

NOTICE OF MEETING



Snowdonia National Park Authority

Emyr Williams

Chief Executive

Snowdonia National Park Authority

Penrhyndeudraeth

Gwynedd LL48 6LF

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Meeting: Snowdonia National Park Authority
Annual General Meeting

Date: Wednesday 14 June 2023

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Location: The Oakeley Room, Plas Tan y
Bwlch, Maentwrog and via Zoom

Members are asked to join the meeting 15 minutes before the designated start time

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

*Councillor: Elwyn Edwards, Annwen Hughes, Louise Hughes, June Jones,
Kim Jones, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts,
John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts;*

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor: Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Dilwyn Owain Roberts;

Members appointed by The Welsh Government

*Mr. Brian Angell, Ms. Tracey Evans, Mrs. Sarah Hattle, Mr. Tim Jones,
Ms. Naomi Luhde – Thompson, Ms. Delyth Lloyd.*

****This Agenda is also available in Welsh***

A G E N D A

Page Nos.

1. **Chair**
To elect a Chairman of the Authority until the next annual meeting.
2. **Vice-Chair**
To elect a Vice-Chairman of the Authority until the next annual meeting.
3. **Apologies for absence and Chairman's Announcements**
4. **Corporate Update**
To receive an oral update from the Chief Executive.
5. **Public Question Time**
The Authority has allocated up to 20 minutes at the start of its meeting to allow members of the public the opportunity to ask specific questions that relate to the work of the Authority (apart from planning applications) that is relevant to the Park's duties and purposes.

Questions must be submitted in writing (by post or e-mail) to the Director of Corporate Services at least 7 days prior to the meeting.
6. **Declaration of Interest**
To receive any disclosure of interest by members or officers in respect of any item of business.
7. **Membership of the Authority** 4 - 5
To record formally the membership of the Authority. (Copy herewith)
8. **Minutes of the Authority** 6 - 10
The Chairman shall propose that the minutes of the meeting of this Authority held on the 26th April 2023, be signed as a true record (copy herewith) and to receive matters arising, for information.
9. **Action Log** 11
To submit the Action Log for information and decision. (Copy herewith)
10. **Appointment of Members to serve on Committees, Panels, Working Groups and External Representation** 12 - 15
To submit a report by the Chief Executive. (Copy herewith)
11. **Annual Report to the Authority** 16 - 18
To submit a report by the Chair of the Standards Committee. (Copy herewith)
12. **Annual Governance Statement 2022/23** 19 - 50
To submit a report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care. (Copy herewith)
13. **Corporate Work Programme 2022/23** 51 - 75
To submit a report by the Director of Corporate Services. (Copy herewith)

14.	Members' Attendance To submit a report by the Director of Corporate Services. (Copy herewith)	76 - 80
15.	Welsh Language Standards To submit a report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care. (Copy herewith)	81 - 95
16.	Cynllun Eryri Annual Monitoring Report 2022 To submit a report by the Partnerships Manager. (Copy herewith)	96 - 167
17.	Yr Ysgwrn Annual Report 2022-23 To submit a report by the Head of Cultural Heritage. (Copy herewith)	168 - 170
18.	Working Group Report To submit the report of the Members Working Group held on 19 th April 2023. (Copy herewith)	171 - 173
19.	Meetings of other Organisations To receive oral and written reports from Members on any recent meetings which they have attended as representatives of the Authority.	
20.	To submit the following minutes for information	
	(1) Minutes of National Parks Wales Executive Meeting held on 4 th October 2022. (Copy herewith)	174 - 179
	(2) Minutes of the Performance & Resources Committee held on the 22 nd March 2023. (Copy herewith)	180 -183
	(3) Minutes of the Standards Committee held on the 28 th April 2023. (Copy herewith)	184 - 188
21.	Section 151 Officer Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972: Exemption from disclosure of documents To consider adopting the following resolution:- "That under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1, Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act, namely information relating to applicants to become employees of the Authority".	189
	PART II	190 - 194
22.	Section 151 Officer To submit a report by the Chief Executive. (Copy herewith)	

MEETING	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE	14 th June 2023
TITLE	MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY
REPORT BY	Chief Executive
PURPOSE	For information

The Authority consists of 18 Members, 9 of whom are appointed by Gwynedd Council, 3 by Conwy County Borough Council and 6 by the Welsh Government.

The Membership is as follows:-

9 Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

1. Councillor Elwyn Edwards Cynghorydd.ElwynEdwards@eryri.llyw.cymru
2. Councillor Annwen Hughes Cynghorydd.AnnwenHughes@eryri.llyw.cymru
3. Councillor Louise Hughes Cynghorydd.LouiseHughes@eryri.llyw.cymru
4. Councillor June Jones Cynghorydd.JuneJones@eryri.llyw.cymru
5. Councillor Kim Jones Cynghorydd.KimJones@eryri.llyw.cymru
6. Councillor Edgar Wyn Owen Cynghorydd.EdgarOwen@eryri.llyw.cymru
7. Councillor Elfed Powell Roberts Cynghorydd.ElfedRoberts@eryri.llyw.cymru
8. Councillor John Pughe Roberts Cynghorydd.JohnPugheRoberts@eryri.llyw.cymru
9. Councillor Meryl Roberts Cynghorydd.MerylRoberts@eryri.llyw.cymru

3 Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

10. Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd Cynghorydd.IforGlynLloyd@eryri.llyw.cymru
11. Councillor Jo Nuttall Cynghorydd.JoNuttall@eryri.llyw.cymru
12. Councillor Dilwyn Owain Roberts Cynghorydd.DilwynOwainRoberts@eryri.llyw.cymru

6 Members appointed by The Welsh Government

13. Mr. Brian Angell, Lake House Brian.Angell@eryri.llyw.cymru
14. Ms. Tracey Evans Tracey.Evans@eryri.llyw.cymru
15. Mrs. Sarah Hattle Sarah.Hattle@eryri.llyw.cymru
16. Mr. Tim Jones Tim.Jones@eryri.llyw.cymru
17. Ms. Naomi Luhde-Thompson Naomi.Luhde-Thompson@eryri.llyw.cymru
18. Ms. Delyth Lloyd Delyth.Lloyd@eryri.llyw.cymru

Website Contact Details

Officers would be grateful if you could consent to your name, address, preferred contact telephone number and email address being published on the Authority's website.

**SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
WEDNESDAY 26th APRIL 2023**

Councillor Annwen Hughes (Gwynedd) (Chair)

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards, June Jones, Louise Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Dilwyn Owain Roberts;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Mr. Brian Angell, Ms. Tracey Evans, Ms. Sarah Hattle, Mr. Tim Jones, Ms. Delyth Lloyd;

Officers

Mr. E. Williams, Mr. G.I. Jones, Mr. J. Cawley, Mr. D. Edwards, Mr. David Williams, Mrs. A. Gaffey.

Apologies

Councillor Kim Jones; Ms. Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

The Director of Corporate Services stated that as part of the meeting was being held remotely, it was being recorded to assist in verifying the minutes and would be made available online at a later date.

1. Chair's Announcements

- (1) the Chair welcomed Mr. Brian Angell to the meeting following his recent illness.
- (2) the Chair reported on meetings attended since the Authority had previously met:-
 - the Authority Chairs and Vice-Chair had recently taken part in Governance Audit interviews with Audit Wales.
 - the Chair and Vice-Chair, as interview panel Members, had recommended the appointment of a new Independent Member to the Standards Committee vacancy and also, had recently taken part in interviews for the Head of Planning Policy.
 - the Chairs and Chief Executives of the Welsh National Park Authorities' had recently attended the six-monthly meeting with the Minister.
 - the Chair thanked the Members who had visited the Magnox site during the recent Member Development Day, and
 - reminded Members to register for the upcoming Welsh Members' Seminar being hosted by Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority.

2. Corporate Update

Received – The Chief Executive provided an oral update on the following:-

- the Chief Executive announced the launch of the 'Plastic Free Yr Wyddfa' project, an initiative launched by the Authority in response to the growing concern over plastic waste and its impact on the environment.
- the Chief Executive, Senior Members, Councillor Dilwyn Roberts and Mr. Tim Jones were meeting on the rising of the Authority meeting to discuss the ongoing financial position.

- the Chief Executive reported that the Minister was fully aware of the financial challenges faced by the National Parks and was committed to providing additional funds, such as the grant of £230k awarded at the end of 2022/2023 financial year.
- the Chief Executive referred to the recent decision by Bannau Brycheiniog National Park to use only its Welsh language name in future. Members welcomed the decision and that they had followed the lead taken by Eryri.

3. **Public Question Time**

Members were informed that no public questions had been received.

4. **Declaration of Interest**

Mr. Dafydd Edwards declared an interest in Item 9 on the Agenda.

5. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Authority meeting held on 8th February 2023 were accepted and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

6. **Matters for information arising from the minutes**

Item 2 – Corporate Update

- in response to a question, the Chief Executive advised that the meetings with Janet Finch-Saunders MS and Mabon ap Gwynfor MS had been beneficial and had led to questions from the floor of the Senedd.
- the Director of Corporate Services informed Members that the site visit with the Railway Company had been delayed, but he was hopeful it would take place in the near future.

7. **Action Log**

Submitted – A log of strategic actions arising from decisions taken during meetings of the Authority, for information and action.

Authority Meeting 25.09.19

Action Item 8 – Budget Update

The Director of Corporate Services proposed that the actions were now complete and should be removed from the Action Log. He advised that the newly created Property Officer post had been filled, the Assets Sub-group had now met, and that the work was continuing.

Authority Meeting 08.02.23

Action Item 16 – Terms and Conditions of Service – SNPA Senior Management Team: Directors

Members noted that the Chair would be included in the Responsible Officer column.

RESOLVED to note the Action Log and remove the action as outlined.

8. **Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2023/24 – 2026/27**

Submitted – A joint report by the Chief Executive and the Chief Finance Officer to discuss and adopt the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

Reported – The Chief Executive presented the report, prepared as an easy-to-understand working document to provide an overview of the Authority's financial position and identify the challenges ahead. The Chief Executive outlined the main points for Members.

Members and officers discussed the report and made the following observations:-

- the Chief Finance Officer acknowledged the difficulties faced by the Chief Executive and the Finance Officer in preparing the MTFP in the light of current uncertainties and noted that one-off funding from the reserves were available to allow the Authority time to plan for the future.
- in response to a question, the Chief Executive advised that funding for the three Welsh National Park Authorities was based on an agreed formula established some time ago, although any new grants were not based on this formula and were structured on a competitive basis.
- the Chief Executive confirmed that the Authority can recover up to 25% of its administration costs for Welsh Government grant aided projects. He also noted that Members are provided with 6 monthly updates on external grant funding, and that currently the report was being amended to provide a more strategic layout.
- the Chief Executive agreed that setting a lower threshold was as important as setting an upper limit and as Members of the National Park Partnership, a recent small project with BMW which provides support for biodiversity in the Llyn Tegid area, had allowed the Authority to build relationships with others in the private sector. Arising thereon, the Chief Executive confirmed that in the past the Management Team have rejected projects which have not met the requirements of the assessment process.
- a Member felt, that under para. 5.4 - Relevant Steps for the Future, the Authority should look closely at sponsorships and working with the private sector. The Chief Executive noted that Audit Wales were about to carry out an income audit of the three Welsh National Park Authorities to look at current income sources and assess the benefits of expanding this.
- the Chief Executive, in response to a suggestion to challenge the Welsh Government on the settlement, which represents a 30% reduction in funding, advised that the National Park Authorities represent a very small percentage of their overall budget and were not a priority for the Welsh Government at this time when competing against the Health and Education Sectors.
- the Chief Executive advised that the Authority had established a trust at one time, which had failed and had to be terminated. The Chief Executive stated that he would prefer to continue working as a member of the National Parks Foundation, a partnership of eight National Park Authorities that was now starting to show financial benefits.
- in response to a question, the Chief Executive confirmed there was collaboration with Welsh Government and that the Minister was visiting Eryri in the summer to view two or three projects. He also stated that 'Landscapes Wales', the partnerships of designated landscapes, made up of the three National Parks and five AONB's, work together to make a difference and present one strategic voice.
- Members further discussed possible PR risks of working with the private sector and the Chief Executive advised that the National Parks Partnership have an ethical policy in place to protect the National Park's from greenwashing, a tactic used to make companies/products appear environmentally friendly without reducing their environmental impact.

RESOLVED to note the report and the issues outlined in the MTFP and to adopt the Mid Term Financial Plan as a working document.

9. **Section 151 Officer**

Submitted – A report by the Chief Executive to consider options for appointing a Section 151 Officer to act on behalf of the Snowdonia National Park Authority.

Reported – The Chief Executive presented the report and background and advised upon his preference for the arrangement with Gwynedd Council to continue.

The Chief Finance Officer took the opportunity to reinforce how well the current arrangements have worked in the past and recommended this should continue for the benefit of the Authority.

RESOLVED

1. **that Officers should hold further discussions with Gwynedd Council regarding the provision of a Section 151 Officer to serve the Authority.**
2. **if the arrangement is confirmed, to invite the relevant Officer to the next meeting of the Authority in order to consider a formal appointment.**

10. **Report of Interview Panel for an Independent Member to the Standards Committee**

Submitted – A report by the Director of Corporate Services for the Authority to confirm the appointment of an Independent Member to the Standards Committee.

RESOLVED that the Authority appoints Mr. Mark Jones to be an Independent Member of the Standards Committee for a term of five years.

11. **Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales**

Submitted – A report by the Director of Corporate Services to discuss the Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

Reported – The Director of Corporate Services presented the report and background.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

12. **National Parks Wales Members' Seminar 2023**

Submitted – A report by the Chief Executive to advise upon the upcoming Welsh Members' Seminar being hosted by Bannau Brycheiniog National Park.

Reported – The Chief Executive presented the report, the draft programme for 2023 and the activities options.

RESOLVED

1. **to note the report and the National Parks Wales Members' Seminar draft programme and activities options for 2023.**
2. **that Members should notify the Members' Services Officer whether they are attending the Seminar or not.**

13. **Members' Working Group Report**

Submitted – The report of the Members' Working Group meeting held on 25th January 2023.

RESOLVED to note the reports.

14. **Europarc Conference 2023**

Submitted – A report by the Chief Executive to inform Members of the EUROPARC Conference 2023 and discuss representation from Eryri at the event.

Reported - The Chief Executive presented the report and advised that the next Europarc Conference would be held in Leeuwarden, Northern Netherlands from the 3rd to 6th October 2023. The theme of the Conference was “Tribute to our landscape, where nature and people meet in harmony – learn from the past to prepare for our future”.

RESOLVED

1. to note the report and authorise representation from Eryri at the Europarc Conference 2023.
2. to send two delegates (1 member and 1 officer) to the Europarc Conference and for the Chair and Chief Executive to approve the delegation.
3. that Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd should represent the Authority at the Europarc 2023 Conference in Leeuwarden, Northern Netherlands with Councillor Elfed Roberts in reserve.

15. **Calendar of Meetings**

Submitted – A timetable of meetings for the period 2023/2024.

Reported – The Director of Corporate Services presented the Calendar of Meetings

RESOLVED to approve the timetable for 2023/24 as submitted.

16. **Meetings of other Organisations**

Members had not attended external meetings as representatives of the Authority.

17. **Minutes**

Submitted - The minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee held on 30th November 2022, for information.

RESOLVED to note the minutes.

The meeting ended at 11.05



TAFLEN WEITHREDU – ACTION SHEET

AUTHORITY MEETING – 08.02.2023

ITEM NO. AND TITLE	DECISIONS / OBSERVATIONS	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	UPDATE or COMPLETION DATE	REMOVE FROM ACTION LOG
16. Terms and Conditions of Service – SNPA Senior Management Team: Directors	- that the Panel, together with the Monitoring Officer and the Head of Human Resources, further consider the terms and conditions of the Chief Executive, and to present a report to the next meeting of the Authority if required to do so.	Need to arrange a meeting to consider the issues, date is yet to be agreed	Chair / NM/GIJ	Currently collating required information in order to enable full discussion at a future meeting. Date of meeting to be confirmed.	NO
	- that the Panel, together with the Head of Human Resources and the new Section 151 Officer, are tasked and authorised to address potential matters resulting from turnover of personnel in the Senior Management Team.	Need to arrange a meeting to consider the issues, date is yet to be agreed	NM	Date to be confirmed	NO

MEETING	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE	14 th June 2023
TITLE	APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON COMMITTEES, PANELS, WORKING GROUPS AND EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION
REPORT BY	Chief Executive
PURPOSE	To appoint Members for the forthcoming year

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Authority is invited to nominate Members to serve on its Committees, Panels, Working Groups, and to represent the Authority at meetings of other organisations for the forthcoming year.
- 1.2 All Committees, Panels and Working Groups are fully vacant with the exception of the Standards Committee whose Members are appointed for a 4-year term. Names of previous membership are included, for information only, to assist members.
- 1.3 Members are reminded that the constitution of Committees and Sub-Committees has been arranged so that the proportion of Local Authority to Welsh Government appointees is in the same proportion as on the Authority itself (2:1) as far as is practical having regard to whole numbers.

2. RECOMMENDATION

To appoint Members to serve on the following Committees, Panels, Working Groups and external organisations.

3. COMMITTEES

- i) **Planning and Access Committee** - All Authority Members
(8 meetings a year)
- ii) **Performance and Resources Committee** – All Authority Members
(3 meetings a year)

iii) **Standards Committee** (3 Authority Members – 4-year term of office)
(1 meeting a year)

Local Authority Appointees (2) 1) Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts
2) Cllr. Dilwyn Owain Roberts

Welsh Government Appointee (1) 1) Mrs. Sarah Hattle

Independent Members (3) 1) Mrs. Sharon Warnes
2) Mr. Martin James Hughes
3) Mr. Mark Jones

4. **PANEL**

i) **Single Status Grading Appeals Panel** (3 Members + 2 substitute Members)
(no scheduled meetings - to meet as required)

* (All Members should be drawn from the Standards Committee by the Standards Committee)

5. **WORKING GROUPS**

i) **Members Working Group** - All Authority Members
(8 meetings a year)

ii) **Local Joint Working Group** (4 Members)
(2 meetings a year)

Local Authority Appointees (3) 1) Cllr. Ifor Glyn Lloyd
2) Cllr. Elwyn Edwards
3) Cllr. Kim Jones

Welsh Government Appointee (1) 1) Mrs. Sarah Hattle

Trade Union Representatives (4) Apportioned in accordance with the
Constitution of the Working Group

iii) **Yr Ysgwrn Management Board** (3 Authority Members)
(to meet as required)

Local Authority Appointees (2) 1) Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts
2) Cllr. Elwyn Edwards

Welsh Government Appointees (1) 1) Ms. Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

iv) **Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board** (3 Members)
(to meet as required)

Councillor Meryl Roberts; Ms. Tracey Evans, Mr. Tim Jones.

6. **AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

i) **Celyn, Tegid and Tryweryn Advisory Conference** (4 Members) (to meet as required)

Local Authority Appointees (3) 1) Cllr. Elwyn Edwards
2) Cllr. Ifor Glyn Lloyd
3) Cllr. June Jones

Welsh Government Appointee (1) 1) Mr. Brian Angell

ii) **Forum Eryri** (5 Members) (4 meetings a year – every quarter)

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Local Authority Appointees (2) 1) Cllr. Kim Jones
2) Cllr. Jo Nuttall

Welsh Government Appointee (1) 1) Mr. Brian Angell

iii) **Local Access Forums** (2 Members) (4 meetings a year – every quarter)

Southern Area Access Forum (1) 1) Cllr. John Pughe Roberts

Northern Area Access Forum (1) 1) Mr. Tim Jones

iv) **Eryri Equality Forum** (1 Member) Cllr. Ifor Glyn Lloyd

7. **TASK & FINISH GROUPS AND STEERING GROUPS**

(i) **Assets Sub-Group** (6 Members) Councillors June Jones, Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Meryl Roberts; Mr. Brian Angell, Ms. Tracey Evans, Mr. Tim Jones.

(ii) **Europarc Youth Manifesto Group** (3 Members) Councillors Kim Jones, John Pughe Roberts; Ms. Tracey Evans.

(iii) **Carbon Account Steering Group** (3 Members) Councillor John Pughe Roberts; Mr. Brian Angell, Mr. Tim Jones.

(iv) **Place Names Steering Group** (3 Members) Councillors Elwyn Edwards, June Jones, Dilwyn Roberts.

8. OTHER BODIES

- i) **Trawsfynydd Site Stakeholder Group** (1 Member)
 - 1) Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts
- ii) **Joint Council for Wales** (1 Member)
 - 1) Cllr. Louise Hughes
- iii) **National Trust, Beddgelert Local Liaison Committee** (1 Member)
 - 1) Cllr. June Jones
- iv) **Campaign for National Parks**
(It is agreed that the 3 Welsh National Park Authorities are represented by a Member of the Authority that holds the National Parks Wales Secretariat)
- v) **Alliance for Welsh Designated Landscapes** (1 Member)
 - 1) Mr. Tim Jones
- vi) **Welsh Local Government Association Council** (1 Member)
 - 1) Cllr. Dilwyn Roberts
- vii) **Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau SAC** (1 Member)
 - 1) Cllr. Louise Hughes
- viii) **Snowdonia Green Key Executive Group** (1 Member)
 - 1) Cllr. June Jones
- ix) **Energy Island Programme Strategic Forum** (1 Member)
 - 1) Cllr. Elfed Powell Roberts
- x) **Dyfi Biosphere Partnership** (1 Member)
 - 1) Cllr. Louise Hughes
- xi) **Cambrian Coast Railway Liaison Conference** (1 Member)
 - 1) Cllr. Meryl Roberts
 - 2) In Reserve: Ms. Delyth Lloyd

MEETING	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE	14 June 2023
TITLE	ANNUAL REPORT TO THE AUTHORITY
REPORT BY	Chair of the Standards Committee
PURPOSE	To agree and to note the contents of the Annual Report

BACKGROUND

1. The terms of reference of the Standards Committee contains two general functions namely:
 - 1.1. To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by the members and co-opted members of the Authority
 - 1.2. To assist members and co-opted members of the Authority to observe the Authority's code of conduct.
2. The Standards Committee also has the following specific functions:
 - 2.1. To advise the Authority on the adoption of, or revision of, the Authority's codes of conduct
 - 2.2. To monitor the operation of the Authority's codes of conduct
 - 2.3. To advise on training of members and co-opted members of the Authority on matters relating to the Authority's codes of conduct
 - 2.4. Considering and where appropriate determining matters referred to it by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.
 - 2.5. Considering Complaints against Members and co-opted Members
 - 2.6. Granting dispensations to members or co-opted members who have a personal interest in any business of the Authority
 - 2.7. Authorising payments by the Monitoring Officer of allowances and expenses to persons who have assisted in an investigation by the Monitoring Officer
 - 2.8. To establish the procedure for determining complaints referred to it for consideration.
3. Finally, the Standards Committee also has some staff functions namely as a final internal appeal on disciplinary matters and as a final appeal on grievances or on conditions of service.
4. The present membership of the Standards Committee consists of two Local Authority Members, one Welsh Government appointed Member and three Independent Members namely Mrs Sharon Warnes (Chair), Mr Martin James Hughes (Vice Chair) and Mr Mark Jones. In accordance with the regulations governing Standards Committees both the Chair and Vice Chair have been appointed from amongst the Independent Members.

ADDITIONAL STATUTORY DUTY

5. From May 2022 the remit of the Standards Committee includes an additional statutory duty to prepare an annual report to the Authority on how the committee's functions have been discharged and provide an overview of conduct matters generally within the Authority.
6. The Chair of the Standards Committee and the Director of Corporate Services have prepared this report, and a draft has been circulated to all members of the Standards Committee before submitting the finalised report to the Authority.
7. The Chair of the Standards Committee will present the report to the Authority or in her absence the report will be presented by the Director of Corporate Services.
8. Guidance has been issued in relation to the preparation of the Annual Report which stipulates that the report must:
 - 8.1. describe how the committee has discharged its functions during the preceding financial year.
 - 8.2. include a summary of reports and recommendations made or referred to the committee by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales relating to the investigation of alleged breaches of the member code of conduct, and any subsequent action taken by the committee.
 - 8.3. include a summary of notices given to the committee by the Adjudication Panel for Wales, relating to the Panel's decisions on possible breaches of the member code of conduct.
 - 8.4. describe the advice it has provided on training for all members and how that has been implemented.

ANNUAL REPORT

9. The Standards Committee has met twice during the year, considered member training on both occasions and appointed Sarah Hattle to lead on mentoring.
10. The Chair of the Standards Committee, Mrs Rachael Leah Jane Davies had to resign as Chair and as an Independent Member as she had taken a role that meant that she could no longer continue in the role. At its meeting on 28th April 2023 the Standards Committee appointed Mrs Sharon Warnes as Chair for the remainder of her period of appointment as an Independent Member.
11. Following the appointment of Mrs Sharon Warnes to the Chair Mr Martin James Hughes was appointed as Vice Chair of the Standards Committee for the remainder of his period of appointment as an Independent Member.
12. Following the resignation of Mrs Rachael Leah Jane Davies the Authority has appointed Mr Mark Jones as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee for a term of 5 years.
13. The Chair of the Standards Committee, Mrs Sharon Warnes has observed a meeting of the Performance and Resources Committee and the Planning and Access Committee as an observer and a formal report of her findings will be presented to the next meeting of the Standards Committee in September.

14. The Chair of the Standards Committee, Mrs Sharon Warnes has also taken part in an interview with Audit Wales as part of their work into Governance on the National Park Authorities in Wales. This report will be a national report considering best practice and will compare the Authority's work with other National Park Authorities in Wales.
15. It granted a general dispensation to members of Gwynedd Council and Conwy County Borough Council to enable said members to take a full part in the determination of issues relating to Gwynedd Council or Conwy County Borough Council for a period up to 31st December 2023 unless further extended by resolution of the Committee prior to 31st December 2023.
16. That there have been no matters referred to the Public Services Ombudsman or to the Adjudication Panel for Wales relating to the investigation of alleged breaches of the member code of conduct as members of this Authority.
17. That there have been no instances during the year where the Authority's Local Resolution procedure has been invoked.
18. The Standards Committee also considered a Complaints Monitoring Report that gave an insight into the nature of complaints received and whether there were any established patterns emerging.
19. The Standards Committee considered a Consultation on the recommendations of the Independent Review of the Ethical Standards Framework (Richard Penn report) and how to respond thereto.
20. That the Standards Committee will continue to monitor progress on training during the year. In this context a questionnaire has been sent to all members of the Authority asking them to detail their strengths as well as to highlight training needs and whether they are in need of mentoring or may be able to offer to mentor others.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

RECOMMENDATION

1. **To discuss and agree the contents of the report.**

ITEM NO. 12

MEETING	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE	14 June 2023
TITLE	ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2022/23
REPORT BY	Head of Administration and Customer Care
PURPOSE	To approve the Statement and allow it to be signed by the Chair and the Chief Executive.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Amongst the requirements placed on local authorities in Wales by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (Wales) 2005 (as amended in 2010) is the need to produce an annual Statement on Internal Control.
- 1.2 In preparing the statement, the Authority must ensure that it incorporates the statutory requirements as outlined in the Regulations. To ensure that this happens, the guidelines published by professional bodies such as CIPFA and SOLACE were followed.
- 1.3 When preparing the Annual Governance Statement, it is essential that evidence is in place in order to support the contents before the document is published. In preparing this statement, a review was undertaken of all the Authority's main Strategies, Plans, Policies, Procedures, Codes of Practice and Guidelines, as detailed in the Statement.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Authority is requested to approve the Annual Governance Statement for the 2022/23 financial year.

Snowdonia National Park Authority Annual Governance Statement 2022-23



This statement meets the requirement to produce a Statement of Internal Control pursuant to Regulation 4 of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended in 2010)

1. Introduction

Snowdonia National Park Authority is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

Snowdonia National Park Authority is subject to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act places a duty on the Authority to set Well-being Objectives that directly contribute to achieving the 7 Well-being Goals as set out in the Act, namely:

- 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

Furthermore, Snowdonia National Park Authority must meet its duties in accordance with a 'statutory sustainability principle', which means that the Authority must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

In discharging this overall responsibility, Snowdonia National Park Authority is also responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, which includes arrangements for the management of risk and adequate and effective financial management.

Snowdonia National Park Authority has approved and adopted a code of corporate governance, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/Solace Framework Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. This statement explains how the Authority has complied with the code and also meets the requirements of regulation 5(2) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 in relation to the publication of a statement on internal control.

The Code of Corporate Governance was reviewed and updated, as part of a larger review of the Authority's governance arrangements in 2021/22. The new Code of Corporate Governance was formally adopted by the Authority in April 2022.

2. The Purpose of the Governance Framework

The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, and culture and values, by which the authority is directed and controlled and its activities through which it accounts to, engages with and leads the community. It enables the authority to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Snowdonia National Park Authority's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

3. The Governance Framework

The Governance Framework comprises the seven principles of good governance:

- **Principle 1:** Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law
- **Principle 2:** Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement
- **Principle 3:** Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits
- **Principle 4:** Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes
- **Principle 5:** Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it
- **Principle 6:** Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management
- **Principle 7:** Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability

Snowdonia National Park Authority develops and implements its strategic corporate planning through the adoption of:

- Cynllun Eryri (Snowdonia National Park Management Plan);
- Eryri Local Development Plan;
- Well-being Statement and Well-being Objectives; and
- Corporate Work Programme.

These 4 documents represent the cornerstone for the Authority's work in fulfilling its primary purposes as defined in the Environment Act 1995 and in implementing its vision.

Governance Structure

The Authority's governance structure comprises of 4 main committees:

- Snowdonia National Park Authority has 18 appointed Members and during 2022/23 had 5 scheduled meetings.
- The Performance and Resources Committee was held 3 times during 2022/23. As part of its remit it undertakes audit committee functions in accordance with CIPFA requirements.
- The Planning and Access Committee was held 7 times during 2022/23. This committee is responsible for carrying out the Authority's statutory planning functions.
- The Authority's Standards Committee was held twice during 2022/23. Membership of the committee, whose remit it is to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members, comprises of 3 Authority Members and 3 independent members.

The Authority's Standing Orders (published on the website) gives a detailed account of the arrangements for each committee. For every committee, the agenda, minutes and associated reports and background papers are all published on the Authority's website.

Management Team

The Authority's management structure includes the Chief Executive (who is also the 'National Park Officer' and the Head of Paid Service) and two Directors. The Authority's Management Team meet fortnightly, with the Head of Finance and the Head of Human Resources in attendance.

Standards

The Authority has an established Code of Conduct for Members, which includes a section that specifically refers to interests and a Members' Register of Interest. The Code of Conduct for staff is the national standard code of conduct for public authority employees.

The Authority has adopted the following policies and procedures for maintaining high standards of conduct for both staff and Members, and to ensure accountability to the public:

- Complaints Procedure – based on the best practice model complaints procedure produced by the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales;

- Whistle Blowing Policy – to enable staff to raise serious concerns with the confidence in knowing that they will be thoroughly and fairly investigated, without fear of reprisals;
- Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy – contains measures designed to frustrate any attempted fraudulent or corrupt act, and the steps to be taken if such an act occurs; and a
- Scheme of Delegation – outlines how the full Authority’s functions are carried out through delegation to its committees and sub-committees.

Risk Management

A Risk Management Policy and Strategy is in place. The risk identification process is co-ordinated by the Head of Administration and Customer Care, with input from the Management Team and Heads of Service. The Risk Register and mitigation measures is reviewed and updated quarterly.

Internal Audit

The review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control and governance arrangements is informed by the work of the Internal Auditors, undertaken by Cyngor Gwynedd. The Internal Audit service is provided in accordance with CIPFA’s Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the UK. The Internal Audit Manager prepares an annual report that summarises the results of internal audit work during the year.

External Audit

Audit Wales act as the Authority’s external auditor, and accordingly report on the Authority’s financial management and performance. In addition, Audit Wales gives an opinion on the adequacy of internal audit work.

Monitoring Officer

The Director of Corporate Services has been nominated as the Monitoring Officer. The Monitoring Officer has the specific duty to ensure that the Authority’s Officers and appointed Members maintain the highest standard of conduct in all they do. The Monitoring Officer advises on constitutional procedure and the legality of the Authority’s actions.

Financial Management

The Authority’s financial management arrangements conform to the governance requirement of the CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government (2016). The Chief Finance Officer (who is Cyngor Gwynedd’s Chief Finance Officer) is the officer responsible for the administration of financial affairs as required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

4. Significant Governance Issues and Actions Undertaken During the Year

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 sets a core duty on the Authority to set well-being objectives that maximise its contribution to achieving the 7 well-being goals set out in the Act. The Authority's well-being objectives should be objectives for change over the long term.

The Authority's Well-being Statement for 2021-26 sets out Well-being Objectives which describes how they will help the Authority achieve the seven wellbeing goals for Wales.

The Well-being Objectives concentrate on three key areas of work - Resilient Environments, Resilient Communities and Resilient Ways of Working - and have been aligned with five sub themes to provide focus, as set out below.

Resilient Environments

1. Improving recreation management and any negative effects of recreation.
2. Responding to the challenges of Climate Change.
3. Improving the management and understanding of 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. Promoting sustainable tourism to add value to local communities.
4. Promoting and actively supporting the Welsh language.
5. Developing a local economy which supports both the designation and the management of Eryri 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. Maintaining and improve the understanding and support of local communities to the work of the National Park.

Any actions that the Authority takes in achieving the 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.

The Corporate Work Programme for 2022/23 was presented for approval as a working document by the Members at the Authority meeting on the 15th of June 2022. The Programme sets out the projects, initiatives and specific actions that will fulfil the Authority’s Well-being Objectives and Service Priorities.

Progress against the Programme has been reported to the Performance and Resources Committee on the 30th of November 2022. It is expected that the full annual report on the Corporate Work Programme be reported to the Performance and Resources Committee in July 2023.

5. Effectiveness of the Governance Framework

Snowdonia National Park Authority has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal auditors and the senior managers within the Authority, who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, and also by comments made by the external auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates. The review is based on the seven principles from the Code of Corporate Governance.

Principle 1: Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law

<p>Code of Corporate Governance</p>	<p>Governance was scrutinised in depth during 2021/22 by a Task and Finish Group of Officers and Members which was established especially for this purpose.</p> <p>The Code of Corporate Governance was reviewed in depth and redrafted by the Group, to ensure that it remains a cornerstone of effective governance for the future.</p> <p>The revised Code of Governance was formally adopted by the Authority in its meeting on the 27th of April 2022.</p>
<p>Standards Committee</p>	<p>The Standards Committee met twice during the year.</p> <p>From May 2022 the remit of the Standards Committee included an additional statutory duty to prepare an annual report to the Authority on how the committee’s functions have been discharged and provide an overview of conduct matters generally within the Authority.</p> <p>The first meeting held on the 1st of April 2022 was primarily dedicated to agreeing the Annual Report, which was later presented to the Authority in its Annual General Meeting held on the 15th of June 2022.</p> <p>The second meeting of Standards Committee which was held on the 2nd of September 2022, considered the Committee’s usual business, which included the nomination of Members for the Single Status Grading Appeals Panel, Grant of Dispensations and the consideration of the Authority’s Annual Complaints Monitoring Report as well as the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales Annual Report.</p>
<p>Whistle Blowing Policy</p>	<p>During 2022/23, no reports or concerns were raised in relation to any Member or Officer of the Authority under the Whistle Blowing Policy.</p>
<p>Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy</p>	<p>During 2022/23, no complaints of alleged fraud or corruption were made regarding any Member or Officer of the Authority, and Internal Auditors did not identify any areas of concern through their auditing work.</p>

Model Code of Conduct	During 2022/23, no amendments or revisions were made to the Model Code of Conduct.
Complaints – Officers	<p>During 2022/23, the Authority received a total of 7 formal complaints.</p> <p>Two of these complaints were later referred to the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales, who declined to investigate further.</p> <p>The Authority was therefore not subject to a formal investigation of alleged maladministration by the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales during 2022/23.</p>
Complaints - Members	During 2022/23, the Authority’s Monitoring Officer did not receive any formal complaints relating to the Members, and no complaints were submitted directly to the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales.
Standing Orders	<p>The Authority’s Standing Orders were reviewed as part of the remit of the Reviewing Governance Task and Finish Group during 2021/22.</p> <p>The review concluded that the Authority continues with its current committee structure but that the Authority should in future consider an amendment giving the Performance and Resources committee the right to make final decisions on financial and other reports (unless Authority approval is specifically required).</p>
Standing Orders relating to Contracts	<p>A new revised version of the Standing Orders relating to Contracts was presented to the Authority for adoption in its meeting on the 16th of November 2022.</p> <p>The revision incorporates the previously accepted recommendations given by Welsh Government and ensures compliance with all new regulations relating to the withdrawal from the European Union. It also provides a foundation for the Authority to incorporate environmental considerations into its green procurement policy.</p>

Scheme of Delegation	<p>The Scheme of Delegation was reviewed as part of the remit of the Reviewing Governance Task and Finish Group during 2021/22.</p> <p>The Group concluded that the current Officer Scheme of Delegation continued to be fit for purpose, and therefore no recommendation for changes were given.</p>
Members' Register of Interests	<p>The Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 places a requirement on the Authority to publish the current Members' Register of Interests on the Authority's website.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of each Authority Member to keep their record of personal interests up to date and to report on any changes in a timely manner. Nonetheless, the Member Services Officer sends each Member a copy of their current record after each AGM of the Authority, and requests that they be reviewed and updated if required.</p>

Principle 2: Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

Strategic Equality Plan	<p>The Annual Report on the Strategic Equality Plan was presented to the Performance and Resources Committee on the 30th of November 2022.</p> <p>The Authority's progress on its action plan for reaching its Equality Objectives was reported, along with the Equality Impact Assessments undertaken during the year, equal pay monitoring data and staff equality data.</p>
Direct Consultation	<p>During 2022/23 the Authority continued to engage with local communities and stakeholders through a range of means, from traditional written consultations and online questionnaires to webinars, online meetings as well as face-to-face meetings, workshops and consultation surgeries.</p> <p>As all remaining Covid-19 restrictions were removed during the year, greater flexibility in the number and types of consultation and engagement methods are now available for the Authority. This enables us to reach more people by providing more accessible ways of engaging.</p>

	<p>Hybrid meetings and consultation events are proving particularly popular, as they allow access to both people who prefer face-to-face engagement as well as people who prefer or find it more practical to engage online.</p> <p>The technology which enables this is still very new to the Authority and to some members of the public. However, with practice and more usage, experiences will improve over time.</p>
<p>Communication and Engagement Strategy</p>	<p>Communication and engagement is an essential element in everything the Authority does. It is also something that can always be improved upon, and the Authority's Strategy reflects this.</p> <p>Fast paced technological advancements and the continuing growth in social media platforms and participation levels, means that the Authority needs to be fully focused on engaging effectively through the correct channels at the correct time with a wide range of audiences.</p> <p>The second annual report on the strategy was presented to the Performance and Resources Committee on the 22nd of March 2023. The report included data for the performance indicators set out in the strategy.</p> <p>Discussions around the future of social media and how the Authority benefited during lockdown in particular, through efficient communication took place during consideration of the annual report. It was confirmed that social media channels were continuing to have an important role in engaging and communicating on sustainable transport measures in place around Yr Wyddfa etc. However, it was confirmed that staff were moving away from the TikTok platform, after recent security concerns were flagged by the UK Government.</p>
<p>Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations Requests</p>	<p>The Authority has adopted the Information Commissioner's Model Publication Scheme and has published a guide to information, both of which are available on the website.</p> <p>During 2022, 30 requests were received of which 21 received all the information requested (70%). Of the other 9 requests, 3 were refused or partially refused as the information requested did not exist or the authority did not hold the information, 2 requests were partially refused as the information would have identified members of the public who reported possible breaches of planning control, 1 request was partially refused as it contained third party personal data, 1 request was refused as it contained commercially sensitive</p>

	<p>information, and 1 request was partially refused as it was for the Authority’s response to a pre-planning application advice request, which had not resulted in a planning application. It is the Authority’s policy to keep these confidential until such time as a planning application is submitted, and accordingly is classed as exempt under Regulation 12(5)(f) of the Environment Information Regulations 2004.</p> <p>The Authority was previously challenged on this in 2020, and the Information Commissioner upheld the Authority’s decision.</p> <p>No complaints were submitted during the year to the Information Commissioner with regard to any information request.</p>
<p>Committee Agendas and Associated Reports</p>	<p>The Authority’s Committee agendas and associated reports are published on the website at least 3 clear working days before each meeting.</p> <p>An archive of past Committee meetings agendas and associated papers is also available on the website.</p>

Principle 3: Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits

<p>Cynllun Yr Wyddfa Partnership Plan</p>	<p>Although no formal update report on Cynllun Yr Wyddfa was presented to Members during 2022, three newsletters providing an update on the work of the Partnership were issued and a discussion on the parking and transport element took place on the at the October 2022 Members Working Group.</p> <p>Since launching the Plan in 2018 many of the initial projects have been completed and the Partnership intends to review the Plan during 2024 with the launch of a revised version - five years since the original Plan was created. Examples of the projects which have been completed include: Llwybrau'r Wyddfa Walks Ap; Online Ambassador Programme; Nant Peris bus stop and information board; Creating and actioning a Communication Plan; Improved interpretation of the Yr Wyddfa region; and a Litter project.</p> <p>One of the Plan's priorities is to implement the Yr Wyddfa and Ogwen Parking and Transport Strategy. Many of the initial elements have been implemented with support from Transport for Wales, and work on this vital element continues apace.</p> <p>In October 2022, the Authority appointed the Yr Wyddfa Ddi-blastig – Plastic Free Officer – for 2 years. This ambitious project embarks on a 'Plastic Free Path' together with visitors, businesses and schools, and learning from each other to protect the mountain. The goal is to reduce the volume of single-use plastics sold, used, and discarded on and around Wales' busiest mountain. The hope is to eliminate all unnecessary plastics from the waste-stream in the future. Learnings from this pilot will be used to implement similar projects across the National Park area.</p>
<p>Cynllun Eryri (Eryri National Park Partnership Plan)</p>	<p>Cynllun Eryri was adopted by the National Park Authority as its statutory (Partnership) Management Plan in October 2020 and officially launched in November 2020. The second annual report of progress capturing input from all Partners from November 2021 until the end of 2022 is currently in draft form.</p> <p>2021-22 continued to be challenging for all Partners. The emergence from periods of lock down due to the Covid-</p>

	<p>19 pandemic highlighted new issues, as well as hastened innovative ways of working. Nevertheless, through the gathering of information for the annual report, it is clear that outstanding examples of work towards Cynllun Eryri's goals being progressed exist across the region.</p> <p>In its second year of implementation, significant progress has been made on the Action Plan of Cynllun Eryri. There are currently no Outcomes which have been assessed as <i>Not progressed and/or at risk</i>. It is therefore fair to conclude that progress has been achieved in all areas of the Action Plan of Cynllun Eryri in the year from 2021-22.</p> <p>The draft Annual Report for 2022 will be discussed at the Fforwm Eryri meeting on 16th May 2023 and it is hoped that it will be presented to Authority members in the AGM on 14th June 2023 for adoption.</p>
<p>Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031</p>	<p>The revised Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031 (LDP) was adopted on the 6th of February 2019.</p> <p>The third Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) was presented to the Planning and Access Committee on the 19th of October 2022, and it covered the period April 2021 to the end of March 2022. The AMR is submitted to the Welsh Government by the 31st of October each year.</p> <p>In addition to approving the Annual Monitoring Report 2021-22, the Committee approved the need to undertake a review of the adopted Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031, as a result of the Annual Monitoring Report evidence, significant national and local contextual changes, and the publication of Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (the National Development Framework) along with other changes in national policy.</p> <p>Confirmation was also given on the next steps for undertaking the review of the adopted Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031, through the preparation of a Review Report and to report the findings to the Welsh Government.</p>

<p>Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Visitor Economy</p>	<p>In its meeting on the 8th of February 2023, the Authority formally adopted the Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Visitor Economy in Gwynedd and Eryri (2035).</p> <p>Snowdonia National Park Authority and Cyngor Gwynedd are the only two public authorities in the UK to have such a strategy.</p> <p>The principles within the Strategy have been developed and accepted through extensive consultation, which included Members of the Authority.</p> <p>The Plan cannot be implemented by the two partners alone, it depends on a broad and new Partnership in order to realise the vision. One of the first actions will be the establishment of the Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable Visitor Economy Partnership, which will bring partners together for the first time to formally discuss the area for the future.</p>
<p>Corporate Work Programme 2021-22</p>	<p>As the Authority now has an adopted Well-being Statement which includes its Well-being Objectives for a five-year period from 2021-26; there will therefore be no need for an annual review.</p> <p>The agreed actions in the Corporate Work Programme will now be sufficient to enable the Authority to assess its progress in attaining the Well-being Objectives and there will accordingly be no need for a separate report on Performance Indicators. The Corporate Work Programme for 2022/23 was adopted by the Authority on the 15th of June 2022.</p> <p>Members were provided with updates on the progress made in meeting the Well-being Objectives, outlined in the Corporate Work Programme for 2022/23.</p> <p>Progress on the first two quarters of the financial year was reported to the Performance and Resources Committee on the 30th of November 2022. The third and fourth quarter progress report will be presented for consideration in July 2023.</p>

Principle 4: Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes

<p>Budget Strategy 2022/23</p>	<p>The Authority’s revenue budget for 2022/23 was confirmed in the Chief Finance Officer’s report to the Authority on the 9th of February 2022. The report also confirmed the levy on constituent authorities.</p> <p>An update on the Budget was presented to the Authority on the 16th of November 2022 and to the Performance and Resources Committee on the 22nd of March 2023.</p> <p>The report outlined the projected year-end revenue position of a net expenditure balance of £19,345 below the budget level. Despite the significant overspend in some service areas, there is an overall underspend because of unfilled job posts during the year which have contributed to cover the overspend in other service areas.</p> <p>In addition, the original provision of 4% for salary increases was insufficient resulting in a requirement for an additional £84k. During 2021/22, two increments were awarded to each job post within the Authority apart from the Directors and the Chief Executive. The Authority has since decided to award an equivalent increase to the Director posts which will be dated from April 2022. A decision is yet to be made whether to award a similar increase to the Chief Executive.</p>
<p>Mid Term Financial Plan 2023/24 – 2026/27</p>	<p>In its meeting on the 26th of April 2023, the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance presented the revised Medium Term Financial Plan for 2023/24 – 2026/27 to the Authority, which outlines a range of financial situations that could face the Authority over the next four years. The Plan outlines a model of the financial resources required by the Authority for the service levels it hopes to provide in the mid term.</p> <p>The Plan confirmed that the income targets for 2023/24 have been maintained on the same level as 2021/22 except for Plas Tan y Bwlch. It was also reported that the core National Park Grant settlement will remain at the same level over the next 3 years, without any provision for inflation.</p>

	<p>The Plan also notes that the general inflation figure was increased from its historic amount of £10,000 to £15,000 by 2022/23, with a further increase to £30,000 in the original budget for 2023/24. Recent developments suggest that the effect of inflation could be approximately 10% for 2023/24 before decreasing in following years.</p> <p>Any additional money received through specific grants (other than core grants) brings with it additional administrative work that stretches current staff resources. Therefore, consideration needs to be given to the implication of this additional work pressure on some of the Authority's services by evaluating the value of the grants against the additional staff requirements.</p>
<p>Performance Management</p>	<p>The mechanism for reviewing performance in relation to the Authority's Well-being Statement and the Corporate Work Programme was set out formally in 2021/22.</p> <p>The Performance and Resources Committee will scrutinise performance on the actions contained in the Corporate Work Programme which gives an insight into progress on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>The Annual Report for 2021/22 which was approved for adoption and publication by the Authority in its meeting on the 12th of October 2022, reported on Year 1 progress in achieving the Authority's Well-being Objectives.</p>

Principle 5: Developing the entity’s capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it

<p>Members’ Role Descriptions</p>	<p>Revised role descriptions for Members and for the Chair and Vice Chair were adopted by the Authority on the 27th of April 2022.</p> <p>Changes were made to strengthen the emphasis of the role of members in setting a strategic direction and ambition for the Authority, providing an overarching introduction including the purpose of National Parks and the role of the Authority in delivering on these purposes, and strengthening the section on personal and role development.</p>
<p>Members’ Attendance</p>	<p>The online platform Zoom for holding committee and other meetings is now well embedded across the Authority and is working well.</p> <p>During the year, the Authority invested in equipment for enabling hybrid meetings, which will now become commonplace across public authorities.</p> <p>After a couple of training sessions with both staff and Members, the first official hybrid committee meeting held was the Performance and Resources Committee on the 30th of November 2022.</p> <p>Members of the public can observe the committees in person at Plas Tan y Bwlch or can register in advance for access via Zoom.</p> <p>Members’ attendance at meetings during 2022/23 was 82%, compared to 82% in 2021/22 and 88% in 2020/21.</p>
<p>Member Training</p>	<p>In 2022/23, member attendance at training events was 70% (75% in 2021/22).</p> <p>During the year, one Member Development Day was held on the 14th of October 2022. The day included a tour around Yr Ysgwrn and a discussion around future developments, a guided walk around the Woodland in Ganllwyd after an introduction to the LIFE Celtic Rainforest Project, and a guided walk in Dyffryn Ardudwy with Wardens to discuss path developments in the area.</p>

<p>Staff Performance Appraisals and Training</p>	<p>Learning and development needs are identified in annual performance appraisal reviews, which outlines training priorities for the year ahead.</p> <p>Concern has previously been raised at the Performance and Resources Committee meetings that the percentage of staff appraised continued to be low, and in 2020/21 had dropped to an unprecedented 32%. Data from 2022/23 indicates that 37% of staff have been appraised although the true figure may be higher. A new monitoring system has now been put into place to collect reliable data on this for the 2023/24 financial year.</p>
<p>Human Resources Strategy</p>	<p>Staff sickness absences was 11.5 days in 2019/20, but this had dropped significantly to 3 days in 2020/21. It is thought that a combination of most staff working from home and restricted social contacts due to lockdowns, has significantly reduced contagious illnesses, which has led to reduced staff sickness absence as a result.</p> <p>In 2022/23 average staff sickness absence was 6.95 days.</p> <p>However, further personnel data is not currently available, as the Annual Updating Report on implementing the Authority’s HR Strategy has not been presented to the Performance and Resources Committee during 2021/22 and 2022/23. This is due to the Head of Personnel retiring on the 30th of June 2021, and the subsequent failure to appoint to the post at that time.</p> <p>A new Head of Human Resources was appointed and commenced in post on the 13th of June 2022. Since this time, a substantial percentage of the Head’s time has been spent on managing staff and resources at Plas Tan y Bwlch due to key staff being on sickness absence.</p> <p>At the end of March 2023, the equivalent of 4 additional days staffing resources has been given to the service on a permanent basis, to both increase long-term resilience and to be able to have sufficient resources to undertake all aspects of the service’s responsibilities, which have been neglected over the last few years. This will include work on revising and updating the Human Resources Strategy.</p> <p>Although the Strategy itself has not been updated, work has already been done on revamping and improving key priority areas within the Strategy to address staff</p>

	<p>recruitment and retention issues. For example, the Authority's Induction training for new staff has been updated and improved, and work has commenced around permanent flexible and hybrid working arrangements for staff.</p>
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Principle 6: Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management

<p>Financial Statements</p>	<p>The draft Statement of Accounts was not completed within the extended timeline of 31st of August 2022. They were presented to the Authority on the 12th of October 2022.</p> <p>Prior to this, Members had approved the Outturn Report for 2021/22 at the Performance and Resources Committee on the 13th of July 2022.</p> <p>Audit Wales commenced an audit of the Statement of Accounts on the 19th of September 2022. The intended timetable as set out in accordance with the regulations, was that the Appointed Auditor would complete the audit and present the Final Letter of Representation to Members at an Authority meeting before the 30th of November 2022, for approval in accordance with The Accounts and Audit (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2018.</p> <p>However, difficulties had arisen due to the need to re-evaluate the Authority's assets every 5 years. The work has been done by external valuers and further details are still awaited. An Audit Wales representative attended the Authority meeting on the 8th of February 2023 and gave an update to this effect.</p> <p>At the time of reporting this process was still underway, which means that the Statement of Accounts for 2021/22 have yet to be formally certified and approved.</p>

<p>Risk Management</p>	<p>The Risk Register is reviewed and updated quarterly by the Heads of Service and Management Team.</p> <p>Identified risks as noted in the Risk Register are allocated as a responsibility to named officers and target dates are set for mitigation. The Risk Register is reviewed by Members at each Performance and Resources Committee and any removal of risks from the Register is ratified annually at an Authority meeting.</p>
<p>External Audit</p>	<p>At the Authority meeting on the 27th of April 2022, Audit Wales presented their Audit Plan for 2022. The report sets out the audit risks and proposed audit response to be undertake during the year. The report also notes that the performance audit was yet to confirmed at that time. The audit fees were also confirmed.</p> <p>At the Authority meeting on the 15th of June 2022, Audit Wales presented its report setting out its findings following its Review of Sustainable Tourism in Eryri National Park. Full details of the findings and recommendations are set out under Section 6 (Significant Governance Issues) in this Statement.</p> <p>At the start of 2023, Audit Wales commenced a review on governance within National Park Authorities in Wales, which will include effective scrutiny, partnerships, supporting recovery and resilience, the appointment of members and maximising their contribution through balancing national and local issues. This review is ongoing.</p> <p>At the time of reporting, the Annual Audit Summary was yet to be given by Audit Wales. This is due to the Statement of Accounts not having been formally certified and approved.</p>
<p>Internal Audit</p>	<p>The Internal Audit Manager reports on the previous financial year's work to the Performance and Resources Committee in July.</p> <p>There were three internal audits scheduled to be undertaken during 2022/23, namely Mandatory Training, Claiming Travelling Costs and Banking Reconciliations. Due to a conflict of interest regarding staff changes in the Finance Service, the Banking Reconciliation audit was postponed and an audit on the Carneddau Community Fund was done in its place.</p>

	<p>Both audits on Claiming Travelling Costs and the Carneddau Community Fund were rated as “High” - assurance of propriety can be expressed as the internal controls in place can be relied upon to achieve objectives.</p> <p>The audit on Mandatory Training was given a “Satisfactory” rating – there are controls in place to achieve the objectives but there are aspects where the arrangements can be tightened to further mitigate the risks.</p> <p>As a result of this, one recommendation was given for tightening arrangements for mandator training.</p>
<p>Health and Safety</p>	<p>The Health and Safety Group meets quarterly to monitor health and safety issues within the Authority.</p> <p>The Annual Health and Safety Report presented to the Performance and Resources Committee usually details the training courses undertaken during the year and the incidents / accidents that were recorded.</p> <p>It was reported that it is usual to compare year on year data on incidents that were recorded, which also includes reportable incidents to the Health and Safety Executive under the ‘Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR)’. However, data from the 2021/22 was not representative due to several factors including home working and that the position of Head of Human Resources had been vacant for over a year. This had resulted in insufficient assurance that the data collected during 2021/22 was complete, and therefore was not included in the report.</p> <p>Concern was raised at the lack of comparable data for the second year running.</p>
<p>Information Centres</p>	<p>The Authority has 3 Information Centres in Betws y Coed, Beddgelert and Aberdyfi, which are managed by the Sustainable Tourism Manager, whose main objective is to ensure that the Centres are commercially viable / self-financing.</p> <p>The Information Centres Annual Report was presented to the Performance and Resources Committee on the 30th of November 2022. The report provided an overview of</p>

	<p>the 2022/23 year to date, and the actions to be taken in 2023/24.</p> <p>The report outlined detailed visitor numbers and spend per head data at each of the Centres. The report also highlights a number of challenges experienced during the season with staffing levels due to recruitment difficulties.</p>
<p>Borrowing and Investment Strategies / Treasury Management</p>	<p>The Annual Report providing the actual Treasury Management (borrowing and investment) of the Authority during 2021/22, was presented to the Authority meeting on the 15th of June 2022.</p> <p>During 2021/22, the Authority's activity remained within the limits that were originally set. There has been no borrowing.</p> <p>In 2021/22, the total interest received from investments was £10,846. Interest received from car loans of £710 increases the total to £11,556 against a budget of £8,000.</p> <p>The bank and building society interest sum of £10,846 for 2021/22 is comparable to the corresponding amount of £11,113 in 2020/21. Despite rising inflation, interest rates have remained low during the year.</p> <p>An oral Interim Treasury Management report was given to the Authority on the 16th of November 2022. The Chief Finance Officer advised that the Authority's funds and investments continued to be secure and that interest income was expected to be £12K higher than projected in the 2022/23 budget.</p> <p>The Chief Finance Officer presented the Capital Strategy for 2023/24 at the Authority meeting on the 8th of February 2023.</p> <p>The report gives a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of National Park services along with an overview of how associated risk is managed and the implications for future financial sustainability.</p> <p>The report confirms that the Authority commences 2023/24 debt free. Members approved no change in the authorised borrowing limit and the operational boundary, and approved both the Capital Borrowing Strategy and</p>

	<p>Investment Strategy for 2023/24, and noted the content with regard to the Prudential Code.</p>
Plas Tan y Bwlch Study Centre	<p>Plas Tan y Bwlch continues to evolve its business model and has welcomed back many courses and course participants, whilst continuing to take advantage of the B&B and events market. The Plas Tan y Bwlch Board meet quarterly and minutes are placed on the Performance and Resources Committee agenda.</p> <p>The risks of failing to reach the income generating target for Plas Tan y Bwlch was increased to High on the Authority's Risk Register in March 2022. The risk level was further raised in March 2023, with an increased score. Details are outlined under section 6 of this statement.</p> <p>Securing the long-term future of Plas Tan y Bwlch is currently classed as medium risk on the Authority's Risk Register. A report was considered by Members at their Working Group on the 19th of April 2023, giving an update on the current financial situation and outlining issues to consider with regards the future of the business.</p> <p>It was resolved at this meeting to await a future report detailing the options from the Plas Tan y Bwlch Board in Autumn 2023.</p>
Yr Ysgwrn	<p>Yr Ysgwrn's Annual Report was presented to the Authority on the 27th of April 2022.</p> <p>The report confirms that Yr Ysgwrn had a £7,000 overspend at the end of the 2021/22 financial year due to reduced income, the cost of commissioning the Yr Ysgwrn Curriculum and property management costs due to various technical problems with the alarm and biomass boiler.</p> <p>The report also sets out the proposed site plans for the forthcoming year and acknowledges that the budget targets are challenging. Visitor numbers and corresponding income trends are not clear due to the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>In March 2023, the Risk Register continues to rate the risk of Yr Ysgwrn failing to reach its income generating target as High.</p>

Principle 7: Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability

<p>Pay Policy Statement</p>	<p>Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011 places a requirement on Local Authorities to prepare pay policy statements. Whilst National Park Authorities are exempt from this requirement, it has been considered good practice to adopt such a statement, and accordingly this is done annually by the Head of Human Resources.</p> <p>The Authority’s Pay Policy Report for 2021/22 and Pay Policy Statement for 2022/23 was presented to the Performance and Resources Committee on the 23rd of March 2022, ensuring transparency in staff remuneration at the Authority.</p> <p>The Authority’s Pay Policy Report for 2022/23 and Pay Policy Statement for 2023/24 was not presented to the Performance and Resources Committee in March 2023 as is the usual practice, and is now expected to be presented at the next Performance and Resources Committee in July 2023.</p>
<p>Annual Report and Improvement Plan 2021/22</p>	<p>The Annual Report and Improvement Plan for 2021/22 was presented to the Authority meeting on the 12th of October 2022, before being published on the website and distributed to the Authority’s main centres, public libraries etc., within the National Park.</p> <p>It contains the Chairman’s Annual Report for the year, which sets out what was achieved, not achieved and any problems that were encountered.</p> <p>It also contains details of the Authority’s Service Priorities and the Authority’s Objectives set on an annual basis that feed into and show how it is intended to take the National Park forward in order to attain the Authority’s vision; a summary evaluation of progress made in attaining the Authority’s Objectives, the key work activities for 2021/22, and performance management (including performance indicator results for the year).</p>

<p>Hybrid Committees and Broadcasting</p>	<p>Towards the end of 2022, the Authority commenced hybrid Committee meetings. Members and Officers have the choice to attend in-person at Plas Tan y Bwlch or join online through Zoom.</p> <p>The Authority meetings and the Planning and Access Committee are also webcast live on to the Authority's YouTube channel, as well as a recording of the meeting being able to be viewed at any time. Members of the public therefore can either attend the Committee meetings in-person or can access remotely.</p> <p>This not only improves access for Members and Officers but also access, transparency and reporting of the Authority's business for members of the public.</p>
<p>Member Scrutiny</p>	<p>At the Performance and Resources Committee on the 20th of November 2022, a report to consider further scrutiny areas for 2023-24 was presented to Members.</p> <p>The Chief Executive advised that the Management Team, after considering the current pressures on staff, recommended that the Authority should not commit to a further programme of strategic scrutiny at present.</p> <p>It was confirmed that Scrutiny work already underway on Carbon and Place Names would continue.</p>
<p>Grant Funding</p>	<p>Most project based work in the Authority is funded through external grant funding.</p> <p>Following correspondence with the Ministers Office on the complexities of delivering short term grants and the need to ensure member involvement in the approval of projects/programmes, Members discussed and adopted a process for developing and approving projects in the Performance and Resources Committee on the 23rd of March 2022.</p> <p>Audit Wales have previously highlighted the pressures that supporting delivery through grant sources places on an organisation. Measures have been put in place to address some of the matters identified. A Project Tool Kit was adopted (approved by members Working Group 22.05.19 and since amended in 28.01.22. to include the Welsh Language Policy on Awarding Grants), and is being utilised by officers to assess the impact of any project on the Authority.</p>

	Grant Funding updates are given to Members through the Performance and Resources Committee every six months.
<p>Place Names Task and Finish Group</p>	<p>In November 2020, the Place Names Task and Finish Group was established by the Authority’s Performance and Resources Committee with the following terms of reference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To develop a policy framework to enable SNPA to protect and standardize the use of place names in Eryri National Park by the Authority, its partners and stakeholders. ➤ Raise awareness among different audiences of the importance of place names in Eryri / Snowdonia; and as a source that strengthens links with the environment, history and heritage of the area. ➤ To define success, a work programme and which partners can collaborate. <p>In a report to the Authority on the 16th of November 2022, Members were informed that the role of the Task and Finish Group has now evolved into more long-term elements of work as a Place Names Scrutiny Panel.</p> <p>At that meeting, Members resolved to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the Place Names Principles as a guide for the Authority’s use of place names. 2. Approve the use of the names <i>Yr Wyddfa</i> and <i>Eryri</i> in the Welsh and English languages, giving officers the discretion to use the terms, <i>Yr Wyddfa (Snowdon)</i> and <i>Eryri (Snowdonia)</i> in English, should the context require this for education and engagement purposes.

6. Significant Governance Issues and Actions Proposed for 2022/23

Audit Wales: Sustainable Tourism

During 2021/22 a review was conducted by Audit Wales in an attempt to answer the question of whether the Authority is doing all it can to effectively manage sustainable tourism in the National Park.

The review was undertaken during the period October 2021 and February 2022. Reporting on the outcome in June 2022, Audit Wales concluded that “the Authority has well established partnerships to address sustainable tourism, but its vision is not yet clearly defined, which means it difficult to demonstrate impact”.

Proposals for Improvement

The table below sets out the proposals for improvement identified by Audit Wales whilst undertaking the review. During 2022/23, the Authority worked at implementing these proposals, the outcomes of which have been reported under the specific headings within this Statement and have been incorporated into the Corporate Work Programme for the year. Some work is ongoing and will be progressed further in 2023/24.

R1	Given the limited clarity of key outcomes defined around sustainable tourism, and the consequent weaknesses in its ability to demonstrate impact, we recommend that the Authority: Build on the positive collaboration with Cyngor Gwynedd to establish clear outcomes and specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) objectives to shape its work on sustainable tourism.
R2	Given the limited clarity of key outcomes defined around sustainable tourism, and the consequent weaknesses in its ability to demonstrate impact, we recommend that the Authority: Review its current suite of performance indicators across key partnership activity related to sustainable tourism and establishes meaningful, outcome-focused measures to better demonstrate impact.
R3	Given the important role of the Authority in addressing the impact of tourism on the natural environment and the need to influence behaviour, we recommend that the Authority: Work with tourist businesses to promote the concept of sustainable tourism and identifies what and how they can contribute to help deliver the Authority’s ambitions.

The Authority's Risk Profile

The three highest risks to the Authority as updated in March 2023, is as follows:

Risk	Result	Action Identified / Progress to date
Insufficient core budget funding.	Cut in Services.	<p>There has been no increase in the level of Welsh Government funding for the National Park Grant for 2023/24, despite inflation increases of around 10%, a level not seen since the 1980s.</p> <p>Welsh Government projections suggest no change to the Grant by 2024/25, although that could change due to political pressure. Officers and Members of the Authority will try to influence the Government to finance our unavoidable inflationary costs, through a contribution from some specific grants, if not in the core grant.</p> <p>Also, SNPA has retained reserve flexibility and a prudent level of funds to be able to balance the 2023/24 budget without implementing emergency cuts. Therefore, although the anticipated financial challenge is now clear, we are able to limit the impact on the Authority's services this year, but significant savings will be required by 2024/25, with a detrimental effect, unless the Government increases' the grant.</p>
Income Generating Target (Plas Tan y Bwlch).	Failure to keep within the Authority's budget.	<p>Following the pandemic and the numerous lockdowns Plas Tan y Bwlch has been operating a hybrid business model that consists of attempting to make the most of the tourist trade by offering a B&B package to visitors, undertaking special events such as conferences and weddings whilst welcoming back some of what could be described as the previous core users of Plas Tan y Bwlch.</p> <p>Overall, this has met with mixed results. Whilst income has increased</p>

		<p>from year to year so unfortunately has the overall costs, particularly when one considers the inflationary pressures facing Plas Tan y Bwlch. With the financial pressures facing the Authority in general there is a growing need to address the deficit. The Plas Tan y Bwlch Board undertakes regular meetings to discuss the deficit and consider future options.</p>
<p>Yr Ysgwrn fails to generate sufficient income to meet the budget.</p>	<p>Yr Ysgwrn relies on a higher subsidy from the Authority and/or uses financial reserves which have been saved following previous prosperous years. In the end, this will mean Yr Ysgwrn will not be sustainable.</p>	<p>Yr Ysgwrn ended the financial year with an overspend on the budget. The overspend was due to a combination of reduced income due to fewer groups visiting as a result of the continuing impact of Covid-19 and a significant increase in most running costs. Maintaining Yr Ysgwrn within budget is an ongoing challenge in the light of the cost of living crisis impairing visitor spend and soaring running costs.</p> <p>Costs are regularly reviewed however the current climate of increasing costs is unprecedented for Yr Ysgwrn, with very little room to manoeuvre within the budget. Most costs, such as heating, telephone and electricity are fixed and necessary for accreditation standards.</p> <p>Substantial grant support was received in 2022/23 in order to support activity and education work and that helped to maintain a standard and appealing program for families and schools. The legacy of this investment will have a positive impact on 2023/24 programming and officers will continue to proactively seek and apply for funding to support all elements of activity in order to sustain and develop audiences and income.</p>

7. Opinion

We propose over the coming year to take steps to address the matters referred to in part 6 to further enhance our governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness and will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

**EMYR WILLIAMS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
SNOWDONIA NATIONAL
PARK AUTHORITY**

DATE:

**ANNWEN HUGHES
CHAIR
SNOWDONIA NATIONAL
PARK AUTHORITY**

DATE :

MEETING:	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE:	14 th June, 2023
TITLE:	(DRAFT) CORPORATE WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24
AUTHOR:	Director of Corporate Services
PURPOSE:	To receive, discuss and adopt the (Draft) Corporate Work Programme as a working document for 2023-24

1. BACKGROUND:

- 1.1. Under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, public bodies are required to publish a Well-being Statement when setting their well-being objectives explaining why they feel the objective will help them achieve the goals and how it has applied the sustainable development principle. They must also make sure they involve people interested in achieving the goals and that those people reflect the diversity of their area.
- 1.2 The Well-being Statement and Well-being Objectives were adopted as strategic documents by the Authority during the Performance and Resources Committee on 23rd March, 2021. (As strategic documents an Equality Impact Assessment under the Equality Act 2010, which now also incorporates due regard to the Socio-economic Duty, has been prepared. (Documents are available on request).
- 1.3 The Well-being Statement for the Authority sets out well-being objectives which describes how they will help us achieve the seven wellbeing goals for Wales and establishes the rationale and the steps we will take to achieve them.
- 1.4 The disapplication (with caveats) of the Local Government Measure 2009 allowed the Authority to adopt longer term objectives and 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 the annual work programmes.
- 1.5 The adopted Well-being Objectives concentrated on three key areas of work - Resilient Environments, Resilient Communities and Resilient ways of Working - and have been aligned with five sub themes to provide focus.
- 1.6 These three key areas of work were developed into the annual Corporate Work Programme and updated for 2023-24 outlining projects, initiatives and specific actions that will be undertaken this year to fulfil the Wellbeing Objectives and Service Priorities.

1.7 On completion of the projects and initiatives, the Authority will be able to measure whether improvements have been achieved in each of the three key areas at the end of the financial year 2023-24.

1.8 The Authority received the Welsh Government's Term of Government Remit Letter outlining the Priority Objectives and Actions the Government expects the Authority to work towards for the term of the Senedd.

The priorities have been grouped according to four themes of action:

- Environment
- People and Place
- Governance and Planning Excellence
- Collaboration

which align well with the adopted well-being objectives of the Authority.

1.9 The Authority's Corporate Work Programme has been cross referenced with the objectives of the Welsh Government Remit Letter and projects identified that when actioned/completed will contribute towards achieving the WG priority objectives.

2. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

2.1 The Corporate Work Programme will have an impact on both staff resources and financial obligations but these factors have been taken into consideration in the preparation of the Work Programme.

3. RECOMMENDATION:

3.1 That Members formally adopt the (Draft) Corporate Work Programme as a working document for 2023-24.

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

4.1 (Draft) Corporate Work Programme 2023-24.



WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES 2021-26 : (Refer also to SNPAs Wellbeing Statement 2021-26)

(Draft) **CORPORATE WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24**

The Authority’s Well-Being Objectives, Corresponding Projects/Initiatives and Outcomes of Success
 (Cross Referenced to the Welsh Government’s Term of Government Remit Letter for SNPA)

1. RESILIENT ENVIRONMENTS

This outcome will be achieved by:	AC 1	IMPROVING RECREATION MANAGEMENT AND ANY NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF RECREATION
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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 1.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
AC 1.1 Monitor visitor numbers through people counters to establish the impact of users across the National Park. Report produced based on data for 2022 .	Continuous. Next report June/July 2023	*Hof Engagement
AC 1.2 2023 Season Messaging Campaign Eryri Ni 2023 with a focus on sustainable tourism implemented and results/reach reported on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SNPA have delivered an online visitor campaign to address visitor management challenges and encouraged people to visit sustainably. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implemented the Eryri Ni 23 Campaign - Gold Ambassadors will be eligible for social media graphics in partnership with the National Park Authority. Gold ambassadors will be able to sign up by an agreed date and will receive a custom suite of tiles featuring their company’s logo to promote the strategy’s key messages. They will also receive a physical promotional pack for their business. ➤ Develop solutions to motorhome issues including engagement and communication measures. ➤ At least two itineraries have been developed on our website that are focused on Special Qualities including Welsh culture and sustainable tourism 	December 2023	*Hof Engagement

Footnote:

1. Many of the Projects and Initiatives are relevant to several wellbeing objectives but are referred to once under the most appropriate objective in the Work Programme
 2. Officer(s) Responsible: The first listed officer is lead officer
- *Head of Engagement : Responsible officer is subject to change

Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 1.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
AC 1.3 Improved provision for public engagement at Betws y Coed Information Centre, Ogwen and Hafod Eryri via an upgrade of visitor facilities and interpretation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Betws y Coed Information Centre Sandbox and VR exhibition open to public ➤ Improvements to Betws y Coed Information Centre signage to be completed ➤ Work with NRW and the National Trust to implement phase 2 of the Ogwen interpretation improvements. 	Completion by: April 2023 October 2023 March 2024	*Head of Engagement Comms Officer Comms. Technician
AC 1.4 Identify and quantify access work to mitigate the effects of people pressure and review annually	Ongoing	Hof Warden Service
AC 1.5 Produce an Engagement Strategy for footpath works in Snowdonia	Feb. 2024	Ho Warden Service
AC 1.6 Produce guidelines for undertaking access route works in Snowdonia	Feb. 2024	Ho Warden Service
AC 1.7 Ensure that promoted routes are regularly surveyed, maintained and improved when necessary and reported annually to the Management Team	Ongoing	Hof Warden Service
AC 1.8 Area Wardens to work with the Communities and partners to identify and take advantage of opportunities to provide a range of promoted routes for varying abilities	Ongoing	Hof Warden Service
AC 1.9 Work across the Authority to integrate work programmes and progress implementation of Warden Area Plans	Ongoing	Hof Warden Service

Footnote:

1. Many of the Projects and Initiatives are relevant to several wellbeing objectives but are referred to once under the most appropriate objective in the Work Programme
 2. Officer(s) Responsible: The first listed officer is lead officer
- *Head of Engagement : Responsible officer is subject to change

This outcome will be achieved by:	AC 2	RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGES OF CLIMATE CHANGE
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Description of SNPA Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 1.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
AC 2.1 Ensuring the implementation of the current LDP policies that contribute to mitigating climate change.	To be reported annually	Head of Development Management and Compliance (Hof DM&C) Head of Planning Policy (Hof PP)
AC 2.2 Energy efficiency and reducing carbon footprint of SNPA buildings to be integral part of new Asset Management Plan (to be adopted from April 2024) and aligned with Wales Prosperity for All – A Low Carbon Public Estate targets	Asset Management Plan adopted from April 2024 + Ongoing	Head of Property
AC 2.3 Develop an Action Plan for SNPA to be carbon neutral by 2030 based on the recommendations of the Carbon Study report	For adoption 2024	CEO Head of Property
AC 2.4 Develop an action plan showing how area of Eryri can migrate towards being carbon neutral	Dec. 2023	Director of Planning & Land Management (Dof P&LM)
AC 2.5 Support a strategic partnership with Welsh Government, Bannau Brycheiniog and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authorities on Nature Recovery and Carbon Sequestration in the Designated Landscapes of Wales and hosting the post of strategic lead.	Ongoing	CEO Strategic Lead

Footnote:

1. Many of the Projects and Initiatives are relevant to several wellbeing objectives but are referred to once under the most appropriate objective in the Work Programme
 2. Officer(s) Responsible: The first listed officer is lead officer
- *Head of Engagement : Responsible officer is subject to change

This outcome will be achieved by:	AC 3	IMPROVING THE MANAGEMENT AND UNDERSTANDING OF CULTURAL HERITAGE
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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 1.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
AC 3.1 Development and adoption of the SNPA Cultural Heritage Strategy	Spring 2024	Hof Cultural Heritage
AC 3.2 Ensure that the Carneddau Landscape Partnership Scheme Work Programme for 2021/22 is completed on time to ensure that the Project remains on track for completion by 2025 . ➤ Prepare update report to members	Ongoing – 2025 Spring 2024	Carneddau LPS Manager
AC 3.3 Submit final report on Dolgellau Townscape Heritage Scheme	2023	Dolgellau TH Project Manager
AC 3.4 Develop the Harlech & Ardudwy Cultural Heritage project that will enable the Authority to apply for external funding in due course and submit an EOI to the Lottery Fund	Dec. 2023	Cultural Heritage Project Officer
AC 3.5 To actively contribute to the work programme of the North West Wales Slate Landscapes World Heritage Site Action Plan	Ongoing	Hof Cultural Heritage
AC 3.6 Wardens to lead monthly walks with guest specialist to promote nature, culture and heritage	Ongoing - 2023/24	Hof Warden Service
AC 3.7 To actively contribute to the ongoing work programme of the Cadw-led Historic Environment Group (HEG) and its associated working groups including Wellbeing, Climate Change Mitigation, Peatlands and Local Heritage	Ongoing	Hof Cultural Heritage
AC 3.8 Sustain and develop Yr Ysgwrn as a museum and cultural centre of national repute and present an annual report to Members.	Dec. 2023	Hof Cultural Heritage

Footnote:

- Many of the Projects and Initiatives are relevant to several wellbeing objectives but are referred to once under the most appropriate objective in the Work Programme
 - Officer(s) Responsible: The first listed officer is lead officer
- *Head of Engagement : Responsible officer is subject to change

Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 1.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
AC 3.9 Progress Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plan/Delivery Plan as a baseline of information for developing potential capital projects in subsequent years	March 2024	Hof PP

This outcome will be achieved by:	AC 4	ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF POST BREXIT LAND MANAGEMENT SCENARIOS
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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 1.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
AC 4.1 Assist in the development and design of future land management proposals with Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales, to ensure that Eryri benefits from future proposals and that the strategic aims of Cynllun Eryri are reflected in future proposals	Ongoing	Hof Conservation, Woodlands and Agric. (Hof CWA) + CEO Director P&LM
AC 4.2 Maintain close working relationship with the land based sector to ensure that the Authority has an understanding of the ongoing implications of Brexit on land management	March 2023 + Ongoing	Hof CWA

This outcome will be achieved by:	AC 5	ADDRESSING THE DECLINE IN NATURE
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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 1.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
AC 5.1 Develop an action plan based on the understanding and contents of e.g. SoNaRR (State of Natural Resources report), State of the National Park Report etc. to inform on priorities for nature recovery in Snowdonia	March 2024	Hof CWA

Footnote:

1. Many of the Projects and Initiatives are relevant to several wellbeing objectives but are referred to once under the most appropriate objective in the Work Programme
 2. Officer(s) Responsible: The first listed officer is lead officer
- *Head of Engagement : Responsible officer is subject to change

AC 5.2 Continuing to deliver biodiversity enhancement through the development management process following publication of Welsh Government guidance	To be reported annually	Hof DM&C
AC 5.3 Ensuring an SPG on biodiversity is produced to support the Development Management process by 2023 once guidance by Welsh Government is published	March 2024	Hof PP
AC 5.4 Continued delivery of approved projects that address the aims of Cynllun Eryri (e.g. HLF Carneddau, LIFE (Celtic Rainforest, Raised Bog, Quaking Bog, Curlew project), National Peat Programme, ENRAW, Dark Sky projects) and develop further programmes	Twice yearly update reports on individual projects	Hof CWA Project Managers
AC 5.5 To progress a National Park wide survey of Trees and Ancient Woodland sites (PAWS) and prepare a Tree and Woodland Strategy for Eryri.	March 2025	Hof CWA

Footnote:

1. Many of the Projects and Initiatives are relevant to several wellbeing objectives but are referred to once under the most appropriate objective in the Work Programme
 2. Officer(s) Responsible: The first listed officer is lead officer
- *Head of Engagement : Responsible officer is subject to change

RESILIENT ENVIRONMENTS: 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).*

Footnote:

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 2. Officer(s) Responsible: The first listed officer is lead officer
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WELSH GOVERNMENT REMIT LETTER: ENVIRONMENT

WG Priority objectives and actions for SNPA	SNPA Project/Initiative
Actively support WG commitment to achieving a Zero-carbon economy by working to become carbon neutral by 2030 through your everyday work and a range of decarbonisation interventions	AC 2.1. AC 2.2 AC 2.3 AC 2.4
Support a shift away from private car use to more sustainable transport modes for the majority of journeys amongst staff, visitors and service users in order to meet the target of 45% of journeys being undertaken by sustainable modes by 2040	CC 3.3 CW 2.3
Proactively help facilitate carbon sequestration including by supporting delivery of woodland creation where appropriate and our aim to strengthen the protection of ancient woodlands, and increase engagement in the National Forest programme	AC 5.5 (PAWS)
Take action to improve the connectivity, condition, scale/extent and diversity of ecosystems, and maintain and enhance resilient ecological networks, embedding delivery in emerging national targets arising from the 30x30 commitment	AC 5.1 - AC 5.5
Support the National Peatland Action Programme (NPAP) that has been designed to restore, enhance and maintain resilient ecological networks, tackle climate change and manage water. You should work with NRW to address the NPAP themes, including the priority actions and cross-cutting themes	AC 2.4 AC 5.1 AC 5.4
Support the PFG commitment to establish a targeted scheme to support restoration of seagrass and saltmarsh habitats along our coastline, help deliver the ambitions of the Marine Protected Area Network Management Framework and contribute to emerging policy of blue carbon	AC 5.1
The Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places Capital fund, and other WG schemes to deliver on nature and decarbonisation goals	CW 3.2
Engage actively in Local Energy Planning to help bring about the transformation of the energy system needed to reach Net Zero, securing greater benefits for your communities	
Engaging positively in initiatives to promote reuse and repair, to grow the circular economy, and reduce the harm caused to the environment by single use plastics through discouraging their use wherever possible	AC 1.10

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2. RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

This outcome will be achieved by:	CC 1	MAINTAINING AND INCREASING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF RESIDENTS
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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 2.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
CC 1.1 Develop an online resource as part of the new website relating to activities and routes within the National Park targeted and tailored appropriately	Ongoing	*Hof Engagement, Hof Warden Service Brand & Content Manager - website
CC 1.2 As part of the SNPA Volunteer Strategy and in collaboration with partners, continue to expand volunteer opportunities within the National Park that include both physical and cultural activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support and participate in Caru Eryri 2024 volunteering scheme with partners including Cymdeithas Eryri ➤ Reflect and review the Volunteer and Wellbeing events of 2022, update KPIs and set new targets and recommendations for 2023 ➤ Set up volunteer program for the coming year ➤ Host series of wellbeing events 	Ongoing	*Hof Engagement Volunteer and Well-being Officer
CC 1.3 Develop volunteering opportunities for under-represented, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups	Ongoing	*Hof Engagement Volunteer and Well-being Officer
CC 1.4 Ensuring planning takes a pro-active role in encouraging affordable housing by working with other agencies in this sector, in order to try and achieve the annual target set out in the LDP	To be reported annually	Hof DM&C Hof PP

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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 2.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
<p>CC 1.5 Following secondary legislation in October 2022 a paper was presented to Working Group introducing the concept of applying Article 4 Directions. Members agreed to gather evidence to ascertain whether Article 4 Directions can be applied to parts or all of the National Park area with a view to having greater control over the number of homes that are changed to either holiday lets or second homes.</p> <p>A Draft evidence report is being produced and legal advice has been sought.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Present Evidence report to Members for decision to proceed or otherwise ➤ If proceeding, commence 12 month period of notice and public consultation 	<p>November/ December 2023</p>	<p>Director P&LM</p>
<p>CC 1.6 Continue to provide funding and measures to support local communities and economies through Cronfa Cymunedau Eryri, funded by Welsh Government and the National Parks Community and Wellbeing small grants fund, particularly where these are led by communities themselves, in green infrastructure, improved access to recreation for health and wellbeing, energy generation, local environmental improvements such as litter and waste management, community development and the Welsh Language</p>	<p>March 2024</p>	<p>Partnerships Manager Cronfa Cymunedau Eryri Project Officer</p>

This outcome will be achieved by:	CC 2	SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE
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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 2.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
<p>CC 2.1 Members to consider a draft Youth Manifesto.</p>	<p>Sept. 2023</p>	<p>Hof Warden Service Young People's Officer</p>
<p>CC 2.2 Develop the Young Ranger scheme to ensure efficient partnership work, provide broad opportunities and source funding to sustain the scheme.</p>	<p>Feb. 2024</p>	<p>Hof Warden Service</p>

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This outcome will be achieved by:	CC 3	PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE TOURISM TO ADD VALUE TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES
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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 2.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
CC 3.1 Work with Cyngor Gwynedd and Conwy CBC to develop and implement the Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable Visitor Economy strategic plan. Once the strategic plan has been launched begin work do develop an action plan and related targets and indicators.	Launch Sept. 2023 Action Plan by Dec. 2023	Partnerships Manager Sustainable Tourism Officer
CC 3.2 Opportunities to encourage greener transport and travel are being developed by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Actively seek opportunities to input to the North Wales Transport Commission that will help support the sustainable transport vision for Snowdonia ➤ Work with TfW to develop Northern Eryri parking and transport delivery plan via the Delivery Group. ➤ Continue to work with partners to address parking and transport issues in the Nantgwynant area. ➤ Continue to facilitate discussions between partners to address parking and transport issues in the Ogwen area. 	Ongoing until April 2025	Partnerships Manager
CC 3.3 Encourage visitors to come via public transport at different times of year and to different areas in order to ease pressure during the peak season and help businesses with seasonality issues, through developing the Welsh National Park Experiences through the Eryri Ni 2023 campaign	December 2023	Comms. Officer, Corporate
CC 3.4 Continue to develop the Eryri Ambassadors scheme and utilise to help spread messaging in relation to the above. Develop sustainable tourism modules.	Ongoing February 2024	Snowdon Partnership Officer

Footnote:

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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 2.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
CC 3.5 Ensuring the current LDP positively implements its policies to contribute to sustainable tourism, that add value to local communities.	To be reported annually	Hof DM&C Hof PP
CC 3.6 Work with TfW to develop a Delivery Plan via the Northern Eryri Delivery Group that was established last year to enable improved partnership working and the successful prioritisation and delivery of sustainable travel and transport projects, Ensure that community feedback has been considered in developing the plan. Ensure that we collaborate with the LDP team as part of the LDP process in relation to parking and transport related policies.	March 2024	Partnerships Manager

This outcome will be achieved by:	CC 4	PROMOTING AND ACTIVELY SUPPORTING THE WELSH LANGUAGE
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CC 4.1 Continuing to develop Yr Ysgwrn as a cultural centre promoting Welsh language culture and actively providing opportunities to socialise through the medium of Welsh	Ongoing	Hof Cultural Heritage
CC 4.2 Develop the ‘Geiriau Diflanedig’ major exhibition project through collaboration with Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museums Wales and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (supported by grant funding), bringing ‘The Lost Words’ exhibition to Wales for the first time and showcasing the epic bilingual feat of the anthologies	Ongoing until end of exhibition March 2024	Hof Cultural Heritage
CC 4.3 Safeguarding and promoting use of Welsh place names by completing the next stage of the standardisation of Eryri place names	March 2024	Hof Cultural Heritage

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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 2.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
CC 4.4 Develop opportunities to engage people in the Welsh language, culture and heritage of the area including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Providing opportunities for volunteers to learn and use the Welsh language through the volunteering strategy. ➤ Attend Eisteddfod Pen Llyn. ➤ Complete the interpretation projects at Ogwen and Hafod Eryri 	Ongoing August, 2023 November 2023	Volunteer & Well Being Officer Comms. Officer, Corporate
CC 4.5 The Carneddau Voices and Place Names project and Harlech and Arduwy Cultural Heritage Scheme will record, safeguard and celebrate Welsh place names through community mapping events, oral history interviews, outreach projects and interpretation	Ongoing until December 2025	Hof Cultural Heritage
CC 4.6 Ensuring Development Policy 18: The Welsh Language and the Social and Cultural fabric of Communities is effectively utilised within the development management process	To be reported annually	Hof DM&C

This outcome will be achieved by:	CC 5	DEVELOPING A LOCAL ECONOMY WHICH SUPPORT BOTH THE DESIGNATION AND THE MANAGEMENT OF SNOWDONIA AS A NATIONAL PARK
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CC 5.1 Ensuring the positive implementation of current LDP policies to develop a local economy which support the designation of the NP	To be reported annually	Hof DM&C
CC 5.2 Present an annual monitoring report to members for discussion and consideration of the timetable for commencing a review of the current LDP	Annual report	Hof PP

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Note: Projects and initiatives under AC4 (post Brexit) and CC3 (Sustainable Tourism) are also relevant under CC 5

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RESILIENT COMMUNITIES: 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)*

WELSH GOVERNMENT REMIT LETTER: PEOPLE AND PLACE

WG Priority objectives and actions for SNPA	SNPA Project/Initiative
Contribute to the co-design and implementation of the Sustainable Farming Scheme	AC 4.1
Contribute, where appropriate, to the PfG commitment to establish a Community Food Strategy to encourage the production and supply of locally-sourced food	-
Work with Housing Authorities, Community Land Trusts and private developers, to develop innovative solutions to acute housing issues, and contribute to the Welsh Language Communities Housing Plan	CC 1.4
Working with partners such as Local Authorities and Transport for Wales, implement solutions to the pressures of visitors on local infrastructure, including more sustainable transport systems, and communication campaigns to ensure responsible recreation. You must balance that with the importance of tourism to our economy, and the role you play at the heart of this in meeting the need of visitors. You should be guided in this by the recommendations and findings of the recent works by Audit Wales on sustainable tourism.	AC 1.2 1.4 1.5 1.6 1.9 CC 3.1 – 3.5
Support the designation of inland bathing waters and development of Sustainable Drainage Systems	-
Engage with the development of the proposed all-Wales framework for social prescribing	-
Collaborate with key partners to deliver against Priorities for the <i>Historic Environment in Wales</i> to safeguard and interpret the historic environment and cultural heritage	AC 3.1 – AC 3.9
Develop policies that ensure that the Welsh Language is able to thrive, delivering against <i>Cymraeg 2050: Our plan for 2021 to 2026</i>	CC 4.1 – CC 4.7
Increase engagement in opportunities for people in vulnerable or disadvantaged groups, and under-represented communities to benefit from the landscapes you manage	CC 1.2 1.3
Increase provision of skills training, apprenticeship and volunteering opportunities	CC 1.2 1.3 CC 2.1 2.2

3. RESILIENT WAYS OF WORKING

This outcome will be achieved by:	CW 1	DEVELOPING A SKILLED WORKFORCE
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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 3.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
CW 1.1 Engaging with our staff at all levels to assist performance management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All Authority staff members will be appraised within the 12 months ➤ Training needs assessments of all staff will have been undertaken within the 12 months 	Ongoing March 2024	Hof Human Resources (HR)
CW 1.2 Supporting staff to attend National Park peer groups to keep them informed of development and to assist performance management and understanding within their respective disciplines	Ongoing March 2024	Hof HR Hsof Service
CW 1.3 Further develop our workforce and provide staff with every opportunity to develop to meet future challenges	Ongoing March 2024	Hsof Service Hof HR

This outcome will be achieved by:	CW 2	DEVELOPING AND PROMOTING BEST PRACTICE
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CW 2.1 Share achievements of Decarbonisation projects through SLSP funding with other bodies within designated landscapes and wider public estate	Ongoing	Hof Property
CW 2.2 Collate information re. best practice in other National Parks, gain staff feedback and draft paper for discussion/consideration by Members Working Group	March 2024	Hof HR

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<p>CW 2.3 Review staff working arrangements in response to Welsh Government target of home working and blended home/office working where it is possible for staff to do so</p>	<p>December 2023</p>	<p>Hof HR</p>
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<p>This outcome will be achieved by:</p>	<p>CW 3</p>	<p>EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP WORKING</p>
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<p>Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 3.)</p>	<p>Timetable for completion</p>	<p>Officer(s) responsible</p>
<p>CW 3.1 Cynllun Eryri is being implemented successfully and the first annual progress report has been presented to the Authority. Present second annual report to Authority</p>	<p>June 2023</p>	<p>Partnerships Manager</p>
<p>CW 3.2 Support the work of the National Designated Landscapes Partnership (NDLP) in Wales</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>CEO</p>
<p>CW 3.3 Continue to support the work of UK wide National Park Authorities, the National Parks Partnership, National Parks Foundation and other associated collaborative initiatives</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>CEO</p>
<p>CW 3.4 Contribute to the formation and development of the planning function of the North Wales CJC</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Director P&LM</p>
<p>CW 3.5 In order to achieve the review of 2025 Cynllun Eryri on schedule, data for the State of the Park Report has been gathered and interpreted with input from internal and external colleagues by the end of 2023.</p>	<p>Summary report presented to Members by December 2023.</p>	<p>Partnerships Manager</p>

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This outcome will be achieved by:	CW 4	MODERNISING GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS
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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 3.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
CW 4.1 Establish whether there is a demand from Authority members in a mentoring programme and, if so, to develop one	Dec. 2023	Director Corporate Services Member Development Champion
CW 4.3 Support and develop Authority members through training and development	Ongoing	Dir. Corporate Services

This outcome will be achieved by:	CW 5	MAINTAINING AND IMPROVE THE UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO THE WORK OF THE NATIONAL PARK
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CW 5.1 Developing further volunteer opportunities at Yr Ysgwrn to enhance the current cohort of volunteers, seeking to recruit young people who are keen to develop new skills and gain experience, focusing on delivery of activities by volunteers as well as more traditional roles such as visitor guides.	Ongoing	Hof Cultural Heritage + Visitor Experience Manager (when appointed)
CW 5.2 Implement and monitor measures in Communication Engagement Strategy via the annual Key Performance Indicators report to ensure local communities and stakeholders understand and are aware of the work of the Authority.	Annual Report published by March 2024	*Hof Engagement

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Description of Project / Initiative including specific actions (Refer also to outcomes at end of Section 3.)	Timetable for completion	Officer(s) responsible
CW 5.3 Engage with and keep communities informed through meetings with Community Councils	Autumn 2023 Arrange at least 1 meeting	Hof Admin. & Customer Care
CW 5.4 Liaise with landowners and interested parties through meetings of the Snowdonia National Park Access Forums	Ongoing March 2024	Access Manager
CW 5.5 Liaise with the farming community and farming unions and through meetings of the Agricultural Liaison Group	Annual meeting	Hof CWA
CW 5.6 Involve our local communities in all important aspects of the Authority's work e.g. delivery of Cynllun Eryri, and LDP, formulation of Supplementary Planning Guidances, Engagement Strategies when developing new projects etc.	On going March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Partnerships Manager ➤ Hof PP

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RESILIENT WAYS OF WORKING: 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*)

WELSH GOVERNMENT REMIT LETTER: EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNANCE AND PLANNING

WG Priority objectives and actions for SNPA	SNPA Project/Initiative
Actively participate in WLGA sector-led improvement and support programme	-
Contribute to designing revamped training package for NPA members and develop a co-ordinated approach to NPA training to share best practice	CW 4
Proactively promote the new protocol for Local Authorities in appointing NPA members, ahead of, during and after Local elections, emphasising experience and interest above political considerations as far as is possible within the current legislation	CW 4
Fully embrace a strengthened annual performance reporting system for WG appointees, and investigate how this be extended to Local Authority appointees	CW 4
Strive for excellence in governance including the sharing of best practice between NPAs, maximising use of the new Inclusion, Diversity and Governance Excellence Strategic lead	CW 4
Proactively contribute to setting local and regional planning policy, including through the CJC structure and through regional and national collaboration to implement the policies in Future Wales (with particular reference to Policy 9 and the requirement to secure resilient ecological networks and green infrastructure)	CW 3.4

WELSH GOVERNMENT REMIT LETTER: COLLABORATION

WG Priority Objectives and Actions for SNPA (and Designated Landscapes Wales (DLW))	SNPA Project/ Work
Support Tirweddau Cymru (the National Designated Landscapes Partnership) to develop its ambition, embed collaborative working at all levels within NPAs and AONBs, help produce a strategic vision for action for 2022-24	CW 3.3
<p>Implement a transformational tripartite agreement between NPAs to host a team of WG-funded Strategic Landscape Co-ordinators to work across our Parks and AONBs, and ensure the objectives and outputs of these posts are included within wider NPA monitoring arrangements and those of DLW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A Nature Recovery and Carbon Sequestration Strategic Lead, with focus on all of the unimproved habitats and woodland and the biodiversity they contain inclusive of invasives, and opportunities for carbon reduction ii. A Nature Recovery and Nutrient Management Strategic Lead, with a focus on working soil management, riparian and marine matters from terrestrial activity, upland lake eutrophication, water/aquatic biosecurity to agricultural run-off issues, and support the development of Nutrient Management Boards <p>Both posts would help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a strategic plan to respond to the nature and climate emergencies • Support the development of approaches to enable DLW to transition to the new Sustainable Farming Scheme • Identify how DLW can develop new partnerships and support wider Welsh Government priorities, and identify innovative funding streams <p>iii. An Inclusion, Diversity and Governance Excellence Strategic Lead, to work across all NPAs, hosted by one NPA. A key aspect of their work should also be to take bold steps to drive up diversity and equality – on Boards, staffing profile, and visitors and support NPAs to meet the requirements of the socio-economic duty and increase contributions towards tackling child and rural poverty.</p>	CW 4.3
Share experience and best practice as designation for a new National Park progresses	-

ITEM NO. 14

MEETING	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE	14 June 2023
TITLE	MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE
REPORT BY	Director of Corporate Services
PURPOSE	For information

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Authority has previously requested that an annual report be prepared detailing Members' attendance at Authority and Committee meetings. There is set out below details of such attendance for the period from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 for consideration by the Authority. Attendances have been split into two groups on this occasion to take account of the Local Authority elections and the change of membership of the Authority. The details have been broken down to attendance of individual members at Authority, Planning and Access, Performance and Resources and the Standards Committee. Where a member has been unable to attend because he or she has been away on Authority business this is noted in the record of attendance.

2.0 MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE 01/04/22 – 14/06/22

	Authority	Planning & Access	Performance & Resources
Number of meetings <i>(held prior to Local Government Elections 5th May, 2022)</i>	(27.04.22) 1	(18.05.22) 1	0
Members	Attended		
Cllr. Elwyn Edwards	1	1	-
Cllr. Alwyn Gruffydd	1	0	-
Cllr. Annwen Hughes	1	1	-
Cllr. Judith Humphreys	0	1	-
Cllr. Edgar Wyn Owen	1	1	-
Cllr. Elfed P Roberts	1	1	-
Cllr. John Pughe Roberts	1	1	-
Cllr. Mike Stevens	0	0	-
Cllr. Gethin Glyn Williams	1	1	-
Cllr. Philip Capper	1	1	-
Cllr. Ifor Glyn Lloyd	1	1	-
Cllr. Wyn Ellis Jones	1	1	-
Mr. Brian Angell	1	1	-
Mr. Tim Jones	1	1	-
Mrs. Sarah Hattle	1	0	-
Mr. Owain Wyn	1	1	-
Ms. Tracey Evans	0	1	-
Ms. Naomi Luhde-Thompson <i>(appointed onto the Authority 01.05.22)</i>	-	1	-

Committee <i>(held prior to Local Government Elections 5th May, 2022)</i>	Standards	Total
Date	01.04.22	1
Cllr. A. Gruffydd	✓	1
Cllr. Philip H. Capper	✓	1
Mrs. Sarah Hattle	✓	1

MEETING <i>(held prior to Local Government Elections 5th May, 2022)</i>	HELD	PERCENTAGE ATTENDANCE
AUTHORITY	1	82%
PLANNING AND ACCESS	1	83%
STANDARDS	1	100%
TOTAL	3	84%

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE 15/06/22– 31/03/23

Committee	Authority	Planning & Access	Performance & Resources
Number of meetings <i>(held after Local Government Elections 5th May, 2022)</i>	4	6	3
Members	Attended		
Cllr. Elwyn Edwards	4	6	3
Cllr. Annwen Hughes	4	6	3
Cllr. Edgar W. Owen	4	6	3
Cllr. Elfed P. Roberts	3	6	3
Cllr. Louise Hughes	1	4	1
Cllr. June Jones	3	6	3
Cllr. Kim Jones	3	1	3
Cllr. Meryl Roberts	4	4	3
Cllr. Jo Nuttall	4	5	3
Cllr. Dilwyn Owain Roberts	2	6	2
Cllr. John Pughe Roberts	3	6	3
Cllr. Ifor Glyn Lloyd	3	5	2
Mr. Brian Angell	4	4	2
Ms. Tracey Evans	4	5	3
Mr. Tim Jones	4	3	3
Mrs. Sarah Hattle	1	5	3
Mr. Owain Wyn (term ended 31.07.22)	1 (from a possible 1)	1 (from a possible 1)	1 (from a possible 1)
Ms. Naomi Luhde-Thompson	3	5	0
Ms. Delyth Lloyd (Appointed 01.08.22)	3 (from a possible 3)	3 (from a possible 5)	2 (from a possible 2)

Committee	Standards	Total
Date	02.09.22	1
Cyng. Elfed P. Roberts	✓	1
Cyng. Dilwyn Roberts	✓	1
Mrs. Sarah Hattle	x	0

- 3.1 As part of this report I have also collected information on the overall average attendance in percentage terms at Authority and Committee meetings from 15th June 2022 and this is set out below. I have also included the percentage attendance for previous years for comparative purposes.

**MAIN MEETINGS ARRANGED/ ADMINISTERED
15.06.2022 – 31.03.2023**

MEETING	HELD	PERCENTAGE ATTENDANCE
AUTHORITY	4	81%
PLANNING AND ACCESS	6	81%
PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES	3	85%
STANDARDS COMMITTEE	1	67%
TOTAL	14	81%

MEETING	HELD	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
AUTHORITY	4	81%	85%	88%	82%
PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES	3	85%	86%	87%	74%
PLANNING AND ACCESS	6	81%	79%	87%	81%
STANDARDS COMMITTEE	1	67%	100%	100%	67%
TOTAL	14	81%	82%	88%	80%

3.2 As can be seen the overall percentage attendance varies from 67% for the Standards Committee to 85% for the Performance and Resources Committee with an overall average of 81%. The figures show a consistency in attendance when compared with previous years.

4.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

5.1 This report is submitted for information purposes only.

MEETING	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE	14 June 2023
TITLE	WELSH LANGUAGE STANDARDS
REPORT BY	Head of Administration and Customer Care
PURPOSE	Monitoring Report on the Authority's Welsh Language Standards

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 On the 30th of September 2015, the Welsh Language Commissioner issued the Authority with a Compliance Notice in accordance with section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, which confirmed the Welsh Language Standards that the Authority is subject to.
- 1.2 The Authority is required to produce an annual report on its performance against the standards, in line with the requirements of the Compliance Notice.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. **That the Authority approves the report and authorises the Head of Administration and Customer Care to publish it on the Authority's website.**

3. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 3.1. Welsh Language Standards: 2022/23 Monitoring Report.



Snowdonia National Park Authority's Welsh Language Standards: 2022/23 Monitoring Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 On the 30th of September 2015, the Welsh Language Commissioner issued the Authority with a Compliance Notice in accordance with section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, which confirmed the Welsh Language Standards that the Authority is subject to.
- 1.2 As in required on an annual basis, this Monitoring Report looks back over the financial year 2022-23, and reports on how the Authority has complied with, and performed against each of the 162 Standards given to it.
- 1.3 This Annual Report is presented for approval to the Annual General Meeting of the Authority in June each year, before being published on the Authority's website. Publicity is given to the Annual Report via the Authority's social media channels.
- 1.4 The Head of Administration and Customer Care has the day-to-day responsibility over implementing the standards, and contact should be made by sending an e-mail to Bethan.Hughes@eryri.llyw.cymru or by telephoning 01766 772530 to discuss any matter relating to this report.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The 2022-23 financial year has seen continued staff turnover, with 35 new or vacant posts being advertised during the year. Appointments were not made first time to all posts with many having to be re-advertised. On the 31st of March 2023, the Authority had 149 staff, of which 145 were able to undertake the duties of their post bilingually, which is 97.3%.
- 2.2 It was noted in last year's annual report that staff recruitment and retention was a major issue for the Authority, and although it was acknowledged that this was a national problem, with all kinds of sectors experiencing difficulties in recruiting positions at all levels, it nonetheless was highlighted as a risk area by Audit Wales.

- 2.3 The resulting review of the Authority's pay structure which included the business case for acknowledging bilingualism within it, has enabled staff salaries to be increased which should make the Authority more competitive locally. Nonetheless, recruiting and retaining staff has remained challenging over the last year in some key areas, although the Welsh language skill requirements within posts is not considered to be the key barrier.
- 2.4 Staying on the topic of staff recruitment; although the test case that was due to be held this year which challenged the Welsh language skills level requirements of certain posts as being discriminatory, was settled out of court, we continue to be mindful of the need for our assessments to remain robust. In this regard, we continue to follow good practice guidance in this field and the advice of our Solicitor.
- 2.5 All aspects of the Authority's usual work in relation to the Welsh language continued apace during the last year. Now that the final Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, promotion work in relation to the Welsh language was enhanced by the increasing number of in-person events and activities now being able to take place, along with more opportunities available to volunteer with the Authority.
- 2.6 Work streams within the Authority's Engagement and Communication Strategy continues to be crucial in educating visitors that come to the area of the special qualities of Eryri, one of which is the Welsh language. Working with our partners for maximum impact continues to be an essential element to ensuring that the Welsh language is seen and promoted widely across the National Park as a working, living everyday language we are proud of.
- 2.7 At the Authority's Annual General Meeting on the 15th of June 2022, a Steering Group was established to develop a new Welsh Language Promotion Strategy for the Authority for the next five years.
- 2.8 An initial meeting was held on the 14th of September 2022 in which the Terms of Reference for the group was agreed and a timetable set for the development of the Strategy.
- 2.9 Over the following months, the Steering Group developed the vision and identified key priority areas, which were then further developed in consultation with both staff and Members.
- 2.10 Following this, a public consultation on the draft Strategy took place between the 8th of December 2022 and the 3rd of February 2023. Direct invitations to respond to the public consultation was sent to 137 organisations, which included the Authority's key stakeholders, community, charity and third sector groups and organisations as well as groups and organisations representing people with protected characteristics. Invitations were also sent to all Town and Community Councils within and bordering Eryri National Park.

- 2.11 Having taken into consideration the public consultation responses, a final draft of the Strategy was presented to the Authority's Performance and Resources Committee on the 22nd of March 2023, whereby it was formally adopted.
- 2.12 The Strategy's Action Plan will now be incorporated annually into the Authority's Corporate Work Programme over the next five years.
- 2.13 In November 2020, the Place Names Task and Finish Group was established by the Authority's Performance and Resources Committee with the following terms of reference:
- Develop a policy framework to enable the Authority to protect and standardise the use of place names within Eryri National Park by the Authority, its partners and stakeholders; by considering Eryri's and Wales' unique position and identifying good practice from other areas/countries in the development of a framework,
 - Raise awareness amongst different audiences including monolingual, multi-lingual, multi-ethnic and international audiences of the importance of place names in Eryri; and as a source that strengthens links with the environment, history and heritage of the area.
 - To identify what success looks like, identify which programmes could be considered and who are the key people/organisations that are required to deliver with.
- 2.14 The role of the Task and Finish Group has now evolved into more long-term elements of work as a Place Names Scrutiny Panel, and there is recognition that the work involved is not short-term. Addressing, recording, standardising, protecting and promoting the thousands of landscape names in Eryri National Park, to raise awareness and educate people about their existence and significance to our heritage and identity, is ongoing work to which the Authority is committed. Place Names Principles have been formally adopted by the Authority to guide the Scrutiny Panel's work.
- 2.15 The initial and arguably the most important policy change endorsed by the Scrutiny Panel was put before the Authority on the 6th of November 2022. In this meeting, Members approved the use of the names Yr Wyddfa and Eryri in the Welsh and English languages, giving officers the discretion to use the terms, Yr Wyddfa (Snowdon) and Eryri (Snowdonia) in English, should the context require this for education and engagement purposes. It is foreseen that Yr Wyddfa and Eryri will be the usual and common forms and that over time, as awareness increases, that these would be the only forms used by the Authority.
- 2.16 Another change that occurred during the year was the adoption of an internal language policy. The internal administrative language of the Authority since its inception has always been primarily Welsh, and bilingually when needed. This has become the unwritten norm over the years through custom and practice, but until this year was not formally written as a policy. To ensure the Authority complied with the relevant standard pertaining to this, the previous informal policy has now been formally documented and authorised by the Management Team.

3. Service Delivery Standards

- 3.1 Correspondence (Standards 1-7): The Authority sends out correspondence in the language of choice of the recipient, or in cases when this is not known a bilingual version of the correspondence is sent.
- 3.2 When bilingual correspondence is sent out, the Welsh and English language is treated equally by appearing side by side (where this is possible), with the same font and size used in both languages. On rare occasions when separate Welsh and English correspondence is produced, both versions are identical in terms of font and size, including contact details, signatures etc.
- 3.3 Telephone Calls (Standards 8-22): All staff who work at the Authority's main receptions and Information Centres are fully bilingual and accordingly are able to deal with all enquiries through the medium of Welsh at the first point of contact.
- 3.4 The Authority has an automated menu on the main contact number, which gives a choice to proceed in Welsh or English. Menu choices are then given in the language chosen. The pre-recorded message for out of hours is bilingual with the message in Welsh being transmitted first.
- 3.5 When contact is made through a direct line telephone number, staff are instructed to greet the caller with a bilingual greeting (with the Welsh first) or with a neutral greeting, ensuring that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than the English language.
- 3.6 When contact is made through a direct line telephone number, staff are instructed to set a bilingual message on their voice mail, with the Welsh message playing first. For those who have not set a voicemail message, a standard Welsh greeting, recorded by one of the reception staff, asking the caller to leave a message is played instead.
- 3.7 As the majority of the Authority staff are bilingual, any calls from Welsh speakers are dealt with at the first point of contact. For the staff that are not fully able to carry out a conversation in Welsh, they will transfer the call to a colleague without any delay.
- 3.8 During the year, the majority of office staff have followed a hybrid work pattern. The telephone system installed by the Authority in April 2021 now enables staff to answer their direct line office telephone numbers through an app on their mobile phone and through their laptop.

- 3.9 Meetings (Standards 23-38): All meetings arranged with an individual have and will continue to be conducted in the language of choice of the individual. For meetings that have been arranged for a group of individuals, they will be conducted in Welsh with simultaneous translation being arranged for any non-Welsh speakers in attendance (unless none of the invited individuals are able to communicate in Welsh, in which case the meeting will be conducted in English).
- 3.10 All public meetings of the Authority have and will continue to be conducted in Welsh with simultaneous translation available for those who cannot communicate through the Welsh language.
- 3.11 While many meetings were still conducted virtually via Zoom, there have been many more in-person and hybrid meetings held. The Authority has invested in technology to enable hybrid public meetings, which mean that both staff and Members have the choice of attending in-person at Plas Tan y Bwlch or to join the meeting remotely. For members of the public, they also now have the choice of observing these committees in person or through the live webcast.
- 3.12 All publicity, written materials and any documentation produced by the Authority and handed out at public events or meetings are fully bilingual, with the Welsh and English languages treated equally.
- 3.13 Public Documentation (Standards 40-51): All the Authority's public documents, including forms are either bilingual with the Welsh appearing first or on the left hand side of the document or are two separate Welsh and English documents. The Welsh and English languages are treated equally, with the same font and size of text used for both languages. The Welsh and English language versions are usually in a separate document when they are published on the website, and a sentence is included on the English version, stating that a Welsh version is available.
- 3.14 Website, Apps and Social Media (Standards 52-59): The Authority's website and apps are fully bilingual with the user being able to choose their preferred language on the home page. Every single page of the new website has a toggle button which can be used to access the other language. All pages correspond fully between both languages.
- 3.15 The Authority has corresponding Welsh and English versions of twitter accounts and a bilingual version of Facebook. All messages from the Authority are replicated identically on the Welsh and English versions of the various social media sites, or bilingually in some instances. Any messages received in Welsh through social media are always answered in Welsh.

- 3.16 Self-service Machines (Standard 60): All the Authority's pay and display machines in the car parks are able to provide the service in Welsh and English. On older machines, the initial screen displays a language choice before proceeding whilst newer machines change language every 3 seconds.
- 3.17 On the 15th of October 2021, the Commissioner issued a Decision Notice which concluded that the Authority was in breach of the Welsh Language Standards 50, 52 and 56, following an investigation into a complaint that the pre-book system for parking at Pen y Pass was not fully bilingual.
- 3.18 The Authority was asked to produce an Action Plan detailing how it would ensure compliance and was given a year to comply. A bilingual pre-booking system was put in place in time for the Easter holidays in April 2022.
- 3.19 Work continues with JustPark on making continuous improvements to their website to make the Welsh version more customer friendly.
- 3.20 Signs (Standards 61-63): All signs erected by the Authority are fully bilingual, with the Welsh appearing first or on the left hand side. The Welsh and English languages are treated equally, with the same font and size of text used for both languages.
- 3.21 Reception Services (Standards 64-68): As previously stated all staff who work at the main reception areas or at Information Centres are fully bilingual. Each reception has the 'Iaith Gwaith' logo on display to indicate that a Welsh service is available and all reception staff have been given 'Iaith Gwaith' badges.
- 3.22 Official Notices (Standards 69-70): When the Authority publishes or displays an Official Notice they are always fully bilingual, with the Welsh appearing first or on the left hand side. The Welsh and English languages are treated equally, with the same font and size of text used for both languages.
- 3.23 Grant Schemes (Standards 71-75): The Authority has several grant schemes, namely
- Cronfa Partneriaeth Eryri Partnership Fund;
 - Building grants in Dolgellau through the Dolgellau Townscape Heritage Initiative;
 - Cronfa Cymunedol y Carneddau which is funded by the National Heritage Lottery Fund; and
 - Celtic Rainforest Fund which is funded by the EU LIFE.
- 3.24 For each of the grant schemes, all documentation including application forms and guidance notes are fully bilingual, and correspondence is carried out in the language of choice of the applicant or bilingually.

- 3.25 In addition, for those grants which are for community based projects, events and activities; conditions are set upon the grant to ensure that all activities and documentation funded by the grants are fully bilingual. The Authority has a formal Policy in place on Awarding Grants in relation to the Welsh language implications.
- 3.26 Contract Tenders (Safonau 76-80): All Public Notices for Invitations to Tender or to Express an Interest are produced bilingually and usually published on the Authority's website. They are also published on the Sell2Wales website bilingually.
- 3.27 All submissions received in Welsh have been processed and treated in the same way as submission in English, and correspondence is carried out in the language of choice of the applicant or bilingually.
- 3.28 Corporate Identity and Promoting Services (Standards 81-83): The Authority's corporate identity has been fully bilingual since its inception, with the Welsh and English language being treated on the basis of equality. Any future changes or rebranding of the corporate identity will either adhere to this founding principle or will use Welsh only.
- 3.29 The Authority does not provide the same services separately in Welsh and English, but rather offers a bilingual service with one point of contact. The promotion of any services is therefore done bilingually, unless using some social media channels, in line with the Authority's corporate identity, ensuring that the Welsh and English language is treated on the basis of equality.
- 3.30 Education Courses (Standards 84-86): Until March 2020, Plas Tan y Bwlch the Authority's Study Centre, offered public education courses, which were subject to an assessment of the need for the courses to be offered through the medium of Welsh.
- 3.31 Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, the running of day and residential courses has ceased. Commercial activity at the Centre currently extends to Bed & Breakfast accommodation and third party events only.
- 3.32 Public Address System (Standard 87): The Authority currently does not have any public address systems in place across its buildings.
- 3.33 Complaints relating to Complying with the Service Delivery Standards
During the year no complaints were received relating to the way in which the Authority complied with the Service Delivery Standards.

4. Policy Making Standards

- 4.1 Policy Formulation and Associated Consultation (Standards 88-93): With every new policy* that is developed (or if a present policy is revised and updated) an Equality and Welsh Language Impact Assessment screening process is undertaken as part of the process. This integrated assessment process has been extended to include the socio-economic duty.
**Policy is defined in its wider context to include plans and strategies*
- 4.2 The screening process will determine if the proposed policy will or is likely to have a negative effect on the Welsh language or the ability of people to use the Welsh language. The assessment will also identify the potential for the proposed policy to have a positive effect on the language either through its use or through its promotion.
- 4.3 If the proposed policy goes out to public consultation, the responses received through the consultation will be taken into account in full when undertaking the impact assessment. Members of the Authority will also have an opportunity to scrutinise the proposed policy at various points through the process. If a negative impact were to be identified, a fully equality impact assessment would take place to identify mitigation measures required and to decide whether to proceed with the policy.
- 4.4 A Guidance Document for staff is in place outlining the requirement to ask specific questions regarding the impact (either positive or negative) of any proposal on the Welsh language, opportunities to use the Welsh language and opportunities to promote the language. The document also includes examples of appropriate wording to use in different consultation documents, which has been circulated to all services within the Authority.
- 4.5 Awarding Grants and Commissioning Research and Projects (Standards 94-97): The requirement to take into consideration the effect (both positive or negative) on the Welsh language has been fully integrated into Cronfa Eryri, the new commissioning fund. Additional conditions on the use and the promotion of Welsh, and to ensure equality for the Welsh language will continue to be part of the fund's requirements.
- 4.6 Complaints relating to Complying with the Policy Making Standards
During the year no complaints were received relating to the way in which the Authority complied with the Policy Making Standards

5. Operational Standards

- 5.1 On the 31st of March 2023, the Authority employed 149 staff of which 145 are bilingual, representing 97.3%.
- 5.2 Using Welsh internally (Standard 98): Since its inception, the Authority has established through custom and practice that the main language of internal communications is Welsh, with English being used as required. During the year a policy on the use of Welsh internally was agreed, to formalise the custom and practice and to assist new staff of operational expectations.
- 5.3 Staff Documentation (Standards 99-104): The Authority has a fully bilingual policy in place for all human resources matters. In practice, this means that all documentation relating to the employment of an individual is produced in Welsh as standard and given to all staff members. Staff can request an English version of any document if they wish. Any correspondence that is sent out periodically from the human resources service to individual staff members is also usually produced in Welsh only and occasionally bilingually.
- 5.4 Human Resources Policies (Standards 105-111): All human resources policies are produced bilingually as standard.
- 5.5 Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures (Standards 112-119): Staff are welcome to correspond in the language of their choice. Both Welsh and English are treated equally and there would be no delay in responding to correspondence received in either language. Disciplinary or appeal hearings are all conducted in the language of choice of the staff member, as well as all related documentation and correspondence.
- 5.6 Computer Software (Standard 120): Every staff computer and laptop has Cysgliad installed for checking spelling and grammar in Welsh, as standard.
- 5.7 Staff and Members Intranet (Standards 121-126): Currently, the website which was launched in April 2022 does not have a Staff and Members intranet.
- 5.8 Skills Assessment (Standard 127): Data from the staff skills assessment is set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.9 Training (Standards 128-133): General training courses are always provided in Welsh where possible. During 2022-23, no members of staff attended a course entirely through Welsh.
- 5.10 Employees who cannot fully communicate in Welsh are encouraged to attend Welsh language courses and training, which can be undertaken in work time. One member of staff attended Welsh / Improving Welsh courses during the year.

- 5.11 E-mail Signatures and Contact Details (Standards 134-135): The Authority uses the 'Iaith Gwaith' badge for Welsh language speakers and learners to place within their e-mail signature. All contact details provided as part of an e-mail signature are fully bilingual, as required in the Authority's 'Clear Communications' booklet, the guide for staff on customer service standards and house style.
- 5.12 Vacant Posts and Recruitment (Standards 136-140): During 2022-23, 35 vacant posts were advertised. Of these, all were classed as Welsh essential.
- 5.13 A Welsh language skills framework was developed at the start of 2020, which classifies the required skill level for each post from 0 to 5+ in for categories, namely listening, speaking, reading and writing. Each Head of Service now scores each new or vacant post, with the scoring being moderated by the Head of Administration and Customer Care, before receiving final approval from the Management Team. Applicants are now aware before applying, the exact skill level required for the position.
- 5.14 All recruitment advertisements are promoted on different social media channels. Depending on the channel, the posts are either bilingual or are produced in Welsh and English separately but are always posted together without exception. The Authority uses Webrecruits to accept and process applications, which allows applicants to submit their applications online. All documentation is available bilingually e.g. application form, job description, person specification and equality monitoring form. Job interviews are conducted in Welsh.
- 5.15 The Webrecruits system sends out an e-mail to job applicants if they have been unsuccessful in their application and have not been selected for interview. This e-mail is in Welsh and English. Letters or e-mails sent to job applicants informing them of the outcome of their interview are sent out in Welsh only or bilingually.
- 5.16 Internal Signage and Announcements (Standards 141-144): All signs erected by the Authority are fully bilingual, with the Welsh appearing first or on the left hand side. The Welsh and English languages are treated equally, with the same font and size of text used for both languages. The Authority doesn't currently have an internal address system.
- 5.17 Complaints relating to Complying with the Operational Standards
During the year no complaints were received relating to the way in which the Authority complied with the Operational Standards.

6. Promotion Standards

- 6.1 Promoting the Welsh Language (Standards 145-146): On the 22nd of March 2022 the Authority's Performance and Resources Committee adopted a new Strategy for Promoting the Welsh Language for the next five year period.
- 6.2 The strategy includes a target to "at least maintain the current number of Welsh speakers in Eryri, and to work with our public sector partners on increasing the numbers over the next 5 years".
- 6.3 As our previous Strategy demonstrated, although we cannot link the effect of our Welsh language promotion activities directly on the number of Welsh speakers in Eryri, there is still plenty of positive work we can undertake to influence the overall number. With this in mind, we have also set a second target of increasing the number of opportunities to use the Welsh language in Eryri. This target is both meaningful and measurable and within the control of the Authority.

7. Record Keeping and Supplementary Standards

- 7.1 Keeping Records of Compliance with the Standards (Standards 147-176): A document titled 'Snowdonia National Park Authority Welsh Language Standards' has been produced, which is available in the Authority's offices and on the website. The document outlines all the Standards that the Authority is subject to and sets out how members of the public can make a complaint about the Authority's compliance with the Standards or any aspect of the Welsh language service offered by the Authority.
- 7.2 The Authority has kept records of how it complies with the Standards in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Language Commissioner.

APPENDIX 1

1. Staff Skill Levels - Overview

The number and % of staff within the Authority's services which are able to speak Welsh according to directorate			
	No. of Staff	No. of Welsh Speakers	%
Corporate	101	100	99%
Planning and Land Management	48	45	94%

The number and % of staff within the Authority's services which are able to speak Welsh according to post grade			
	No. of Staff	No. of Welsh Speakers	%
Management Team	3	3	100%
Heads of Service	10	9	90%
Grade 7+	43	40	93%
Up to Grade 6	93	93	100%

The number and % of staff within the Authority's services which are able to speak Welsh according to workplace			
	No. of Staff	No. of Welsh Speakers	%
Head Office	90	86	95%
Information Centres	11	11	100%
External Staff	31	31	100%
Plas Tan y Bwlch	17	17	100%

2. Staff Skill Levels by Service

Corporate Directorate

The number and % of staff within the service which are able to speak Welsh			
Section	No. of Staff	No. of Welsh Speakers	%
Management Team	2	2	100%
Finance	5	5	100%
Human Resources	3	3	100%
Administration	12	12	100%
Information Systems	5	4	80%
Property	7	7	100%
Legal	1	1	100%
Engagement	25	25	100%
Plas Tan y Bwlch	17	17	100%
Wardens	24	24	100%

Number and % of staff within the service, by post grades, which are able to speak Welsh			
Section	No. of Staff	No. of Welsh Speakers	%
Chief Executive	1	1	100%
Director	1	1	100%
Heads of Service	7	7	100%
Grade 7+	23	22	96%
Up to Grade 6	69	69	100%

Planning and Land Management

The number and % of staff within the service which are able to speak Welsh			
Section	No. of Staff	No. of Welsh Speakers	%
Director	1	1	100%
Planning	16	13	81%
Cultural Heritage	16	16	100%
Conservation, Trees and Agriculture	15	15	100%

Number and % of staff within the service, by post grades, which are able to speak Welsh			
Section	No. of Staff	No. of Welsh Speakers	%
Director	1	1	100%
Heads of Service	3	2	67%
Grade 7+	20	18	90%
Up to Grade 6	24	24	100%

3. Staff Skill Levels – Reception

The number and % of posts in the main reception areas that have been designated 'Welsh essential' and that were filled by bilingual staff.			
Section	No. of Staff	No. of Welsh Speakers	%
Head Office	6	6	100%
Plas Tan y Bwlch	4	4	100%
Information Centres	11	11	100%

MEETING	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE	14 th June 2023
TITLE	CYNLLUN ERYRI ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2021-22
REPORT BY	Partnerships Manager
PURPOSE	To report on the second year of implementation of the National Park Management Plan from 2021-22

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The National Park Authority is required by law to prepare a plan to provide effective management involving all those concerned with the future of Eryri. The plan sets out how we will all work together to look after Eryri National Park.
- 1.2 In order to engage partners in the development and delivery of the Plan, Fforwm Eryri meets on a quarterly basis and is an opportunity for all those involved in shaping Eryri's future to galvanise their approach to joint working in the region and beyond. Through this purpose, the Forum provides a new way of working with relevant partners in delivery of Section 62 duties of the Environment Act of 1995.
- 1.3 Cynllun Eryri - the new Management Plan - was developed over an extensive period of consultation and engagement from 2016-2019.
- 1.4 With the advent of the global pandemic in early 2020, the adoption of Cynllun Eryri was delayed to ensure that proofing for new circumstances was able to take place.
- 1.5 In October 2020 members adopted Cynllun Eryri as the new National Park (Partnership) Management Plan for the period 2020-25.
- 1.6 Cynllun Eryri was officially launched in an online event in November 2020.
- 1.7 Since then, Partners have been implementing the Action Plan and reporting back to the Partnerships Manager and at quarterly online meetings of Fforwm Eryri.

- 1.8 The Action Plan has been divided into themes and is in three sections - relating to the two statutory purposes and duty of the National Park Authority.
- 1.9 The enclosed Annual Monitoring Report (Annex 1) is the second of its kind and covers the period from **December 2021 – December 2022**.

2. PROGRESS REPORT

- 2.1 In its second year of implementation, a significant degree of progress has been made on the Action Plan of Cynllun Eryri, especially considering the ongoing impacts of Covid-19 and remote working as a necessity.
- 2.2 Whilst gathering evidence from Partners for the first report, it became obvious that there are outstanding examples of delivery of the Action Plan being progressed across the region. It was decided that a new and appropriate way to convey this information would be through the production of a micro-site for the Plan which can be updated by Partners. This is now available at www.cynlluneryri.org
- 2.3 The Report enclosed begins with an Introduction and Executive Summary.
- 2.4 A full report follows where each Outcome is assessed in relation to the Measurements of Success as agreed by all Partners in the original Action Plan of Cynllun Eryri.
- 2.5 Each Outcome begins with an overall assessment, which is coloured according to a traffic light system. Consideration is given as to whether the original timeline is still relevant, and what (if anything) could prevent the Action from being achieved by 2025.
- 2.6 A detailed reminder of the Action Plan relating to this Outcome and an update on progress by all relevant partners follows.

3. KEY POINTS TO NOTE

- 3.1 It is fair to conclude that following two years of delivery – in challenging circumstances – progress has been achieved in all Outcomes on the Action Plan of Cynllun Eryri.
- 3.2 Nevertheless, changing circumstances have needed to be reflected in some of the detail of the Action Plan, which has also meant that timelines have been reassessed.
- 3.3 The wording of *Action 2.1* has been amended to reflect the current situation regarding the Sustainable Farming Scheme as proposed by the Welsh Government. This wording has been approved with Partners at the last meeting on 16 May 2023.

- 3.4 *Action A3.3 Implement climate change mitigation measures - explore the feasibility of implementing a Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI) approach to natural and heritage assets of the National Park.* This action has been subsumed by the local and national work already in progress and is therefore no longer relevant.
- 3.5 *Action A7.1 Via the Local Development Plan, improve appropriate setting and location of development in the landscape,* involved the recruitment of a Landscape Architect which will not be moving forward due to higher staffing priorities.
- 3.6 *Action B1.3 Plan a community-based project exploring the long, reciprocal relationship between the people of Eryri and the land.* This step was completed with the Eryri 70 celebrations in November 2021 and the implementation of various community projects, exploring what it meant to live and work in Eryri. The website is available at www.eryri70.cymru
- 3.7 *Action C3.2 Through the LDP create policies that encourage affordable housing.* The first three years of monitoring the EDLP have not met the target of 25 affordable units permitted per year – as members are aware, given the situation facing the communities of Eryri, it is considered that triggering a formal review of the LDP is appropriate.
- 3.8 The 2023 Annual Progress Report will continue to consider any risks posed which could influence the delivery of the full Action Plan by 2025.

RECOMMENDATIONS

For members to:

1. Note the progress made to date regarding the delivery of Cynllun Eryri; and
2. Provide further recommendations regarding the format of the Annual Monitoring Report for 2023

Annex 1: Cynllun Eryri Annual Monitoring Report 2021-2

CYNLLUN

ERYYRI

THE SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK PARTNERSHIP PLAN

ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2021-22

CYNLLUN ERYRI – ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2021-22

Cynllun Eryri was adopted by the National Park Authority as its statutory (Partnership) Management Plan in October 2020 and officially launched in November 2020. This is the second report of annual progress capturing input from all Partners from November 2021 until the end of 2022. The first can be viewed on the Eryri National Park website.

2021-2 continued to be challenging for all Partners. The emergence from periods of lock down due to the Covid-19 pandemic highlighted new issues, as well as hastened innovative ways of working. Nevertheless, through the gathering of information for this report, it is clear that outstanding examples of work towards Cynllun Eryri's goals being progressed exist across the region. To see a snapshot of these, please visit Cynllun Eryri's microsite here: [Cynllun Eryri](#)

Partnerships

Within the delivery of Cynllun Eryri, as well as Fforwm Eryri, there are several other Partnerships in existence who are working towards the set objectives, those being:


Partneriaeth Yr Wyddfa/Snowdon Partnership, lead partner SNPA: Tourism Association Betws y Coed; NRW; CESS; FUW; CLA; Partneriaeth Awyr Agored; Cyngor Gwynedd; Cyngor Conwy; NT; Tourism Association Beddgelert; Eryri Bywiol; Hwb Eryri; Rheilffordd Yr Wyddfa; Tîm Achyb Mynydd; NFU; Bukeley Estates; YHA Pen y Pass.

Carneddau Landscape Partnership 2020 - 2025, lead partner SNPA: Core Partners: Cadw, National Trust, Natural Resources Wales, Snowdonia Society. Delivery partners: Abergwyngregyn Regeneration Company; Bangor University (Henfaes Research Centre, University Farm); British Mountaineering Council; Conwy Borough County Council (Conwy Culture Centre); Cyngor Gwynedd; Cymdeithas Enwau Lleoedd / Welsh Place-name Society; Gwynedd Archaeological Trust; Outdoor Partnership; Partneriaeth Ogwen; Penmaenmawr Museum and Historical Society; Plantlife Cymru; PONT Cymru; RSPB; Snowdonia Active; University of Sheffield (Department of Archaeology); Carneddau Pony Association; Farmers' Union Wales; National Farming Union Wales.

Cwm Idwal Partnership, lead partner NT: SNPA & NRW

EU LIFE Celtic Rainforest Project 2020-2025 lead partner SNPA: Welsh Government, RSPB, Woodland Trust.

The first Annual Report in 2021 reflected the difficulties of progressing on-the-ground work outlined in the Action Plan of Cynllun Eryri due to the restrictions initiated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Several timelines have been reassessed accordingly. The traffic light measurements below reflect this and whether each objective is on track to be delivered within the timeline of the overall plan i.e. by 2025.

Status:  Progressed, within original timelines

 Progressing with reassessed timelines

 Not progressed and/or at risk

Acronyms used for delivery partners:

Cadw	National Trust: NT
Coleg Glynllifon: CoG	Natural Resources Wales: NRW
Conwy County Borough Council: CCBC	North Wales Wildlife Trusts: NWWT
Country Land and Business Association: CLA	Outdoor Partnership: OP
Cymdeithas Eryri / Snowdonia Society: CESS	Public Health Wales: PHW
Cyngor Gwynedd: CG	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds: RSPB
Farmers Union of Wales: FUW	Snowdonia Active: SA
Federation of Small Businesses: FSB	Snowdonia National Park Authority: SNPA
Grŵp Cynefin: Cynefin	Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau: PLAS
John Muir Trust: JMT	Woodland Trust: WT
National Farming Union Wales: NFU Cymru	

Executive summary

In its second year of implementation, significant progress has been made on the Action Plan of Cynllun Eryri, particularly as many partners were still reassessing following the unforeseen impacts of COVID-19. The report details progress by all delivery partners, however in short, from November 2021 – December 2022 the following can be concluded:

Section A Eryri's Environment: We are successfully caring for our natural and historic assets and stunning surroundings.

- Outcome A1: Sustainable Tourism principles are achieved - 4 actions are progressed and are within the original timelines set and 1 is progressing with reassessed timelines.
- Outcome A2: Biodiversity is being maintained and enhanced, whilst the resilience of ecosystems is increased - 3 actions are progressed and are within the original timelines set and 2 are progressing with reassessed timelines.
- Outcome A3: We are prepared for the impacts of climate change and are reducing our carbon footprint - 1 action is progressed and is within the original timeline set and 1 is progressing with reassessed timelines, and 1 has been subsumed by the work completed in action A3.1.
- Outcome A4: Eryri is at the forefront internationally in successfully tackling invasive species, pests and diseases that impact on native species - all 3 actions are progressed and are within the original timelines set.
- Outcome A5: Communities, businesses and visitors play an active role in caring for the National Park's landscapes, habitats, wildlife and cultural heritage - both actions are progressed and are within the original timelines set.
- Outcome A6: Eryri is a leading example in Wales of how to care for and champion cultural heritage and the historic environment - all 3 actions are progressed and are within the original timelines set.
- Outcome A7: Our Special Qualities are well protected - 3 actions are progressed and are within the original timelines set and 3 are progressing with reassessed timelines.

Section B: Eryri's Health and Well-being: Opportunities to learn and discover, and at the same time improve our well-being.

- Outcome B1: The National Park is having a positive impact on Well-Being - 2 actions are progressed and are within the original timelines set and 1 has been achieved.
- Outcome B2: Residents and visitors can access a variety of routes in the National Park aimed to improve physical and mental health - 2 actions are progressed within the original timelines set and 1 is progressing with reassessed timelines.
- Outcome B3: Our Special Qualities are widely recognised - all 3 actions are progressing with reassessed timelines.
- Outcome B4: Sustainable options for parking and transport are achieved - 1 action is progressed and is within the original timeline set and 1 is progressing with reassessed timelines.
- Outcome B5: Our visitor facilities are high quality and landscape sensitive - 1 action is progressed within the original timeline set, and 2 are progressing with reassessed timelines.

Section C: Eryri's Communities and Economy: A great place to develop, live and work

- Outcome C1: The language, culture and heritage of Eryri is being celebrated, supported and strengthened - all 3 actions are progressed and are within the original timelines set.
- Outcome C2: Jobs and opportunities encourage people to remain in the area – 1 action is progressed within the original timeline and 2 are progressing with reassessed timelines
- Outcome C3: We are implementing solutions for affordable housing to buy and rent – 2 actions are progressed and are within the original timelines set and 1 is progressing with reassessed timelines.
- Outcome C4: Local communities are supported to thrive in all aspects of well-being – both actions are progressing with reassessed timelines

There are currently no Outcomes which have been assessed as *Not progressed and/or at risk*. It is therefore fair to conclude that progress has been achieved in all areas of the Action Plan of Cynllun Eryri in the year from 2021-22.

A detailed report of progress from all Partners follows with an overview and assessment at the beginning of each Outcome.

Status:



Progressed, within original timelines



Progressing with reassessed timelines



Not progressed and/or at risk

Eryri's Environment: We are successfully caring for our natural and historic assets and stunning surroundings.

OUTCOME A1

Sustainable Tourism principles are achieved.

Are we within our timeline? Yes


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

- Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Visitor Economy Gwynedd and Eryri adopted in 2023 – Partnership and Action Plan to be established: significant capacity and resource commitments needed.
- Ongoing investment from WG/TfW and partnership agreements will be needed to maintain the Parking and Transport Strategy roll out – annual assessment of this situation.
- Plastic Free Yr Wyddfa project funded until 2025.
- Successful Caru Eryri programme is reliant on grant funding.

Conclusion:


There has been clear progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome A1. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
A1.1		<p>Develop guiding principles and thresholds in relation to visitor impacts on the environment and landscape. The principles will define where further action in the form of area-based management plan is required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a heat map • Look at best practice examples from other areas • Define thresholds and principles • Select trial areas to pilot the approach • Where there is environmental capacity and community led desire for an increase in visitors, explore options of redistribution of visitors from areas suffering from overcapacity 	<p>By the end of 2021 a heat map will be produced, thresholds and principles will be defined.</p> <p>A rationale, methodology and results will be presented in a findings report. Strategies will be established based on agreed guiding principles.</p>	<p>SNPA</p> <p>NRW</p> <p>Fforwm Eryri</p> <p>Gwynedd Council</p> <p>Conwy CBC</p>

Progress report: SNPA: MoU signed between SNPA and CG to deliver a Sustainable Visitor Economy Plan for 2035. Holistic measurements for the impacts of tourism are being developed in partnership between SNPA, CG and CCBC. Guiding principles for the sustainable visitor economy have been developed through best practise examples and extensive consultation – these have been adopted officially by CG and SNPA.


CCBC: in the process of rewriting Destination Management Plan, with emphasis on sustainable tourism. SNPA employees are members of the Partnership and we will work closely to ensure guiding principles are included in the plan.

A1.2		<p>Ensure that uplands paths are well maintained to manage the impacts of erosion and prioritise work based on the number of footpath users:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a multi-organisation working group to coordinate management • Maintain funding and explore new sources (e.g. donations) • Increase the use of volunteers for maintenance work • Build a local contractor base for more skilled work 	<p>Annual assessments of progress will occur, baselines will be established, and sources of funding will be quantified.</p>	<p>SNPA; National Trust; NRW; Snowdonia Society; Conwy County Borough Council; Gwynedd Council; Volunteer Groups; Ramblers Cymru</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: The Warden Service assesses and inspects routes using the route management system. Any path work, maintenance, improvements or projects are prioritised by an internal group. Projects: Work on the Bwlch Maescwm path, which forms part of the cylchdaith Yr Wyddfa, and connects Rhyd Ddu with Llanberis has been completed. Partnership work between NRW, BMC and SNPA continues on Mynydd Moel with plans to expand the work to other parts of Cader Idris. Work on the Crafnant to Capel Curig path connecting the two communities and responding to erosion problems and providing a solid surface for the path.

CESS: 21km of footpaths maintained (surface clearance and repairs, ditches and drains cleared), including Yr Wyddfa with SNPA, Llwybr Llechi Eryri, and Carneddau, Glyderau with NT) 50m of stone pitching on Slate Trail; 7 people completed accredited Footpath Maintenance training unit.

NT: Full time 4-member team prioritising work around Ogwen and Nant Gwynant.

A1.3		<p>Take pragmatic and proactive action to reduce litter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research a move towards use of more sustainable packaging in our retail outlets • Research a move to 'plastic free zones' in Eryri and identify feasible alternatives • Explore the possibility of developing the first free water-refill village/region in the National Park • Work with existing litter reduction campaigns and implement messages on a local scale • Continue to work in partnership and with volunteers to keep the National Park free of litter • See also A1.5 	<p>Feasibility studies will identify barriers and procedures necessary for far-reaching behavioural change approaches.</p> <p>Throughout the term of the Plan, local litter reduction campaigns will be successfully launched and their effects will be monitored.</p> <p>Carry out perception studies to measure people's opinion of litter in the area</p>	<p>SNPA Snowdonia Society Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council NRW Keep Wales Tidy National Trust Plas y Brenin</p>
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Progress report: SNPA continued partnership with Bangor University – MA students further investigation into attitudes towards bins and interventions.

Plastic Free Yr Wyddfa Officer position created and work programme has begun. Continued liaison with events organisers to raise awareness of plastics/waste/litter and also organic food waste.

CESS: Leading and securing the resources for Caru Eryri partnership (CESS/SNPA/OP/NWWT)

Caru Eryri - In 2022, 87 Caru Eryri volunteers removed 970kg of litter from trails and car parks across Eryri. Caru Eryri social media ads on 'taking litter home' reached over 165k people recyclable materials sorted and recycled. Majority of this rubbish cleared from most popular mountain areas and paths, and approximately 70% from 3 areas – Llanberis path, Watkin path and Ogwen.

NT: Ranger led litter picking sessions with volunteers. Support for Caru Eryri volunteer scheme (staff time and waste facilities).


A1.4		<p>Reduce the impacts of parking and transport on the environment and landscape:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review public transport and parking in the Yr Wyddfa and Ogwen areas to provide and implement recommendations • Establish and agree terms of reference for a transport and parking working group for Eryri • Work with Partners to trial greener solutions to public transport • Work with landowners to identify landscape sensitive overflow car parking, in line with LDP policies and as part of traffic management plans • Improve information on sustainable transport options for visitors 	<p>A working group will be established by 2022.</p> <p>Recommendations from the Snowdon Partnership's comprehensive Review of Parking and Transport will be implemented, will be widened to cover the entire National Park area.</p>	<p>SNPA; Gwynedd Council; Conwy County Borough Council; Transport for Wales; North Wales Economic Ambition Board</p>
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Progress report: Delivery group established between SNPA, CG, CCBC and Transport for Wales (TfW). Delivery Plan is in the process of being developed. Incremental implementation of Snowdon Partnership's comprehensive Review of Parking and Transport continue in the Yr Wyddfa and Ogwen area.

CG: continue to monitor in the same way and use 'tow away' powers when absolutely necessary.

NRW: working with LA's and Eryri NP at opportunities to develop active travel routes; A5 to Betws y Coed and Betws to Conwy – work ongoing.

CESS: Advocacy for sustainable transport, working with Partneriaeth Yr Wyddfa, providing detailed input to North Wales Transport Commission, delivering 2 focus groups for Senedd Research on post-pandemic public transport. Provided detailed input to Roads Review Panel.

A1.5		<p>Reduce any negative impacts of recreational activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with relevant partners to ensure a co-ordinated approach for sustainable management of organised events • Work within national partnerships to share good practice • Maintain and implement a Recreation Strategy to sustainably manage any potential conflict between users • Address illegal or damaging off-roading activities by working with legitimate user groups and North Wales Police and Rural Crimes Unit, to encourage sustainable use of the network • Unauthorised access and camping is being addressed to prevent deterioration of protected areas • Facilitate good working relationships between users and land managers e.g. highlight the dangers of dogs off leads and other inappropriate activities • Promotion of Marine Code, and monitor effectiveness. 	<p>By the end of 2021 an update of the 'Guidance for Organised, Competitive, Recreational and Charitable events in Eryri National Park' will be available on SNPA website, with input of relevant partners.</p> <p>Partners are working together to address illegal activities and processes will have been triggered to consider options for SAC sites with qualifying features recorded as 'unfavourable' due to impacts of recreation.</p>	<p>SNPA; NRW; Gwynedd Council; Conwy County Borough Council; National Trust; Snowdonia Society; SAC Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau (PLAS); Conwy & Gwynedd Safety Advisory Groups; John Muir Trust</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: New Recreation Strategy reflects a sustainable tourism ethos throughout. Expected to be formally adopted in 2023.

CCBC: New modules on the Conwy Tourism Ambassador Programme have been launched which cover sustainable and green tourism, as well as visitor safety on the mountains and in the sea.

SA: Study for NRW to review Gorge Walking in North West Wales – understanding the opportunities and constraints post Covid. Sharing best practice and upskilling outdoor providers via site guides for key venues and iSee guides for different habitat. Delivering the Train the Trainer project for the Carneddau Partnership.

NRW: working with North Wales Police and SNPA to look at how illegal downhill biking can be better managed through improved advocacy work and through enforcement on designated sites, as well as through provision of suitable places without causing environmental damage. Working on NNRs. Have carried out work in consultation with LA at Afon Ddu, installation of signage etc.

CESS: Caru Eryri – 134 activities delivered by teams of staff/volunteers engaging with and providing information to visitors on route choices, equipment, weather, encouraging respectful, responsible and sustainable behaviours.

Caru Eryri – targeted social media public messaging on positive options and choices for visitors – on subjects such as dogs, camping sites, litter. Raised awareness of Caru Eryri and need for responsible visitor behaviour via an item on BBC Countryfile.

PLAS: reducing disturbance to marine mammals and birds including review of Marine Coles; seasonal interpretation panels that have been adopted by local land owners and businesses; training sessions; a new all Wales leaflet has been produced to raise awareness about seals and disturbance; new marine code app has been produced and launched called Wales Coastal Explorer.

NT: Cwm Idwal Partnership (NT, SNPA, NRW) – education and direct engagement with visitors. Caru Eryri partnership (SNPA, CESS, OP, NT) – engagement with visitors by volunteers.

SNPA/NT/NRW/CG: Nant Gwynant - partnership approach to community engagement on visitor issues, developing plans for increased staff presence.

OUTCOME A2

Biodiversity is being maintained and enhanced, whilst the resilience of ecosystems is increased.

Are we within our timeline? Timings have been realigned according to developments from Welsh Government, the impact of Covid-19 on practical projects and the recruitment of a new Biodiversity Officer.


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

- Action A2.1 has been re-worded in 2023 to reflect guidance in the Sustainable Farming Scheme produced by Welsh Government
- Major progress has been made in the implementation of projects and new timelines following the impacts of Covid-19 on practical work across the Outcome.
- A2.2 consideration is being given to commission external expertise to produce an NRAP for Eryri. At this point it is still achievable by 2025 but timings in Action Plan will need to be adjusted to reflect this.


Conclusion:

There has been some progress against measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome A2. At present, elements of Outcome A2.2 need to be progressed if the entire objective is to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
A2.1		<p>A2.1. Work together to maintain, restore and expand habitats and species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring stakeholders together to build a consensus and define the public goods of Eryri • Produce an ambition statement • Use existing and new land mapping processes for the current picture of all habitats within the National Park • Research land-use and patterns of change in order to better improve decision making • Assess what has and hasn't worked in previous land management schemes • Define the role of partners in implementing the scheme • Up-skill the local workforce in order to successfully deliver the scheme (see also C2.2) 	<p>By 2025 we aim to create a forum and shared ambition statement.</p> <p>We will have produced an asset register of public goods, with land mapping.</p> <p>We will consider current and previous land management practices, assessing their strengths to create and refine a public goods scheme that the Partnership are confident delivering.</p>	<p>Welsh Government and all Partners</p> <p><i>Dependent upon outcomes of Sustainable Farming and Our Land consultation and Brexit negotiations</i></p>

Progress report: It was agreed by Fforwm Eryri in December 2022 that this action needed to be rewritten to reflect the reality of the situation in 2022/3. Welsh Government proposals for a Sustainable Farming Scheme have been discussed and the new wording relates to that. See: <https://www.gov.wales/sustainable-farming-scheme-outline-proposals-2025>

A2.2		<p>Biodiversity decline is being addressed through maintenance, restoration, expansion and connectivity activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding opportunities are maximised to ensure investment reaches Local Biodiversity Action Plan, and Section 7 habitats and species targets • Work in Partnership to agree appropriate grazing regimes where they are essential to maintain / restore qualifying features of SAC, SPA and Ramsar sites to a favourable conservation status e.g. Eryri SAC as a priority area • Co-ordinate the production of a Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) for Eryri to include the most recent data and specific biodiversity targets. • Interpretation activities encourage the understanding and safeguarding of biodiversity amongst local communities and visitors • Establish a Local Nature Partnership to lead on Biodiversity issues for Eryri 	<p>Throughout the Plan designated projects will be seen through to completion and reported upon as appropriate, targeting the management requirements of protected sites and Section 7 species and habitats.</p> <p>Where possible, Land Management Agreements will be in place by 2025.</p> <p>The recruitment of a Biodiversity officer will have occurred by 2020 as a focal point for interpretation activities, working alongside specific project officers.</p> <p>By 2022 a Local Nature Partnership will have been established and an NRAP will have been produced through a Park wide Partnership.</p>	<p>SNPA NRW Welsh Government All relevant Partners</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: staff changes have delayed progress. Capital works on numerous social housing estates in the Park with landlords to improve biodiversity and well-being have been delivered by the conservation team. Now looking to appoint an external contractor to develop the NRAP in 2023.

NFU Cymru – Members working together on specific projects that look to increase biodiversity. A combination of programs that support work on individual farms as well as those that have been following river corridors to interconnect farms. Continuation of work protected under a combination of Basic and Advanced Glastir, Small Glastir Schemes as well as work within SMS projects and Projects led by PCE.

NWWT continue to actively manage reserves both within and on borders of the Park, which are stepping stones for habitat connectivity. The LNP-funded project: A Swift Recovery - Adfer y Gwenoliaid duon is currently ongoing. Funding to continue the work beyond the current period is being sought.

NRW continue to fund multiple projects that contribute to this action: Uwch Conwy, Carneddau HLF & S16s, Peatland restoration by SNPA through strategic allocated funding, fisheries, woodland planting programme. Sands of life Project. Biodiversity and EcoResilience funding, through farm management agreements and other work on NNR's and other land. NRW have completed Nature Emergency Action Mapping. This project forms part of the 'Nature Emergency Action Network' project. This is an initiative to enhance the condition of Wales' best natural areas which are designated mostly as Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSI's), or Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) by considering how the intervening land helps link sites together in ecological networks. NRW: Uwch Conwy project focused on restoring peat land, hedgerow creation as well as river restoration projects on the Caletwr, Nant y Gwryd and Machno. Monitoring and feasibility studies are going ahead on sites in the Llugwy, Lledr and Machno to enable work in future years.

Dee LIFE: Introduction of boulders and gravel in the Afon Tryweryn to improve spawning habitat for migratory and resident fish and benefit the entire ecosystem. Weir removal within and downstream of the Park to improve connectivity and fish migration within the Park. Restricting livestock access to watercourses by fencing off and installing drink troughs as an alternative water source, reducing nutrient and sediment input into the Dee and its tributaries. Tree planting on riparian corridors to reduce nutrient and sediment input and stabilise banks. Forestry - improving culverts and installing sediment traps in Aberhirnant and Llangower forestry block to improve water management, reducing the potential for rainwater to run down forestry tracks and carry sediment into watercourses. Installation of a new forestry crossing at Penaran to limit sediment input to the watercourse. Providing classroom hatcheries at local schools as a joint initiative with Eryri NPA. Continued monitoring work throughout the Dee catchment including use of acoustic tracking equipment to better understand key behaviours of salmon and lamprey, assess delays and identify any potential barriers to migration.


Bala smolt study continues with tagging of 60 salmon to ensure robust evidence is available to review the potential impacts associated with the operation of the sluices gates in Bala. The data will be compiled and assessed by an external independent consultant.

CESS: Staff and volunteer teams delivered peatland, wetland and woodland management and restoration at sites across the National Park, in partnership with SNPA, NT, NRW, WT, NWWT, and landowners.

Woodland Trust: Successful bid to Nature Networks fund for delivery of essential work in Meirionnydd, improving the condition of woodlands on our own estate. The work helps to deliver the management plans for a number of our most important woodlands. Including: Thinning of planted conifer within the ancient woodland at Coed Oerddwr within the Meirionnydd Oakwoods area, to benefit lower plant communities and secure natural regeneration; assessment and management of grazing and browsing by wild and domestic herbivores at a number of woodlands and expanding native tree cover at Coed Felenrhyd & Llennyrch. The WT is already working to protect and restore the Atlantic Oakwoods of Meirionnydd as a partner in the Celtic Rainforest Project. Also working to increase appropriate tree and woodland cover within ENP through the Coed Cefn Gwlad project and also delivering trees outside woods and trees on farms in the form of hedgerows and shelterbelts.


NT: Ongoing partnership work to deliver landscape scale restoration projects – Carneddau Landscape Partnership, Uwch Conwy Catchment Project, Cwm Idwal Partnership. Tree and hedgerow planting on farms in Cwm Penmachno & Ogwen. Meadow restoration and management by rangers, farm managers and farm tenants. Invasive species control by rangers, volunteers, contractors and partners.

RSPB: Celtic Rainforests LIFE project currently has four woodlands in the Mawddach being grazed by two graziers. One grazier has between 2-3 highland cattle on a rotational grazing scheme between three of the sites all year round (Coed Garth Gell, Coed y Parc, and Abergwynant y Waen) while the other grazier has 5 Dexters on Abergwynant y Gribin between April and October.

A2.3		<p>Ensure that water quality and the marine environment are maintained and enhanced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve water quality through monitoring, enforcement, education and improved land management practices • Use the planning system to protect water quality • Support local groups working to improve water quality e.g. Tir Afon project and the work of Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau Special Area of Conservation • Continue to support and advise LIFE and HLF projects improving fresh water and marine sites within the National Park 	<p>Afon Eden project is seen through to completion and the Water Framework Directive (WFD) status is maintained and improved across the Park.</p> <p>By end of 2020 the LDP will contain text relating to water quality in new developments.</p>	<p>NRW Dwr Cymru Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau SAC (PLAS) SNPA Welsh Government</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: are undertaking proactive projects including three Natural Flood Management projects on different catchments. SMS projects are drawing to a close and several have had elements of water quality and water quantity measures. Planning applications try to lead to this goal - this is especially on rivers with a Special Conservation Area (SAC) designation.

NRW: River Restoration on the Afon Eden including reconnecting flood plan, reintroduction of boulders and importation of gravels to improve habitat. Land management activities to benefit water quality and biodiversity. Working with partners to address physical modification. Repair of fencing, installation of solar powered water troughs and fencing off old drinking bays to reduce stock access to watercourse to prevent introduction of nutrients and sedimentation of watercourse, on Ddu (Dwyfor) catchment. North Wales Rivers Trust - Inland fisheries habitat restoration and Alternative Mitigation Programme 2022-24
The Welsh Dee Trust - Inland Fisheries Habitat Restoration & Alternative Mitigation Programme 2022/24.
Monitoring water quality at Afon Cwm Llan.
Uwch Conwy project – Upper Conwy - improve land management and water quality. Work in 2022 focused on restoring peat land, hedgerow creation as well as river restoration projects on the Caletwr, Nant y Gwryd and Machno. Monitoring and feasibility studies are going ahead on sites in the Llugwy, Lledr and Machno to enable work in future years
The latest status of the salmon and sea trout populations for each of the principal salmon and sea trout catchments in Eryri (Conwy, Dee, Dwyfor, Dwyryd, Dyfi, Dysynni, Glaslyn, Mawddach, Ogwen & Seiont) are available in Know Your Rivers report. Habitat improvements to restore freshwater productivity of salmon and sea trout populations are set out in action tables.
NRW and Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water are using new water quality models to assess and plan for improvements required on wastewater treatment work discharges for phosphorus in SAC rivers catchments - Eden, Gwyrfa, Dee and Glaslyn (Meirionydd Oakwoods & bat sites).
PLAS SAC: Tir a Môr Llŷn a number of interventions have been undertaken to improve water quality across the Daron catchment as a result of the work carried out last year. A report has been produced that shows the results. Natur am Byth is now in the development phase. We have been looking at what needs to be done in relation to water quality and how citizen science can help play a part in data collection in the future.
NT: Uwch Conwy Catchment Project - Ditch-blocking and peatland restoration on Y Migneint. Tree planting in Ogwen, Carneddau & Uwch Conwy focussed on the riparian zone.

A2.4		<p>Restore, expand and improve the resilience and species mixture of native tree species and woodlands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map ancient trees and woodlands • Continue to develop appropriate planting plans in the Park • Reconnect fragmented areas of woodland • Expand native tree cover on National Park owned land • Explore the viability of establishing a native arboretum • Encourage optimal management of existing woodland to safeguard its ecological condition 	<p>Through a variety of planned projects over the next five years, the eligibility and suitability of sites will be scrutinized and reported upon.</p> <p>Planting plans will be developed.</p> <p>LIFE Celtic Rainforests project will lead on many of these goals until 2025.</p> <p>A review to critically analyse methods will take place by end of 2025.</p>	<p>NPA</p> <p>Woodland Trust</p> <p>Coed Cymru</p> <p>Farming Unions</p> <p>NRW</p> <p>Gwynedd Council</p> <p>Conwy County Borough Council</p> <p>RSPB</p> <p>Welsh Water</p> <p>Welsh Government</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: LIFE Celtic Rainforest project is delivering well in difficult circumstances. Several projects delivering on fragmentation issue. All Forest Design Plans being responded to. Additional funding has been secured for AWS survey and supporting capital works on the sites to improve the condition of woodlands. The effect of ash die back continues to cause concern in terms of extent and effect on tree cover and connectivity.

Developing a Trees and Woodland strategy.

CLA Cymru: where a member specifically wished to undertake a project we would support it. Many of our members actively own and manage woodland on their landholdings.

NWWT: Controlling conifer regeneration at Cors Bodgynydd and controlling rhododendron within and adjacent to local reserves is ongoing. The tree nursery at Gwaith Powdwr has been established and is being further developed. Woodland management work at Gwaith Powdwr to improve the biodiversity is underway and work at Coed Crafnant is underway to maintain the site for lower plants (lichens, bryophytes) including a range of woodland management tasks as well as grazing management involving ponies and goats.


NRW – 5 GlassTir woodland creation grants within ENP.

Woodland Trust: Core partner of LIFE Celtic Rainforests project helping to delivery condition surveys and carry out ancient woodland restoration activities; continuing support for landowners to enter Glastir schemes and own WT subsidised schemes for woodland creation; new woodland creation guidance created focusing on right tree in the right place; continue to increase recording of ancient and veteran trees across the region with new guidance available on management and protection of ancient and veteran trees.

NT: Ongoing delivery of woodland management plans - clearing rhododendron, extensive boundary works to manage conservation grazing with cattle & ponies in our woodland NNRs. Secured a full-time member of staff for our native tree nursery. Strategic planting of alternative tree species to mitigate impacts of Ash-dieback (e.g. sycamore & hornbeam).

RSPB: Celtic Rainforests LIFE project currently has four woodlands in the Mawddach being grazed by two graziers. One grazier has between 2-3 highland cattle on a rotational grazing scheme between three of the sites all year round (Coed Garth Gell, Coed y Parc, and Abergwynant y Waen) while the other grazier has 5 Dexters on Abergwynant y Gribin between April and October.

NFU Cymru: Members have been part of woodland restoration and planting under Welsh Government schemes. Taking part in independent research commissioned by SNPA to identify areas of trees within the area and to consider any potential for the future. Publication of the Growing Together report, a strategy for growing trees sustainably across farms.

A2.5		<p>Ensure that any management related proposals have no adverse effect on the integrity of European site(s), SSSIs, and protected features of other areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All projects - either alone or in combination with other plans and projects - are subject to assessment in light of the relevant legislative framework which applies 	<p>Any potential for adverse characteristics and impacts upon protected areas within the National Park from generic management related activities will be subject to a full assessment once details are available and before any work commences.</p>	All Partners
<p>Progress report: Ongoing HRA's as standard across all protected areas.</p> <p>CESS: advocacy - responding to Forest Resource Plan consultations and other opportunities to secure better environmental outcomes from activities such as forest management.</p>				

OUTCOME A3

We are prepared for the impacts of climate change and are reducing our carbon footprint.

Are we within our timeline? Yes – Objective A3.3 has been subsumed by work in A3.1 and A1.2 and is no longer relevant.


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

- It is essential for SNPA as a public body to have achieved this Outcome by 2025.

Conclusion:

Some progress has been made against the measurements of success outlined in Cynllun Eryri, and increased progress is expected in 2023 to ensure that this Outcome is achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/sresponsible
A3.1		<p>Reduce the carbon emissions of Eryri National Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute proactively towards the WG emission reduction delivery plan • Install electric vehicle charging points at strategic locations within the National Park • Implement greener transport and travel measures to reduce carbon emissions. • Encourage community-based solutions. • Promote and support improving the energy efficiency in new and traditional buildings in line with planning policy • Partners to assess the sustainability of major buildings within the National Park • Continue to support appropriately scaled and located community owned green energy schemes - in line with the LDP • Establish baselines for future emission target setting 	<p>Baselines for future carbon emission measurements will be established by 2023, based on target setting advice from Welsh Government.</p> <p>By the end of the Plan we will have successfully contributed to the Welsh Government emission reduction plan, have installed further electric charging points and monitored the number of homes upgrading to renewable alternatives through Planning applications.</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Community Energy Cyd Ynni National Trust Snowdonia Society Menter Mon Grwp Cynefin Adra Datblygiadau Egni Gwledig (DEG) Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH) Aberystwyth University</p>

Progress report: SNPA - A system for establishing a Carbon emissions baseline is being established, and a Carbon Scrutiny task and finish group of officers and members is meeting to draft a Carbon strategy for the Authority, in conjunction with other Designated Landscapes across Wales.


Grwp Cynefin: has launched a Sustainability Strategy which pledges to reduce carbon emissions by 4% a year to achieve net zero by the year 2044. This develops a 'retrofit' plan for existing homes and builds new homes to a low carbon or carbon free standard.

CCBC have funded Energy Audits within the SNPA looking at energy use in 7 community buildings reducing costs and carbon emissions.

NWWT: Gwaith Powdwr off-grid solar system is still functioning and the tree nursery is being expanded.

CESS: increasing use of sustainable transport options for our practical activities – using Sherpa and e-bikes to get people to volunteer sessions.

CG: Gwynedd Council has adopted the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan 2022/23 – 2029/30 at a Cabinet meeting in March 2022.

A3.2		<p>Safeguard and increase the amount of carbon stored in Eryri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to utilise and enhance natural carbon sinks within the National Park • Reduce, and where possible reverse, the erosion and degradation of peatlands, including by grip blocking in the uplands and restoration of lowland agricultural peats • Ensure a long-term commitment to well managed and diverse woodland • Explore carbon offsetting and opportunities for financial support for carbon offsetting • Encourage the maintenance of permanent grassland and avoid soil disturbance 	<p>By the end of 2022, we will have increased the number of Peatland Code and trees and woodland Carbon Code projects supported.</p> <p>Throughout the Plan, SNPA will monitor peatland restoration actions, ensure woodland planting in appropriate sites and the condition of existing woodland is monitored and hedgerow habitats enhanced, as well as working in Partnership to advise on appropriate grazing regimes.</p>	<p>SNPA NRW National Trust Countryside Land Alliance (CLA) National Farmers Union (NFU) Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW)</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: Considerable work undertaken on peatland restoration and preparation of future restoration projects. Skills, experience and capacity of staff has increased through the National Peat Action Programme.


CLA Cymru: nationally continues with our carbon policies.

NFU Cymru: Promoting long-term objectives of 2040 for an agricultural industry that will deliver on Net Zero. A proportion of members taking advantage of renewable energy advice through the union as well as securing specialist equipment.

NWWT: Peatland management at Cors Bodgynydd and expansion of woodland cover at Coed Crafnant is continuing.

CESS: Organised volunteer teams to carry out peat hag reprofiling on Aran Fawddwy in areas inaccessible to contractors. Conifer removal from peatlands.

NT: Tree and hedgerow planting on farms in Cwm Penmachno & Ogwen. Bid for funding to enable further ditch-blocking and peatland restoration.

A3.3		<p>Implement climate change mitigation measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the feasibility of implementing a Climate Vulnerability Index (CVI) approach to natural and cultural heritage assets of the National Park • Ensure that upland paths are maintained to a sufficient standard to withstand the increased frequency of storm events through Policy A1.2 	<p>By the end of 2021 we will work with other Designated Landscapes already using a CVI approach, to map assets and produce a feasibility study within the National Park.</p>	<p>All relevant partners</p>
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SNPA: This Action has been subsumed by the regional and national work undertaken in A3.1. and A1.2. The NPA is working towards creating a Carbon Strategy based on two main reports which have been produced by Small World Consulting which establishes a baseline and sets targets for the landscape of Eryri; and Acquatera which establishes a baseline and sets targets for the National Park Authority. The hope is that the Carbon Strategy will be ready to present to Authority members by the middle of 2024.

OUTCOME A4

Eryri is at the forefront internationally in successfully tackling invasive species, pests and diseases that impact on native species.

Are we within our timeline? Yes – a great deal of work has been achieved since 2021 on this Outcome.

Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

Request for a potential extension is being discussed by the Project LIFE Celtic Rainforests team, to ensure that the Phase 3 programme of treatment is delivered to its full effect.

Conclusion:

There has been clear progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome A4. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/sresponsible
A4.1	●	<p>Raise awareness with the public on how they can take action to prevent the establishment and spread of invasive species Contribute proactively towards the WG emission reduction delivery plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that volunteer and community activities that tackle invasive species understand the varying nature of problems, fostering meaningful action • Monitor and record the location and expanse of invasive species • Raise public awareness of terrestrial, freshwater and marine invasive non native species (INNS) and their impacts • Establish baselines for future emission target setting 	<p>A reduction in the number and geographical coverage of invasive species is recorded.</p> <p>Educational events will have taken place with identified groups and feedback surveys will be monitored for improvements in delivery.</p>	<p>SNPA NRW National Trust Snowdonia Society Prifysgol Bangor PLAS Coed Cadw North Wales Wildlife Trust Aberystwyth University Cofnod Wales Working Group on Invasive Non-native Species John Muir Trust</p>

Progress report: SNPA: led by the LIFE Celtic Rainforest Team and support from other officers and projects. Any planning permission that includes invasive plants has a condition that obliges the owner to dispose of the plant before the development begins.


NRW – working in partnership to develop an updated policy. NRW are project partners in the Wales Resilient Ecological Network (WREN) | North Wales Wildlife Trust.

CESS: invasive species awareness and practical control, working with 6 community groups - 800 volunteer hours on Himalayan Balsam in Carneddau.

Developed two new accredited training units on invasive species control. One on planning and invasive species control activity, and one on carrying out the activity. Organised volunteer team to control American Skunk cabbage. Raised awareness of this invasive via an item on Songs of Praise. Work on clearing non-native invasive conifers from stream corridors, footpath routes and wetland habitats in Cwrt/Crawcwellt area with NRW.

PLAS SAC: A Biosecurity Plan for PLAS is well underway. We have also continued to raise awareness about marine INNS through a variety of methods including: Social media; Workshops; School visits; Articles in the PLAS magazine O Dan y Don; Talk to consumers and businesses; Distribute materials such as leaflets etc around the site; Create an education pack for schools; Update PLAS web site.

Coed Cadw: Core staff are working as part of the Celtic Rainforest team to raise awareness & own focus to raise awareness of INNS and the effect on native woodland ecosystems.

A4.2		<p>Continue to expand current Partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the Rhododendron ponticum Partnership work by implementing the Partnership Plan • Work with partners in tackling the spread of Rhododendron, Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed as well as others which are prioritised and/or arise • Ensure that reporting mechanisms for any potential threats are clear and robust 	<p>Throughout the term of the Plan we will sustain our Partnership approaches and ensure that coverage of invasive species are reduced.</p> <p>Guidance from Management measures for widely spread Invasive Alien Species by DEFRA will be closely followed, as well as updating the public through website and educational campaigns if/ and when cases arise.</p> <p>A review to critically analyse methods will take place by end of 2025.</p>	<p>SNPA NRW National Trust Snowdonia Society Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council CLA NFU FUW Welsh Government Woodland Trust</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: this is being led by the LIFE Celtic Rainforest Team and support from other officers and projects.

CLA Cymru: is fully supportive of this policy where members are affected by Ponticum and other invasive weed species on their land and wish to control them, working with SNPA and its partner organisations.

NFU Cymru: Members join disposal schemes which are carried out through PCE.

NRW Sands of life project - Morfa Harlech, thanks to the completion of the work to transform 16.5 hectares of mature, commercial forestry plantation to open sand dune. 7ha of the plantation was felled back in 2015, followed by a further 9.5ha in 2022 - all of which has been sold into the timber market. We've also removed 5.5ha of stumps, 13ha of brash, 14ha invasive species and created nearly 6ha of bare sand habitat.


NRW - fund a programme of INNS projects on designated sites across the national park through management agreements and BERF, HLF and other funding streams. Events held by WREN project. Invasive Rhododendron Training Day - Plas Tan y Bwlch with Celtic Rainforest Wales

& Coed y Brenin.

CESS: Continued development of capacity to support partnerships, organisations and community groups to tackle INNS on their own land or in their local area. Through work on the Carneddau project, developing and learning what types of interventions and support communities need to tackle these problems. We provide resources, information, volunteers, training, and a package of support.

Woodland Trust: Ongoing work through the Celtic Rainforest projects and contractor interactions.

NT: Ongoing invasives work by rangers, contractors & volunteers across NT estate.

A4.3		<p>Expand on actions to tackle pests and diseases that impact on native species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau marine biosecurity plan • Support Natural Resources Wales in their work to prevent the spread of diseases which are present or arise 	<p>By working in Partnership we will see reduced outbreaks/ plant health notices issued.</p> <p>A review to critically analyse methods will take place by end of 2025.</p>	<p>ACA PLAS NRW Welsh Government SNPA Coed Cymru Woodland Trust Farming Unions</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: Continue to support the objectives through various project work or core funding where possible.

NFU Cymru: There has been collaboration between Gwynedd Council officers in the area and Union officers, as well as a briefing session for members to recognise the signs of Ash Dieback and the legal implications when disposing of it. Farmers have been carrying out their own management work on this in affected areas.

PLAS SAC: A Biosecurity Plan for PLAS is well underway. We have also continued to raise awareness about marine INNS through a variety of methods – see progress under A4.1.

Woodland Trust: Focus on using Observatree to detect and record tree pests and diseases.

OUTCOME A5

Communities, businesses and visitors play an active role in caring for the National Park's landscapes, habitats, wildlife and cultural heritage.

Are we within our timeline? Yes


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

- Funding for volunteer programmes is reliant on Welsh Government.

Conclusion:

There has been clear progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome A5. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
A5.1		<p>Seek 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the opportunities we have for local communities, schools, hard to reach and disadvantaged groups and expand the offer Raise awareness of the impacts of erosion and what walkers can do to help Engage with businesses and communities on how they can help reduce the impact of lighting on the night sky and biodiversity 	<p>By the end of 2021 we will have established a baseline of engagement with each group and worked with our Volunteer Co-ordinator and Dark Skies Officer to expand the reach of the National Park in each area.</p> <p>A review will take place before 2025 to evaluate success.</p>	<p>SNPA National Trust Outdoor Partnership NRW Snowdonia Society Ramblers Cymru Conwy County Borough Council Gwynedd Council Welsh Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) County Voluntary Councils (CVC) Betsi Cadwaladar University Health Board (BCUHB) John Muir Trust</p>

Progress report: SNPA: Regular volunteering opportunities for local communities and school/college groups to assist with footpath maintenance work, litter picking, tree planting and woodland management through Volunteer Strategy. Clearer connections with local schools have been established through the appointment of the Young People's Officer. Young Ranger program has been successfully re-established. The Carneddau Landscape project held many gorse clearance sessions, and archaeological digs with pupils from within the project's catchment area. Volunteering Officer has also led guided walks for Ukrainian refugees with Pobl i Bobl in Bangor.

Caru Eryri scheme has developed into a highly successful volunteer programme in co-operation with SNPA, CESS, NWWT and OP.

OP: Caru Eryri partnership; Increased opportunities in terms of locations and physical grading to encourage volunteers from different local communities, people of varying abilities and use of public transport links to sessions to include non-car users.


Community Development programme regularly provide sessions targeted specifically at hard to reach communities, by reducing the barrier to participation, through subsidised costs, equipment and targeting different areas. Pathways to Employment programme works specifically with target groups (NEETS) encouraging use of outdoor activities to improve confidence and gain employability skills.

NRW partnership with NT - Uwch Conwy Project -community and learning opportunities as part of this project. Key partners in Cwm Idwal partnership delivering community engagement and educational events.

CESS: Have recruited a full-time paid trainee on the New to Nature scheme, devised to provide opportunities for under-represented groups to make a start on a career in conservation. Working with a range of hard to reach groups as volunteers, including young people, people recovering from a range of issues, people referred by probation or the police, and people with complex mental or physical health challenges. In order to manage a wide range of volunteers we have invested in continual development of safeguarding procedures and training. Our accredited training programme is designed to be widely accessible. We use assessment techniques which reduce the use of extensive written submissions, making the training accessible to people who might otherwise find it difficult to complete accredited training.

NT: Re-established partnership (post-covid shutdown) with Outward Bound Trust at Bwthyn Ogwen. Delivering educational visits and outreach with local communities via Cwm Idwal Partnership. Numerous volunteer sessions and group visits led by rangers & farm managers.

The Betsi Cadwaladr Public Health Team (BC PHT) continues to raise awareness among 'need to reach' communities about the wellbeing benefits of engaging with green and blue spaces, understanding them and contributing to their preservation for future generations. All staff have been encouraged to enrol and complete the Eryri Ambassadors modules.

A5.2		<p>Support, promote and deliver volunteering opportunities that help protect and enhance the environment and cultural heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop and expand the Young Rangers scheme • Investigate links with schools locally to offer Welsh Baccalaureate opportunities for Key Stages 4 & 5 and volunteering elements of DoE Award Scheme • Investigate links with return to work schemes to further increase opportunities for residents' contact with the Park 	<p>SNPA's Wardens and Volunteer Co-ordinator will lead on these elements reporting back to our Authority on an annual basis to measure progress.</p> <p>A rise in volunteer numbers will be recorded.</p>	<p>SNPA</p> <p>The Outdoor Partnership</p> <p>National Trust</p> <p>NRW</p> <p>Snowdonia Society</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: The Yr Wyddfa Volunteer Warden Scheme continues and has been expanded to the South of the Park in conjunction with the Engagement service. Arrangements are in place to restart the Young Ranger scheme in partnership with the OP. Discussions have begun in order to expand the scheme to the South of the Park. In 2022 an average of 10 volunteer workdays a month were hosted in partnership with the Snowdonia Society offering a wide variety of conservation opportunities.

CCBC - The Green Communities project aimed to bring people and nature together, for the benefit of the environment and communities; enabling communities to transform their local area into a more desirable place to live, work and play; increase opportunities to volunteer locally outdoors while also creating opportunities for wildlife to flourish. Projects and initiatives are required to integrate the principles of Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (SMNR) into activities and community infrastructure. 9 projects from Conwy were successful 4 of which are within the National Park area:-

Enhancement of Glan y Mor Elias in partnership with Llanfairfechan Town Council, to include alternative methods of interpretation and education.

Enhancement of an area at Pont y Pair Betws y Coed in partnership with the Betws y Coed Community Council to include a picnic area and road safety measures using recycled plastic materials. Creation of a community orchard planting heritage apple and plum trees and including installation of a traditional slate fence in partnership with Cwm Community Action and The National Trust at Foel, Cwm Penmachno. Installation of solar panels and inverter at Hwb Penmachno in partnership with the community.

OP: Continue to support Young Rangers scheme; offering a diverse range of opportunities for young people involved to experience outdoor activities. This will promote greater understanding of the environment and conditions in which activities takes place and their importance. Plan to begin recruitment in Southern range of the Park, integrated initially, but expanded to offer 2 schemes eventually. Creation of TOP ALF framework to assist schools with delivery of new Curriculum for Wales.

CESS: In 2022 we delivered 234 volunteering and training sessions, representing over 1200 opportunities to help look after the NP and learn about its special qualities. Working closely with partners, we are able to offer a significant range of opportunities, which are well-managed by experienced trained staff, with safeguarding and support available to make activities available to a wide range of people.

The Caru Eryri programme is innovating and developing new ways of working together to deliver opportunities. The sharing of staff and systems makes it possible to align efforts better – for instance bringing the Volunter Warden scheme into the same volunteer management software helps co-ordinate the work of NPA Wardens, volunteer wardens and Caru Eryri teams.

NT: Varied volunteer programme across Eryri, often delivered with partners (CESS, SNPA).

OUTCOME A6

Eryri is a leading example in Wales of how to care for and champion cultural heritage and the historic environment.

Are we within our timeline? Yes


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?



- Lack of funding if grant opportunities outlined are not successful.

Conclusion:

There has been clear progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome A6. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
A6.1		<p>Support the repair and restoration of listed buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research available sources of funding that support repair and restoration, historical character & local history • Use Cadw's 5-yearly condition survey of listed buildings to provide targeted funding for buildings at risk • Work with partners to support and develop traditional skills locally, which in turn will help improve the condition of historic buildings • The Carneddau Partnership will deliver on its nine main project themes encompassing the natural and cultural heritage of the region • Explore the feasibility of implementing a Climate Vulnerability Index methodology to natural and cultural heritage assets of the National Park as per policy A3.2 	<p>We will ensure that there is a reduction in the number of listed buildings at risk based on Cadw's condition survey, whilst working with our Partners to develop a strategy for traditional skills workshops.</p> <p>Specific projects will consider the sympathetic reuse and interpretation of designated sections of our historic environment.</p>	<p>SNPA Cadw National Trust National Slate Museum Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Local history and archaeological groups North West Wales Slate Landscape World Heritage Nomination Partnership Steering Group and related partners</p>
<p>Progress report: SNPA: In 2022-23, one listed building at risk has received grant support, the Wilkins building in Dolgellau.</p> <p>Conservation work is taking place on five buildings in the Harlech conservation area, through the Harlech and Arudwy Cultural Heritage Plan fund.</p> <p>As a designated landscape, we continue to contribute to the work program of Cadw's Historic Environment Group (HEG) Climate Change working group.</p> <p>Cadw: Continued support for listed building condition surveys. Delivery of Cadw's Historic Building Capital Grant Programme 2022-2023 for 50% funding of projects up to £250k.</p>				

A6.2		<p>Support owners of Scheduled Monuments to better safeguard them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners to ensure suitable sources of funding are available • Using Cadw's database on the state of scheduled monuments, work with partners to establish prioritised work programmes to improve condition (and where appropriate) access and interpretation of scheduled monuments. 	<p>Throughout the Plan we will ensure that the existing database has been utilised to prioritise funding and dedicated work programmes</p>	<p>SNPA Cadw National Trust Gwynedd Council Local history and archaeological groups</p>
<p>Progress report: SNPA: <i>The Carneddau Landscape Partnership Plan improves the management of monuments in the uplands through conservation and vegetation management projects. We continue to collaborate with partners and landowners on the conservation of the North West Wales Slate Landscape World Heritage Site. Management and conservation plans for sites in Cwmystadrlllyn and Cwm Pennant are being developed.</i></p> <p>Cadw: <i>Delivery of Ancient Monument Grants for eligible conservation works to Scheduled Monuments. Specific support for SNPA / Cyngor Gwynedd in progressing conservation projects within the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales World Heritage Site.</i></p> <p>NT: <i>Various projects delivered via Carneddau Landscape Partnership – condition recording, vegetation clearance.</i></p>				
A6.3		<p>Develop and implement landscape scale projects which benefit the historic environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop projects that improve access to the historic environment, sense of place and designated conservation areas within the National Park • Continue to develop projects that enhance urban character within the National Park • Collaborate on key priorities and joint projects relating to Harlech in the 'Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd' World Heritage site Management Plan • Collaborate on key priorities relating to the National Park in the nomination of the 'Slate Industry of North Wales Cultural Landscape' to the World Heritage List 	<p>By 2021 we will have established a Cultural Heritage Strategy Monitoring Framework, and completed the second phase of the Dolgellau Townscape Heritage Initiative.</p> <p>We will also ensure that we are collaborating on key priorities relating to World Heritage within the National Park and on its borders.</p> <p>Carneddau Partnership will deliver on its nine main project themes encompassing the natural and cultural heritage of the region.</p>	<p>SNPA National Trust Cadw Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Local history and archaeological groups</p>

Progress report: SNPA: The interpretation of CP4 and CP5 is currently being completed, with the intention of installing the new interpretation in 2023. Conservation work and detailed management plans for CP4 are being developed in conjunction with a conservation architect. Collaboration continues with partners and landowners. The Dolgellau Townscape Heritage Plan has received a one-year extension. With the support of the Welsh Government, the plan will restore an additional building to the original plan. The Carneddau Landscape Partnership is busy building momentum following an initial delay due to the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic.

Cadw: Support for SNPA / Cyngor Gwynedd in progressing conservation projects within the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales World Heritage Site.

Continued support of Carneddau Landscape Partnership Scheme through Cadw funded grant aided collaboration with Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

CCBC: Art exhibition co-created by the Carneddau Landscape Partnership and a local school facilitated by Conwy Archive Service and currently exhibited at Conwy Culture Centre. Further art sessions at the centre with schools to follow. Casglu a Creu Conwy led project invited people (through social media and in person sessions) to co-produce a culture map of the county. 120 points have been added – 12 of which fall within the National Park - examples include: Bryn Gwyn, Ysbyty Ifan's link with Abraham Lincoln and the Taliesin monument.

CESS: As our contribution to Carneddau Landscape Partnership, we delivered 12 vegetation management sessions with volunteers at scheduled monuments and other historic sites in the Carneddau.

NT: Delivery of projects within Carneddau Landscape Project.

OUTCOME A7

Our Special Qualities are well protected.

Are we within our timeline? It is no longer feasible for the Appointment of Landscape Architect into the SNPA Planning Service, yet this does not prevent the Outcome from being achieved.


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

No


Conclusion:

There has been some progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome A7. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.


Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
A7.1		<p>Through the Local Development Plan improve the appropriate setting and location of development in the landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the nature, location and siting, height, form and scale of the development is compatible with the capacity and character of the site and locality within which it is located • Protect designated and proposed World Heritage sites e.g. North West Wales Slate Landscape • Use Supplementary Planning Guidance: Landscapes and Seascapes of Eryri, Supplementary Planning Guidance: Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment and the LANDMAP resource to assess the landscape impact of planning applications • Appoint a Landscape Architect to assist Development Management officers in assessing landscape impact of planning applications 	<p>A Landscape Architect will be appointed by the end of 2020.</p> <p>Guidelines will be in the LDP and monitored annually, being used to assess planning applications</p>	SNPA

Progress report: SNPA: Recruitment of a Landscape Architect will not be progressed due to other higher staffing priorities. The Planning Service (like many others throughout Wales) have struggled to maintain a core staff of planning officers, listed building officers and ecologists to undertake its statutory function of determining planning applications over the last 2 years or so. This has necessitated the frequent use of private consultants to fill such gaps. In this challenging recruitment environment, recruiting a landscape architect has not been a priority – and this situation is likely to persist in the future. The Authority are looking at ways of addressing these wider recruitment issues. However, it should also be noted that the Authority is making use of the landscape advisor that NRW have on certain applications which have a landscape impact. The Authority have also used consultant landscape architects for advice on limited occasions. This private service is expensive and can only be used on limited occasions where specialist advice is a priority.

A7.2		<p>Through the Local Development Plan, ensure that major new developments safeguard views into and out of the National Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that any major development proposals are subject to rigorous examination and include an assessment of the impact on National Park purposes • Consider the landscape and visual impact of proposals close to the National Park boundary and how these may impact on National Park purposes, including views into, and out of, the National Park 	<p>Guidelines will be in the LDP and SNPA will be working in partnership with neighbouring authorities to ensure these are being implemented</p>	SNPA
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Progress report: SNPA: ELDP states that 'Major development will not be permitted within the National Park other than in exceptional circumstances where there is demonstrated to be an overriding public need'. The policy goes on to state the criteria for which a major development would even considered to be remotely acceptable.


A7.3		<p>The Local Development Plan contains clear guidance for inappropriate major infrastructure development such as above ground power cables within the boundary, and where possible encourages the undergrounding of inappropriately located existing lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LDP includes a policy which resists inappropriate major development within the National Park • Encourage the undergrounding of overhead lines • Continue to work in partnership with the National Grid to reduce the visual impact of overhead lines within the National Park • The Authority will permit telecommunications developments provided that they do not significantly harm the visual amenity and landscape character of the area • Encourage telecommunications operators to mitigate and/or reduce impacts of existing transmission lines - use landscape sensitive communication infrastructure • The Authority encourages: the use of environmentally acceptable sites, sharing an existing site, mast, tower or other structures and • sharing an existing or planned underground channel with another utility • The mast, antennae and any ancillary structures are expected to be well designed and represent the best practicable environmental option 	<p>Guidelines will be in the LDP for landscape improvement of existing and new developments</p>	SNPA
<p>Progress report: SNPA- The Planning Service continues to work with SPEN and the National Grid. SPEN has an undergrounding project in place in Dyffryn Ogwen, and the undergrounding of the Grid pylons under the river Ddwryd has started.</p>				

A7.4	●	<p>Through the Local Development Plan, ensure that lighting in new developments takes account of the International Dark Sky Reserve status and Protect and enhance Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphic Sites (RIGS) and general geodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the LDP and Supplementary Planning Guidance on obtrusive lighting, ensure that proposals do not adversely affect the Dark Sky Reserve • Implement LDP policies that ensure development proposals do not adversely affect RIGS 	Guidelines are within the LDP.	SNPA
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Progress report: SNPA: Guidelines are within the LDP and applied to all Planning applications.

A7.5	●	<p>Foster greater understanding of the Special Quality of tranquillity and solitude</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and apply a new methodology of measuring tranquillity within the National Park • Define tranquillity as applied to Snowdonia National Park by including in visitor and residents survey to ascertain the experience of tranquillity in Eryri. • Continue to liaise with the MOD to encourage reductions in the number of low flying activities taking place over Snowdonia 	<p>New methodologies will have been considered and included in the mapping and protection of this Special Quality.</p> <p>A definition of tranquillity and an understanding of users experience of this Special Quality will be achieved through a user survey.</p> <p>Liaison meetings with the MOD will have occurred regularly</p>	SNPA
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Progress report: SNPA: University of Winchester Tranquillity mapping project is complete and results have been added to QGIS. Perception studies have shown that Tranquillity is an important Special Quality of Eryri for residents and visitors. Results have been added to the Eryri Ambassador programme and have been shared with Dark Skies Officer.

A7.6		<p>Establish a risk register for the tangible and intangible assets of the National Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a risk register exercise cross-referencing with Policy A3.3, ensuring preparedness and mitigation measures are anticipated. • With input from key partners consider learnings from the COVID 19 pandemic. 	<p>By 2022 a risk register for tangible and intangible heritage assets of the National Park will have been produced.</p>	SNPA
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Progress report: SNPA Property Service is producing an Asset Register for tangible assets, which is being incorporated into the Carbon Strategy for the Authority. Gathering of data for State of the Park Report (2023) has begun which will consider threats and opportunities to all of Eryri's Special Qualities.

Eryri's Health and Well-being: Opportunities to learn and discover, and at the same time improve our well-being.

OUTCOME B1

The National Park is having a positive impact on Well-Being.

Are we within our timeline?

B1.3 has been superseded by the 70th birthday celebrations in October-November 2021 which has achieved the same objectives, as well as the continued projects in the Carneddau and Ardudwy areas. The focus on wellbeing of Eryri's communities will continue for the remainder of the Plan and beyond.


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

- Success of the Volunteer and Social Prescribing schemes rely on grant funding.

Conclusion:

There has been progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome B1, with B1.3 already achieved. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
B1.1		<p>Expand work with partners, health services and Public Service Boards through social prescribing schemes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify target audiences Gather data on the barriers these audiences face and opportunities to address these barriers in a lasting way Identify and promote existing schemes within the National Park Establish new social prescribing schemes (along with a referral system) within and around the National Park for the target audiences, based on best practice and research results 	<p>By the end of 2020 we will have completed the necessary research and identified schemes to promote widely across the Park. By the end of the Plan we intend to have established social prescribing schemes on a trial basis, with the National Park as a partner to at least one major scheme working towards a formal well being strategy</p>	<p>SNPA Let's Get Moving North Wales Public Health Wales Outdoor Partnership National Trust NRW Sports Wales Ramblers Cymru Bangor University CESS</p>


Progress report: SNPA: Continued to offer free wellness events to the public and advertised through the BCHB Green Health group network and Lets Get Moving North Wales in order to share the information with green prescribers.

CCBC: Over the past 12 months a number of partnerships have developed including working closely with the National Trust (Tir Afon) and Referral scheme internally, the leisure development team, Social Services, Coleg Llandrillo and the Outdoor Partnership. Further partners include ALN groups in order to provide a diverse range of activities for many different populations. There are now weekly sessions being accessed in partnership.

OP: Successful Healthy and Active programme delivered alongside Community Mental Health teams in 2 local authorities, covering Betsi Cadwaladr Heath Board. Social prescribing project with walking used as treatment for mental ill-health.

CESS: We have invested in our volunteer management and support systems to ensure that we are able to respond positively to the needs and requirements of a wide range of participants – we have for example been able to organise bespoke support for a volunteer with serious and complex health conditions to safely volunteer with us.

BCPHT is working with both prescribers and providers in a bid to strengthen the various pathways that have been tried in different settings to enable people's access to nature. Scoping work and review of existing provision has demonstrated a myriad of approaches and lessons to be learnt as we refine the process and the experiences together with partners, including Eryri National Park.

B1.2		<p>Promote and enable a diverse range of activities that improve people's well-being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an online resource relating to activities and routes within the National Park targeted and tailored to the audiences identified under Policy B1.1 • Ensure adequate provision for access to inland waters for water based activities, particularly in light of future legislative changes • Continue to expand volunteer opportunities within the National Park that include both physical and cultural activities (see also policy A5.2) • Develop volunteering opportunities for disabled people • Facilitate activities within the National Park that enhance understanding of the Special Qualities for disabled people and disadvantaged groups • Encourage opportunities for socialising in the natural environment 	<p>By the end of 2021, resources will be available through the National Park website.</p> <p>By 2025 SNPA's Volunteer Co-ordinator will report on the increased provision of volunteer opportunities and evidence of relevant schemes and projects will exist.</p>	<p>SNPA NRW National Trust Outdoor Partnership WCVA Public Health Wales Outdoor Partnership Gwynedd Council Art Council Wales Menter Iaith National Slate Museum Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Sports Wales CESS John Muir Trust</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: Has offered 7 guided mindful walks, 4 outdoor yoga sessions and 4 forest school sessions throughout 2022.

CCBC: The section has been able to work with partners to develop a number of both indoor and outdoor activities that include: General Fitness sessions in centres; Community Hubs – doorstep fitness and sport; Outdoor activities (indoor climbing, Water based activities, RNLI Swim Safe, E-biking, Mountain biking, paddle boarding, bush craft and Orienteering; Afterschool sports activities; Training opportunities for young people – Coach Education courses.

SA: Ongoing delivery of Babi Actif project, including sessions (buggyfit, forest schools, nature walks etc) for mums to be and new parents encouraging them to be active outdoors.

OP: Social prescribing project included opportunities to participate in a range of activities to support treatment and exit routes to continue participation promoted through community clubs; walking, climbing, biking. Research project conducted alongside Bangor/Cardiff Met Universities to measure and evaluate the programme. Video on the project created and shared online as resource for programme in the future.

Caru Eryri partnership; volunteering opportunities advertised for individuals with limited mobility; differing roles such as completing surveys with visitors, manning the information van in car parks.


NRW: Accessibility pilot carried out on our own sites as well as along the Wales coast path.

NT: Cwm Idwal Partnership – delivered series of wellbeing walks & visits for groups.

CG: Pontio'r Cenedlaethau project that bridges the generations held in various locations including Dolgellau and Bala. The intention is to create new connections between children and people of all ages. This will increase respect and understanding between the generations and lead to stronger communities. There is a variety of projects from those in schools and care homes, to community ones to those that work on community resilience.

Age Friendly Gwynedd works to be an age friendly local authority. Achieving the goal will contribute towards the well-being of the Park's individuals.

Active Dementia Gwynedd has 17 weekly classes across Gwynedd - some within the boundaries of the Park, such as Dolgellau. And also holds Dementia Friends sessions in order to increase awareness and reduce stigma.

B1.3		<p>Plan a community-based project exploring the long, reciprocal relationship between the people of Eryri and the land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather a group of experts in the field to mind map possible ways to approach this project • Build upon the work of the Carneddau Landscape Partnership's Oral History Project • Facilitate workshops with a variety of community representatives to consider the best ways to express these inherent connections • Support and advise (as required) in the development of the project to its conclusion, as decided by local residents 	<p>By 2021 we will ensure that a mind mapping session has occurred and connections have been made with relevant community representatives.</p> <p>For the 70th anniversary of the designation of Snowdonia National Park, workshops will have occurred and the project will have been launched and is being facilitated to its conclusion.</p>	<p>SNPA</p> <p>All relevant partners and community members</p>
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Progress report: This action has been achieved by the Eryri 70 celebrations which established several community projects celebrating and exploring what it meant to live and work in Eryri. The website www.eryri70.cymru showcases how Eryri has inspired various artists for centuries by posing questions, discovering and reminiscing about the past, present and future of the park, displaying the work of a huge variety of local artists and young people who are inspired by Eryri in their creative work. The work of the Carneddau Landscape Partnership's Oral History Project continues apace as well as the ongoing Arduwy project recording stories related to various buildings and remains of buildings throughout the area. The focus on wellbeing of Eryri's communities will continue for the remainder of the Plan and beyond.

OUTCOME B2

Residents and visitors can access a variety of routes in the National Park aimed to improve physical and mental health.

Are we within our timeline? Timelines have been revised to reflect delays due to Covid-19.


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

- Ongoing negotiations with Partners to agree on an SLA.

Conclusion:

There has been some progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome B2. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
B2.1		<p>Create 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 Identify target audiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the target audiences for routes and trails in line with policy B1.1 • Review the Recreation Strategy for the National Park and ensure that it delivers on Outcome B2 and includes national standards for signage, furniture and accessibility • Increase the total length of accessible trails by removing barriers to enable access for all wherever possible, and provide least restrictive options in relation to furniture • Survey local people, stakeholders and visitors to assess their needs and demands in relation to access in their local area, along with any barriers they face to accessing the outdoors • Based on the results, create a map plan for the development of trails, including exploring options across the National Park in areas such as Bala-Traws, Bala - Dolgellau (subject to compliance with action A2.5) and identify how access for disabled people can be improved at the most popular sites within the National Park • Identify and pursue funding to deliver on the plan • Support long distance routes already in existence such as Snowdonia Slate Trail, Cambrian Way, Taith Arduwly, Pilgrims Way, Snowdon Circular, North Wales path, Wales Coast path etc 	<p>The action plan in 'Overview of actions' column will be implemented over the next 5 years so that all actions are complete by 2025.</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council National Trust NRW Local Access Forums Snowdonia Society BHS</p>


Progress report: SNPA: Recreation Strategy to be presented now in April 2023. This includes recognition of the spread and variation of activities that occur in the NP, and to identify where there are gaps in those provisions such as bridleways. The Warden Service prioritises path work by considering opportunities to create circuits, community links and provide opportunities for everyone. Through collaboration with the Engagement department, the routes that are being promoted have been inspected and presented on the Authority's new website.

NRW have adopted the cycle route that runs exclusively on our estate at Dolwyddelan from Menter Siabod. NRW working with Cycle UK to develop a long distance bike packing route – Traws Eryri. NRW implement the Wales Coast Path and National Trails programme.

CESS: Continued our commitments to help maintain Llwybr Llechi Eryri, Lôn Gwyrfaï and Llwybr Mawddach, through organising volunteer teams to clear ditches and drains, manage vegetation, and carry out minor resurfacing and repairs. Along these routes we also carry out litter clearance and invasive species control where appropriate. Accredited training in footpath maintenance provides a basic introduction for a wide range of people, fostering understanding of the work and the need for it.

NT: Maintenance of numerous long distance trail routes (e.g. Snowdonia Slate Trail, Cambrian Way).

CG: Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RHIP) has been adopted following consultation with PCE and public consultation. Consulted on the review of Active Travel routes. The Wales Slate Landscape World Heritage Site projects will help to secure access to some of our slate landscapes and our communities.

B2.2		<p>Ensure that Right of Way work is effectively prioritised and that responsibilities and standards are clear, with the SNPA focusing its resources and funding on multi-user trails and upland paths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a priorities and maintenance plan to ensure that resources are effectively managed and targeted to deliver • Continue to implement and regularly review the Service Level Agreement with Conwy Council. Agree and implement a MOU with Gwynedd Council • Ensure that all partners delivering RoW work within the National Park are signed up to the standards set out in the access strategy under Policy B2.1 	<p>By the end of 2021, the Maintenance Plan will be produced and implemented. Agreements will be in place with Gwynedd Council.</p> <p>By the end of 2022, the standards document will be in place and signed by identified partners.</p> <p>GIS surveys will provide measurable data for the Conwy RoW network.</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council National Trust NRW Ramblers Cymru</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: SLA with CCBC is ongoing and a MOU is under discussion with GC to delineate responsibilities. Warden Service - Rights of Way work is managed and recorded on the computerised system. Prioritising project work is agreed by a group which includes a Project Officer, Access and Welfare Manager, Senior Wardens and the Head of Warden Service.

NRW input to the ROWIP consultations for Conwy and Gwynedd.

CESS in partnership with SNPA have annual maintenance programmes on Yr Wyddfai, Lon Gwyrfaï, Llwybr Mawddach, Slate trail and CESS/NT work together on paths in Glyderau/ Carneddau.

NT: Ongoing maintenance and erosion repair on all footpaths on NT land.

CG and SNPA share information regarding major access projects and have discussed the possibility of using the same system for examining rights of way. A commitment to provide and promote multi-use trails is included in the new CGHT.

B2.3		<p>Improve access opportunities for disabled people and socially excluded groups - See also policy B2.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather research on the barriers faced by the public, including disabled people, those of lower socio-economic backgrounds and other excluded groups in accessing the National Park • Develop actions under Policy B2.1 to improve access opportunities for disabled people and excluded groups • Work with target groups and relevant charities in the early design phase of major access projects 	<p>By the end of 2025, the research will have been completed.</p> <p>We will ensure measurable increases in available provisions by the term end of the Plan.</p>	<p>SNPA NRW National Trust Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Sport Wales</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: Promotional videos for all access for all routes/tramper friendly routes completed and are to be available on the SNPA website. There were approximately 85 tramper hires in 2022. A new 4-wheeler bike is also available for hire at no cost. The Recreation Strategy is focused on least restrictive options and Mile without Stiles philosophy.

OP: projects such This Girls Adventure and our Inclusive work programmes focus on facilitating access and support for under-represented groups in outdoor activities. Inclusive clubs that access support through the Club Support programme work specifically with disabled groups to access outdoor activities; Cycle Power, SEAS Sailability. Continuous work on physical access to venues/natural resources for wheelchair users (pontoon Llanberis/Kayak access Afon Dwyryd).

NRW – accessibility Pilot on the Wales Coast path working with Experience community. NRW updated website to better promote routes for those with mobility issues.

NT: Replacement of stiles with self-closing gates. New accessible route in community orchard, Cwm Penmachno. Outward Bound partnership & Cwm Idwal partnership focussed on encouraging and upskilling people to visit the mountains.

CG: A commitment to the principles of access for all and barrier-free access has been incorporated into the new CGHT. The Wales Slate Landscape World Heritage Site projects will help to secure access to some of our slate landscapes and our communities.

OUTCOME B3

Our Special Qualities are widely recognised.

Are we within our timeline? Adjusted post Covid but now on track


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

Priorities of various organisations have been affected - measurements of success will be adapted in 2023 to reflect new priorities of all Partners.

Conclusion

There has been clear progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome B3. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.


Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
B3.1		<p>Develop a brand marketing strategy for Eryri based on the Special Qualities that is consistently implemented across the public and private sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using local understanding and knowledge, build a strong and clear picture of the National Park's cultural and historic identity Following the development of principles for Visitor Management (see Policy A1.1), develop a marketing/brand strategy for Eryri based on promotion and protection of its Special Qualities. The strategy should consider: Visit Wales' 'Wales brand'; target audiences and emerging markets; addressing overcapacity and environmental impact at popular locations; emphasising eco and green credentials, quiet enjoyment; benefits of the environment to well-being; and promotion of local culture, Welsh language, food and drink Create a Cultural Heritage and Interpretation Plan for the National Park in line with marketing brand (above) Develop opportunities for enhancing the visitor experience by linking with historic and cultural aspects e.g. World Heritage sites, slate trails, mountaineering history and promoting Welsh place names and the Welsh language Develop information and resources that celebrate sites notable in Welsh literature and culture, and encourage respect and understanding for the Welsh language Explore the possibility of launching an annual competition for 'Snowdonia Culture Capital' (using lessons from the City of Culture model). The winning town/village will receive funding to promote and organise cultural activities for the year SNPA to improve and modernise its website in line with the new marketing and brand strategy Commission new photos of the area to reflect the principles of the new marketing and branding strategy: rich media videos; drone footage; gpx files of trails etc. 	<p>By the end of 2021, we will have worked with our partners to create a new marketing and brand strategy based on local knowledge, and will develop a new interpretation strategy based on this.</p> <p>Using a newly designed website and images, a number of projects will be undertaken to strengthen historic, cultural and literary aspects of the area.</p> <p>A review of the new brand will take place by 2025.</p>	<p>SNPA</p> <p>National Trust</p> <p>Gwynedd Council</p> <p>Conwy County Borough Council</p> <p>National Trust</p> <p>Cadw</p> <p>Arts Council</p> <p>Menter Iaith</p> <p>National Slate Museum</p> <p>Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT)</p>

Progress update: SNPA: Cultural Heritage Strategy workshops have been held with staff and engagement is taking place with partners and subject experts. New Authority website now completed and launched, with use of refreshed brand imagery giving a sense of the Special Qualities. Communication & Engagement Strategy also developed and approved by Members and reviewed and reported on annually. Annual communication campaign with visitors, in Partnership with other NPs across Wales.

NT: Messaging aligned with SNPA strategy and other partners.

CG: The Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable visitor Economy Plan 2035 will be a means of joint marketing and communicating the special qualities of Eryri.

<p>B3.2</p>		<p>Encourage 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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote winter season and ‘autumn colours’ season. Use seasonal images on websites • Work with partners to develop opportunities in relation to the “Wales Way” • Use existing examples to consider a thematic itinerary approach to promote the Special Qualities of Snowdonia 	<p>These innovative ideas will be in place by the end of 2021</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Visit Wales NRW National Trust Visit Wales Plas y Brenin Snowdonia Active</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: Thematic itineraries approach being launched in 2023, with focus on cultural heritage and links with Eisteddfod.


Regular engagement with Snowdonia 360. Website and refreshed brand using seasonal palette and images. Communication and Engagement strategy includes specific outcomes relating to this action, and as a result messaging is ingrained in our communication to visitors, in particular encouraging visiting at different times of year.

CCBC: Continue to develop focused marketing campaigns for the winter season. Campaigns consist of radio coverage with key messages and mirror the campaign through social media channels.

SA: Curious Cymru project worked with businesses to develop new tourism experiences which offer exciting and unique ways to discover Eryri.

NT: No pro-active promotion of busy sites during busy season. Increased promotion of walks etc during winter/shoulder seasons.

CG: The Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable visitor Economy Plan 2035 will be a means of joint marketing and communicating the special qualities of Eryri.

B3.3		<p>Using the brand marketing strategy as a foundation, develop a shared plan with partners on the information we provide to visitors, with an emphasis on the Special Qualities and behavioural change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the target audiences for information and behaviour change • Identify what type and format of information is most effective, as well as what languages are most in demand • Develop a shared plan to include how we deliver information pre, during and post visit, as well as a rationalisation of the mix and use of modern and traditional means of providing information • Improve information on recreation opportunities targeted at specific groups in line with the brand strategy and information plan, and fill any pre-existing gaps in information • Work with tourism businesses to promote information and understanding about the Park in line with the brand strategy and information plan e.g. through an ambassador scheme 	<p>By the end of 2020, target audiences will have been identified as part of the new website production.</p> <p>A pilot ambassador scheme will have been established and lessons learned will be applied across the National Park.</p> <p>The branding strategy will inform the shared Plan and improvement of information provision by the end of 2022.</p> <p>A review of the new brand will take place by 2025.</p>	<p>SNPA National Trust Visit Wales Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Outdoor Partnership Sports Wales Snowdonia Active GAT NRW All partners</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: YouGov survey carried out to understand visitor audiences. Eryri Ambassador scheme now has over 800 participants.

Communications group established as part of the Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 Sustainable Visitor Economy Strategy.

CCBC: Continued promotion of the Tourism Ambassador scheme to businesses through CRF funding new modules developed.

SA: Ongoing promotion of AdventureSmart campaign in Eryri to encourage safe enjoyment (especially relevant with the push towards off peak tourism (B5.2)

OP: Caru Eryri partnership included a marketing campaign with targeted advertising; to both encourage more volunteers into the scheme, and also provide information to visitors, in line with SNPA messaging, about volunteer messages of taking litter home, no camping, dogs on leads, pre book parking etc.

NRW – continued support promotion of countryside code through resources for partners. Code of conduct for gorge walking developed.

NT: Messaging aligned with SNPA strategy and other partners.

CG: The Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable visitor Economy Plan 2035 will be a means of joint marketing and communicating the special qualities of Eryri.

OUTCOME B4

Sustainable options for parking and transport are achieved.

Are we within our timeline? Yes


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

- Lack of funding / investment
- Lack of commitment from Partners to the Parking and Transport Strategy
- Wider developments overtaking the original vision and strategy

Conclusion:


There has been clear progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome B4. The objective currently remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
B4.1		<p>Improve the sustainability and availability of transport for visitors and residents and address parking problems Using local understanding and knowledge, build a strong and clear picture of the National Park's cultural and historic identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review public transport systems in popular areas to ensure it meets the demands and needs of residents and visitors • Establish committed partnerships to ensure that there is adequate revenue to sustain the public transport requirement • Use public transport as a means of delivering information to visitors • Improve working relationships with businesses, social enterprises, communities and landowners, encouraging community based solutions • Ensure that public transport routes are clearly linked with promoted trails and routes • Support Active Travel measures as detailed in Welsh Government legislation 	<p>By the end of 2021, we Work with all recommendations from the 2020 Yr Wyddfa and Ogwen parking and transport review to implement measures across the National Park.</p> <p>Review and adapt measures as necessary by 2025.</p>	<p>SNPA</p> <p>Gwynedd Council</p> <p>Conwy County Borough Council</p> <p>Transport for Wales</p> <p>All landowning partners</p> <p>North Wales Economic Ambition Board</p> <p>Welsh Government</p>

Progress report: In partnership with TfW, CG and CCBC, SNPA have furthered several elements of the Yr Wyddfa and Ogwen Parking and Transport Strategy such as: improvements to the Sherpa network; WelTag Stage 1&2 of Active Travel Routes; installing sensors and conveying live information to visitors; progressed pre-booking system for Pen y Pass; created a Partnership for Ogwen and Nant Gwynant pinch point areas.

CESS: Advocacy for sustainable transport, working with Partneriaeth yr Wyddfa, providing detailed input to North Wales Transport Commission, delivering 2 focus groups for Senedd Research on post-pandemic public transport. Provided detailed input to Roads Review Panel. Responded to Welsh Government consultations on bus services, National Transport Delivery Plan, and WELTag 2022.

B4.2		<p>Explore and implement opportunities to encourage greener transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the environmental impacts of visitors in relation to carbon emissions to encourage a move towards greener technologies for travel such as electric cars, buses and bikes • Improve information and marketing in relation to how people get to the park and travel around, ensuring that the most sustainable options are promoted and highlighted • Utilise smart technology to encourage behaviour change (e.g. Enterprise Scheme) • As per Policy A3.1 install EV charging points at strategic travel and visitor points in the National Park 	<p>Work with all recommendations from the 2020 Yr Wyddfa and Ogwen parking and transport review to implement measures across the National Park. Review and adapt measures as necessary by 2025.</p> <p>A new way of measuring visitor contribution and impact on the area will be in place by 2021 and will assess environmental factors.</p>	<p>SNPA NRW National Trust Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Visit Wales Partneriaeth Ogwen</p>
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Progress Report: SNPA as above and through the creation of a Carbon Strategy for the Authority. Working in Partnership with Cyngor Gwynedd the Authority is implementing new ways of measuring the impact of tourism in Eryri under the Sustainable Visitor Economy Plan.

CCBC: Rural Business Development Grant installed EV charging points at 2 private self-catering accommodation.

NT: Assist with promotion of electric shuttle service in Ogwen. Use of electric shuttle service and bikes to facilitate visits to Cwm Idwal/Ogwen for guided walks/group visits.

OUTCOME B5

Our visitor facilities are high quality and landscape sensitive.

Are we within our timeline?

Timelines have been adjusted to reflect impact of Covid-19 and now on track.


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

Not at present – timelines have been adapted to reflect disruption in 2020-21 but all elements are still set to be achieved.

Conclusion:

There has been clear progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome B5. The objective currently remains on track to be achieved by 2025.


Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
B5.1		<p>Visitor facilities are sufficiently funded and invested in to achieve and exceed the expectations of visitors Review public transport systems in popular areas to ensure it meets the demands and needs of residents and visitors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the visitor facilities (centres, toilets etc) within the National Park and identify priorities for improvement Through a visitor survey, monitor opinions on facilities and act on any recommendations Assess the possibility and sustainability of expanding Information and Visitor Centres to be community/well-being hubs 	<p>By the end of 2023, the results of the facilities assessment will have been produced, and a feasibility study into expanding the role of visitor centres will be complete.</p> <p>Results of the visitor survey will influence future priorities.</p>	<p>SNPA NRW National Trust Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Visit Wales North Wales Economic Ambition Board Snowdonia Society</p>

Progress report: SNPA: an upgrade of the exhibition for visitors has been finished at Betws y Coed and will be opened to the public by Easter 2023.

NRW – part-funding interpretation project Phase 2 at Idwal. Part funded installation of Fibre broadband at Idwal. Benefits for site staff as well as for community in Nant Ffrancon.


CG: The Gwynedd and Snowdonia Plan 2035 will be a means of prioritizing improvements to facilities across the area through the Sustainable Visitor Economy Partnership. There will be an opportunity to improve interpretation and facilities for everyone through the Welsh Slate World Heritage Site plans.

B5.2		<p>Support activities that complement the Special Qualities of Snowdonia - in particular tranquillity - and that encourage visitors to switch to visiting during the autumn and winter in order to address seasonality and pressures in high season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and promote activities and initiatives relating to the Dark Skies Reserve status • Support and promote initiatives relating to winter tourism • Improve and promote opportunities for access to the historic environment and wider cultural heritage 	<p>Our Dark Skies Officer works to promote understanding of this important element of Snowdonia, reporting on an annual basis.</p> <p>By the end of 2023, our Cultural Heritage and Interpretation Strategy will include promotion of the historic environment linked to seasonality (see also policy B3.1)</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council National Trust Visit Wales NRW Cadw John Muir Trust</p>
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Progress report: SNPA, CG and CCBC have launched their Ambassador Programmes which aim to address seasonality issues.

SNPA and CG have produced a Sustainable Visitor Economy Strategic Plan for the area and are working in Partnership with CCBC to deliver it.

CCBC: Through CRF funding developed new modules within the Tourism Ambassador programme.

B5.3		<p>High quality, landscape appropriate accommodation, meets the expectations and demand of visitors and is helping increase spend per head</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out research into the demand and gaps in relation to high quality visitor accommodation including that of affordable accommodation • Work in partnership with Gwynedd Council to develop the Council's Destination Management Plan • Via the Local Development Plan, support the development and promotion of high quality, landscape appropriate, visitor accommodation to meet the demands of the market 	<p>By the end of 2020 research will have been carried out and the LDP will contain this guidance</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: Policy 29 results in approximately 4-5 permissions per year for small scale alternative holiday accommodation on farms (and therefore contributes to diversification). This seems to work well. There is pressure from developers to convert hotels into holiday homes - this needs careful monitoring.

CG: The Gwynedd and Eryri Plan 2035 will be a means of prioritizing improvements to facilities across the area through the Sustainable Visitor Economy Partnership.

Eryri's Communities and Economy: A great place to develop, live and work

OUTCOME C1

The language, culture and heritage of Eryri is being celebrated, supported and strengthened.

Are we within our timeline? Yes


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

Nothing which is currently affecting delivery of objectives.

Conclusion:

There has been clear progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome C1. The objective currently remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
C1.1		<p>Promote understanding, enjoyment and protection of the Welsh language and culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and promote local community events, groups and creative projects that have links to the Welsh language and culture • Create opportunities for young people to be ambassadors for the language and culture of the area • Lead by example in ensuring that the Welsh language, culture and heritage is promoted and used in events, activities and information • Implement 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 • Develop and implement a communication plan to improve visitor awareness of the Welsh language and culture • Ensure that the Welsh language plays a leading role in any projects, activities or schemes arising from policy A5.1, A5.2, A6.1, B1.1, B1.2, B1.3, C4.1 and C4.2, whether through teaching about the language, leading by example and/ or promoting use through providing opportunities to socialise in Welsh. 	<p>We will ensure that these groups are feeding into policy B3.1 when it is established, that a Communication Plan is implemented by the end of 2021 and that guidelines are in the LDP and are monitored annually.</p> <p>An evaluation of these actions will take place by 2025.</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council John Muir Trust</p>

SNPA: Yr Ysgwrn, the Carneddau Landscape Partnership Scheme and the Harlech and Ardudwy Cultural Heritage Scheme offer a wide variety of opportunities for people to socialise, engage with and participate in heritage through the medium of Welsh. These opportunities include volunteering, skills development, activities and events. Yr Ysgwrn adds to the Curriculum for Wales resources. The Authority has officially approved the use of the names Yr Wyddfa and Eryri in all languages. The decision received a positive response and there are a number of national bodies following suit, leading to a better awareness of Welsh place names and an understanding of their significance. Place name projects are being planned with Pontio (Bangor) and for the 2023 National Eisteddfod. All medium / large planning applications have to carry out a linguistic assessment and demonstrate that there is no adverse effect before being granted.

CCBC: Art exhibition co-created by the Carneddau Landscape Partnership and a local school facilitated by Conwy Archive Service and currently exhibited at Conwy Culture Centre. Further art sessions at the centre with schools to follow. A Welsh Language and Visitor offer study has been undertaken. 69 Conwy businesses (9 of which were based in the park, with many more on the edge) and 193 visitors were surveyed resulting in an action plan that will guide Creu Conwy delivery. In addition a practical toolkit has been created to help embed the use of the Welsh Language within businesses and the tourism offer. Caru Celf – a visual art project in partnership with Urdd Conwy engaged young people in Dolwyddelan. The project theme was - Conwy y dyfodol / Conwy of the future with topics including: architecture, technology, transport, words, Welsh culture and sustainable energy.

NWWT leaflets and other interpretation materials, including signage and a website are all bilingual. The NWWT produces 'Gwyllt' an educational Welsh-language wildlife publication for children, which is available to all schools and family memberships across North Wales. The NWWT continues to undertake Welsh-language educational events and activities with primary schools within and adjacent to Parc Eryri.

OP: Caru Eryri partnership; all communication delivered bi-lingually. Promotion of the project with specific local groups; community clubs, further education colleges. On project days, use of Welsh language promoted alongside promotion of Welsh place names and cultural importance highlighted within the group and with visitors. All OP work is bi-lingual with emphasis placed on use of language, local terminology.


CESS: setting a positive example of proactive use of the Welsh language within the conservation third sector.

PLAS: everything is produced in Welsh and in English, every session is run bilingually etc. We use Welsh names for places and projects.

Woodland Trust: ensure that all documentation produced within Wales is bilingual and our work has a particular focus on Welsh language and culture when thinking about work at landscape scale and within a farming context. Ensuring appropriate tree planting and the right tree in the right place, avoiding monoculture woodland plantations and protecting our native woodlands and important trees which are cultural and heritage assets of the area.

CG: Menter Iaith has continued to carry out activities and collaborate with local community groups in order to promote the Welsh language. A digital package 'Welcome to Gwynedd' was developed for immigrants to the county in order to encourage them to learn Welsh. The Gwynedd Language Forum was established which is a forum for key partners to come together to discuss issues regarding the Welsh language. A digital map of Welsh-medium social activities available in Gwynedd has been developed.

PHW: The Health Board recognises and fully supports the importance of enabling the population to participate in Welsh and to celebrate the language, culture and heritage. The Board actively supports employees, patients and visitors to use and enjoy the language at work and in their daily lives.

C1.2		<p>Provide opportunities for Welsh learners in the area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and support initiatives to encourage people moving to the area to learn Welsh Create opportunities for Welsh learners and speakers to socialise and use the language, particularly through volunteer opportunities as in Policies A5.2 and B1.2 As part of Policy B3.1 and B3.3 provide training for businesses in the Welsh language and culture 	<p>By the end of 2020 a pilot Ambassador scheme will have been established for the Snowdon Partnership Plan. We aim to develop this to encompass the entire National Park area by 2021.</p> <p>We will monitor the uptake of Welsh learners in volunteer activities offered by all Partners to measure progress.</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council NRW Public Health Wales Outdoor Partnership Sports Wales</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: All volunteers are encouraged to participate in the Ambassador scheme as an induction to the NP.

Cader Idris Volunteer Wardens scheme set up similar to Yr Wyddfa, to encourage learners to practice when out on patrols. 65% Yr Wyddfa volunteers are fluent in Welsh, 20% Cader Idris volunteers are fluent in Welsh.

JMT: 22 participants received Welsh language tailored training as part of the Carneddau project in June 2021. This focused on Wild Places in Eryri.


NWWT: delivers bilingual events and activities, including walks and talks and also offers informal opportunities for conversing in Welsh at volunteer tasks and public/social events.

OP: Caru Eryri Plans to include specific Welsh learner sessions within the project.

Woodland Trust: Ensure that all our activities are promoted bilingually and able to accommodate Welsh learners. Our staff are encouraged to learn or improve their Welsh with an aim of increasing our own staff Welsh language abilities through a number of internal initiatives and by supporting their learning through providers.

CG: Menter Iaith runs various activities for learners.

PHW: BCPHT provides a comprehensive suite of support for Welsh learners in North Wales and takes a proactive approach to raising awareness of these in line with the Welsh Language measures.

C1.3		<p>Protect Welsh place names</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement measures in the Local Development Plan that encourage the use of Welsh place names for new or renovated businesses, developments, houses and street names • Implement measures in the Local Development Plan that encourage the use of bilingual signs • Link to UNESCO's Indigenous Languages programme to promote the local names of the National Park and its most recognisable assets 	<p>We will ensure that guidelines are in the LDP and that Supplementary Planning Guidance exists to promote these elements.</p>	<p>Welsh Language Commissioner and the Future Generations Commissioner</p> <p>Menter Iaith</p> <p>SNPA</p> <p>NRW</p> <p>Cadw</p> <p>Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW)</p>
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Progress report: SNPA - The Carneddau Landscape Partnership Plan and the Harlech and Arduwy Cultural Heritage Plan are collecting place names to contribute to the List of Historic Welsh Names. The names are interpreted and promoted through creative projects.

In 2022, the National Park Authority decided to officially adopt the names Eryri and Yr Wyddfa in all languages. This decision has prompted similar action by other national bodies and has inspired better awareness of Eryri's place names and their cultural significance.

Principles for dealing with place names were adopted by SNPA, in order to harmonise the use of place names. The list of lake names is about to be harmonised by the Place Name Standardisation Panel and this will lead to consistency of the names of Eryri's peaks in due course.

CG: Gwynedd Council has identified the Native Welsh Place Names project as a priority project in the Council's Plan. The work program pays attention to the Council Names, House Names, Street Names, housing estates and industrial estates, Villages and settlements and Geographical Features as well as trying to influence external partners.

OUTCOME C2

Jobs and opportunities encourage people to remain in the area.

Are we within our timeline? Yes

Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?


Any lack of investment in digital infrastructure in the region.

Outcomes of Welsh Government's decisions for the Agricultural Sector.

Conclusion:

There has been some progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome C2. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
C2.1		<p>Communication infrastructure in the area is being improved for businesses and communities in a way that does not compromise the landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support partners to deliver innovative and landscape sensitive initiatives to improve broadband, mobile data and internet infrastructure in rural areas • Support initiatives within the regional growth strategies that improve digital connectivity whilst protecting the landscape • Work with Gwynedd Council to develop further proposals for creating high value jobs across a range of areas. 	<p>Digital connectivity across Eryri is significantly improved.</p> <p>Free Wi Fi offerings linked to community centres and hubs will be available</p>	<p>SNPA</p> <p>Local Action Groups Conwy and Gwynedd</p> <p>Gwynedd Council</p> <p>Conwy County Borough Council</p> <p>North Wales Economic Ambition Board</p> <p>Creative North Wales</p> <p>Mantell Gwynedd</p> <p>Conwy and Denbighshire PSB</p>
<p>Progress report: NRW part funded the installation of fibre broadband at Cwm Idwal as part of the partnership there with SNPA & NT.</p> <p>CG: Gwynedd Council a) Collaborates with North Wales Ambition to develop and realise the plans of the Digital Program b) Installs Smart Towns equipment in the county's main centres.</p>				


C2.2		<p>Support and promote training, employment and business opportunities related to - or complementing - the National Parks 1st purpose and Special Qualities including environment related sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and promote opportunities for land managers to take part in public goods schemes as set out in policy A2.1 • Encourage and support the development of businesses and skills relating to delivery of public-goods schemes • Support environment and Special Quality related initiatives with the regional growth strategies • Work with the economic development departments within the local councils to develop opportunities through the Snowdonia Enterprise Zone, the Welsh Slate Landscape World Heritage nomination or other employment creation and high-quality jobs • Support projects that aim to shorten the local food supply chain • Work with our partners to support farmers responding to the changes brought about by Brexit, both in terms of market change and the payment regimes • Support the development of resources and skills for the repair and maintenance of historic buildings and features, including capacity building programmes as per Policy A6.1 • Explore opportunities for developing a framework for collaboration in the development of whole-estate plans, by researching successful implementation in other protected areas 	<p>We aim to see the number of businesses related to the public goods scheme rising. Through promotion and sharing of good practice, this will have a cumulative impact.</p> <p>The number of initiatives supported by our various Partners will have increased and new potential frameworks have been evaluated and reported upon.</p> <p>Our core partnerships will include greater representation from the business and tourism sectors</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Menter Mon Grwp Cynefin Gwynedd Archaeological Trust National Slate Museum Menter Iath Gwynedd Employment and Skills group Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig All relevant Partners</p>
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Progress report: CCBC: Continue to engage with local business directly and through communications channels to support the local economy. Through partnership working and networking encourage business to business engagement to support local supply chain. CRF funding receive to develop an online business directory to support local B to B and B to C use. Through the Conwy Business Support grant continue to support local businesses with growth projects including business development and skills training. Work with key partners to support and promote employment and training. With Conwy Employment Hub, DWP, Careers Wales, Working Wales held Jobs Fair to highlight wide range of opportunities available.

CRF funding received to further develop Ambassador scheme and introduce modules with a focus on employment in the key sectors.

CESS: 3 paid traineeships at Real Living Wage completed in 2022, all leading to further employment in the sector in Eryri. These roles all directly contributing to work in partnership to care for Eryri. Accredited training programme extended to 6 units.

CG: The Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 Plan will be a means of prioritizing skills needs for the visiting economy sector across the area through the Sustainable Visitor Economy Partnership and the Action Plan. The Council provides help and support for local businesses to recover and develop into the future together with support for residents to return to work and have the skills to increase their earnings.

C2.3		<p>Support and promote training, employment and business opportunities relating or complementing the National Park's second purpose and Special Qualities, and the health and well-being theme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support public goods schemes as set out in policy A2.1 • Work with the economic development departments within the local authorities to develop opportunities through Snowdonia Enterprise Zone and strategies creating other employment • Support opportunities in the tourism sector that are high value, high quality and considerate of protecting the National Parks environment • Increase the number of Welsh speaking outdoor instructors in the sector • Support outdoor recreation initiatives linked to improving people's well-being • Develop a campaign to encourage IT and tech businesses to establish in the area 	<p>Throughout the Plan we will ensure that: meetings are set and attended to develop new opportunities, that relevant guidelines are in the LDP and that schemes and projects exist. A campaign for further attracting IT and tech business to the area will have begun, and the number of Welsh speaking outdoor instructors will rise from 20 to 30%.</p> <p>Our core partnerships will include greater representation from the business and tourism sectors.</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Outdoor Partnership Menter Mon Grwp Cynefin Menter Iaith Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig Mantell Gwynedd All relevant Partners</p>
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Progress report: SNPA & CG - Sustainable Visitor Economy Plan and Partnership is being established across the region in Partnership with the Tourism sector.

Grwp Cynefin: has launched a Skills and Employment Strategy in 2021 with a three-year operational plan. In addition, Grwp Cynefin employs an Employment Officer who supports tenants and residents to identify opportunities to increase skills and prepare for employment. We administer a steps to employment grant of up to £300 to support tenants on their journey towards employment. Through our Hwb Menter in Congl Meinciau we also offer business support across Gwynedd. Number of individuals who live within the boundaries of the Park who have been supported during the year:- 15 residents have been supported within the park area; 11 registered for ihasco training sessions; 4 successful WIC applications; 2 have received CIG support to enable them to stay in work; 1 gained a volunteering opportunity.

CCBC: Continue to engage with local business directly and through communications channels to support the local economy. Through partnership working and networking encourage business to business engagement to support local supply chain.

Work with key partners to support and promote employment and training. With Conwy Employment Hub, DWP, Careers Wales, Working Wales held Jobs Fair to highlight wide range of opportunities available.

CRF funding received to further develop Ambassador scheme and introduce modules with a focus on employment in the key sectors.

OP: Trainee programme works specifically with young people living in local communities – upskilling and mentoring to gain qualifications to go on to work within the outdoor industry. Club Support programme; provides support to volunteers within community clubs that provide regular access to activities for people within the local community. Volunteers gain qualifications to improve clubs provision and allow greater access to local communities to outdoor activities to improve their physical and mental health.

CESS: Caru Eryri training package for staff and volunteers, which cascades to visitors. Mountain Leader training, First Aid Training and bespoke Caru Eryri training provided to volunteers and staff. Learning in the Outdoors qualification completed by staff and volunteers.

CG: The Council provides help and support for local businesses to recover and develop into the future together with support for residents to return to work and have the skills to increase their earnings.

OUTCOME C3

We are implementing solutions for affordable housing to buy and rent.

Are we within our timeline? Yes


Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

See C3.2 Progress Report for likely change needed in actions set – will trigger a review of the Eryri LDP which will set new and appropriate targets.

Conclusion:

There has been clear progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome C3. The objective remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
C3.1		<p>Work with partners to address underlying issues and develop innovative solutions to delivering affordable housing that meets local needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with rural housing enablers to identify affordable housing needs within our communities • Work to influence changes to legislation so that change of use of a dwelling into a holiday home requires planning permission • Lobby mortgage lenders to ensure that finance for affordable homes is readily available • Work with partners to ensure the best use of affordable housing financial contributions, to assist in the delivery of affordable housing • A detailed analysis of availability of affordable homes within the National Park has influenced planning policies in the LDP • Support work to identify empty premises to be developed for business or housing use • Encourage mixed tenure housing 	<p>By the end of 2020 details will be included in the LDP and evaluated regularly in the annual monitoring of the LDP report.</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd Council Conwy County Borough Council Grwp Cynefin</p>

Progress report: SNPA: discuss regularly with the two Housing Authorities and RSL's to ensure affordable housing is provided where it is needed.

SNPA is discussions with several partners on funding a new Community Housing Officer post. SNPA attended meetings with other partners and community representatives to discuss concerns of housing availability.

The Annual Monitoring Report for the ELDP 2016-2031 is in the second year of reporting. Research also being undertaken to assess impact of rising house prices and second homes/holiday accommodation, ahead of proposed changes to planning regulations. Research will steer policy formation for the next ELDP review. SNPA Planning Service are partners of the Dwyfor Pilot, which covers a portion on the National Park Area. The Welsh Government have established the pilot in the Dwyfor area to trial and monitor new initiatives to address the second homes issue and affordability.


The Planning Service responded to Welsh Government consultations on proposed changes to planning regulations to control second homes and holiday accommodation.

Grŵp Cynefin: RHE Board held over zoom and a representative from PCE present. RHE has been working in Llanuwchllyn together with Grwp Cynefin and PCE to discuss with the community regarding the development of the Maes y Pandy site. Work continues.

Tai Teg has continued with discussions with WG and lenders and now has a list of potential lenders on its site www.taiteg.org.uk.


SNPA attending Tai Teg strategic and operational meetings. SNPA uses Tai Teg data as necessary when considering planning/self-build applications etc.

CCBC: The RHE team in partnership with CCBC have assisted Penmachno community to consider a housing led approach to bringing empty properties back into use as affordable housing to meet local need. CCBC launched a first-time buyer scheme in January 2020, as a result of which, 5 long term empty properties were brought back into use. The properties concerned were located in Betws y Coed (2), Trefriw (1), Rowen (1) and Dolwyddelan (1). This initiative used Eryri s106 funding – which is no longer available. An empty dwelling first contact letter has been sent to owners of empty properties in Dwygyfylchi, and a follow up letter will be sent to non-respondents. Action under enforced sale procedures is progressing in respect of a long-term empty property in Capel Garmon. If successful, this will result in the recovery of a debt and the change of ownership of a problematic property. Enforcement action is being taken in respect of 3 long term empty properties in Cwm Penmachno, whose condition is impacting on adjacent properties. Advice was given to a second-home property owner in Penmachno on private renting and the owner agreed to rent their property at local housing allowance rate to a local person who was in an urgent housing need (homeless). With advice and support, the property was brought up to the required EPC standard for letting and we ensured the owner was aware of his obligations in relation to Rent Smart Wales, taking a deposit and providing furniture / electricals.

C3.2		<p>Through the LDP create policies that encourage affordable housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet the affordable housing target of 375 (average 25 affordable housing units per annum) over the LDP period of 2016-2031 	<p>The LDP annual monitoring report will measure progress throughout the term of the Plan.</p> <p>The LDP undergoes annual monitoring and policies and targets are reviewed every four years</p>	<p>SNPA Welsh Government Conwy County Borough Council Gwynedd Council Grwp Cynefin Adra Local Rural Housing Enabler services</p>
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Progress report: SNPA The first three years of monitoring the EDLP 2016-2031 have not met the target of 25 affordable units permitted per year (2 in first year, 14 in 2nd. 1 in the 3rd year). High dependency on RSL delivery of affordable housing. Private development delivery is low.

The 3rd Annual Monitoring Report of the ELDP found the number of affordable housing units granted planning permission per annum below the trigger point of 21 units for 3 consecutive years. It concludes that a policy review is required as affordable housing is not being delivered and allocations are not coming forward. Given the situation facing the communities of Eryri, it is considered that triggering a formal review of the LDP is appropriate.

C3.3		<p>Through the LDP create policies that encourage sustainable homes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies encourage sustainable design and sustainable development of housing 	<p>The LDP annual monitoring report will measure progress throughout the term of the Plan.</p>	<p>SNPA Conwy County Borough Council Gwynedd Council</p>
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Progress report: SNPA: ELDP policies are being implemented to ensure sustainable development

OUTCOME C4

Local communities are supported to thrive in all aspects of well-being.

Are we within our timeline?

Revised timelines due to capacity issues which are now resolved.



Is there anything preventing the outcome being achieved by 2025?

New officer has been recruited and will begin in role in 2023.

Conclusion:

There has been some progress against all measurements of success within Cynllun Eryri's Action Plan for Outcome C4. The objective currently remains on track to be achieved by 2025.

Detailed 2021/22 progress report

Outcome no.	Progress status	Overview of Outcome and Actions	Measurements of success	Organisation/s responsible
C4.1		<p>Increase opportunities for dialogue between the National Park and community-based organisations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a charter that sets out the arrangements between the SNPA and Community and Town Councils, in relation to how we work together to develop activities of mutual benefit • Explore the idea of appointing National Park Ambassadors in each community council, beginning with the area covered by the pilot Ambassador Scheme in Policy B3.3 	<p>By the end of 2021, a Charter will be established and the lessons from the pilot Ambassador scheme will be implemented.</p> <p>We will review these actions by 2025.</p>	<p>SNPA Community and Town Councils Un Llais Cymru</p>
<p>Progress report: SNPA have identified the opportunity to create a Community Engagement Officer role to progress this work in 2023-25.</p> <p>CCBC: A cross sector Creu Conwy 'Town Team' has been established in Llanrwst (to cover the surrounding NP area) to inform, shape and lead on cultural projects.</p>				
C4.2		<p>Work with communities to further enhance understanding of the Special Qualities of the National Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the main communities affected by the National Park designation but that fall outside the boundary, and work closely with these communities to achieve National Park objectives • Support the upskilling of communities wishing to develop projects which protect and enhance Snowdonia's special qualities as per Outcome B3 • Work with community-based organisations to develop Warden Area Plans, based on local needs and priorities • Work with Conwy and Gwynedd councils to identify further opportunities for joint working 	<p>Throughout the Plan we will ensure that schemes are supported through the Community and Volunteer Fund.</p> <p>Warden Area Plans are co-produced with community input.</p> <p>We will review these actions by 2025.</p>	<p>SNPA Gwynedd and Conwy LAG groups Community and Town Councils on periphery of the National Park Mantell Gwynedd Un Llais Cymru</p>
<p>Progress report: SNPA have identified the opportunity to create a Community Engagement Officer role to progress this work in 2023-25</p> <p>The Wardens Area schemes have been established and need to be expanded in order to respond to requirements. Discussions will need to be held with key partners.</p> <p>CCBC: supported community groups with various community-based projects and applying for funding.</p>				

A MEETING	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE	14 June 2023
TITLE	YR YSGWRN ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23
REPORT BY	Head of Cultural Heritage
PURPOSE	To update Members on Yr Ysgwrn activity

1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 1.1 2022-23 was the first full year of activity business in Ysgwrn since 2019-20, following the Covid 19 pandemic.
- 1.2 The Ysgwrn Board meets at least twice a year and reports to the Authority.

2. 2022/23

- 2.1. It was predicted in the 2021-22 Annual Report that 2022-23 would be a challenging year because of the effect of the continuation of the pandemic on group travel during the spring and summer of 2022. Due to the unprecedented nature of the pandemic, the income targets were not adjusted since 2019 and achieving the number of visitors received before the pandemic was not a realistic target. The increase in running cost at Yr Ysgwrn added to the challenge, reflecting the wider cost of living crisis. The increase in costs has affected all aspects of the business and in particular, heating costs. The problem was more evident in 2022/23 due to the effect of increased cost of wood pellets and gas prices and a higher dependence on gas when completing maintenance work on the biomass boiler. We are confident that this situation will not happen again in 2023.
- 2.2. This combination of factors led to a gap of approximately £50,000 in the budget. Yr Ysgwrn's reserve fund was established in order to meet such a gap so the gap will not affect the Authority's bottom line.
- 2.3. Although there has been a fall in the number of group visits in 2022, school visits increased, to 34 groups, compared to 29 in 2019/20.
- 2.4. Yr Ysgwrn managed to attract financial support for a programme of activities and events from the Welsh Federation of Museums and Galleries and the Welsh Government via the Summer of Fun programme. Income data shows that the income is higher on the days when activities and events are held and maintaining a quality programme is essential in order to maintain this level of activity.

- 2.5. Grants were also received from Artfund and Group Education in Museums (GEM) for the development of new education resources based on the themes of Remembering Hedd Wyn and Lost Words and the fruit of the education work will be seen in 2023/24.
- 2.6. A grant of £10,000 was received from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and further support from Magnox and the Welsh Federation of Museums and Galleries for a community heritage project in Trawsfynydd during the Summer and Autumn of 2023. The aim of the project is to record the centenary of the Hedd Wyn memorial in Trawsfynydd and reflect on how and why we keep remembering Hedd Wyn. Work on the project will begin in May 2023.
- 2.7. Work has been completed on Yr Ysgwrn's new website and tickets for events can be ordered online. The next task will be to launch the system for booking guided tour tickets online.

3. 2023/24

- 3.1. Yr Ysgwrn reopened on April 1st, 2023. It was opened six days a week over the Easter holidays and then five days a week from mid-April until the end of June. From the end of June until the end of October half term, Yr Ysgwrn will be open six days a week.
- 3.2. One member of seasonal staff has left and the vacancy has been advertised. The other members of the seasonal team have returned to work. Yr Ysgwrn's volunteer team remains a small but active, dedicated and energetic group. They are a crucial part of the team and it would be very difficult to maintain Yr Ysgwrn in peak periods without their help.
- 3.3. April 2023 was a very successful month – the best April since 2018 and therefore beating 2019, - the year before the pandemic. All aspects of the business performed better - ticket income, the coffee shop and the shop - with an increase of approximately 32% in income, compared to April 2022. Visitor numbers were approximately 30% higher. This success was achieved through visits from groups and schools and Easter activities.
- 3.4. June and July 2023 look promising from the point of view of the number of adult groups and schools that have booked a place. The Summer activities programme will be published in June
- 3.5. The highlight of 2023/24 will be the Geiriau Diflanedig - Lost Words exhibition. The exhibition is shared between Yr Ysgwrn and Oriel y Parc, Tŷ Ddewi and this will be the first time that the amazing work of Jackie Morris, Robert Macfarlane and Mererid Hopwood will be presented in both languages during this exhibition. The 2023/24 activities programme will be based on the exhibition and offers an additional opportunity to engage with schools across Wales. This project is a collaboration between SNPA, the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority and Amgueddfa Cymru and the Welsh Books Council and Conwy
- 3.6. Yr Ysgwrn will have a presence at the Authority's stand at National Eisteddfod in Llŷn & Eifionydd, 2023. During the week, we will be holding activities to launch an education package of Geiriau Diflanedig / Lost Words.
- 3.7. The Head of Property continues to work with agents on drawing up a new tenancy agreement for the tenant of the bungalow.

Recommendation:

- 1. For Members to receive the report for information and discussion any issues which need further attention.**

REPORT OF THE MEMBERS' WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 19th APRIL 2023

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Annwen Hughes, June Jones, Edgar Owen (Chair), Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Dilwyn Owain Roberts;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Mr. Brian Angell, Ms. Tracey Evans, Mr. Tim Jones, Ms. Delyth Lloyd;

Officers

Emyr Williams, G. Iwan Jones, Jonathan Cawley, Dafydd Edwards, Edward Jones, Nia Murray, Anwen Gaffey;

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting was being recorded to assist in verifying the minutes.

1. **Apologies**

Councillors Louise Hughes, Kim Jones, Jo Nuttall; Ms. Sarah Hattle, Ms. Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

1(a) **Oral Question**

The Director of Corporate Services advised that he had approved a request by Councillor Dilwyn Roberts to ask an oral question at the start of the Members' Working Group meeting.

Councillor Roberts asked Members to support his request that officers should write to Dwr Cymru with regard to the phosphate levels in the River Dee, whilst noting that Llyn Tegid itself was not failing its water quality targets, the river downstream was and had resulted in the Planning and Access Committee having to refuse planning permission for the proposed extension of the Llyn Tegid narrow gauge railway at the Planning and Access Committee earlier in the day.

RESOLVED that officers should send a strongly worded letter to Dwr Cymru on behalf of Members, to ascertain when they plan to upgrade their phosphate stripping capabilities and to request an early response.

2. **Declaration of Interest**

No declarations of Personal Interests were made in respect of any item.

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Members' Working Group meeting held on 25th January 2023 were accepted and the Chair signed them as a true record.

Arising thereon, the Chief Executive advised:-

Item No. 4 – The Authority's Budget and Response to Inflation

- 2nd bullet point, page 4 - the Minister had agreed to amend expectations in the remit letter in light of the grant settlement.
- the 'Update on Plas Tan y Bwlch' report was being considered by the Members' Working Group today as part of the Authority's Asset Review.
- following recent announcements, benefits from a tourism tax may be earlier than the 5 years stated in the minutes.
- in response to a question about the increase in Council Tax for short term holiday lets and its possible impact on farm diversification businesses, the Chief Executive felt this was a matter for Gwynedd Council. Arising thereon, the Director of Planning and Land Management stated that properties with planning permission for short-term holiday lets could apply to change their use into affordable dwellings, if they met the necessary criteria.

4. **Update on Plas Tan y Bwlch**

Submitted – A report by the Chief Executive to consider the contents of the report and await a future report detailing options from the Plas Tan y Bwlch Board in Autumn 2023.

Reported – The Chief Executive presented the report and background, provided details of the latest financial position and possible future business, outlined the cost of maintenance of the building and grounds and the unavoidable costs in the event of closure, together with options and recommendations for the future. Arising thereon, Members were asked to note a correction in the Welsh report under para. 3.5 which should read “Anticipated income from “*day meetings*” for the 2023/24 financial year is currently circa. £40k

Members considered the report in detail and made the following observations:-

- the Chair of the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board advised that Eryri was in a unique position as no other National Park Authority manages this type of asset. He confirmed that the Board had requested further information, as outlined in paras. 6.2.1 and 6.2.2 of the report, and once this information was available the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board would consider a full options paper.
- the Chief Executive stressed the importance of considering every option as this could have an effect on the Authority's good name and reputation.
- the Chief Executive, in response to a request from a Member, agreed to arrange a meeting with Cadw and officers from the Welsh Government. He advised that discussions had already been held with various organisations, some of which were ongoing.
- the Chief Finance Officer outlined the financial position in detail and also asked Members to consider whether current activities at Plas Tan y Bwlch were delivering on National Park purposes. He confirmed there was no pressing financial need to come to an immediate decision, and that Members should follow due process before making any far-reaching decisions on the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch.
- the Chief Executive advised that Audit Wales had questioned the Authority's role in running Plas Tan y Bwlch which may be included in their final Income Diversification report being presented to Members in July.
- Members further discussed para. 6.2.2 and the Director of Corporate Services advised the purpose of the report was to get the best value for money.
- the Property Manager provided details on the integrity of the building, the condition survey report and the continuing work being undertaken to make the building safe, such as restoring the gable end.
- in response to a question, the Director of Corporate Services confirmed that once the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board have considered the options paper, a report would

subsequently be presented to the Members' Working Group, prior to submitting a report to the Authority for formal determination.

- a Member asked officers to include carbon implications in the options report even if it could not be fully quantified. The Property Manager confirmed it would be included, as the carbon benefit of the woodland asset goes some way towards the Authority becoming carbon positive.
- the Head of Human Resources advised upon the current staffing position at Plas Tan y Bwlch. Members noted that the staff were continuing to be positive, and the Head of Human Resources outlined a number of suggestions made by the staff to increase income revenue. Other suggestions included working with partners and improving marketing at the Centre.
- the Chief Executive agreed to consider all the options put forward by the Head of Human Resources and also the suggestions made by Members.
- the Chief Executive confirmed that a review of the Authority's Property Portfolio was undertaken every four to five years and this work was currently underway.

RESOLVED

- 1. to note the report and the current position in relation to Plas Tan y Bwlch.**
- 2. to note the next considerations required to be taken by the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board.**
- 3. that the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board considers the guidance as outlined.**
- 4. to await recommendations by the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board on an operational model. Due to the level of information required and business commitments at Plas Tan y Bwlch this was not anticipated until the Autumn 2023.**

The meeting ended at 12.55



Parciau National Cenedlaethol Parks

NATIONAL PARKS WALES EXECUTIVE MEETING TUESDAY 4 OCTOBER 2022 VIRTUAL MEETING,

PRESENT:

(AE) Canon Aled Edwards	Chair, National Parks Wales (NPW) & Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA)
(GR) Cllr Gareth Ratcliffe	Deputy Chair, BBNPA
(CMJ) Catherine Mealing-Jones	CEO, BBNPA
(DC) Cllr Di Clements	Chair, Pembrokeshire Coast NPA (PCNPA)
(RHD) Dr Rachel Heath-Davies	Deputy Chair, (PCNPA)
(TJ) Tegryn Jones	CEO, PCNPA
(AH) Cllr Annwen Hughes	Chair, Eryri NPA (ENPA)
(EO) Cllr Edgar Wyn Owen	Deputy Chair, ENPA
(EW) Emyr Williams	CEO, ENPA

IN ATTENDANCE:

Stephanie Davies	BBNPA
Sara Morgan	BBNPA
Gemma Turner	BBNPA

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting (his first as Chair). Apologies received from Marc Ronan and Cllr Di Clements (Chair, PCNPA). Cllr Gareth Ratcliffe noted that he would have to leave the meeting early due to another commitment.

2. Minutes of last meeting, 25 April 2022

Minutes were noted as a true record.

3. NPW Budget

Spending has been minimal, apart from an invoice for pre-approved BAME community project. Reserves were at £150k, but as no money has been added for some time, the budget is now in deficit. As a result invoices will be sent out shortly for contributions. Have also committed to a small sponsorship with RWAS Winter Show (£500) which will be an additional request for contribution as well as the budget for the upcoming Members Seminar (this has historically been budgeted at ~£7k). CMJ asked what the top up contribution would be and was advised by TJ that this would be in the region of £10k.



Parciau Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog, Arfordir Penfro ac Eryri yn gweithio mewn partneriaeth
Brecon Beacons, Pembrokeshire Coast and Snowdonia National Parks, working in partnership



Rydym yn croesawu cael gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, a byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg.
Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh, and will respond to any correspondence in Welsh.
Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.

Parciau Cenedlaethol Cymru National Parks Wales

Parc Llanion, Doc Penfro SA72 6DY
Llanion Park, Pembroke Dock SA72 6DY

Ffôn / Tel: 01646 624800

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gwasanaethauaelodau@arfordirpenfro.org.uk
memberservices@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk

4. NPW Business

a. Government business impacting on National Parks Wales

i. *Biodiversity Deep Dive*

EW: has been called to give evidence to the group and noted that while they wanted to increase efforts on peatlands, it came across as the same people trying to sort the same problems. No out of the box thinking seemed to be happening, and he stressed that a change in both thinking, practise and incentives was essential if they wanted to achieve this.

CMJ: noted that it was a bold announcement compared to England, and that she welcomed the importance of National Parks and designated landscapes. There was a hint at additional resource diversification of income, but no additional funding – we would need to press Welsh Government on this for a better understanding as currently it seems that we are being asked to do more with no additional funding. She also noticed a statement on the fourth NPW and how governance of existing National Parks would be under scrutiny to see whether the current model is fit for purpose.

TJ: doesn't feel as if we have been approached for comment on what was being discussed. He advised that the topic of governance changes has been raised in the past with no change. Stressed that we must use this as an opportunity to meet with Minister and get a better understanding of what is required from National Park's going forward.

CMJ: the role of NRW is highlighted, which is to be expected. Wording in the report suggests that NRW will be enforcing management of SSSI's which is not ideal as we have the expertise to manage these effectively. Agree that a meeting with Minister is needed.

EW: need to watch what is happening in England and the announcement around calls to deregulate the environment to allow more development to come through. Will see divergence between what is happening in England and Wales.

Action: to seek meeting with Minister

ii. *Tourism Levy*

TJ: tourism industry in PCNPA is against, but the politics involved in this means that legislation is likely to happen, so it is essential they engage with consultation. It will be a decision for Local Authorities, and it is concerning that NPAs are only mentioned once (regarding visitor pressure). Suggests individual responses may work better for this as each area has their own unique challenges they will need to highlight.

EW: attended workshop recently on this where it was mentioned throughout that NPAs should get more support to deal with effects of tourism. How to collect the levy was raised, as it will not be easy, and along with enforcement will require additional resource. Similar to second homes, there will be a lot of hidden costs. Tourism sector in ENPA is broadly supportive but frustrated that they are already paying a lot of taxes that are not being spent on what they would like to see. Essential that money collected from the levy should not disappear into the bottom line of a Local Authorities budget. Also stressed that the levy needs to be consistent across Wales otherwise this would be confusing for tourists.

RHD: as it is down to Local Authorities to make the final call, National Parks will need to canvass relevant parties to ensure our unique challenges and concerns are noted.

iii. *Welsh Agriculture Bill*

It was noted that not a lot was happening in this space, and it did not warrant further discussion.

b. Member Support and Induction

CMJ: BBNPA have gone through intensive induction process, and recruitment for four new WG Members is live (closes 10 October). Previously BBNPA had run NPUK Member induction, but this is now being done by Northumberland. It was felt that it didn't really provide additional support for new Members to warrant travelling to Northumberland.

EW: have decided to roll over programme provided by BBNPA, with additional information about difference between Scotland, Wales and England. Noted that once you go to England the training becomes Westminster focussed and does not explain difference between planning systems in England and Wales, so unsure what value Welsh Parks receive.

TJ: new Members are inducted out, especially those coming from Local Authorities. Members have noted that they have enjoyed it in previous years, mostly meeting other Members, but it is important to stress the importance of including Welsh focus. Remit letter from Minister did stress the importance of Member support and development, so will need to agree what we will offer Members in the future as this area will be of interest for WG.

RHD: felt her induction in the New Forest was a good experience, but feels this is also achieved by NPUK conferences, so is there a need to attend both?. The induction part of it then can be quite confusing for new Members if the differences between England and Wales are mentioned (which they are not) and can be confusing if you have not had an in-house induction already. Do we focus on online induction instead?

TJ: historically, NPW received a grant from NRW and some was allocated to training of Members. This is no longer the case, but it may be worth picking this up again as it may help achieving recommendations set out in the remit letter.

EW: noted that we could also utilise the upcoming Member Seminar to tick boxes around Member training and development from the remit letter.

c. NPW Member Conference Spring 2023

BBNPA will be hosting this year and it will be the first in a few years (as a result of lockdown) so will be a good opportunity to bring everyone together.

Themes of Water and Adapting Landscapes were discussed, with water appearing to be the best choice (final theme to be decided by BBNPA) as this tied in nicely with many areas of work for all three parks, as well as recommendations made in the remit letter.

d. Discussion on NPW Business Plan 2022-25: identification of main priorities

EW: we would need to read through remit letter and pick two or three strands to focus on. Political influence on behalf of three NPWs is key.

TJ: requested an update on Sustainable Farm Scheme (SFS) at the next meeting.

CMJ: governance keeps on popping up, not business plan priority, but worth keeping a mutual eye on. PCNPA will be hosting WG shared post in this space, there is risk (and opportunity if we get it right) there. Health and social prescribing are also key as we can really demonstrate value of NPWs here.

TJ: partnerships and posts at a joint NPW level also need to be discussed in this forum so we are across what they are doing and whether we are getting value out of these posts.

5. Around the Parks

PCNPA

- seven new members, busy induction, Members settling in well and bringing a fresh perspective.
- In the midst of an organisational change and recruitment that comes with it. Recruitment is challenging across the board, but this is not unique in the public sector (numbers applying and reluctance to relocate).
- Anna Jones, strategic lead on governance, has started and she will reach out to all parks in due course.
- Cllr Clements has taken on role of chairing NPUK Chairs forum.
- Have been involved with supporting world sea rowing championships, big international event upcoming, ISO 13001 status (only second in world to have received) showing exemplar in sustainability.
- Royal engagements (Prince Charles and funeral).
- Active role in promoting Wales coast path 10th anniversary.
- Two meeting with Cllr's and Members on reviewing destination management plan for Pembrokeshire Coast.

ENPA

- eight new members, majority female for first time ever (10 female Members) and first female chair.
- Transport commission for North Wales being set up that we are providing evidence for on issues for Snowdonia.
- Recruitment, specifically planners, is a problem.
- Redoing standing orders following Brexit, external solicitors providing support, will go to Members before Christmas hopefully.
- Undergrounding of national grid programme has commenced, 6 years in total.
- Volunteers and ambassador scheme is going well, good feedback and engagement.
- Have been involved in second homes pilot with Welsh Government. Will be very resource intensive if it does go through and will be difficult with current capacity.
- Strategic lead on carbon starting end of the month.

BBNPA

- New executive board are settling in well and exposing new issues as they embed. Paper on Capacity & Capability with some of these concerns has gone to NPA.
- Financial challenges similar to other NPWs, building new capability and organisational development challenges are exacerbated.
- Close to adopting Future Beacons (December NPA, launch in new year).
- Usk catchment management is progressing, partnership forming is very slow though.
- Still working through Audit Wales recommendations. Working closely with Audit Wales, Members and Welsh Government. Appointment of consultant by Welsh Government to help progress this.
- Continue to be busy operationally, pressures are changing (more deaths and life changing injuries, more interaction with coroners, threats of violence) making life difficult for officers. In the process of refreshing SLAs on waterfalls with NRW to better manage this.
- Expecting a visit with Minister 12 January with a water/phosphates focus.

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- Study on sustainable tourism upcoming from Audit Wales.
- Pen Y Fan car park (National Trust) should be completed end of year.
- Accommodation for BBNPA is front of mind
- Finances: income diversification audit from Audit Wales, paper went to NPA to start looking at a more robust income strategy and look into setting up a charitable arm.

6. Any Other Urgent Business

None raised.

7. Date and Location of the Next Meeting

Next meeting will be at the morning of the Member Seminar (TBC).

Agreed to touch base informally to brainstorm a joint approach to financial challenges.

**PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 22nd MARCH 2023**

Councillor Elfed Powell Roberts (Gwynedd) (Chairman)

PRESENT:

Members appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Annwen Hughes, June Jones, Kim Jones, Edgar Wyn Owen, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts;

Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillors Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Jo Nuttall, Dilwyn Owain Roberts;

Members appointed by the Welsh Government

Ms. Tracey Evans, Mrs. Sarah Hattle, Mr. Tim Jones, Ms Delyth Lloyd;

Officers

Mr. E. Williams, Mr. G.I. Jones, Mr. J. Cawley, Mr. D. Edwards, Ms. B. Hughes, Mr. D. Williams, Ms. H. Pye, Mrs. A. Gaffey;

In attendance

Mrs. Sharon Warnes, Vice Chair Standards Committee.

Apologies

Councillor Louise Hughes; Mr. Brian Angell, Ms. Naomi Luhde-Thompson.

The Director of Corporate Services stated that the meeting was being recorded to assist in verifying the minutes and would be made available online at a later date.

1. Chair's Announcements

The Chair welcomed Mrs. Sharon Warnes, Vice Chair of the Standards Committee to the meeting to observe.

2. Declaration of Interest

No declarations of Personal Interests were made in respect of any item.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee held on 30th November 2022 were accepted and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

4. Action Log

Submitted – A log of strategic actions arising from decisions taken during meetings of the Performance and Resources Committee, for information and action.

Performance and Resources Committee 24.11.21

- Action Item 9 – Strategy for Promoting the Welsh Language 2016-21: Assessing the Outcome

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy was being considered today (Item No. 7), and if approved, the action could be removed from the Action Log.

RESOLVED to note the Action Log and remove the action as outlined.

5. **2022/23 Budget Update**

Submitted – A report by the Head of Finance to inform members of significant variations within the current financial year's budget and provide Members with updates on progress against the revenue and capital budgets.

Reported – The Head of Finance presented the report, which summarised the revised revenue and capital budgets for the first eleven months of 2022/23 and provided a projection of the Authority's position at the financial year-end.

Arising thereon, the Chief Finance Officer took the opportunity to thank David Williams for his work and for his willingness to step in to assist the Authority during the Head of Finance's maternity absence. The Chief Finance Officer noted that although the figures could change by the end of the year, he was satisfied with the final projection for 2022/23.

Members considered the report and made the following observations:-

- in response to a question, the Chief Executive confirmed that Yr Ysgwrn currently had a 3-year Business Plan. He noted that whilst the current reporting method was unclear, the baseline would be adjusted to record the actual position. He advised that Yr Ysgwrn also had reserves which had accrued following the success of the first few years of operation and that the Head of Cultural Heritage had plans for the future, which will be presented to Members as part of Yr Ysgwrn's Annual Report in June.
- arising thereon, the Director of Planning and Land Management stated that the article in the press had been misleading and that recent income figures had risen significantly. Also, the Head of Cultural Heritage had provided the BBC with an excellent interview to clarify any misconceptions regarding Yr Ysgwrn.
- the Head of Engagement asked Members to refer any media requests to the Communications Team who had, on this occasion, been able to correct the misunderstanding and misinterpretation of the Authority's Risk Profile.
- Members noted concerns that Plas Tan y Bwlch was unable to attract more business when compared with similar establishments in the area. The Director of Corporate Services advised that the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board were meeting on the rising of the Performance and Resources Committee to discuss future options.
- the Chief Executive advised that whilst the grant settlement from Welsh Government would remain flat over the next three years, he could confirm that in addition to the £200k referred to in para. 1.7 of the report, the Authority had just been awarded a further £300k, without conditions, which will be available to address financial challenges in 2023/24.

RESOLVED to note the report, for information.

6. **The Authority's Risk Profile**

Submitted – A report by the Director of Corporate Services to update Members on the Authority's Risk Profile.

Reported – The Director of Corporate Services presented the report and risk profile and outlined the main changes to the register.

Arising thereon,

Risk Ref. 2 Income Generating Target (Plas Tan y Bwlch), and
Risk Ref. 17 Securing the long-term future of Plas Tan y Bwlch

In response to a question, the Director of Corporate Services advised that Plas Tan y Bwlch was divided into two risks within the register (risk ref 2 and risk ref 17).

Also, the Chief Executive agreed to look at extending the Authority's Distaster Recovery Strategy to include threats from incidents such as foot and mouth disease, flu pandemic etc.

RESOLVED

1. to note the report and Risk Register.
2. to approve the removal of Risk Ref. 13: The effect of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) on the National Park and on the Authority's work from the Risk Register.

7. **Welsh Language Promotion Strategy**

Submitted – A report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care to approve a final version of the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy for 2022-27.

Reported – The Head of Administration and Customer Care presented the report and strategy and thanked the Steering Group for their work.

In response to a question, the Head of Administration and Customer Care agreed to amend the use of 'normalise' as a translation to the Welsh word 'sefydlu' on page 19 of the Strategy.

RESOLVED

1. to note the report.
2. subject to noting the above amendment, to approve the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy as submitted, and to authorise the Head of Administration and Customer Care to publish the Strategy on the Authority's website.

8. **Freedom of Information**

Submitted – A report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care on information requests received by the Authority under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Reported – The Head of Administration and Customer Care presented the report, for information.

RESOLVED to note the report.

9. **Annual Report for Yr 2022: Communications and Engagement Strategy Performance Indicators**

Submitted – A report by the Head of Engagement, together with the annual report on the Communication and Engagement Strategy performance indicators and progress on the action plan.

Reported – The Head of Engagement presented the report, the background and the 2022 Progress Report in detail. Members noted that the Authority would be stepping back from developing the Tik-Tok platform referred to in the recommended strategy for 2023.

Members considered the report and strategy and made the following observations:-
- the Chair, on behalf of Members, thanked the Engagement Team for their work.

- in response to a request, the Head of Engagement noted the opportunity for secondary school pupils in Conwy and Gwynedd to take part in volunteering work and also to encourage 6th form pupils to become members of the Ambassador Scheme.
- Members discussed marketing opportunities for Yr Ysgwrn and Plas Tan y Bwlch and the options for attracting larger audiences in future.
- Members and Officers discussed the future role of social media and how the Authority had benefitted during the Covid lockdown period. Members agreed that efficient communication had also played a big part in establishing car parking pre-payment at Pen y Pass.
- a Member welcomed the level of engagement arising from the Authority's decision to use of the Welsh names Yr Wyddfa and Eryri.

RESOLVED to note the Annual Report for Year 2022: Communications and Engagement Strategy Performance Indicators.

10. **Minutes of the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board**

Submitted – The minutes of the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board meetings held on 16th November 2022 and 8th February 2023.

The Chairman of the Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board presented the minutes and updated Members on the Action points. He further advised that the Plas Tan y Bwlch Board were meeting on the rising of the Performance and Resources Committee today, and a report would be presented to Members in April 2023.

RESOLVED to note the minutes, for information.

11. **Report of the Asset Management Group Meeting**

Submitted – The report of the Asset Management Group meeting held on the 30th November 2022.

The Chairman of the Asset Management Group presented the report and updated Members on the Asset Management Plan.

Arising thereon, and in response to a question, the Director of Corporate Services explained why Plas Tan y Bwlch did not allow one-night stays, but agreed that this could be reconsidered in future.

RESOLVED to note the report, for information.

The meeting ended at 11.15

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE
FRIDAY 28th APRIL 2023**

PRESENT:

Member appointed by Gwynedd Council

Councillor Elfed Roberts;

Member appointed by Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Dilwyn Roberts;

Independent Members

Mr. Martin J. Hughes, Mr. Mark Jones, Mrs. Sharon Warnes;

In Attendance (ex. officio)

Councillors Annwen Hughes, Edgar Wyn Owen;

Officers

Mr. G. Iwan Jones, Mrs Anwen Gaffey.

Apologies for Absence

Mrs. Sarah Hattle.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting was being recorded to assist in verifying the minutes.

1. **Appointment of Chairman**
RESOLVED to appoint Mrs Sharon Warnes as Chair of the Standards Committee for the remainder of her period of appointment as an Independent Member.
The Chair thanked Members for their support.
1. (a) **Appointment of Vice Chairman**
RESOLVED to appoint Mr. Martin James Hughes as Vice Chair of the Standards Committee for the remainder of his period of appointment as an Independent Member.
The Vice Chair thanked Members for their support.
2. **Chair's Announcements**
The Chair welcomed Mr. Mark Jones to his first meeting of the Standards Committee. Members and Officers introduced themselves to the meeting and Mr. Mark Jones provided a brief biography of his career and background.
3. **Declaration of Interest**
No declarations of Personal Interests were made in respect of any item.
4. **Minutes**
The minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held on 2nd September 2022 were accepted and the Chairman signed them as a true record.
5. **Annual Report to the Authority's Annual General Meeting**
Submitted – A report by the Director of Corporate Services for Members to agree the contents of the Annual Report.

Reported – The Director of Corporate Services presented the report and background and advised upon the additional statutory duty to prepare an annual report on how the committee's functions have been discharged and provide an overview of conduct matters within their Authority.

Members considered the report and made the following observations:-

- para 4.2 - to confirm that the Authority has appointed Mr. Mark Jones as an Independent Member of the Standards Committee for a term of 5 years.
- para 4.3 - to record that the Chair had now attended a meeting of the Performance and Resources Committee and the Planning and Access Committee as an observer, and that a formal report on her findings will be presented to the next meeting of the Standards Committee in September.
- Para 4.9 – Members noted that the questionnaire analysis was not ready for inclusion in the report and would be available shortly.
- also, to include that the Standards Committee receives the Authority's Annual Complaints Monitoring Report and assesses whether any further action should be taken.

RESOLVED subject to noting the additions/amendments as outlined above, to agree the contents of the Annual Report to be presented to the Authority's Annual General Meeting, as set out in Section 4 of the report.

6. Declaration of Members' Interests

Submitted – A report by the Director of Corporate Services for the Standards Committee to monitor the operation of the code of conduct.

Reported – The Director of Corporate Services presented the report and background and advised that the pro-forma had now been amended to include tick-boxes to record clearly whether the personal interest constitutes a prejudicial interest.

The Chair advised that observations on how Members declare an interest will be included in her report to the next meeting of the Standards Committee in September. Arising thereon, Members discussed whether it would be beneficial to provide Standards Committee Members with further training on the Code of Conduct as they have a role in overseeing the process.

Members and Officers further discussed the process for declaring interests and agreed that as it was the Member's responsibility to declare any interests, to request more detailed information would go beyond what was legitimately necessary.

RESOLVED to note the report, for information.

7. Consultation on the Recommendations of the Independent Review of the Ethical Standards Framework (Richard Penn Report)

Submitted – A report by the Director of Corporate Services for Members to agree on a response to the Consultation Questions.

Reported – The Director of Corporate Services presented the report and background and advised that following the conclusion of the Independent Review, the Welsh Government had now released a consultation paper which included a number of questions on options they require further views on.

Members considered the questions in detail and agreed the following response:-

Question 1

To **agree** that the relevant regulations relating to the Ethical Standards Framework should be amended to align with the definitions relating to protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010, and to amend the definition of equality and respect in section 7 of The Conduct of Members (Principles) (Wales) Order 2001.

Question 2

No experience in terms of the Authority's work, but to **agree** that the Adjudication Panel Wales (APW) be able to issue Restricted Reporting Orders.

Question 3

To **agree** that it was acceptable that there be express legal provision to enable the APW to protect the anonymity of witnesses, but only as an exception.

Question 4

With regard to the proposed changes to the permission to appeal procedure outlined in this recommendation, Members felt there was discretion in terms of the timeline and **recommended** that the whole process should take no more than a set period of time.

Question 5

Members felt as this was not a criminal court there should **not** be an express power for the APW to summon witnesses to appeal tribunals.

Question 6

Members did **not** agree to any changes in the procedure for referring appeals decisions back to standards committees as the current procedure works well.

Question 7

Members **agreed** there should be an option to enable part or all of tribunal hearings to be held in private if the need arises.

Question 8

Members did **not** agree with retaining the requirement to provide not less than seven days' notice of the postponement of a hearing, as occasionally there could be a need to postpone at short notice.

Question 9

Members did **not** agree there should be a wider range of sanctions available to the APW and that the current sanctions were appropriate as they are.

Question 10a

Members **agreed** to support the proposed amendments to the process for interim case tribunals outlined in the recommendation.

Question 10b

No comments to make.

Question 11

Members did **not** have any further views on the recommendations made in relation to the operation of the APW?

Question 12

Members felt the work to raise awareness of the Ethical Standards Framework, in particular for people with protected characteristics as described in the Equality Act 2010, should be carried out by specific representative groups.

Question 13

Advertising for independent members of standards committees: Members did **not** agree that the requirement to advertise vacancies for independent members on standards committees in newspapers should be removed. It should remain an open process of recruitment with 'local flexibility' to include community newspapers etc.

Question 14a

Former council employees sitting as independent members on standards committees: Members **agreed** that the lifelong ban on former council employees being independent members of their previous employer's standards committee should be removed.

Question 14b

Members recommended that **3 years** would be a suitable period of grace between employment and appointment to a standards committee and should be the same for all council employees.

Question 15

Former councillors sitting as independent members on standards committees: Members **agreed** that the lifelong ban on serving as an independent member on the standards committee of the council to which a councillor was elected should be removed and that the period of grace should be at least **5 years**.

Question 16

Standards committees' summoning witnesses and sanctions: Members were agreed that Standards committees should **not** have the power to summon witnesses as it was not part of their role.

Question 17

Members did **not** agree that the sanctions a standards committee can impose should be changed or added to.

Question 18

No effect from the Authority's perspective.

Question 19

Question not relevant.

Question 20

Members were of the opinion that the proposed amendments could be formulated or changed so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, with no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language by dealing with the issues locally for less serious matters.

Question 21

Members made the following additional comments on the matters raised in the consultation as follows:-

- the quality of the consultation was below standard with no cross-referencing between the questions and the relevant recommendation.
- Members welcomed Richard Penn's review and noted concerns that the Welsh Government Consultation could lose the spirit of the report.
- it was noted that the Welsh system was superior to the English process.
- Members agreed that the document will allow the Authority to resolve issues locally without becoming too formal. National Park Authorities were not political bodies and were small in comparison with the county councils.

Members agreed to forward any further observations to the Director of Corporate Services before the closing date.

RESOLVED

- 1. to note the report and Consultation.**
- 2. to authority the Director of Corporate Services to forward the response to the Consultation Questions, as outlined.**

8. National Standards Forum Committee – Friday 27th January 2023

Submitted - The minutes of the National Standards Forum Committee meeting, for information.

Reported – Members were provided with an oral report from the Chair who had represented the Snowdonia National Park Authority Standards Committee at the meeting. The main discussions focussed on the National Standards Forum Committee's Role and Terms of Reference, the circulation of which were still awaited. Members noted that the Ombudsman was reconsidering circulating the Annual Report which was now only available electronically on their website.

RESOLVED

- 1. to thank the Chair for representing the Snowdonia National Park Authority Standards Committee at the National Standards Forum Committee and to note the oral report, for information.**
- 2. to ask the Members Services Officer to contact the National Standards Forum Secretariat to request a copy of the Terms of Reference, and to circulate them to Members when available.**

The meeting ended at 15.45

MEETING	Snowdonia National Park Authority
DATE	14 th June, 2023
TITLE	EXEMPTING THE REPORT: SECTION 151 OFFICER
REPORT BY	Director of Corporate Services
PURPOSE	To request the Authority to approve the exemption of the above report

1. BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 I have considered the grounds for exemption of information contained in the report referred to above and make the following recommendations to the Authority:
- 1.2 Exemptions applying to the report:
- 1.2.1 12. Information relating to a particular individual.
13. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
14. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
- 1.3 Factors in favour of disclosure: None
- 1.4 Prejudice which would result if the information were disclosed:
- i. Regardless of how the report is worded the identity of the individual or individuals concerned would be ascertained.
 - ii. Regardless of how the report is worded the financial affairs of the person, persons or Authority the subject of the report would be revealed.
- 1.5 My view on the public interest test is as follows:
- i. Public interest is best served if the Authority retains the information in order to ensure the identity of the individual(s) concerned and the financial information is protected.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Authority agrees to make the report “Section 151 Officer” exempt from disclosure.