must set well-being objectives that maximise our contribution to achieving the well-being goals set out above. In doing so, we must take all reasonable steps to meet those well-being objectives in accordance with the sustainable development principle.

4.2 The Authority's well-being objectives should be objectives for change over the long term. We will meet our well-being objectives by a series of steps and these can themselves be short, medium or long term actions for change or a combination of the same.

4.3 The Authority's well-being objectives are set out in Section 5 of this Well-being Statement. They are set out in such a way as to clearly show how each and every one of them applies to each of the seven well-being goals. Beneath the individual well-being objectives are the series of steps needed to achieve the same and these have, once again, been assessed individually as to how they apply to each of the seven well-being goals. The steps to be undertaken as set out above and in Section 5 is supported by a detailed Work Programme that is reported to and audited by the Authority on a regular basis throughout the year. The progress can then be measured by the Local Performance Indicators adopted for that specific purpose.

4.4 Supporting the Well-being goals is a parallel duty that each public body must carry out sustainable development. Further details as to what constitutes sustainable development is set out below.

Any actions that we take in achieving our well-being objectives will need to be made in a sustainable way. Sustainable development involves five key requirements namely:

1. **Long Term** – the importance of balancing short term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to meet long term needs, especially where things done to meet short term needs may have detrimental long term effects.
2. **Integration** – how our well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, how the well-being objectives may impact upon each other or upon other public bodies' well-being objectives, in particular where steps taken by us may contribute to meeting one objective but may be detrimental to meeting another.
3. **Involvement** – the importance of involving other persons with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and of ensuring those persons reflect the diversity of the population of Wales or the geographical area of the Authority.

4. **Collaboration** – acting in collaboration with any person (or how different parts of the Authority acting together) could assist the Authority to meet its well-being objectives, or assist another body to meet its objectives.
5. **Prevention** – to take account of how deploying resources to prevent problems occurring, or getting worse may contribute to meeting the Authority's well-being objectives, or another body's objectives.

4.5 Having assessed the requirements of sustainable development with the Authority's well-being objectives it appears that sustainable development is an integral part of our well-being objectives, further details of which are set out below:

**Long Term:** Each of the Authority's well-being objectives encompasses the long term aspirations of the Authority, in particular how we as an Authority will go about our business in the future and the ethos of our thinking. These involve greater collaboration with our stakeholders, increased awareness of the health benefits of the National Park to people in general, the challenges of climate change, empowering our communities whilst recognising that the Authority must continue to operate within the financial resources available to it.

**Integration:** Some of our well-being objectives have a greater impact on individual well-being goals than others. As part of the process of adopting our well-being objectives the Authority considered how they meet the well-being goals and these are set out not only in respect for each of the well-being objectives but also for the actions associated with our well-being objectives.

**Involvement:** Most of our well-being objectives involve other people. By communicating effectively and broadening the understanding of the public on such diverse subjects as to the challenges faced by Snowdonia in responding to climate change, addressing any negative effects of recreation whilst improving understanding of our cultural heritage it is expected that such communications will reflect the population of Wales. Likewise ensuring that our communities are resilient in the face of the challenges that they face will of course involve not only the population of the geographical area of the Authority but also the population of Wales as a whole as it is only by involving all that we can ultimately hope to be successful. Our Resilient ways of working objective, whilst not directly involving other people is the objective that ensures that the long term ambitions of the Authority continue to be attainable.

**Collaboration:** As a relatively small Authority Snowdonia National Park Authority has always recognised the significant advantages that can be gained through collaborating with others and through sustained partnership working. This form of thinking is by now ingrained into the fabric of the Authority and its staff and it comes as no surprise that all our well-being objectives involve collaboration. All of our well-being objectives will involve a mixture of internal and external collaboration.

**Prevention:** It should come as no surprise that prevention is a central plank to the Authority's well-being objectives when one considers our statutory purposes. By involving our communities and others in the work of the Authority; by communicating effectively as to the very real opportunities that the National Park offers; by ensuring that we offer favourable conditions for habitat recovery; by taking these and other actions now, we can begin the process of adapting to the challenges of climate change. If resources are not deployed now on these issues there is a real risk that the challenges facing future generations will prove insurmountable.

The Authority's well-being objectives are set out in Section 5. Progress on the implementation of its well-being objectives will be reviewed on a regular basis by the Authority's Performance and Resources Committee. A final report is considered by the Authority after the financial year has ended, through consideration of the Authority's Annual Report.

## 5. WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES

The Well-Being Objectives and Corresponding Activities, and a Summary of how they meet the Well-Being Goals

RESILIENT ENVIRONMENTS Amgylcheddau Cydnerth (AC)	Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	More equal	Cohesive Communities	Vibrant Culture	Global responsible
<b>This outcome will be achieved by:</b>							
AC1 Improving recreation management and any negative effects of recreation	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
AC2 Responding to the challenges of Climate Change	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
AC3 Improving the management and understanding of Cultural Heritage	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
AC4 Addressing the challenges and opportunities of post Brexit land management scenarios	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
AC5 Addressing the decline in nature		✓	✓				✓

**We will know we are succeeding in delivering the well-being objective when:**

**AC1:** We will have developed and implemented guiding principles and thresholds in relation to visitor impacts on the environment and landscape *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.1)*

**AC1:** We have ensured that uplands paths are well maintained to manage the impacts of erosion and prioritise work based on the number of footpath users *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.2)*

**AC1, 2:** We have reduced the impacts of parking and transport on the environment and landscape *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.4)*

**AC1:** We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5)*

**AC1:** Using the brand marketing strategy as a foundation, we will have developed a shared plan with partners on the information we provide to visitors, with an emphasis on the Special Qualities and behavioural change *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.3)*

**AC2, 4:** The carbon emissions of Snowdonia National Park are reduced *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.1)*

**AC2, 4:** We have safeguarded and increased the amount of carbon stored in Snowdonia *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.2)*

**AC3, 4, 5:** We have co-ordinated and implemented an ambitious public goods scheme that focuses on maintaining, restoring and expanding habitats, species, historic environment features and wider public goods *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1)*

**AC5:** Biodiversity decline is being addressed through maintenance, restoration, expansion and connectivity activities (as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.2)

**AC2, 4, 5:** We have continued to expand current Partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species (as per Cynllun Eryri A4.2)

**AC3:** We have supported the repair and restoration of listed buildings, supported the safeguarding of Scheduled Monuments and developed and implemented landscape scale projects which benefit the historic environment (as per Cynllun Eryri A6.1. A6.2. A6.3).

<b>RESILIENT COMMUNITIES</b> Cymunedau Cydnerth (CC)	Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	More equal	Cohesive Communities	Vibrant Culture	Global responsible
<b>This outcome will be achieved by:</b>							
CC1 Maintaining and increasing the quality of life of residents	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CC2 Supporting young people	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CC3 Promoting sustainable tourism to add value to local communities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CC4 Promoting and actively supporting the Welsh language	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CC5 Developing a local economy which supports both the designation and the management of Snowdonia as a National Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**We will know we are succeeding in delivering the well-being objective when:**

**CC1, 2, 4:** We have promoted and enabled a diverse range of activities that improve people's wellbeing (as per Cynllun Eryri B1.2)

**CC1, 3, 5:** We have created a plan and focus resources on promoting, developing and maintaining well-marked long distance trails, accessible trails, multi user trails (particularly cycling trails and mountain bike routes), promoted routes and links and loops between towns and villages (as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B2.1)

**CC1, 2, 3, 5:** We have encouraged visitors to come at different times of year and to different areas in order to ease pressure during the peak season and help businesses with seasonality issues (as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2)

**CC1,3,5:** We have explored and implemented opportunities to encourage greener transport (as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B4.2)

**CC2, 3, 4:** We have created opportunities for young people to be ambassadors for the language and culture of the area (as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1)

**CC4, 5:** We lead by example in ensuring that the Welsh language, culture and heritage is promoted and used in events, activities and information (as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1)

**CC 4:** We have implemented measures in the Local Development Plan and related Supplementary Planning Guidance which encourages new developments to maintain or enhance the development of the Welsh language *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1)*

**CC4:** We have provided opportunities for Welsh learners in the area *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.2)*

**CC4:** We have protected Welsh place names *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.3)*

**CC1, 2, 4:** We have worked with partners to address underlying issues and develop innovative solutions to delivering affordable housing that meets local needs *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C3.1)*

<b>RESILIENT WAYS OF WORKING</b> Ffyrdd Cydnerth o Weithio (CW)	Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	More equal	Cohesive Communities	Vibrant Culture	Global responsible
<b>This outcome will be achieved by:</b>							
<b>CW1</b> Developing a skilled workforce	✓	✓	✓				
<b>CW2</b> Developing and promoting best practice	✓	✓	✓	✓			
<b>CW3</b> Effective partnership working	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>CW4</b> Modernising governance arrangements	✓	✓		✓			✓
<b>CW5</b> Maintaining and improve the understanding and support of local communities to the work of the National Park		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**We will know we are succeeding in delivering the well-being objective when:**

**CW1, 2:** We have invested in our staff to ensure that they have both the expertise and skills needed to meet present and future challenges.

**CW2, 3:** Cynllun Eryri is being implemented successfully.

**CW2, 4:** We have undertaken a review of existing governance arrangements to ensure that the Authority continues to function effectively and will be adaptable enough to meet future challenges. Monitor any changes to ensure that they are working as planned.

**CW5:** Opportunities for local communities, schools, hard to reach and disadvantaged groups to engage with, and learn about, Eryri's environment and cultural heritage, and how they can help care for it have been identified *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.1)*

**CW5:** We have supported, promoted and delivered volunteering opportunities that help protect and enhance the environment and cultural heritage *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.2)*

**CW5:** We will have increased opportunities for dialogue between the National Park Authority and community based organisations *(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C4.1)*

## 6. CONTACT DETAILS

We welcome your input and suggestions. Please contact Iwan Jones with your comments.

Further information on the details set out in this Well-Being Statement can be obtained by writing or e-mailing:

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