

# NOTICE OF MEETING



*Snowdonia National Park Authority*

*Iwan Jones  
Interim Chief Executive  
Snowdonia National Park Authority  
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**Meeting:** Snowdonia National Park Authority  
**Date:** Wednesday 11 September 2024  
**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, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;*

***Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council***

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

***Members appointed by The Welsh Government***

*Brian Angell, Sarah Hattle, Tim Jones, Naomi Luhde – Thompson, Delyth Lloyd, Dr Lowri Cunnington Wynn.*

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

# A G E N D A

1. **Apologies for absence and Chairman's Announcements**

2. **Corporate Update**

To receive an oral update from the Chief Executive.

3. **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.

4. **Declaration of Interest**

To receive any disclosure of interest by members or officers in respect of any item of business.

5. **Minutes**

The Chairman shall propose that the minutes of the meeting of this Authority held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2024 be signed as a true record. (Copy herewith)

4 -14

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

7. **Action Log**

To submit the Action Log, for information. (Copy herewith)

15 - 16

8. **Annual Report 2023/24**

To submit a report by the Director of Corporate Services. (Copy herewith)

17 - 70

9. **Medium Term Financial Plan**

To submit a report by the Chief Finance Officer. (Copy herewith)

71 - 81

10. **Draft Accounts 2022/23**

To submit a report by the Chief Finance Officer. (Copy herewith)

82 - 194

11. **2024/25 Budget Update**

To submit a report by the Chief Finance Officer. (Copy herewith)

195 - 203

12. **Youth Manifesto**

To submit a Youth Manifesto by the Young People's Officer. (Copy herewith)

204 - 224

13. **Yr Ysgwrn Annual Report 2023/24**

To submit the Annual Report for Yr Ysgwrn by the Head of Cultural Heritage. (Copy herewith)

225 - 228

14. **Europarc Conference 2024**

To submit information on the Europarc Conference by the Interim Chief Executive

229 - 230

15. **Welsh Members Seminar 2024** 231 - 237  
To submit information on the Welsh Members Seminar by the Interim Chief Executive
16. **Members' Working Group Reports** 238 - 242  
To submit the reports of the Members Working Group held on 22<sup>nd</sup> of May and 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2024. (Copies herewith)
17. **Meetings of other Organisations**  
To receive reports from Members on any recent meetings which they have attended as representatives of the Authority.
18. **Discussions on the Future of Plas Tan y Bwlch** 243  
**Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972: Exemption from disclosure of documents**  
To submit a report by the Interim Chief Executive (Copy herewith)

## **PART II**

19. **Discussions on the Future of Plas Tan y Bwlch** 244 - 246  
To submit a report by the Interim Chief Executive (Copy herewith)

**SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024**

**PRESENT:**

**Members appointed by Gwynedd Council**

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

**Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council**

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

**Members appointed by the Welsh Government**

Brian Angell, Sarah Hattle, Tim Jones, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Delyth Lloyd;

**Officers**

Emyr Williams, G. Iwan Jones, Jonathan Cawley, Dewi Aeron Morgan, Sian Owen, Bethan Hughes, Angela Jones, Anwen Gaffey, Sarah Roberts.

**In attendance**

Sharon Warnes, Chair of the Standards Committee.

Euros Lake, Rachel Freitag, Derwyn Owen: Audit Wales.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that the meeting would be web-broadcast following election of the Chair and Vice-Chair, and would also be made available online at a later date.

1. **Chair**

The Director of Corporate Services outlined the procedure for electing a Chair for the Authority and advised that in accordance with Standing Orders 5.2 and 5.3, the nominations proposed two Members for the Chair, Mr. Tim Jones and Councillor Edgar Owen, who were invited to address the meeting.

Mr. Tim Jones and Councillor Edgar Owen both took up the invitation to address the meeting and Members were provided with a summary of their background and experience.

**Councillor Edgar Wyn Owen was elected as Chair of the Authority.**

The Chair thanked Members for their support.

2. **Vice-Chair**

The Director of Corporate Services outlined the procedure for electing a Vice-Chair for the Authority and advised that in accordance with Standing Orders 5.2 and 5.3, he had received nominations proposing Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd for Vice-Chair.

**Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd was elected Vice-Chair of the Authority.**

The Vice-Chair thanked Members for their support.

3. **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were tendered.

#### 4. **Corporate Update**

- the Chief Executive congratulated the Chair and the Vice Chair on their appointments and also took the opportunity to thank Mr. Tim Jones for his work during his time as Authority Chair.
- at a recent meeting with the Cabinet Secretary, Julie James MS, the Chair and Chief Executive were advised that the budget would remain at this level until 2025, although there could be further capital funding support for the National Park Authorities over the next 3 years.
- at their meeting on 3rd June 2024 the Snowdonia Communities Fund Scoring Panel had approved a number of applications.
- the Chief Executive reminded Members they were all invited to attend the Plas Tan y Bwlch Board Meeting following the Authority meeting today to receive a presentation by Cymunedoli Cyf. Arising thereon, the Chief Executive confirmed that selling the property was still an option and that Agents had now been appointed.
- the consultation deadline to respond to the Article 4 Directive letter sent to each household in Eryri had resulted in less than 400 responses, which officers were now considering.
- Members were reminded of the Member Development Day being arranged on 21<sup>st</sup> June with visits to sites in and around the Bala area.
- Members also noted that training on 'Effective Financial Governance' was being arranged by Welsh Government for all Members on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024.
- the Chief Executive was pleased to report that the Management Team and Vice-Chair had recently met with Cymdeithas Eryri to discuss joint areas of concern and future co-operation.
- the Chief Executive and Chair had recently attended a meeting of all Chairs in Loch Lomond where the main topics of discussion were the challenges of climate change and how the 15 National Park Authorities can work on this together.
- the Chief Executive had recently met with the Chief Constable of North Wales Police to discuss the possibility of having a police officer seconded to the Authority for a 6-month period to help with rural issues.
- the Welsh National Parks Chief Executives had recently met with the Chief Executive of Natural Resources Wales, where discussions had focused on working in partnership to share expertise as resources become more scarce.
- the Chief Executive advised that as this was his final Authority meeting, he would like to take the opportunity to convey his best wishes to Anwen Gaffey, the Members' Services Officer, who was also retiring at the end of the summer after working for the Authority since before the National Park was established in 1996.

#### 5. **Public Question Time**

The Chair advised that a member of the public had given notice to speak at the meeting.

Mr. Richard A. Shirres, provided Members with a short preface prior to presenting the following question:-

- Q. Will the National Park Authority seriously consider taking steps to begin to establish the means to exercise proactive ecological spatial planning which could ultimately develop a Park-wide strategic ecosystem conservation and landscape-scale adaptation management plan, complete with defined measures, subject to periodic review; recognising there is great potential for early mobilisation of resources by way of local and regional stakeholder engagement; through exploiting university research and harnessing that and developing citizen science programmes but also by exploring partnership working with Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority which produced a preliminary National Recover Plan in July 2019?

Officer response

*The Director of Planning and Land Management thanked Mr. Shirres for his question.*

*The Director of Planning and Land Management assured Mr. Shirres that the Authority and its officers take such matters very seriously and will be considering and discussing these issues further over the coming months. In order to provide context, he then outlined some constraints that should be recognised as this work is progressed.*

- 1. Most of the land in the National Park was in private ownership, which means the ability to make direct changes are limited, and significant change can only be achieved through partnership working.*
- 2. As resources are scarce, both in terms of funding and staff, the Authority continues to work closely with partners in the environmental sector such as the National Trust, Natural Resources Wales etc., and also with farmers and landowners.*
- 3. The Authority's Carbon Strategy was being presented to the Authority today which clearly shows that Eryri was already on the journey. The Authority recognises the need to highlight the carbon challenge in its Corporate Plan, and the need to raise its ambition in Cynllun Eryri (which was being reviewed next year). The Authority had commissioned a report on the State of the Park and will collaborate with all the other statutory bodies to establish a baseline in terms of the state of nature and our ability to reduce carbon emissions and greenhouse gases. Work on reviewing the Local Development Plan will also be undertaken in 2025 and will include ambitious policies to address these issues.*
- 4. Eryri along with the other UK National Parks was now part of the global Race to Zero initiative and work had already started to meet the 2030 target and limit global warming to 1.5 rather than 2 degrees.*
- 5. There is an intention to identify funding to appoint a Low Carbon Officer during this financial year which also demonstrates the Authority's ambition and commitment to respond to the challenge.*
- 6. The Chief Executive advised upon a recent paper on carbon use, based on consumption, and commissioned by the family of National Parks, which had identified that roughly one third of Eryri's carbon outputs come from transport, one third from local communities and one third from tourism. Officers were currently working on a tree and peatland strategy and were also running ambitious schemes such as the LIFE Celtic Rainforest Project.*

In response, Richard Shirres provided Members with a brief background of his own experience and invited informal contact at any time for discussions with officers. He felt that it was crucial that data sets for flora and fauna should be developed for the individual National Parks, rather than across Wales. He suggested citizen science could be a cost-effective measure which was economical and gave a sense of purpose to local people.

Members welcomed the question and made the following observations:-

- a Member noted that although discussions with Bangor University were already underway, this should include looking specifically at data sets.
- Members agreed that citizen science was something the Authority should further consider. The Chief Executive advised that during recent discussions with Cymdeithas Eryri they had agreed to work collaboratively to take advantage of the expertise available.

6. **Declarations of Interest**

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

7. **Membership of the Authority**

Submitted - The Chief Executive's report on current membership of the Authority, for information.

Reported – The Chief Executive presented the report and asked Members to confirm their details were correct.

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

8. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Authority meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 were accepted and the Chair signed them as a true record.

9. **Action Log**

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

Reported – The Director of Corporate Services presented the report and advised that both items should remain on the action log.

Arising thereon,

Authority Meeting 07.02.24 : Action Item 11 – Plas Tan y Bwlch

The Director of Corporate Services advised that Carter Jonas had been appointed as Agents, and solicitors appointed to prepare an Information Pack on the property.

Members noted that the Head of Property would provide further details at the Plas Tan y Bwlch Board meeting following the Authority meeting today.

**RESOLVED to note the Action Log, as submitted.**

10. **Governance of National Park Authorities**

Submitted – The Governance of National Park Authorities Report (April 2024) by the Auditor General for Wales, together with a Summary Report. Members were also provided with a copy of the Organisational response, for information.

Mr. Euros Lake, Wales Audit Office presented the report and provided Members with a slide presentation. He advised that the report, published in April 2024, reviewed the governance arrangements across all three National Park Authorities in Wales.

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

- the Chief Executive advised that he had always valued Audit Wales' findings, but on this occasion felt he could not agree with the first three recommendations as they were matters outside the Authority's control, and the fourth recommendation had not provided evidence that the current model was not fit for purpose. The Chief Executive advised that he had sent his response to Audit Wales and the response would be formally presented to Members at the next meeting of the Performance and Resources Committee on the 10<sup>th</sup> July. The Chief Executive noted that two reviews over the last 15 years, the Marsden Review and the Future Landscapes Working Group chaired by Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas, had both agreed that the current model provides the necessary balance. The Chief Executive felt the opportunity to address the effectiveness of Section 62(2) of the Environment Act had been missed.
- in response to a question about who was responsible for creating the accountability framework, the Chief Executive advised there was an annual process for reporting performance to the Minister for Members appointed by the Welsh Government, but no such system for Local Authority Members. This was a matter for the Welsh Local Government Association to discuss with Welsh Government and demonstrates why it's difficult for the Authority to accept the first three recommendations.
- a Member felt the criticism did not refer to the balance between local authority and national members, but rather how local members are selected, which was more to do with implementation and not the governance structure. The Member felt that the report was not clear in this regard.
- the Chief Executive noted that para. 22 of the report supports the current committee structures, and that the issue was the level of skill available to scrutinise strategically. He advised that the Labour Party Manifesto may include reference to this as regards the Fire and Rescue service, who only have Local Authority Members, although the number of members on the Authority could be a matter for the future.

**RESOLVED**

1. **to note the report.**
2. **to await the Organisational Response report to be presented to the next meeting of the Performance and Resources Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024.**



11 (a) **Statement of Accounts 2021/22**

Submitted – A report by the Chief Finance Officer to approve the post-audit Statement of Accounts and the Final Letter of Representation.

Reported – The Chief Finance Officer presented the report, Statement of Accounts and the Final Letter of Representation for approval. The accounts had been subject to a significant delay due to issues which arose from the re-valuation of assets, and the Chief Finance Officer was pleased to report that Audit Wales were going to issue the Authority with an unqualified audit opinion. The Chief Finance Officer took the opportunity to thank officers for their work and then welcomed Rachel Freitag and Derwyn Owen of Audit Wales to the meeting to present their findings.

11 (b) **ISA 260 Audit of the Financial Statements – Snowdonia National Park Authority**

Submitted – The Audit of Financial Statements report.

Reported – Rachel Freitag, Audit Wales, presented the report and addendum and confirmed that the Auditor General would be presenting the Authority with an unqualified audit report. She thanked the Authority's finance team, past and present, for their work, and for their assistance and co-operation. Audit Wales advised there had been two key issues which they would like to raise, firstly the number of amendments, outlined in Appendix 3 – Summary of Corrections Made, were excessive with a large number of omissions. It was emphasised that it was the Authority's responsibility to ensure that the draft is thoroughly checked prior to its submission. Secondly, Members were provided with detailed background of the delays experienced during the revaluation of the assets and of the additional work involved in ensuring the work was in accordance with the CIPFA Code. Members were asked to note that this would have an effect on the audit fee. The Authority will now prepare the Statement of Accounts for 2022/23 over the summer months and the accounts for 2023/24 will be presented in 2025.

The Chair thanked Rachel Freitag and Derwyn Owen of Audit Wales for attending the meeting to present their report.

**RESOLVED**

1. to receive and note the “ISA 260” report as presented by Audit Wales.
2. to approve the post-audit Statement of Accounts for 2021/22.
3. to authorise the Chair and the Chief Finance Officer to certify the Letter of Representation.

12. **Appointment of Members to serve on Committees, Panels, Working Groups and External Representation**

Submitted - A report by the Chief Executive to appoint Members to serve on the following Committees, Panels, Working Groups and External Representation.

Arising thereon, Members were advised that all the Committees, Working Groups etc., were vacant and the names of previous memberships were included for information only.

**RESOLVED to appoint Members as follows:-**

(1) **COMMITTEES**

- i) **Planning and Access Committee** - All Authority Members
- ii) **Performance and Resources Committee** - All Authority Members
- iii) **Standards Committee** (Term of Office established by the Standards Committee (Wales) Regulations 2001).  
Councillors Dilwyn Roberts, Elfed Roberts; Sarah Hattle.  
+ 3 Independent Members

(2) **PANELS**

- i) **Single Status Grading Appeals Panel**  
3 Members + 2 substitute Members to be drawn from the Standards Committee membership by the Standards Committee

(3) **WORKING GROUPS**

- i) **Members' Working Group** - All Authority Members
- ii) **Local Joint Working Group**  
Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Einir Wyn Williams; Sarah Hattle.
- iii) **Yr Ysgwrn Management Board**  
Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Elfed Powell Roberts; Naomi Luhde-Thompson.
- iv) **Plas Tan y Bwlch Management Board**  
Councillor Elfed Roberts, Meryl Roberts; Tim Jones.

(4) **AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

- i) **Celyn, Tegid and Tryweryn Advisory Conference**  
Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Ifor Glyn Lloyd, June Jones;  
Brian Angell.
- ii) **Fforwm Eryri**  
Councillor Edgar Owen (Chair)  
Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd (Vice Chair)  
Councillors Annwen Hughes, Jo Nuttall; Brian Angell.
- iii) **Local Access Forums**  
**South:** Councillor John Pughe Roberts  
**North:** Tim Jones
- iv) **Strategic Planning Sub-Committee (CJC)**  
Councillor Edgar Owen

**(5) TASK AND FINISH GROUPS**

- i) **Assets Sub-Group**  
Councillors June Jones, Ifor Glyn Lloyd, Dilwyn Roberts, Meryl Roberts;  
Brian Angell, Tim Jones.
- (ii) **Carbon Account Steering Group**  
Councillor John Pughe Roberts; Brian Angell, Tim Jones, Naomi Luhde-  
Thompson.
- (iv) **Place Names Steering Group**  
Councillors Elwyn Edwards, June Jones, Dilwyn Roberts.

**(6) OTHER BODIES**

- i) **Trawsfynydd Stakeholder Group**  
Councillor Elfed Powell Roberts
- ii) **Joint Council for Wales**  
Delyth Lloyd
- iii) **Campaign for National Parks**  
(The 3 Welsh National Park Authorities are represented by a Member of the  
Authority which holds the National Parks Wales Secretariat, currently held by  
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority)
- iv) **The Alliance for Welsh Designated Landscapes**  
Mr. Tim Jones
- v) **Welsh Local Government Association Council**  
Councillor Dilwyn Roberts
- vi) **Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau (SAC)**  
Councillor Louise Hughes
- vii) **Eryri Transport, Parking & Active Travel Delivery Group**  
Councillor June Jones  
(In Reserve: Councillor Einir Wyn Williams)
- viii) **Energy Island Programme Strategic Forum**  
Councillor Elfed Roberts
- ix) **Dyfi Biosphere Partnership**  
Councillor Louise Hughes
- x) **Cambrian Coast Railway Liaison Conference**  
Councillor Meryl Roberts  
(In Reserve – Ms. Delyth Lloyd)

13. **The Standards Committee's Annual Report to the Authority**

Submitted – A report by the Chair of the Standards Committee for Members to agree and note the contents of the Annual Report.

Reported – The Chair of the Standards Committee thanked Members for the opportunity to attend the meeting to present the Annual Report. The Standards Committee Chair presented the report in detail and advised Members upon the appointment of a new Independent Member, Mr. Mark Jones. The Chair also congratulated the Authority on the high standards of conduct shown by its Members with no complaints being presented to the Ombudsman. The Chair also took the opportunity to commend the work of the complaints monitoring team.

Arising thereon, the Director of Corporate Services confirmed that when the opportunity arises, and Gwynedd Council Members or Conwy County Borough Council Members are required to make use of the dispensation granted by the Standards Committee, the independent members of the Standards Committee will be invited to the meeting to observe the process.

The Director of Corporate Services, on behalf of the Authority, took the opportunity to thank the Chair for her work and commitment to the Authority's Standards Committee over the last nine years.

**RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.**

14. **Annual Governance Statement 2023/24**

Submitted – A report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care to approve the Annual Governance Statement for signature by the Chair and the Chief Executive.

Reported – The Head of Administration and Customer Care presented the report and the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24. Members were asked to note a correction to Paragraph 6, which should read 'Significant Governance issues and Actions proposed for 2024/25'.

**RESOLVED to approve the Annual Governance Statement for the 2023/24 financial year.**

15. **Corporate Work Programme 2023/24**

Submitted – A progress report by the Director of Corporate Services on the Final Quarter for 2023-24 (January to March 2024).

Reported - The Director of Corporate Services presented the Corporate Work Programme in detail.

**RESOLVED to note the Corporate Work Programme, as submitted.**

16. **Eryri Low Carbon Strategy 2024-2029**

Submitted – A report by the Director of Planning and Land Management for Members to adopt the Eryri Low Carbon Strategy 2024-2025 and agree to subsequent annual reviews.

Reported – The Director of Planning and Land Management presented the report and background.

**RESOLVED**

1. to adopt the **Low Carbon Strategy, as submitted.**
2. to agree to a subsequent annual review of the document and any progress.

17. **Members' Attendance**

Submitted – An information report by the Director of Corporate Services detailing Member attendance at Authority and Committee meetings from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

Reported – The Director of Corporate Services presented the report. Arising thereon, officers agreed to correct the Welsh report to read Cllr. *June Jones*.

**RESOLVED to note the report, for information.**

18. **Welsh Language Standards**

Submitted – A report by the Head of Administration and Customer Care together with the Authority's Welsh Language Standards 2023/24 Monitoring Report.

Reported – The Head of Administration and Customer Care presented the report and background.

**RESOLVED to approve the report and authorise the Head of Administration and Customer Care to publish the Welsh Language Standards 2023/24 Monitoring Report on the Authority's website.**

19. **Cynllun Eryri Annual Monitoring Report 2023**

Submitted – A report by the Head of Partnerships to report on the third year of implementation of the National Park Management Plan. The Director of Corporate Services apologised that the English language report had been included in the Welsh Agenda and advised that Members were provided with a copy of the Welsh report prior to the meeting.

Reported – The Head of Partnerships presented the report which provided an outline of the key points to note, and the Annual Monitoring Report which reflected the work carried out in 2023. The Head of Partnerships was pleased to report upon good progress on each of the objectives and also took the opportunity to thank the partners for their valued contribution and support.

**RESOLVED to note the report and the progress made to date regarding the delivery of Cynllun Eryri.**

20. **Members' Working Group Report**

Submitted – Report of the Members' Working Group held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**RESOLVED to note the report.**

21. **Meetings of other Organisations**

Submitted – Oral reports on recent meetings of organisations that Members had attended as representatives of the Authority.

Cambrian Coast Railway Liaison Meeting – Councillor Meryl Roberts

- two meetings had recently been held, one which was called as an urgent meeting to discuss Transport for Wales' intention to reduce the service to two trains in the morning and two in the afternoon. These discussions were still ongoing.

**RESOLVED to thank the Member for the report.**

22. **Minutes**

The following minutes were submitted for information:-

- (1) Minutes of the Performance and Resources Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- (2) Minutes of the Standards Committee held on the 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

Arising thereon, and on behalf of Members and Officers, the Chair expressed his appreciation and thanks to both the Chief Executive and the Members Services Officer for their valuable service and expertise over the years and wished them both a long and happy retirement.

**The meeting ended at 12.25**



## 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	- <b>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.</b>	Need to arrange a meeting to consider the issues, date is yet to be agreed	NM	Noted and issue is being monitored.	<b>NO</b>



# TAFLEN WEITHREDU – ACTION SHEET

## AUTHORITY MEETING – 07.02.2024

ITEM NO. AND TITLE	DECISIONS / OBSERVATIONS	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	UPDATE or COMPLETION DATE	REMOVE FROM ACTION LOG
11. Plas Tan y Bwlch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to invite interest from potential partners for the operational management/development of Plas Tan y Bwlch.</li> <li>- at the same time, to offer Plas Tan y Bwlch on the open market to prospective buyers.</li> <li>- to actively promote Plas Tan y Bwlch as a going concern to any prospective partner/buyer.</li> <li>- to allow a period of up to 6 months to seek a partner or open market disposal.</li> <li>- the Management Team and Plas Board to monitor progress and report back to members as required, but no later than September 2024, with long term recommendations based on the outcome of any negotiations.</li> <li>- to utilise the identified reserve to bridge any financial pressures/needs.</li> </ul>	To proceed as outlined.	CX/GIJ	<p>Carter Jonas have been appointed as agents by the Head of Property in connection with a potential sale or long-term lease.</p> <p>The Head of Property has also appointed solicitors to prepare an Information Pack on the property.</p> <p>A further update report will be presented to the authority meeting on 11 September.</p>	<b>NO</b>



<b>MEETING</b>	Snowdonia National Park Authority
<b>DATE</b>	11 September 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24</b>
<b>REPORT BY</b>	Director of Corporate Services
<b>PURPOSE</b>	To recommend the adoption of the Annual Report and approve its publication

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 I have appended with this report a draft of the Annual Report. The purpose of the Annual Report is to formally report on the progress made by the Authority in realising its Well-being Objectives. The Authority's Well-being Objectives were adopted by the Authority in its Well-being Statement 2021-26. The majority of the work set out in the Annual Report will of course be familiar territory as the Performance and Resources Committee has been monitoring progress on the same on a quarterly basis. This Report does however try and give an overview of the situation as at the end of 2023-24 so as to better understand the progress made to date as well as the challenges that remain.
- 1.2 The Annual Report and Improvement Plan appended to this report contains the following information:
- 1.2.1 Chairman's Report for the period 2023/24 which sets out how the Authority has performed during the previous year (April to March), what was achieved, what was not achieved and problems encountered;
  - 1.2.2 Details as to the area covered by the Park as well as the statutory basis for the Eryri National Park Authority;
  - 1.2.3 Details of the Authority's Corporate Vision which sets out what we strive to attain and leave for future generations;
  - 1.2.4 Details of the Authority's Well-being Statement and the Sustainable Development Principle;
  - 1.2.5 How the Authority's Well-being Objectives were set;
  - 1.2.6 Summary Evaluation of progress made in attaining the Authority's Well-being Objectives;
  - 1.2.7 Performance Management;
  - 1.2.8 The Improvement Framework; and
  - 1.2.9 Contact Details

## **2. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

2.1 The Plan sets out how the Authority performed in attaining its priorities during 2023/24 and will not therefore have an impact upon how the Authority's budget is expended.

## **3. RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Authority adopts the Annual Report and approves its publication.**

## ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

# ANNUAL REPORT

## FOR 2023/24



The National Park Authority is responsible for the preparation of the Annual Report, for the assessments set out within it, and the assumptions and estimates on which they are based. The Authority is also responsible for setting in place appropriate performance management and internal control systems from which the information and assessments in the Plan have been derived. The Authority is satisfied that the information and assessments included in the plan are in all material respects accurate and complete and that the plan is realistic

Eryri National Park Authority®  
National Park Office  
Penrhyndeudraeth  
Gwynedd  
LL48 6LF  
[www.eryri.llyw.cymru](http://www.eryri.llyw.cymru)

☎ 01766 770274

📄 01766 771211

✉ [parc@eryri.llyw.cymru](mailto:parc@eryri.llyw.cymru)

**ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR 2023/24**

1. CHAIR’S REPORT .....	3
2. ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY .....	8
3. VISION .....	9
4. WELL-BEING STATEMENT AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLE .....	9
5. SETTING THE AUTHORITY’S WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES .....	12
6. THE AUTHORITY’S WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES WITH SUMMARY EVALUATION OF PROGRESS MADE TO DATE ..	14
7. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT.....	50
8. THE IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK.....	50
9. CONTACT DETAILS .....	52

# 1. CHAIR'S REPORT

## Introduction

I am honoured to present this report, capturing the significant achievements and progress made over the past year for the Eryri National Park Authority. This year has been marked by both challenges and opportunities, during which our organisation has continued to drive forward our well-being objectives for 2021-2026. Our dedicated efforts across various sectors have been instrumental in enhancing the resilience, sustainability, and cultural heritage of Eryri.

In this report, I will provide an overview of our accomplishments, particularly in the areas of resilient environments, climate change response, cultural heritage management, post-Brexit land management, and biodiversity conservation.

As Chair, it is my pleasure to share these developments, which highlight our commitment to preserving and enhancing the unique natural and cultural landscape of Eryri National Park, ensuring that it remains an important and welcoming environment for future generations.

I want to extend my heartfelt thank you to both Cllr Annwen Hughes and Mr Tim Jones for their service during their respective terms as Chair over the past 12 months, and their ongoing commitment to the National Park.

## Resilient Environments

One of the core missions of the National Park Authority is to develop resilient environments that can withstand the pressures of both natural and human activities. Over the past year, we have made substantial progress in this area, particularly in the management of recreational activities within the National Park. With the increasing popularity of Eryri as a tourist destination, it has become more important than ever to balance the needs of visitors with the preservation of our natural landscapes and communities.

To this end, we have installed and utilised people counters at strategic locations across the park. These devices have provided us with critical data on visitor numbers and patterns, enabling us to implement more effective management strategies that minimise the environmental impact of tourism.

The success of the Eryri Ni 2023 visitor communications campaign is another significant achievement in our efforts to promote sustainable tourism. This campaign has taken a comprehensive approach to raising awareness about the importance of preserving our landscapes, not only among visitors but also among local businesses and communities. By engaging stakeholders in sustainable practices, we have been able to create an increased harmonious relationship between tourism and environmental conservation. The campaign's aim was to raise awareness to increase consciousness of impact on the environment, as well as increased participation of local businesses in sustainability initiatives such as the Yr Wyddfa Plastic Free Project's business scheme.

In addition to these broader efforts, we have undertaken significant upgrades to key visitor facilities throughout the park. The Betws y Coed Information Centre, an important hub for tourists, has undergone extensive renovations to enhance its accessibility and the quality of information it provides. Similarly, the facilities at Ogwen have been improved to better accommodate the growing number of hikers and nature enthusiasts who frequent the area. These upgrades are part of our ongoing commitment to providing high-quality visitor experiences while ensuring that the natural beauty and ecological integrity of Eryri are preserved. Looking ahead, we are excited about the planned improvements at Hafod Eryri, which will further enhance the visitor experience at one of our most iconic locations, offering both educational opportunities and breathtaking views of the landscape.

## **Responding to Climate Change**

Climate change is one of the most significant challenges facing our world today, and Eryri National Park is committed to playing a leading role in mitigating its impacts. Over the past year, we have made considerable progress in implementing the Local Development Plan (LDP) policies that are critical for climate resilience within the park. These policies guide our actions across all areas of Eryri, ensuring that new developments are designed with sustainability at their core and that existing infrastructures are adapted to withstand the changing climate.

A major focus of our climate response strategy has been the development of an Action Plan aimed at achieving carbon neutrality for the Eryri National Park Authority by 2030. This ambitious goal reflects our commitment to reducing our carbon footprint and leading by example in the global effort to combat climate change. The Action Plan outlines a comprehensive approach to carbon reduction, emphasising the need to decrease emissions across all Authority operations, including our buildings, vehicles, and other assets. Key initiatives under this plan include promoting energy efficiency, transitioning to renewable energy sources, and implementing sustainable land management practices that enhance carbon sequestration.

Our efforts to address climate change are further strengthened by our partnerships with the Welsh Government and other National Park Authorities. Through these collaborations, we have been able to share best practices and coordinate our actions to maximise the impact of our climate initiatives. A notable example of this collaboration is our participation in nature recovery and carbon sequestration projects that align with broader national and international climate strategies. By contributing to these initiatives, we are not only helping to mitigate the effects of climate change within Eryri but also supporting the global effort to protect our planet for future generations.

In addition to our direct climate action, we are actively involved in raising awareness about the importance of climate resilience within the community through initiatives such as the Eryri Community Fund. These efforts are critical in building a resilient community that is well-prepared to adapt to the challenges posed by a changing climate.

## **Cultural Heritage Management**

Eryri National Park is not only a place of outstanding natural beauty but also a region steeped in cultural heritage. Preserving and enhancing this heritage is a fundamental part of our mission, and over the past year, we have made significant strides in this area. One of our most notable achievements has been the development of the Cultural Heritage Strategy, which provides a comprehensive framework for managing and promoting Eryri's cultural assets. This strategy outlines key priorities and actions for preserving the historical and cultural fabric of the park, ensuring that these treasures are protected for future generations.

The Carneddau Landscape Partnership Scheme stands out as a flagship project in our cultural heritage management efforts. This ambitious project, which brings together a diverse range of stakeholders, including local communities, heritage organisations, and conservation groups, aims to protect and celebrate the unique cultural landscape of the Carneddau mountains. The project remains on track for completion by 2025 and has already made significant progress in preserving important historical sites, promoting traditional land use practices, and developing a greater appreciation of the area's cultural significance among residents and visitors alike. The success of this project underscores the importance of collaboration in heritage management and highlights our commitment to safeguarding the cultural identity of Eryri.

Our cultural heritage management efforts also extend to the promotion of Eryri's rich linguistic heritage. As part of our commitment to preserving the Welsh language, we have implemented various initiatives to encourage the use of Welsh in both official and informal contexts within the park. These efforts include offering Welsh language courses for staff, providing bilingual signage and information materials, and supporting events and activities that celebrate the Welsh language and culture. Through these initiatives, we are helping to ensure that the Welsh language remains a vibrant and integral part of life in Eryri.

## **Post-Brexit Land Management**

The post-Brexit era has brought significant changes to land management practices across the UK, and Eryri National Park has been proactive in adapting to these new realities. The withdrawal from the European Union has led to shifts in agricultural policies, funding mechanisms, and environmental regulations, all of which have a direct impact on land management within the park. In response, we have engaged closely with the Welsh Government and other partners to ensure that Eryri benefits from the evolving land management policies and funding opportunities.

Our collaboration with the land-based sector has been particularly valuable in navigating the complexities of the post-Brexit landscape. By maintaining an open and ongoing dialogue with farmers, landowners, and other stakeholders, we have been able to identify and address the challenges they face, while also promoting sustainable land management practices that align with our environmental goals. This collaborative approach has allowed us to adapt our strategies to the new policy environment and ensure that the needs of the land-based sector are effectively integrated into our broader land management efforts.

One of the key outcomes of our post-Brexit land management strategy has been the development of new partnerships with landowners to deliver conservation projects on private land. These projects, which range from habitat restoration and rewilding initiatives to the implementation of sustainable grazing practices, are helping to create a more resilient and diverse landscape across Eryri. By working closely with landowners, we are not only enhancing the ecological health of the park but also supporting the economic viability of traditional farming practices that have shaped the landscape for generations.

In addition to these partnerships, we have been actively involved in advocating for policies that support sustainable land management at the national level. Our engagement with policymakers and stakeholders has focused on ensuring that the new agricultural policies and funding streams introduced in the post-Brexit era are designed to promote environmental sustainability, protect biodiversity, and support the livelihoods of those who depend on the land. As we continue to navigate the post-Brexit landscape, we remain committed to ensuring that Eryri's land management practices are both environmentally sustainable and economically viable.

### **Addressing Biodiversity Decline**

Biodiversity decline is a global crisis that has profound implications for the ecosystems of Eryri National Park. Recognising the urgency of this issue, we have intensified our efforts to address biodiversity decline through a range of targeted conservation initiatives. Our approach is guided by the understanding that protecting and restoring the park's natural habitats is essential not only for the preservation of biodiversity but also for the health and well-being of the communities that depend on these ecosystems.

One of the cornerstones of our biodiversity strategy has been the continuation of key conservation projects such as the HLF Carneddau, LIFE Celtic Rainforest, and the National Peat Programme. These projects are designed to protect some of the park's most critical habitats, including ancient woodlands, peatlands, and uplands to support broader conservation efforts across Wales and beyond.

In addition to these large-scale projects, we have also made progress in our efforts to survey and protect Trees and Ancient Woodland sites (PAWS). The data collected from these surveys will inform the development of a comprehensive Tree and Woodland Strategy for Eryri, ensuring that these vital habitats are protected and managed sustainably in the years to come.

Our work on biodiversity is further supported by ongoing research and monitoring efforts. By working with academic institutions, conservation organizations, and other partners, we are gathering the data needed to inform our conservation strategies and measure the impact of our efforts. This evidence-based approach is critical to ensuring that our actions are effective in reversing biodiversity decline and protecting the natural wealth of Eryri.



## **Engagement and Outreach**

Engaging with the communities within and around Eryri National Park has always been a priority for us, and the past year has seen a renewed focus on outreach and engagement activities. We have continued to build strong relationships with local communities, ensuring that their voices are heard in the decision-making process. This has been achieved through a variety of channels, including public consultations, community meetings, and collaborative projects.

Our outreach efforts have also extended to education and awareness-raising activities. Through partnerships with schools, community groups, and local businesses, we have been able to deliver a range of programs aimed at developing an understanding of the park's natural and cultural heritage. These programs are not only helping to educate the next generation about the importance of conservation but are also strengthening the connection between the community and the park.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the past year has been one of significant progress for Eryri National Park. Despite the challenges posed by climate change, post-Brexit land management, and biodiversity decline, we have continued to make substantial strides toward achieving our well-being objectives. Our efforts to enhance the resilience of our environments, preserve our cultural heritage, and engage with our communities have been met with success, and we are well-positioned to build on these achievements in the coming years.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all members, officers, and partners who have contributed to these successes. Your dedication, hard work, and passion for Eryri have been instrumental in driving our mission forward. As we look ahead, I am confident that, together, we will continue to make Eryri National Park a beacon of sustainability, resilience, and cultural richness for future generations.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Jones', written in a cursive style.

**Chair, the National Park Authority**

## 2. ERYRI NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

### 2.1. Eryri National Park

Eryri National Park was designated in 1951 under the National Park and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

The National Park covers 213,200 hectares of varied countryside including mountain, moorland, woodland and coast. About 25,000 people live in the National Park which receives an estimated 10.5 million visitor nights each year.

Approximately 59% of the residents of the National Park are Welsh speaking.

### 2.2. Eryri National Park Authority

Eryri National Park Authority® (which is a registered trademark of Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri / Snowdonia National Park Authority) was established by the Environment Act 1995 as a single purpose local authority. It has the following purposes as defined by the Act:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage; and
- To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public.

The Authority has responsibilities for planning, conservation, land management, access and recreation but not for elderly care, schools, highways, emptying bins and other Local Authority duties.

The Act goes on to say that in pursuing National Park Purposes the National Park Authority shall seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park and shall for that purpose co-operate with local authorities and public bodies whose functions include the promotion of economic and social development within the area of the National Park.

Additionally, under the Environment Act 1995 the Authority is the local planning authority for the whole of the National Park. The Authority is therefore responsible for the production of the Park Management Plan, Local Development Plan and for the determination of planning applications.

### 3. VISION

The vision for the Park was adopted by the Authority in December 2009 following extensive external consultation with the public and our key stakeholders. The vision for the Park during the period reported on here (in the Park Management Plan) is set out below:

*By 2035 Eryri will continue to be a protected and evolving landscape, safeguarded and enhanced to provide a rich and varied natural environment; providing social, economic and well-being benefits nationally and internationally.*

*National Park purposes will be delivered through a diverse and prospering economy adapted to the challenges of climate change and founded on natural resources – its landscape qualities, opportunities for learning and enjoyment, cultural and natural heritage. With thriving bilingual and inclusive communities, partnership working will have demonstrated that more can be achieved through working together.*

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

### 4. WELL-BEING STATEMENT AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLE

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

<b>A Prosperous Wales</b>	<b>A Resilient Wales</b>	<b>A Healthier Wales</b>	<b>A More Equal Wales</b>	<b>A Wales of Cohesive Communities</b>	<b>A Wales of Vibrant Culture and thriving Welsh Language</b>	<b>A Globally responsible Wales</b>
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For the Authority the core duty in the Act (the well-being duty) is that we must set well-being objectives that maximise our contribution to achieving the well-being goals set out above. In doing so, we must take all reasonable steps to meet those well-being objectives in accordance with the sustainable development principle.

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

The Authority's well-being objectives are set out in the Authority's Well-being Statement 2021-26 and have also been set out in Section 6 of this document. They are set out in such a way as to clearly show how each and every one of them applies to each of the seven well-being goals. Beneath the individual well-being objectives are the series of steps needed to achieve the same and these have, once again, been assessed individually as to how they apply to each of the seven well-being goals. The steps to be undertaken as set out above and in Section 5 is supported by a detailed Work Programme that is reported to and audited by the Authority on a regular basis throughout the year. The progress can then be measured by the Local Performance Indicators adopted for that specific purpose.

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

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

1. **Long Term** – the importance of balancing short term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to meet long term needs, especially where things done to meet short term needs may have detrimental long term effects.
2. **Integration** – how our well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, how the well-being objectives may impact upon each other or upon other public bodies' well-being objectives, in particular where steps taken by us may contribute to meeting one objective but may be detrimental to meeting another.
3. **Involvement** – the importance of involving other persons with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and of ensuring those persons reflect the diversity of the population of Wales or the geographical area of the Authority.
4. **Collaboration** – acting in collaboration with any person (or how different parts of the Authority acting together) could assist the Authority to meet its well-being objectives, or assist another body to meet its objectives.
5. **Prevention** – to take account of how deploying resources to prevent problems occurring, or getting worse may contribute to meeting the Authority's well-being objectives, or another body's objectives.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Authority's well-being objectives are set out in Section 6. Progress on the implementation of its well-being objectives is reviewed on a regular basis by the Authority's Performance and Resources Committee. This document, the Authority's Annual Report is considered by the Authority after the financial year has ended and provides an overview of progress during the past year.

## **5. SETTING THE AUTHORITY'S WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES**

In 2018-19 Eryri National Park Authority combined its improvement objectives into its Corporate Plan (well-being statement) and produced one document. This approach was consistent across the three National Park Authorities and supported and audited by Audit Wales.

Through the "Valued and Resilient" report in July 2018, which at the time identified Welsh Government's priorities for the Designated Landscapes of Wales, the Authority's well-being objectives were required to meet the 10 cross-cutting themes.

This has since been replaced by the Welsh Government Remit Letter, and progress in attaining the targets set out therein are assessed regularly as part of the reports on progress of the Corporate Work Programme to the Performance and Resources Committee as well as to the Authority on an annual basis.

The disapplication of the Local Government Measure 2009 allowed the Authority to adopt longer term objectives which facilitated better alignment of the Authority's work with the Park Management Plan, Local Development Plan, reporting mechanisms and establishment of realistic and SMART'er objectives for annual work programmes.

The Wellbeing and Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 stipulates that the Authority must carry out sustainable development and in doing so must set and publish objectives ("well-being objectives") that are designed to maximise its contribution to achieving each of the well-being goals, and take all reasonable steps (in exercising its functions) to meet those objectives.

The Authority is required to reflect purposes and duties under the Environment (Wales) Act 1995.

In 2019 Members agreed on the need to review the Authority's objectives to ensure that they better reflected and aligned with the priorities identified in the documents set out above and accommodate Welsh Government's priorities for the designated landscapes of Wales.

A timeline was adopted by the Authority to adopt new wellbeing and strategic objectives for the period 2021-26.

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

**RESILIENT ENVIRONMENTS:**

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

**RESILIENT COMMUNITIES:**

1. Maintaining and increasing the quality of life of residents,
2. Supporting young people,
3. Promote sustainable tourism to add value to local communities,
4. Promote and actively support the Welsh language, and
5. Develop 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, and
5. Maintain and improve the understanding and support of local communities to the work of the National Park.

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

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

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

Comments on this or for future versions of the Annual Report may be made by e-mail to [iwan.jones@eryri.llyw.cymru](mailto:iwan.jones@eryri.llyw.cymru) or in writing to Eryri National Park Authority, National Park Offices, Penrhyndudraeth, Gwynedd LL48 6LF.

The Well-Being Objectives adopted by the Authority are set out fully in Section 6 of this document together with a summary of evaluation of progress for the financial year 2023/24.

## 6. THE AUTHORITY'S WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES WITH SUMMARY EVALUATION OF PROGRESS MADE TO DATE

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



## AC1 – Improving recreation management and any negative effects of recreation

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

<b>Monitor visitor numbers through people counters to establish the impact of users across the National Park.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<b>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.2</b>)</p> <p><b>AC1, 2:</b> We have reduced the impacts of parking and transport on the environment and landscape (<b>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.4</b>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<b>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</b>)</p>	<p>Report produced based on data for 2022.</p> <p>Report produced and available on website.</p> <p>Access and Wellbeing Manager presented report to Members' Working Group in November 2023.</p>	<p>Continue to monitor data for any trends.</p>

<b>2023 Season Messaging Campaign 'Eryri Ni' with a focus on sustainable tourism implemented and results/reach reported on.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1, 2:</b> We have reduced the impacts of parking and transport on the environment and landscape (<b>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.4</b>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<b>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</b>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<b>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.3</b>)</p>	<p>The Authority have delivered an online campaign to address visitor management challenges and encouraged people to visit sustainably.</p> <p>Social media campaign well received online on the Authority's central social media channels, and messages were amplified using 40 Eryri Ambassadors as 'Digital Ambassadors' to share our messaging further. A paid article on '7 ways to visit Eryri sustainably' was also published by North Wales Live.</p> <p>A successful Visitor Season Review Workshop was held in December 2023 by Warden, Property, Communications and Partnership Departments.</p>	<p>Prepare for the 2024 season using the experience gained from 2023.</p>

<b>Improved provision for public engagement at Betws y Coed Information Centre via an upgrade of visitor facilities.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.3</i>)</p>	<p>Interpretation at Betws y Coed Visitor Centre Completed.</p> <p>Improvements to signage at Betws y Coed and Phase 2 work at Ogwen completed.</p>	Projects completed.

<b>Identify and quantify access work to mitigate the effects of people pressure.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1:</b> We will have developed and implemented guiding principles and thresholds in relation to visitor impacts on the environment and landscape (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</i>)</p>	<p>National Park's access work continues with maintenance, improvements and the development of promoted tours. Senior Warden – Access, has been appointed who will co-ordinate medium to large projects.</p>	Work will continue for the foreseeable future.

<b>Produce an Engagement Strategy for footpaths work in Eryri.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1:</b> We will have developed and implemented guiding principles and thresholds in relation to visitor impacts on the environment and landscape (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</i>)</p>	Draft Strategy has been completed.	Draft to be considered by Management Team and the Authority's Working Group by October 2024.

<b>Produce guidelines for undertaking access route works in Eryri.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1:</b> We will have developed and implemented guiding principles and thresholds in relation to visitor impacts on the environment and landscape (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</i>)</p>	Need to review and submit draft to Management Team for initial comments before matter to be considered by the Authority's Working Group.	This will coincide with the Engagement Strategy referred to above. Both required by October 2024.

<b>Ensure that promoted routes are regularly surveyed, maintained and improved when necessary.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</i>)</p>	Work continues. New network management software will assist with the management and reporting of the work.	Continuing action.

<b>Area Wardens to work with communities and partners to identify and take advantage of opportunities to provide a range of promoted routes for varying abilities.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</i>)</p>	The work continuous and is prioritised in the work programmes of Area Wardens.	Continuing action.

<b>Work across the Authority to integrate work programmes and progress implementation of Warden Area Plans.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1, 2:</b> We have reduced the impacts of parking and transport on the environment and landscape (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.4</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.3</i>)</p>	Each Warden has an area plan which is regularly inspected by the Senior Wardens. The Wardens are encouraged to collaborate with other departments on projects. An example of collaboration is the WG grant funded Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places nature project work with the Conservation, Wood and Agriculture Service.	Continuing action.

<b>Support the work of the Wyddfa Di-blastig project officer</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1, 2:</b> We have reduced the impacts of parking and transport on the environment and landscape (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.4</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> We have reduced any negative impacts of recreational activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.5</i>)</p> <p><b>AC1:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.3</i>)</p>	<p>Annual report presented to Working Group in December 2023. Priorities for remainder of the project – until October 2024 – have been set through the Appraisal system.</p>	<p>Project continues to October 2024.</p>

## **AC2 – Responding to the challenges of Climate Change**

**We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:**

<b>Ensuring the implementation of the current LDP policies that contribute to mitigating climate change.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC1, 2:</b> We have reduced the impacts of parking and transport on the environment and landscape (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A1.4</i>)</p> <p><b>AC2, 4:</b> The carbon emissions of Eryri National Park are reduced (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC2, 4:</b> We have safeguarded and increased the amount of carbon stored in Eryri (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.2</i>)</p>	<p>Climate change mitigation was a consideration in the preparation of much of the current LDP, including settlement strategy (where houses are developed), flood mitigation, and energy generation through renewables. An Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) of progress of all LDP policies is submitted to Members and then the Welsh Government each Autumn, and this has concluded that these policies have been broadly complied with. This policy area has evolved significantly in recent years, and this will raise several important issues in the review of the LDP in 2025.</p>	<p>To be further progressed in the review of the LDP.</p>

**Energy efficiency and reducing carbon footprint of the Authority’s buildings to be integral part of new Asset Management Plan (to be adopted from April 2022) and aligned with Wales Prosperity for All – A Low Carbon Public Estate targets.**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>AC2, 4:</b> The carbon emissions of Eryri National Park are reduced ( <i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.1</i> )	<p>To date energy efficiency measures in LED lighting, draught proofing and improved thermal performance of buildings has yielded a saving of 223,000 KWH of energy per annum, currently worth circa. £100,000 of energy saving to the Authority.</p> <p>Projects Tendered and awarded for Pen y Pass and planning permission secured for double glazed doors and windows at Aberdyfi Information Centre (24/25 work schedule). Quotations sought for works to Ysgwrn Bungalow. Thermal and soundproofing improvements to HQ meeting rooms completed.</p>	Continue with work in next financial year.

**Develop an Action Plan for the Authority to be carbon neutral by 2030.**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>AC2, 4:</b> The carbon emissions of Eryri National Park are reduced ( <i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.1</i> )	<p>Head of Property in the process of integrating carbon accounting into the Authority’s Asset Management Strategy. WG Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places grant funding has been utilised to address some of the recommendations of the Aquetera report.</p> <p>Further work to incorporate Carbon management to incorporate into the Asset Management Strategy needs to be undertaken prior to the matter being scrutinised by members during 2024.</p>	Develop a Corporate Carbon Strategy.
<b>AC2, 4:</b> We have safeguarded and increased the amount of carbon stored in Eryri ( <i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.2</i> )		

<b>Develop an Action Plan showing how the area of Eryri can migrate towards being carbon neutral</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC2, 4:</b> The carbon emissions of Eryri National Park are reduced (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC2, 4:</b> We have safeguarded and increased the amount of carbon stored in Eryri (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.2</i>)</p>	<p>The Carbon Strategy will be discussed at the April Working Group with a final version to be submitted for approval at a Full Authority meeting in July 2024.</p>	<p>Carbon Strategy to be adopted by July 2024.</p>

<b>Support a strategic partnership with Welsh Government, Brecon Beacons 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.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC2, 4:</b> The carbon emissions of Eryri National Park are reduced (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC2, 4:</b> We have safeguarded and increased the amount of carbon stored in Eryri (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.2</i>)</p>	<p>The strategic framework has been discussed with the Biodiversity Deep Dive group and revised. It will form part of a report to be submitted to the Minister for Climate Change early in 2024. The work aligns very well with the outcomes of the strategic lead role and has been a useful platform to discuss approaches to our collective response to the nature and climate emergencies. The final consultation period for the Sustainable Farming Scheme opened 14 December, closing 7 March demanding some focus which will continue into the new year. The annual Eryri Agri-Liaison meeting (November) began the process of discussing ideas, issues, approaches, and opportunities for collaboration with the farming unions. Other external discussions have covered game management, wildfire prevention and control, dark skies, carbon credits, spatial mapping, and Welsh policy context.</p>	<p>Work to be progressed in 2024-25.</p>

## AC3 – Improving the management and understanding of Cultural Heritage

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

<b>Development and adoption of the Authority's Cultural Heritage Strategy.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC3:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A6.1. A6.2. A6.3</i>)</p>	<p>Incomplete. Significant progress has been made on the project, however it hasn't yet been presented to Members, due to current additional responsibilities being undertaken by the Head of Service.</p> <p>The project will be completed in 2024-25.</p>	<p>Work to be completed by during 2024-25.</p>

<b>Ensure that the Carneddau Landscape Partnership Scheme Work Programme for 2023/24 is completed on time to ensure that the Project remains on track for completion by 2025.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC3:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A6.1. A6.2. A6.3</i>).</p>	<p>The Scheme continues to run on schedule. Report submitted to Members' Working Group in December 2023.</p>	<p>Continue to monitor progress in attaining completion by 2025.</p>



<b>Submit a final report on the Dolgellau Townscape Heritage Scheme</b>		
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC3:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A6.1. A6.2. A6.3</i>).</p>	<p>Work on a high priority building within the TH Scheme has been delayed. The Project Manager's contract of employment has been extended for 3 months in order to oversee completion of the Scheme.</p> <p>The project is due for completion during Summer 2024.</p>	<p>Monitor and complete project by Summer 2024.</p>

<b>Develop the Harlech and Arduwy Cultural Heritage project that will enable the Authority to apply for external funding in due course and submit an EOI to the Heritage Lottery Fund</b>		
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC3:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A6.1. A6.2. A6.3</i>).</p>	<p>Funding for the project has been secured and officers will be delivering the project from April 2024.</p>	<p>Continue to implement project.</p>

<b>To actively contribute to the work programme of the North West Wales Slate Landscape World Heritage Site Action Plan.</b>		
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC3:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A6.1. A6.2. A6.3</i>).</p>	<p>The Ynysypany interpretation project is moving forward. Officers sit on the designation's various groups and advise on various developments.</p> <p>Traditional skills training has been organised for Summer and Autumn 2024, to enhance heritage skills in the area and to improve the condition of the built heritage of the WHS. Ynysypany interpretation will be completed in Summer 2024.</p>	<p>Work progressing.</p>

<b>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.</b>		
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC3:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A6.1. A6.2. A6.3</i>).</p>	<p>Officers from across the Authority have contributed to the Climate Change Mitigation Workshop and will continue to feed into the group's work programme.</p>	<p>Monitor progress.</p>

<b>Sustain and develop Yr Ysgwrn as a museum and cultural centre of national repute and present an annual report to Members</b>		
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC3:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A6.1. A6.2. A6.3</i>).</p>	<p>Yr Ysgwrn has had a successful year in 2023/24 with increased visitor numbers. The annual report was submitted to members in June 2023.</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring of Yr Ysgwrn will be undertaken during 2024-25.</p>

<b>Progress Conservation Area appraisals and Management Plan/Delivery Plan as a baseline of information for developing potential capital projects in subsequent years.</b>		
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC3:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A6.1. A6.2. A6.3</i>).</p>	<p>This initial work has been completed and further work is currently being commissioned for listed buildings throughout Eryri.</p>	<p>To progress to the next stage as soon as possible.</p>

## AC4 – Addressing the challenges and opportunities of post Brexit land management scenarios

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

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.		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC2, 4:</b> We have safeguarded and increased the amount of carbon stored in Snowdonia <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.2)</i></p> <p><b>AC2, 4, 5:</b> We have continued to expand current Partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri A4.2)</i></p>	<p>Joint response on Welsh Government proposals under the SFS consultation prepared. Work of the Biodiversity Deep Dive is continued to be supported.</p>	<p>Await progress on the matter from Welsh Government.</p>

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.		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC2, 4:</b> The carbon emissions of Snowdonia National Park are reduced <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.1)</i></p> <p><b>AC2, 4:</b> We have safeguarded and increased the amount of carbon stored in Snowdonia <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A3.2)</i></p> <p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1)</i></p> <p><b>AC2, 4, 5:</b> We have continued to expand current Partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri A4.2)</i></p>	<p>Ongoing, close working relationship is maintained with the land based sector.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>

## AC5 – Addressing the decline in nature

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

<b>Develop an Action Plan based on understanding and contents of e.g. SoNaRR (State of Natural Resources report), State of the National Park etc. to inform on priorities for nature recovery in Eryri.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC5:</b> Biodiversity decline is being addressed through maintenance, restoration, expansion and connectivity activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC2, 4, 5:</b> We have continued to expand current Partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A4.2</i>)</p>	Data collection contracts in place for State of the Park report. First draft of NRAP produced and about to be sent out to stakeholders for initial comments.	Work on-going.

<b>Continuing to deliver biodiversity enhancement through the development management process and to ensure adherence with any forthcoming Welsh Government published guidance.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC5:</b> Biodiversity decline is being addressed through maintenance, restoration, expansion and connectivity activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC2, 4, 5:</b> We have continued to expand current Partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A4.2</i>)</p>	Whilst the Welsh Government have discussed publishing guidance on biodiversity enhancement, this has not yet been done. However, in the absence of any formal methodology for delivering biodiversity enhancement, planning officers and the planning ecologist have attempted to deliver some sort of biodiversity enhancement on the majority of new developments. This is still an evolving area, and the Authority will continue to work closely with the Welsh Government on trying to formalise this process.	Whilst work continues at an Authority level, Welsh Government guidance is awaited which can limit progress.

<b>Ensuring an SPG on biodiversity is produced to support the Development Management process by 2023 once guidance by Welsh Government is published</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC5:</b> Biodiversity decline is being addressed through maintenance, restoration, expansion and connectivity activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC2, 4, 5:</b> We have continued to expand current Partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A4.2</i>)</p>	<p>Still waiting the publication of the finalised policy and guidance in the next iteration of Planning Policy Wales.</p>	<p>Awaiting Welsh Government guidance.</p>

<b>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) and develop further programmes.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC5:</b> Biodiversity decline is being addressed through maintenance, restoration, expansion and connectivity activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC2, 4, 5:</b> We have continued to expand current Partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A4.2</i>)</p>	<p>Progress made, CWA elements on track. Second update report will be presented to Members during March P&amp;R Committee.</p>	<p>These projects require careful monitoring. Staff turnover can be a risk to such projects and the Authority needs to be aware of the same.</p>

**To progress a National Park wide survey of Trees and Ancient Woodland sites (PAWS).**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>AC3, 4, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>AC5:</b> Biodiversity decline is being addressed through maintenance, restoration, expansion and connectivity activities (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A2.2</i>)</p> <p><b>AC2, 4, 5:</b> We have continued to expand current Partnership actions to control and reduce the extent of invasive species (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri A4.2</i>)</p>	<p>New year work programmes being set for financial year. Tree strategy initial draft completed and second consultation/comments stage being refined, before final version issued for approval and adoption.</p>	<p>On-going.</p>

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

## CC1 – Maintaining and increasing the quality of life of residents

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

Develop an online resource as part of the new website relating to activities and routes within the National Park targeted and tailored appropriately.		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 4:</b> We have promoted and enabled a diverse range of activities that improve people's wellbeing (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri B1.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CC1, 2, 3, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2</i>)</p>	<p>A filter has been implemented on the Walks and Routes site that will let our audience tailor their results based on Location, Difficulty, Duration, Surroundings, Special Qualities and Trammer Access.</p> <p>Promoted routes uploaded to the website (Arthog &amp; Betws y Coed Bridges)</p> <p>Visiting guides uploaded such as "Choosing the right path on Yr Wyddfa" and "5 Wales steeped in Mythology"</p> <p>Winter campaign implemented focusing on accessible and seasonal routes on areas outside of Yr Wyddfa region.</p>	<p>Work completed and can be explored on website.</p>

As part of the Authority's Volunteer Strategy and in collaboration with partners, continue to expand volunteer opportunities within the National Park that include both physical and cultural activities.		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 4:</b> We have promoted and enabled a diverse range of activities that improve people's wellbeing (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri B1.2</i>)</p>	<p>Supported and participated in Caru Eryri 2023-24 volunteering scheme with partners including Cymdeithas Eryri.</p> <p>Reflected and reviewed the Volunteer and Wellbeing events of 2022, updated KPIs and set new targets and recommendations for 2023.</p> <p>Set up volunteer programme for the year.</p> <p>Hosted series of wellbeing events.</p> <p>Updated the Volunteering Strategy and annual report was presented to Members in June 2023. Volunteering Officer is increasing the offer for Corporate Volunteering and continues to expand the breadth and range of volunteering experiences within the National Park.</p>	<p>Completed.</p>



<b>Develop volunteering opportunities for under-represented, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CC1, 2, 4:</b> We have promoted and enabled a diverse range of activities that improve people's wellbeing ( <i>as per Cynllun Eryri B1.2</i> )	Volunteer and Wellbeing Annual Report 2022 shows clear increase in volunteers although the data available for people with protected characteristics is difficult to gather. Refugee groups and other charitable organisations have all been part of the programme in 2022-23 and the Volunteer Officer continues to expand relationships in these areas.	Ongoing.

<b>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.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CC1, 2, 4:</b> We have worked with partners to address underlying issues and develop innovative solutions to delivering affordable housing that meets local needs ( <i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C3.1</i> )	The Planning Policy team undoubtedly are taking a pro-active role in encouraging affordable housing by working with other agencies in the sector. They work closely with housing agencies, the Rural Housing Enabler and the Housing Authorities in Gwynedd and Conwy Councils. However, despite this the target set out in the LDP of delivering 25 affordable housing units per annum has been missed. There are possibly many factors at play here – challenging economic climate, deeply rural nature of some sites, and other agencies focusing on less peripheral / more viable sites. Officers will continue to work to address these issues, and these issues will be further addressed when it comes to the time to review the LDP in 2025.	Ongoing.

**Article 4 Directive:****Produce a Draft evidence report seeking legal advice.****Present evidence report to Members for decision to proceed or otherwise.****If proceeding with Article 4 Directive in Eryri, commence a 12 month period of notice and public consultation.**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC 4:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CC1, 2, 4:</b> We have worked with partners to address underlying issues and develop innovative solutions to delivering affordable housing that meets local needs (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C3.1</i>)</p>	<p>Member approval was given at the March Planning &amp; Access Committee to have a public consultation of the proposal including significant publicity (including a letter to all households within the National Park) – and this will include a 12-month formal notice period. This will take place during April – May 2024. If supported, the target implementation date would be June 2025. There will be a need to produce an SPG to address the policy vacuum in the intervening period.</p>	<p>Work ongoing.</p>

**Continue to provide funding and measures to support local communities and economies through the Cronfa Cymunedol Eryri Community 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.**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 4:</b> We have promoted and enabled a diverse range of activities that improve people's wellbeing (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri B1.2</i>)</p>	<p>CCE is on track to be completed by March 2024 and the new fund of £75,000 is set to be opened on 1st April 2024, for the financial year 2024-5. The Community Engagement Officer is collating a report for WG Officers and Authority Members detailing how this fund is being evolved and how it has supported communities across Eryri.</p>	<p>Work ongoing.</p>

## CC2 – Supporting young people

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

<b>Members to consider a draft Youth Manifesto.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CC2, 3, 4:</b> We have created opportunities for young people to be ambassadors for the language and culture of the area ( <i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i> )	Draft Manifesto was presented to the Management Team in February and presented to working group shortly after.  The Youth Manifesto will be presented to the Members Working Group in May.	Completed late.

<b>Develop the Young Rangers scheme to ensure efficient partnership work, provide broad opportunities and source funding to sustain the scheme.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CC2, 3, 4:</b> We have created opportunities for young people to be ambassadors for the language and culture of the area ( <i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i> )	Young Ranger sessions continue with good attendance, each session varying from 5 – 12 attendees. Following consultation work and adoption of the manifesto, an application was submitted to the Lottery. Funding has also been sought through the National Parks Partnership.  NPP funding has been received – been a successful year with various activities undertaken. With funding – summer exchange opportunities will be arranged with Welsh NP's.	Work will continue in 2024-25.

## CC3 – Promoting sustainable tourism to add value to local communities

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

<p><b>Work with Cyngor Gwynedd and Conwy CBC and implement the Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable Visitor Economy Strategic Plan. Once the strategic plan has been launched begin work to develop an action plan and related targets and indicators.</b></p>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 3, 5:</b> 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 <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2)</i></p> <p><b>CC1,3,5:</b> We have explored and implemented opportunities to encourage greener transport <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B4.2)</i></p>	<p>Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable Visitor Economy Strategic Plan was completed and launched officially on 25th September 2023.</p> <p>The first meeting of the new Partnership took place on 17th April 2024 where Chair and Vice Chair roles will be appointed to represent both the Community and Tourism sectors. An Action Plan has been drafted and is being circulated for approval to all Partners. This is expected to be finalised by July 2024 to begin implementation.</p>	<p>Work continuing.</p>

<p><b>Opportunities to encourage greener transport are being developed by: Actively seek opportunities to input to the North Wales Transport Commission that will help support the sustainable transport vision for Eryri. 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.</b></p>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 3, 5:</b> 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 <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2)</i></p> <p><b>CC1,3,5:</b> We have explored and implemented opportunities to encourage greener transport <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B4.2)</i></p>	<p>Nant Gwynant and Ogwen partnership groups meet on a monthly basis and have had significant reach in the 2023 season through joint approaches in both areas. TfW projects for the financial year 2023-4 are: Eryri Signage Strategy, to develop recommendations for improved and consistent signage into the National Park; Llanberis Transport Hub, take concept designs into Wel-Tag Stage 1&amp;2 process gathering input from all stakeholders; Sherpa'r Wyddfa Network, continue to develop and improve the services which run around the Yr Wyddfa area;</p>	<p>Continue to implement and to monitor progress/problems.</p>

	<p>T10 Service Bangor to Corwen, continue to improve this service. Delivery Group has not met since April 2023 – TfW are leading on this and are arranging the next meeting with all members to move the Delivery Plan forward.</p> <p>Delivery Plan is in draft format and a meeting to co-ordinate launch of LDPs for Gwynedd, Conwy and Eryri has taken place to ensure that policies are aligned for the future.</p>	
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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.		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 3, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CC1,3,5:</b> We have explored and implemented opportunities to encourage greener transport (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B4.2</i>)</p>	<p>Online visiting guides, social media campaign, Warden advice videos, paid articles and digital ambassadors all contributed towards off-peak season messaging. At the end of Q2 messaging around Dark Skies were implemented as part of the Eryri Ni 23 campaign to encourage visiting during the winter season.</p>	<p>Continue to develop subject to funding.</p>

<b>Continue to develop the Eryri Ambassadors scheme and utilise to help spread messaging in relation to CC3.3: Develop sustainable tourism models.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 3, 5:</b> 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 <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2)</i></p> <p><b>CC1,3,5:</b> We have explored and implemented opportunities to encourage greener transport <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B4.2)</i></p> <p><b>CC2, 3, 4:</b> We have created opportunities for young people to be ambassadors for the language and culture of the area <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1)</i></p>	<p>Ambassador Scheme continues to grow and develop – reached 1,000 Ambassadors in November 2023. Refresher Module for 2024 Accreditation has been published and has proven to be very popular. New modules on the Carneddau Landscape Partnership and LIFE Celtic Rainforest Project to be launched in 2024.</p>	<p>Continue to develop Eryri Ambassadors.</p>

<b>Ensuring the current LDP positively implements its policies to contribute to sustainable tourism, that add value to local communities.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 3, 5:</b> 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 <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2)</i></p> <p><b>CC1,3,5:</b> We have explored and implemented opportunities to encourage greener transport <i>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B4.2)</i></p>	<p>The Annual Monitoring Report presented to Members and the Welsh Government each Autumn, concluded that the Authority’s policies are being implemented effectively in this regard. In addition, the excellent work being done by the Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable Visitor Strategy will provide a useful baseline for when the review of the LDP will commence in 2025.</p>	<p>Work progressing well.</p>

**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.**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 3, 5:</b> 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 <b>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2)</b></p> <p><b>CC1,3,5:</b> We have explored and implemented opportunities to encourage greener transport <b>(as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B4.2)</b></p>	<p>Delivery Plan is in draft format and a meeting to co-ordinate launch of LDPs for Gwynedd, Conwy and Eryri has taken place to ensure that policies are aligned for the future.</p>	<p>Work continues.</p>

## CC4 – Promoting and actively supporting the Welsh language

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

<b>Continuing to develop Yr Ysgwrn as a cultural centre promoting Welsh language culture and actively providing opportunities to socialise through the medium of Welsh.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 4:</b> We have promoted and enabled a diverse range of activities that improve people's wellbeing (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri B1.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CC2, 3, 4:</b> We have created opportunities for young people to be ambassadors for the language and culture of the area (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CC4, 5:</b> We lead by example in ensuring that the Welsh language, culture and heritage is promoted and used in events, activities and information (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CC4:</b> We have provided opportunities for Welsh learners in the area (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.2</i>)</p>	<p>A program of activities and events was held for families and for adults, which celebrate different aspects of Welsh culture, e.g. the Vanishing Words exhibition, art activities and musical evenings</p> <p>Yr Ysgwrn will be hosting several family activities and community heritage events from January-March 2024. Yr Ysgwrn sustains a varied and popular programme of public events and provides excellent opportunities for participation, socialising and volunteering opportunities through the medium of Welsh.</p>	Ongoing.

<b>Develop the 'Geiriau Diflanedig' major exhibition project through collaboration with Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museums Wales and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (supported by the SLSP fund), bringing 'The Lost Words' exhibition to Wales for the first time and showcasing the epic bilingual feat of the anthologies.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC4, 5:</b> We lead by example in ensuring that the Welsh language, culture and heritage is promoted and used in events, activities and information (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CC4:</b> We have provided opportunities for Welsh learners in the area (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CC4:</b> We have protected Welsh place names (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.3</i>)</p>	<p>The exhibition was launched in June with an official opening. This work has been successfully completed, including a new education resource.</p>	Completed.



<b>Safeguarding and promoting use of Welsh place names by developing guidance for the use of place names by the Authority.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC4, 5:</b> We lead by example in ensuring that the Welsh language, culture and heritage is promoted and used in events, activities and information (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CC4:</b> We have protected Welsh place names (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.3</i>)</p>	<p>Report Submitted to the Authority in November 2023.</p> <p>Collaboration continues with the Welsh Language Commissioner and Ordnance Survey. Place name mapping workshops have been organised for Summer 2024.</p>	Ongoing.

<b>Develop opportunities to engage people in the Welsh language, culture and heritage of the area including: 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.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC4, 5:</b> We lead by example in ensuring that the Welsh language, culture and heritage is promoted and used in events, activities and information (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CC4:</b> We have provided opportunities for Welsh learners in the area (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.2</i>)</p>	<p>Opportunities to learn and use the Welsh language are provided by pairing fluent Welsh speaking volunteers with those wishing to learn or improve their oral Welsh.</p> <p>The Authority had a very successful week on the Eisteddfod field. The stand was well attended with many different activities being held throughout the week.</p> <p>Tirweddau Cymru also had representation on the stand.</p> <p>Work continues on developing the interpretation provision at Cwm Idwal Centre. The elements of the project funded through Natural Resources Wales grant money such as additional information panels and the commissioning of films will have been completed within the target. However, work on other aspects of the project continues with the aim of delivering them as soon as possible within this financial year.</p> <p>Pairing of learners and Welsh speakers is a policy for the Caru Eryri Programme and volunteer Warden Programme.</p>	Ongoing.

**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.**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC4, 5:</b> We lead by example in ensuring that the Welsh language, culture and heritage is promoted and used in events, activities and information (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CC4:</b> We have protected Welsh place names (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.3</i>)</p>	<p>The work continues through the Carneddau Landscape Partnership Plan and the Harlech and Arduwy Cultural Heritage Plan, which has contributed over 150 names to the List of Historic Place Names in Wales, including the names of some of the ruins in the area.</p> <p>Place names are being collected and contributed to the Historic List of Welsh Place Names. Place name recording days are planned for 2024.</p>	Work continues.

**Ensuring Development Policy 18: The Welsh Language and the Social and Cultural fabric of Communities is effectively utilised within the development management process.**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC4, 5:</b> We lead by example in ensuring that the Welsh language, culture and heritage is promoted and used in events, activities and information (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CC 4:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p>	<p>The Annual Monitoring Report which is presented to Members and the Welsh Government each Autumn, has concluded that the above policy is being implemented effectively.</p>	Ongoing.

## CC5 – Developing a local economy which supports both the designation and the management of Eryri as a National Park

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

<b>Ensuring the positive implementation of current LDP policies to develop a local economy which support the designation of the NP.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 2, 3, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CC1,3,5:</b> We have explored and implemented opportunities to encourage greener transport (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B4.2</i>)</p>	<p>The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) of the LDP which is submitted to Members and the Welsh Government each Autumn concluded that the above policies are being implemented effectively. The review of the LDP in 2025 will provide an opportunity to review existing information and evidence to ascertain whether any policy or approaches currently adopted need to change.</p>	Ongoing.

<b>Present an annual monitoring report to members for discussion and consideration of the timetable for commencing a review of the current LDP.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CC1, 3, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B2.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CC1, 2, 3, 5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B3.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CC1,3,5:</b> We have explored and implemented opportunities to encourage greener transport (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome B4.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CC4, 5:</b> We lead by example in ensuring that the Welsh language, culture and heritage is promoted and used in events, activities and information (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C1.1</i>)</p>	<p>This has been done by officers, and the decision was taken for the review to commence in 2025 (a decision to defer it by a year was taken to allow officers time to implement the Article 4 Direction).</p>	Ongoing.

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

## CW1 – Developing a skilled workforce

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

<b>Engaging with our staff at all levels to assist performance management: 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.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW1, 2:</b> We have invested in our staff to ensure that they have both the expertise and skills needed to meet present and future challenges.	Learning and development needs continue to be identified via annual performance appraisal reviews, which outlines training priorities for the year ahead. Although not all staff received an appraisal during the period, as a result of a directive brought about by both directors to encourage managers to appraise their staff there was a 32% increase in staff being appraised during 23/24. Further focus will continue to be applied to ensure that as many staff as possible are annually appraised.	Action ongoing.

<b>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.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW1, 2:</b> We have invested in our staff to ensure that they have both the expertise and skills needed to meet present and future challenges.	Staff are encouraged and supported to attend peer groups.	Ongoing.

<b>To further develop our workforce and provide staff with every opportunity to develop to meet future challenges;</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW1, 2:</b> We have invested in our staff to ensure that they have both the expertise and skills needed to meet present and future challenges.	Secondment opportunities are considered and offered where feasible. Staff are encouraged and supported to develop their qualifications within their respective fields of expertise and/or gain experience and knowledge by taking on additional projects and/or responsibilities.	Ongoing.

## **CW2 – Developing and promoting best practice**

**We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:**

<b>Share achievements of Decarbonisation projects through SLSP funding with other bodies within designated landscapes and wider public estate.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW2, 3:</b> Cynllun Eryri is being implemented successfully.	Work ongoing, regular meetings of North Wales Decarbonisation Officer Group and Ystadau Cymru attended by Head of Property.	Ongoing.

<b>Collate information re. best practice (re. Health &amp; Safety) in other National Parks, gain staff feedback and draft paper for discussion/consideration by Member Working Group.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW1, 2:</b> We have invested in our staff to ensure that they have both the expertise and skills needed to meet present and future challenges.	Work in progress of collating best practices and reviewing the Authority's policies as required. Health and Safety best practices of other NPs and regional LAs have been collated and discussions held at Management Team level on the way forward. Discussions concluded that a dedicated Health & Safety Officer was required either in the form of one full time or two part time posts. A Job	Work ongoing

	<p>Description was drawn up and the post advertised. A discussion paper was submitted to the P&amp;R Committee to update Members.</p> <p>Interviews were held to appoint Health and Safety Officer(s) early January. Following interviews it was decided to offer the post on a full time basis to one successful candidate. He has now commenced in post.</p>	
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<b>Review staff working arrangements in response to WG target of home working and blended home/office working where it is possible for staff to do so.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW1, 2:</b> We have invested in our staff to ensure that they have both the expertise and skills needed to meet present and future challenges.	<p>Draft Hybrid Working and Super Flexi policies were completed and shared with staff and trade unions.</p> <p>Both policies were subsequently approved on the 11.01.24. and the Hybrid Working policy launched on the 12.01.24. The Super Flexi policy is scheduled to launch on the 01.03.24. for an initial 12 month trial basis.</p>	Ongoing

### **CW3 – Effective partnership working**

**We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:**

<b>Cynllun Eryri is being implemented successfully and the first annual progress report has been presented to the Authority. Present second annual report to Authority.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW2, 3:</b> Cynllun Eryri is being implemented successfully.	Second annual report was presented to the Authority in May 2023.	Ongoing monitoring during life of Cynllun Eryri.

<b>Support the work of the National Designated Landscapes Partnership (NDLP) in Wales.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW2, 3:</b> Cynllun Eryri is being implemented successfully.	CEO chairs the Partnership. Good practice and information on grant sourcing is shared between the members of the partnership. Consideration given to skill needs across the 8 landscapes. Arrangements for 2024 seminar is progressing well.	Ongoing.

<b>Continue to support the work of UK wide National Park Authorities, the National Park Partnership, National Parks Foundation and other associated collaborative initiatives.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW2, 3:</b> Cynllun Eryri is being implemented successfully.	CEO has resigned from board of NPP, seeking to recruit a representative from Wales. CEO term as trustee of the Foundation is to cease during 2024. Foundation to seek nominees for a new trustee.	Review arrangements in due course.

<b>Contribute to the formation and development of the planning function of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC).</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW2, 3:</b> Cynllun Eryri is being implemented successfully.	No significant development in terms of appointing officers for the planning function, however a budget for the planning function has been agreed.  Awaiting progress from the CJC's CEO.	Ongoing.

<b>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. Present summary report to Members.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW2, 3:</b> Cynllun Eryri is being implemented successfully.	A State of the Park Microsite is being developed with a draft hoped to go to Authority before the Summer of 2024 and the work to be completed by the end of 2024.	Original timetable has slipped but work is ongoing.

## CW4 – Modernising governance arrangements

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

<b>Establish whether there is a demand from Authority Members in a mentoring programme, and if so, to develop one.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW2, 4:</b> 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.	Questionnaire sent to Members to gain their thoughts on member training and development requirements and asking whether there was a demand for a mentoring programme. 3 responses were received. The number of responses suggests that the need for a mentoring programme is low among Members. No further work required.	Completed.

<b>Support and develop Authority Members by establishing a training and development programme.</b>		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<b>CW2, 4:</b> 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.	The outcome of the “Member support” audit confirmed that the level and network of support available and provided along with the systems in place were appropriate for Members to achieve their objectives. WG training sessions were provided to Members on: Governance training, Diversity and inclusion, The Climate and Nature Emergencies.	Further training to be provided by WG in due course.



## CW5 – Maintaining and improve the understanding and support of local communities to the work of the National Park

We will know we are succeeding in delivering the improvement objective when:

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.		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CW5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CW5:</b> We have supported, promoted and delivered volunteering opportunities that help protect and enhance the environment and cultural heritage (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CW5:</b> We will have increased opportunities for dialogue between the National Park Authority and community based organisations (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C4.1</i>)</p>	<p>Volunteers continue to be core to Yr Ysgwrn's business model and key to carry out several aspects of activity, e.g. group and school visits and there are a number who volunteer regularly.</p> <p>Attracting more regular volunteers remains a challenge.</p>	Ongoing.

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.		
Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CW5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CW5:</b> We will have increased opportunities for dialogue between the National Park Authority and community based organisations (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C4.1</i>)</p>	<p>Metrics are continuously being monitored in the Communications Strategy.</p>	Ongoing.

<b>Engage with and keep communities informed through meetings with Community Councils.</b>		
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<p><b>CW5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CW5:</b> We will have increased opportunities for dialogue between the National Park Authority and community based organisations (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C4.1</i>)</p>	<p>Fforwm Cymunedau has been set up to update and involve Town and Community Councils on the review process of the Local Development Plan during which other general issues are raised and discussed. A similar engagement format is being considered throughout the review of the LDP.</p>	<p>Continuing.</p>

<b>Liaise with landowners and interested parties through meetings of the Eryri National Park Access Forums.</b>		
<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Action Required</b>
<p><b>CW5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CW5:</b> We have supported, promoted and delivered volunteering opportunities that help protect and enhance the environment and cultural heritage (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CW5:</b> We will have increased opportunities for dialogue between the National Park Authority and community based organisations (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C4.1</i>)</p>	<p>LAF Meetings have now been reduced to 3 times annually for north and south Forums.</p>	<p>Continuing.</p>

**Liaise with the farming community and farming unions and through meetings of the Agricultural Liaison Group.**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CW5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CW5:</b> We will have increased opportunities for dialogue between the National Park Authority and community based organisations (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C4.1</i>)</p>	<p>Annual liaison meeting took place on 21st November, 2023.</p>	<p>Continuing.</p>

**Involve our local communities in all important aspects of the Authority's work e.g. delivery of Cynllun Eryri, formulation of Supplementary Planning Guidance, Engagement Strategies when developing new projects etc.**

Performance Indicator	Result	Action Required
<p><b>CW5:</b> 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 (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.1</i>)</p> <p><b>CW5:</b> We have supported, promoted and delivered volunteering opportunities that help protect and enhance the environment and cultural heritage (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome A5.2</i>)</p> <p><b>CW5:</b> We will have increased opportunities for dialogue between the National Park Authority and community based organisations (<i>as per Cynllun Eryri Outcome C4.1</i>)</p>	<p>Head of Partnerships and Community Engagement Officer have been meeting all of the Clerks of Community Councils in Eryri during 2023/4. Concerns raised were noted and various programmes discussed such as Cronfa Cymunedau Eryri, Cynllun Eryri, Caru Eryri and other relevant work of the Authority.</p>	<p>Ongoing.</p>

### Evaluation on progress to date:

It can be seen that good progress has been made in achieving the Authority's Well-being Objectives during the year. Given the wide range of work it is perhaps not surprising that there are some aspects that have not completed to plan particularly when one considers the amount of work involved given the finite resources available to the Authority. It is however heartening to note that the majority of projects have either been completed or are on time. Whilst concerns for the immediate funding position of the Authority have abated somewhat the future funding of the Authority remains a major cause for concern. The Authority continues to show considerable resilience in adapting and continuing to provide a service whilst at the same time planning for the future during these trying times but continuing real-world cuts to funding is certain to impact on its ability to deliver.

## **7. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

During the course of the year, the Auditor General did not make any formal recommendations. However, a number of proposals for improvement have been made. Audit Wales will monitor progress against them and relevant recommendations made in any national reports as part of their continuous assessment work.

## **8. THE IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK**

The Members of the Authority have an integral part to play in ensuring that the improvement framework provides a robust process for ensuring that we succeed in delivering successful outcomes.

As part of this process, the Performance and Resources Committee considers quarterly reports on the implementation of the Authority's Corporate Work Programme for the year that assess the success of the Authority in meeting its Well-Being Objectives.

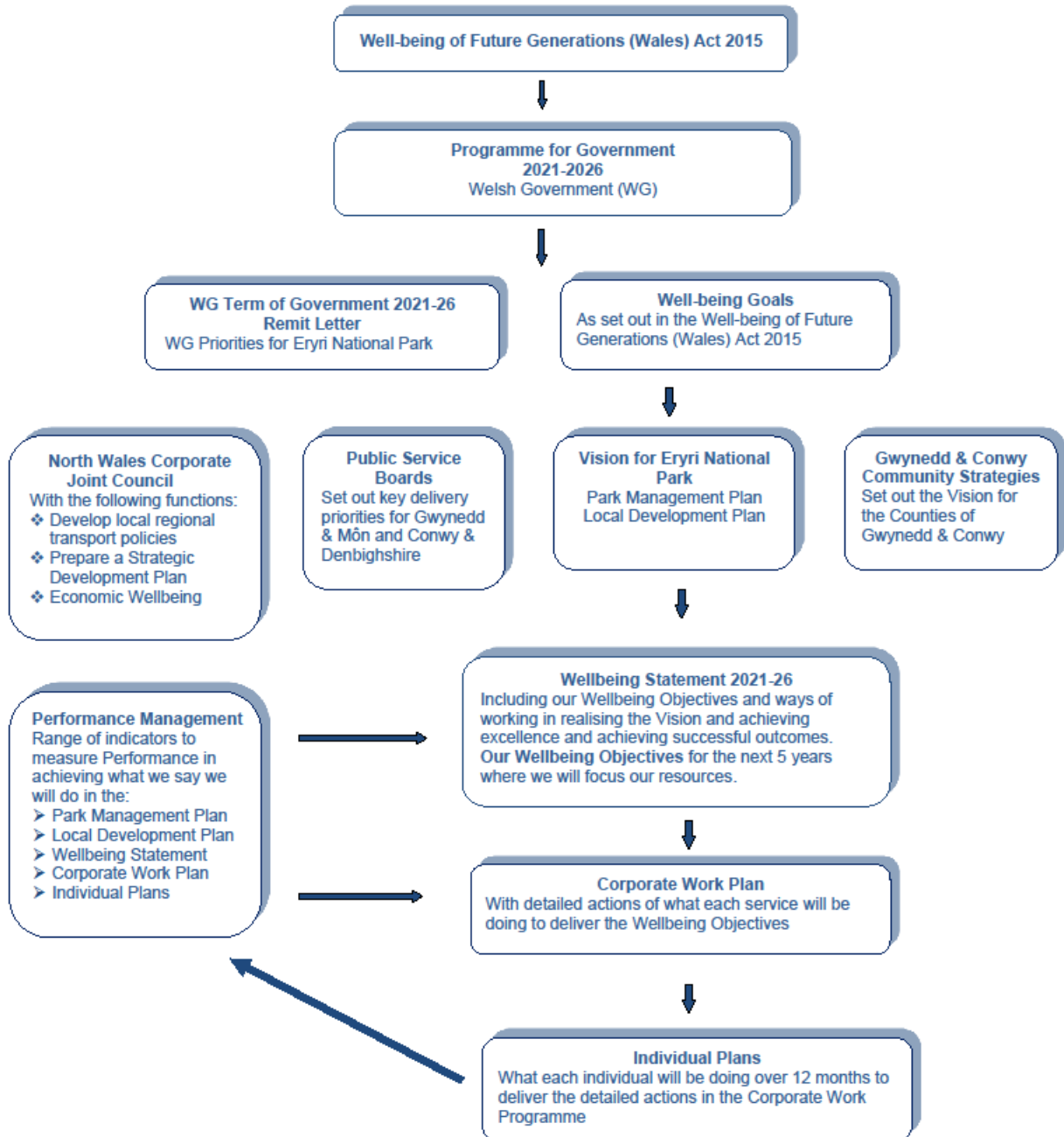
The appraisal process undertaken with all Authority staff ensures that performance is monitored and also allows staff the opportunity of reporting on completion of their individual tasks in relation to the Objectives as well as any problems encountered.

The improvement framework is set out below.



# THE GOLDEN THREAD

## ERYRI NATIONAL PARK'S CORPORATE PLANNING FRAMEWORK



July 2024

## 9. CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any queries on this document please contact either by writing or e-mailing:

**Iwan Jones**

Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol / Director of Corporate Services

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Mae'r ddogfen yma ar gael yn y Gymraeg  
This document is available in Welsh

## ITEM NO. 9

<b>MEETING</b>	Snowdonia National Park Authority
<b>DATE</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Mid Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2024/25 – 2027/28</b>
<b>REPORT BY</b>	Chief Executive Officer and Chief Finance Officer
<b>PURPOSE</b>	To discuss and adopt the Medium Term Financial Plan

### BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This is an overview document outlining the main financial matters that will affect the Authority over the coming years. The document is based on technical papers prepared by the Authority's Finance service, with the Authority's Section 151 Officer advising on strategic forecasts.
- 1.2 This document explains the situation in compact form, and specifically to enable Authority Members and staff to gain further understanding in relation to:
- Modelling scenarios / financial projections,
  - Principles adopted when allocating resources,
  - Determining the extent of any financial challenges / opportunities,
  - Principles for tackling funding pressures.
- 1.3 The challenge and impact of inflation is significant on the Authority, the MTFP is drawn up specifically to give members a medium-term outline of the financial challenges facing the Authority. The Authority will need to have a prudent use of reserve funds when responding to the challenge of inflation without an increase in the basic grant from the Welsh Government.

### RECOMMENDATION

- 1. To note and discuss the issues outlined in the MTFP.**
- 2. To adopt the MTFP as a Working Document.**

# **MID TERM FINANCIAL PLAN: 2024/25 – 2027/28**

## **SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

### **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 This is an overview document outlining the main financial matters that will affect the Authority over the coming years. The document is based on technical papers prepared by the Authority's Finance service, with the Authority's Section 151 Officer advising on strategic forecasts.
- 1.2 This document explains the situation in compact form, and specifically to enable Authority Members and staff to gain further understanding in relation to:
  - Modelling scenarios / financial projections,
  - Principles adopted when allocating resources,
  - Determining the extent of any financial challenges / opportunities,
  - Principles for tackling funding pressures.

### **2. MID TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (MTFP) REQUIREMENT**

- 2.1 This Mid Term Financial Plan (MTFP) illustrates the Authority's strategic approach towards managing its finances and outlines a range of financial situations that could face the Authority over the next four years. The task of accomplishing the strategy depends on the resources available through Welsh Government (WG) settlements and how successful the Authority will be in balancing resources with service priorities.
- 2.2 The MTFP notes the general condition of the Authority budget and outlines a model of the financial resources required by the Authority for the service levels it hopes to provide in the mid-term. This provides a framework which will enable Members and officers to develop detailed annual budget allocations.
- 2.3 The MTFP will be a key instrument for proactive financial management. It will be used as a basis for the process of setting the annual budget and ensuring that the resource requirements of the Authority for the coming year are sufficiently met and in line with the correct services but will also allow for setting future financial needs far enough in advance so that plans can be set in motion for the appropriate steps to be taken to deal with the anticipated funding levels.
- 2.4 There has been no indication from the Welsh Government that there will be an increase in the National Park Grant allocation for the foreseeable future. This is a serious situation considering the recent effect of inflation on the economy and ever-increasing costs on services. At the time of writing this report, the current inflation rate is 2.2% (July 2024), which is a welcome figure having decreased significantly in recent months from highs of around 11% in October 2022. It is important to note that costs are still increasing, albeit at a slower pace, which is an enormous challenge for the authority considering there has been no increase in the National Park Grant allocation since 2021/22.



- 2.5 Given the constraints faced by the Welsh Government it has been unable to facilitate a cost of living increase in recent year and therefore the grant doesn't include provisions to meet the effect of inflation on the Authority's Budget. Previously, one-off sources of funding have been available, which can be utilised to meet the deficit, with a grant already received in March 2024.

### **3. MID TERM PRIORITIES AND AIMS OF THE AUTHORITY:**

- 3.1 The MTFP will need to accomplish mid to long term priorities, together with the statutory aims and purposes of the Authority. The Authority's statutory purposes are defined in the Environment Act of 1995 as follows:

- Protect and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area,
- Promote opportunities for the public to understand and enjoy the special characteristics of the area.

And in pursuing these purposes, the Authority should try and enhance the economic and social wellbeing of the local communities.

- 3.2 The following documents are key to guiding the Authority during this period:

- The National Park Management Plan,
- The Local Development Plan,
- Our Vision,
- Wellbeing statement,
- Service Priorities,
- Corporate Work Programme,
- Welsh Government's term of government remit letter for the national park authorities.

### **4. THE FINANCIAL CHALLENGE**

- 4.1 Since the national park authorities were established in 1996, the Authority has been empowered to manage its own budget, but a lack of discretion to set the levy amount (which is set by regulation as a proportion of the National Parks Grant received from the Welsh Government) means the total budget can only be varied through fees and charges.

The National Parks Grant has not been increased by inflation since 2021/22, but the Authority has seen additional grant funding through Welsh Government, such as "Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places" (S.L.S.P.) grant. This arrangement was extended in 2022/23 in the form of a three-year plan worth up to £2.5 million available to the authority up to and including 2024/25. A further hardship grant of £2.1m was also received in 2023/24 to meet the financial challenge.

#### 4.2 Authority Basic Budget:

Here is a summary of the situation regarding the Authority's initial budget:

Year	2024/25 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2021/22 £'000	2020/21 £'000
Gross Revenue Expenditure	10,546	9,994	9,964	9,939	10,385
Revenue Income	-3,185	-2,450	-3,370	-3,318	-5,201
Net Revenue Expenditure	7,359	7,544	6,594	6,620	5,184
Net Capital Expenditure	-165	828	-201	1,037	1,795
<b>Original Budget Total</b>	<b>7,195</b>	<b>8,344</b>	<b>6,393</b>	<b>7,657</b>	<b>6,979</b>
Grant	4,120	4,120	4,120	4,120	3,745
Levy	1,373	1,373	1,373	1,373	1,248
Reserves / Contingency Funds	1,062	2,850	900	2,164	1,986
<b>Budget Total</b>	<b>7,195</b>	<b>8,343</b>	<b>6,393</b>	<b>7,657</b>	<b>6,979</b>

*\* The above table does not include cuts made during the year, the additional grants received, or amendments made to the budget during the year.*

#### 4.3 Annual Budgets:

The Authority is obliged to set its budget in a timely manner. To set a levy on constitutional local authorities, the Authority needs to agree on a balanced budget by the Authority's committee meeting in February. As Welsh Government will not be confirming the final grant settlement figure before March, this could change in the meantime. Should the settlement be higher than expected, the Authority will have to forego the additional levy. Should the settlement be lower, the Authority can seek agreement with the constituent Authorities to stay with the levy as approved in the Authority meeting in February. No negotiations were required in 2024/25 as the final figure was as projected in February.

#### 4.4 Annual Financial Pressure on the Authority:

Each year the Authority incurs financial pressure. This pressure is the cumulative effect of:

- Inflation pressure
- Unavoidable commitments
- Planned efficiency measures / Income streams.

#### 4.5 Pressures from Inflation:

As a rule, a report is presented to the Authority on pressures resulting from inflation; these are the pressures estimated for the next four years:

Year	2024/25 (£)	2025/26 (£)	2026/27 (£)	2027/28 (£)
Pay Inflation	349,000	203,000	210,000	220,000
Other Inflation	30,000	15,000	15,000	15,000

At the time of compiling the report, there is no agreement regarding the April 2024 pay agreement, although we do expect a final agreement to be reached in the coming weeks. The original budget for 2024/25 set in February included a provision of 6% which we consider to be sufficient considering that inflation has decreased significantly in recent weeks.

#### 4.6 Unavoidable Pressures:

The following have been identified as pressures which the Authority cannot avoid:

2024/25 The core National Park Grant will remain at the same level as provided in the 2021/22 settlement, without any additional provision for inflation for the third year running.

The income from Car Parks has exceeded the target the past two years. At this time, this target has not been increased for 2024/25, with the target for Tourist Information Centres also remaining at the same level. The income target has been reduced for Yr Ysgwrn, as recent visitor numbers made the original target unattainable.

As reported in the 2024/25 budget presented to the Authority in February 2024, the Authority faces a deficit of £640k in 2024/25, and an increasing deficit each year should there be no increase in the Core Grant due to inflationary pressures. The last minute grant in aid received in March 2024 has allowed us to alleviate this pressure somewhat, allowing us to use more reserves to meet the deficit in 2024/25.

- 2025/26 The National Parks core grant settlement is expected to remain the same again by 2024/25, without any additional provision for inflation. As already suggested, if the trend of additional funding sources at the end of the year from the Welsh Government continues, this could alleviate some of the pressure. However we will need to consider whether there is a need for cuts to services, restructuring or sourcing additional income in order to meet the deficit in the budget.
- 2026/27 Welsh Government haven't released any official information, because of the uncertainty due to inflation. Therefore, the Authority is aware of the need to plan projects at short notice to take advantage of funding sources that may become available. This also requires Authority staff to be proactive in seeking various sources of grant funding, to extend and offer progression opportunities for a number of projects, and to provide assurance to staff. However, funding sources such as these typically include thorough monitoring and audit requirements which increase officers' workload. There will be an election to the Senedd in May 2026 which may lead to a change in government.
- 2027/28 Welsh Government hasn't provided any information which could be interpreted to estimate the settlement figure.

Plas Tan y Bwlch has ceased trading as a bed and breakfast business due to challenges relating to staff shortages and difficulty recruiting. The Authority has previously decided to implement a twin track approach in relation to Plas Tan y Bwlch and Carter Jonas have accordingly been appointed to consider a possible disposal of the property whilst discussions continue to be held with a local community company as to whether the property can be run on a community type model.

#### 4.7 Authority Reserves:

The Authority has 14 reserves, with the table below reflecting the situation as at the end of March 2024:

<b>Reserves</b>	<b>31/3/2024</b>
	<b>£'000</b>
Usable Capital Receipt Reserve	164
Section 106 Reserve	659
Revenue Grants Reserve	1,262
Capital Grants Reserve	1,837
Asset Management Reserve	737
Public Inquiry Reserve	225

Match Funding Reserve	899
Slippage Reserve	299
Projects Reserve	1,049
Snowdon Infrastructure Reserve	56
Specific Risks Reserve	668
Staff Resilience Reserve	400
Commercial Risks Reserve	100
Financial Hardship Reserve	1,701
General Revenue Reserve	1,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,158</b>

The authority reviews its reserve funds on a regular basis to ensure sufficient resources are ear-marked and appropriate use of its reserves. The Grant in Aid worth £2.1m has resulted in higher-than-expected balances in the reserves. The Authority intends to utilise reserves in 2024/25 to ease the unusually high effect of inflation.

#### 4.8 National Park Grant Settlements:

As noted above the National Park Grant settlement figure has remained at the same level for 2024/25, which gives a grant and levy total of £5,493,051.

In the absence of indicative figures from the Welsh Government, the following are possible figures for the three subsequent years:

<b>Change in funding from National Park Grant and levy</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>
	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>
+10%	549,310	604,240	664,660
+5%	274,650	288,390	302,800
+2.5%	137,330	140,760	144,280
+1%	54,930	55,480	56,030
0%	0	0	0
-1%	-54,930	-55,480	-56,030
-2.5%	-137,330	-140,760	-144,280
-5%	-274,650	-288,390	-302,800
-10%	-549,310	-604,240	-664,660

## **5. SERVICE PRIORITIES AND OPERATING PRINCIPLES:**

### **5.1 Service Priorities:**

The Authority has reviewed and adopted its service priorities and operating principles to help it in a challenging financial climate. The Authority's service priorities are as follows:

- Ensure that the aims in the Park Management Plan are successfully achieved by us, our partners and our stakeholders in order to improve the condition of the Park;
- Ensure that the statutory planning function has sufficient resources and is efficiently managed to meet the demands of national policies, that it meets customer expectations and supports sustainable communities.
- Find new income sources to support the purposes of the Park and the Authority.
- Ensure that we are familiar with the demands of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and deliver them.
- Demonstrate the advantages of the National Park Authority both locally and nationally in terms of managing such a special place as Eryri, for now and for future generations.
- Ensure that staff and Members have sufficient support in their work arrangements during this situation, and that staff welfare is being supported.

### **5.2 Operating Principles:**

The Authority has adopted the following operating principles (in accordance with part 3 of the current Corporate Work Programme):

- Enabling role with less emphasis on ownership and management.
- Avoid embarking on projects with long term maintenance commitments.
- Encourage and enable local communities to manage and take responsibility for providing services in their areas.
- Use electronic media as the main means of providing services and information.
- Strategic approach to sustainable tourism, environmental education and wardening;
- Finding new income sources to support the purposes of the Park and the Authority.

The Authority should ensure that each activity it plans is consistent with the above, and that this is the first parameter to use when setting the annual budget.

The way that the Authority carries out its duties during these hard economic times remain as important and in this context the Authority will adopt the following operating method:

- Incorporate even deeper sustainable development as a core principle to follow in pursuing all our duties.
- By working with our partners, adopt an enabling and facilitating role as we achieve our purposes.
- Evaluate all long-term financial commitments and other commitments for every possible project.
- Work with our communities to achieve the Authority vision.

### 5.3 Financial Strategy:

It is expected that the core National Park Grant settlement will remain at the same level over the next 3 years, without any provision for inflation. A ‘flat’ settlement will pose significant challenges to the Authority, and plans are already underway to address the unavoidable deficit that the Authority faces.

The table below gives an estimate of what we expect the deficit to be over the next 4 years, should the core National Park Grant settlement remain at the same level.

	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>
	<b>£,000</b>	<b>£,000</b>	<b>£,000</b>	<b>£,000</b>
<b>Estimated Inflation</b>		<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Gross Budget</b>	10,546	10,756	10,972	11,191
<b>Income</b>	(3,250)	(3,315)	(3,382)	(3,449)
<b>Interest</b>	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)
<b>Base budget</b>	<b>7,195</b>	<b>7,341</b>	<b>7,490</b>	<b>7,642</b>
<b>Grant &amp; Levy</b>	(5,493)	(5,493)	(5,493)	(5,493)
<b>Contributions from Reserves</b>	(1,062)	(1,062)	(1,062)	(1,062)
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>935</b>	<b>1,087</b>

Measures are already being put in place to address this deficit;

As noted previously, Plas Tan Y Bwlch has already been put on the open market, and disposal of this asset creates approximately a £240k saving in the Authority's baseline budget, whether the asset is sold or handed over to a local community organisation.

Receipt of the £2.1m grant from the Welsh Government has allowed for savings in certain budget lines at the end of 2023/24, which has therefore allowed the Authority to create a Financial Challenge Reserve to address the above deficit over the next 3 years.

The table below illustrates the effect the projected deficit will have on the Authority's reserve levels over the next 4 years. By 2027/28, there is a risk of the Authority's general fund being depleted and measures will need to be put in place in order to avoid this scenario and ensure the Authority financial resilience.

	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>
<b>Balance Available</b>				
Financial Hardship reserve	2,362	1,722	936	1
General Fund	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100
Deficit	(640)	(786)	(935)	(1,087)
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>2,822</b>	<b>2,036</b>	<b>1,101</b>	<b>14</b>

The following steps have been considered to address the financial challenge

- Disposing of Plas Tan y Bwlch which creates a £240k saving in the baseline budget (saving already accounted for in the above figures)
- Increase income generation in our Tourist Information Centres, specifically in Betws y Coed
- Increase car parking fees
- Consider cuts to certain budget lines in order to create savings.
- Offer of early retirement to eligible staff, subject to this being acceptable in terms of the Authority's priorities, should this create a saving for the Authority.

#### 5.4 Relevant Steps for the Future:

- Review the MTFP as relevant information becomes available to the Authority.
- Work in co-operation with Welsh Government (WG) Ministers and officials to ensure provision towards the increase in costs because of inflation in 2024/25.
- Work in co-operation with Welsh Government (WG) Ministers and officials to develop commitment on indicative budgets in the future.



- Ensure that the Authority achieves its statutory implications.
- Ensure that capacity matters to deliver capital allocations are addressed.
- Ensure full use of the additional £2.5 million offered by Welsh Government through the S.L.S.P. funding allocation for 2022/23 – 2024-25
- Try and influence Welsh Government (WG) Ministers and officials to ensure provision for the increase in costs as a result of inflation in the core grant for 2025/26 and 2026/27.
- In 2024/25 and 2025/26, utilise Financial Hardship Reserve to address remaining deficit.

<b>MEETING</b>	Performance and Resources Committee
<b>DATE</b>	11 September 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2022/23</b>
<b>REPORT BY</b>	Chief Finance Officer
<b>PURPOSE</b>	To note the contents of the draft Statement of Accounts and the arrangement of the period for inspection by members of the public.

**1. SUMMARY**

This report introduces the draft Annual Statement of Accounts for the 2022/23 financial year which provides details of the Authority’s financial activities during the year (Appendix 1). The draft Statement of Accounts includes the Annual Governance Statement as approved by the Authority June 2023.

The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005 (amended) require that the Chief Finance Officer approve the draft Annual Statement of Accounts by the 31 May. In lieu of the effect of the delays in relation to completing the 2021/22 Statement of Accounts, there was further delay in bringing the Draft Statements of Accounts 2022/23 to the Authority, and every effort was made to complete as soon as possible and a public advert provided to explain the reasons for missing the original deadline.

Following the audit, they will be approved by the Authority Members’ representatives, with the audit work programmed for September 2024. In the meantime the draft Statement of Accounts is presented to the Members for their information.

## **2. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS**

The accounts were sent to the auditors on 28<sup>th</sup> August and the planning element of the audit will commence on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, with the main work being completed in November 2024.

In accordance with the regulations, the Appointed Auditor will complete the audit and present the report on the Statement of Accounts to the Authority Members, before obtaining an official signature on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales.

## **3. PUBLIC INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTS**

Under section 30 & 31 of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004, and regulation 13 & 15 of the Accounts and Audit Wales Regulations 2005, it is required that the Authority notify the public that the accounts are open for inspection for a 20 working day period.

The public inspection will be advertised on the Authority's website, main office reception area and Betws y Coed Information Centre as soon as it is arranged.

During the audit process, a local government elector also has the opportunity to question the Auditor about the accounts.

## **4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

None. The decision today does not commit any further resources against the Authority's budget.

## **5. RECOMMENDATION**

### **5.1 To note the contents of the 2022/23 Statement of Accounts.**

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**ITEM NO. 10 APPENDIX**

**SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**



**SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2022/23**

**INDEX**

<a href="#"><u>Narrative Report .....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>3</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>The Statement of Responsibilities.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>11</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Statement of Accounting Policies.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>12</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>23</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Balance Sheet .....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>24</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>The Movement in Reserves Statement.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>25</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Cash Flow Statement .....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>27</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Notes To The Financial Statements.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>28</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Annual Governance Statement 2022-23.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>79</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Glossary Of Terms.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>111</u></a>

## NARRATIVE REPORT

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The narrative report provides a brief explanation of the more significant matters reported in the accounts and aims to add to and assist the interpretation of the accounting statements which are set out on pages 23 to 27 and consist of:-

- The **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement** consolidates all the gains and losses experienced by the Authority during the financial year. These gains and losses should reconcile to the overall movement in net worth.
- The **Balance Sheet** setting out the financial position of the Authority as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- The **Movement in Reserves Statement** is a summary of the changes that have taken place in the bottom half of the balance sheet over the financial year.
- The **Cash Flow Statement** which summarises the inflows and outflows of cash arising from transactions for revenue and capital purposes.

The accounts are supported by the Statement of Accounting Policies and explanatory notes.

### 2. SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK'S VISION AND PRIORITIES

The National Park Authority's vision was adopted in the Snowdonia National Park Management Plan in the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021 as follows :

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

*By 2035 Snowdonia will continue to be a protected and evolving landscape, safeguarded and enhanced to provide a rich, varied and resilient natural and historic environment; providing wellbeing benefits nationally and internationally.*

*National Park purposes will be delivered through a diverse and prospering economy adapted to the challenges of climate change and founded on natural resources – its landscape qualities, opportunities for learning and enjoyment, cultural and natural heritage. With thriving bilingual and inclusive communities, partnership working will have demonstrated that more can be achieved through working together.*

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

In accordance with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 the Authority has adopted a Well-Being Statement 2021-2026 in March 2021.

<https://snowdonia.gov.wales/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/SNPA-WELL-BEING-STATEMENT-2021-26.pdf>

This document provides the context for the corporate programme providing detail on specific corporate well-being and improvement objectives, and presented annually in the April Authority meeting. The agenda is available through the following link:

<https://authority.snowdonia.gov.wales/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Authority-27.04.22.pdf>

### 3 FINANCIAL CONTEXT

#### FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND YEAR END POSITION

The revised 2022/23 budget as reported to the Performance and Resource Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 was as below.

Service Area	Revised Net Budget	Expenditure	Under/ (Over)
	£	£	£
Planning and Land Management	1,778,809	1,255,155	523,654
Corporate	5,092,571	4,459,953	632,618
Interest Earned	- 8,000	- 135,654	127,654
Financing Capital from Revenue	545,246	142,199	403,047
Capital Charges Adjustment	- 591,050	- 591,050	-
<b>Net</b>	<b>6,817,576</b>	<b>5,130,603</b>	<b>1,686,973</b>
NPG and Levy	- 5,493,051	- 5,493,051	-
Tr. To/From Reserves	- 1,324,525	362,448	- 1,686,973
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

The net variance of £1,686,973 was adjusted for end of year transfers to & from reserves (further information in part. 4.2 of said report). The report is item 8 on the following link –

<https://snowdonia.gov.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Performance-Resources-Committee-12.07.23.pdf>.

During the process of compiling the Statement of Accounts the adjustments were made to the outturn, the adjusted net expenditure figures appear in the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (note 1 to the main statements).

	<b>Outtrun</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>	<b>EFA (Note 1)</b>
	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>
Planning and Land	1,255,155	-	1,255,155
Corporate	4,459,953	-	4,459,953
	<b>5,715,107</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,715,107</b>
Other movements			
<b>Balance</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

The movement in individual reserves is provided in note 8 to the financial statements.

#### 4. SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS:

##### Balance Sheet:

The Authority's net worth has increased by **£1,359k**, the main reasons being the **pension fund liability** decrease of **£844k**, as well as a net increase in the value of **Short Term Assets** of **£269k**. Other movements are as follows :

- **Current Assets** value has increased by **£269k**. The main effect due to :

**£1,746k** increase in Cash and investments arising from grant monies and additional income including:  
£456k Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places grants (S.L.S.P.), unspent in 2022/23.  
£181k additional income from car parking fees

Debtors – there was a decrease of £706k in the debtor balance.

- **Current Liabilities** have decreased by **£400k** mainly due to

**£445k** decrease in trade creditor balance  
**£45k** decrease in 'Other' Creditor balance



## Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account :

The net cost of services has decreased by £2,546k, with the movements per directorate as follows :

- |                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| ▪ Planning and Land Management        | decrease of £458k   |
| ▪ Corporate (including Communication) | decrease of £2,088k |

Main movements are as follows :

### Expenditure

- £265k increase in REFCUS total spend in 2022/23 compared to 2021/22
- £143k increase in IAS19 pension adjustment to the services in 2022/23
- There was no revaluation loss charged to services in 2022/23 (£2,884 in 2021/22)

### Income

- £378k less revenue grant contributions from Welsh Government and other sources

In addition to receiving grant funding the Authority also generates its own income. Note 1c to the main statements shows £2,540k (£2,421k in 2021/22) generated from fees, charges and other service based income; of this the main components are as follows :

- |                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| ▪ Car Park fee income      | £1,050k (£1,276k in 2021/22) |
| ▪ Planning Fees            | £308k (£227k in 2020/21)     |
| ▪ Information Centre Sales | £219k (£189k in 2020/21)     |
| ▪ Rent                     | £61k (£56k in 2020/21)       |

## **5. PENSION LIABILITY**

Snowdonia National Park Authority is an employer in the Gwynedd Pension Fund. The accounts fully incorporate the requirements of International Accounting Standard 19 (IAS 19).

The policy reflects the commitment in the long-term to increase contributions to make up any shortfall in attributable net assets in the pension fund.

## **6. UNUSUAL CHARGE OR CREDIT IN THE ACCOUNTS**

The main items are :

- capital grants worth £1,532k received from Welsh Government

## 7. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Capital expenditure is expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset or expenditure which adds to and not merely maintains the value of the existing fixed asset.

Capital expenditure in 2022/23 amounted to £1,691k. Details of expenditure within each service area are shown in note 30. The expenditure was financed by grants and contributions from other bodies (£1,417) and direct revenue financing (£274k).

All planned capital expenditure will be funded from revenue, external grants and reserves held for one off spends.

The main schemes in which the Authority was involved as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 were :

- The Carneddau Partnership Scheme is now in its operational stage and estimated to be worth £4.17m. Scheme programmed to finish by March 2026.
- The Celtic Rainforests project is a 7 year project worth £7.6m. Scheme programmed to finish in 2025/26.

## 8. CAPITAL FUNDING

All capital expenditure of the Authority, since being established on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1995, has been funded by capital grants and contributions from the Government, European Community and other sources of grants, from capital receipts applied and from the Authority's revenue resources.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 the Authority had no outstanding debts to finance capital expenditure, and for treasury management purposes will remain a debt-free authority.

## 9. USABLE RESERVES

The General Revenue Reserve balance was reviewed during the year as part of a review of Authority reserves, and currently stands at £1,100k.

The Authority has specific Usable Reserves totalling £10,116k and these are detailed in note 8 to the financial statements. It should be noted that most of the reserves are earmarked for specific purposes.

## 10. GOVERNANCE

The Authority has 18 members, who serve on the Authority Board, Performance and Resources Committee and Planning and Access Committee. Plas Tan y Bwlch and Ysgwrn have separate Management Boards each consisting of 3 members.

Further information on governance and related issues relating to 2022/23 is provided in the Annual Governance Statement part of this document.

## 11. RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### Risks

The Authority's main risks are documented in the Corporate Risk Register which is reviewed by the Performance and Resources Committee and annually in the February Authority.

The Authority's 4 main risks and the measures for mitigation are noted at the end of part 6 of the Annual Governance Statement

### Opportunities

The Authority has been provided with "one-off" funding by Welsh Government to undertake work on capital projects including Access and improvements to the Authority's properties.

The Authority continues to attract grant funding from various sources which enables an operating capacity much higher than that possible through the base grant only. The annual contraction in Authority staff numbers, however, does mean that there is an element of risk re capacity in undertaking future projects.

## 12. AUTHORITY STRATEGIES

The Authority's four main strategies are:

- Snowdonia National Park Management Plan,
- Eryri Local Development Plan,
- Corporate Plan, and
- Corporate Work Programme.

Further information about the 4 strategies as well as other Authority strategies and a review of their effectiveness is in part 5 of the Annual Governance Statement.

## 13. IMPACT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE

The Authority has balanced its budget for 2023/24 based on the National Park Grant figure as advised by Welsh Government officers in December 2022. Welsh Government have indicated that settlement figures for 2024/25 will remain the same as the 2023/24 figures. In light of the current economic climate and considerable inflationary pressures, this will be challenging for the Authority.

At the time of writing, the Authority's cash flow is adequate, but the situation may need to be re-evaluated depending on the settlement figures announced by the Welsh Government for 2024/25.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

Further information about this Statement of Account is available from:

Sian Wyn Owen  
Head of Finance  
Snowdonia National Park Authority  
National Park Offices  
Penrhyndeudraeth  
Gwynedd  
LL48 6LF  
Tel: 01766 772 251  
Email: [sian.owen@eryri.llyw.cymru](mailto:sian.owen@eryri.llyw.cymru)

**THE STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES  
FOR THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**THE AUTHORITY’S RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Authority is required to:-

- Make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. For Snowdonia National Park Authority, that officer is the Chief Finance Officer;
- Manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
- Approve the statement of accounts.

These accounts were approved by the Authority on ..... 2024

Signature :

.....

**CLLR EDGAR W. OWEN CHAIR**

**THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Chief Finance Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's statement of accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the CODE).

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Chief Finance Officer has:-

- Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- Made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- Complied with the local authority CODE.

The Chief Financial Officer has also:-

- Kept proper accounting records which were up to date;
- Taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER'S CERTIFICATE**

I certify that the Statement of Accounts has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Accounts and Audit Regulations and gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2021.



Signature

28<sup>th</sup> August 2024**DEWI A. MORGAN - CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### 1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the CODE).

The Code of Practice requires accounting policies to be applied consistently. The overriding requirement is that the Statement of Accounts “present a true and fair view” of the financial performance and position of the Authority.

### 2. ACCOUNTING CONCEPTS

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the following fundamental (and pervasive) accounting principles and concepts:

- Going concern
- Relevance
- Faithful representation
- Comparability
- Understandable
- Materiality
- Accruals
- Primacy of legislative requirement

These principles and concepts have been used in the selection and application of accounting policies and estimation techniques and in the exercise of professional judgement.

### 3. ACCRUALS OF EXPENDITURE AND INCOME

The revenue and capital accounts of the Authority are maintained on an accruals basis. All sums due to the Authority are set up in the accounts at the time they are due.

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Authority transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Authority can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

**4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

These consist of the Authority's imprest and float accounts and cash held on "call" or short term deposit with banks where the monies are repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

**5. EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS**

Where such items are applicable to the 2022/23 accounts, they have been highlighted in the relevant notes e.g. revaluation losses.

**6. PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS, CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES AND ERRORS**

During 2022/23, the Authority changed its accounting policy in relation to Community Assets, which are now held at valuation rather than historic cost.

**7. CHARGES TO REVENUE FOR NON-CURRENT ASSETS**

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding fixed assets during the year:

- Depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service.
- Revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off.
- Amortisation of intangible fixed assets attributable to the service.  
These sums are not chargeable against the Authority's General Fund and as such are therefore reversed out through an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account as shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

**8. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS****8.1 Benefits Payable During Employment :**

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g. cars) for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Authority.

**8.2 Termination Benefits :**

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Authority to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis to the Non Distributed Costs line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the Authority is demonstrably committed to the termination of the employment of an officer or group of officers or making an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy.

**8.3 Post Employment Benefits :**

Employees of the Authority are members of the Local Government Pensions Scheme, administered by Gwynedd Council. The scheme provides defined benefits

to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees worked for the Authority.

#### 8.4 The Local Government Pension Scheme

All staff, subject to certain qualifying criteria, are entitled to become members of the Local Government Pension Scheme. The pension costs charged to the Authority's accounts in respect of this group of employees are determined by the fund administrators and represent a fixed proportion of employees' contributions to this funded pension scheme.

The Local Government Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefit scheme.

The liabilities of the Gwynedd Pension Fund attributable to the Authority are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method - i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions such as mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projected earnings for current employees.

Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 4.75% calculated as a weighted average of 'spot yields' on AA rated corporate bonds.

The assets of the Gwynedd Pension Fund attributable to the Authority are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value as determined by the Fund's Actuary.

The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:

Service cost comprising:

- Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked.
- Past service cost – the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Corporate costs.
- Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/(asset), i.e. the net interest expense for the Authority – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability/(asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability/(asset) at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability/(asset) during the period as a result of contributions and benefit payments.



#### Re-measurements comprising:

- The return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability/(asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
- Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
- Contributions paid to the Gwynedd Pension Fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the Pension Fund in settlement of liabilities not accounted for as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the Authority Fund balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Authority to the Pension Fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, this means that there are appropriations to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the Authority Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

International Accounting Standard (IAS) 19 governs how the long-term liabilities which exist in relation to pension costs should be reported. Local Authorities in England and Wales are required to produce their financial statements in accordance with IAS19.

#### 8.5 Discretionary Benefits

The Authority also has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

**9. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE**

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

- those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is adjusted to reflect such events
- those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period – the Statement of Accounts is not adjusted to reflect such events, but where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

**10. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS****Financial Liabilities**

The Authority is a debt-free Authority in that it has no borrowings.

**Financial Assets**

Financial assets are classified into two types:

- Loans and Receivables – Assets that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market.

Such instruments relevant to the Authority are car loans made to employees (however the sums are deemed not to be material enough for inclusion).

- Available-for-sale assets – Assets that have a quoted market price and/or do not have fixed or determinable payments. The Authority has no such asset.

**11. FOREIGN CURRENCY**

Income and expenditure arising from any transactions denominated in a foreign currency is translated to £ sterling.

**12. GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS**

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Authority when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Authority will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and;
- the grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Authority are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset acquired using the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (non-ring fenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

### **13. HERITAGE ASSETS**

Heritage assets are those assets preserved in trust for future generations because of their cultural, environmental or historic associations i.e. they have historical, artistic, scientific, geophysical or environmental qualities. They are maintained by the Authority principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture, but are not utilised by the Authority in its normal course of business. Depreciation of heritage assets, where appropriate, is in line with the Authority's general policy on depreciation.

### **14. INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

Purchased intangible assets in the form of software licences are accounted for as part of the Information Technology replacement programme, and are written off to revenue in line with depreciation charges.

### **15. INTERESTS IN COMPANIES AND OTHER ENTITIES**

The Authority has an interest in a Limited Liability Partnership together with 13 other UK National Park Authorities for the purpose of generating income mainly from sponsorship.

**16. INVENTORIES AND LONG TERM CONTRACTS**

Stocks are brought into account at cost price for bar stocks, goods for resale and general provisions at Plas Tan y Bwlch, Study Centre, and for goods for resale at the Authority's Information Centres. This is consistent with the policy adopted in previous years. Recommended practice requires stocks to be shown at the lower of actual cost or net realisable value but the difference in this case is not considered to be material.

**17. LEASES (FINANCE)**

As at 31/3/2023 the Authority has no finance lease arrangements.

**18. LEASES (OPERATIONAL)**

The Authority manages operating leases for:

- Vehicles,
- Photocopiers and snacks & drinks machines.
- Land and buildings

Lease payments are charged in full according to date payable on a straight line basis, ensuring an equal annual charge to service revenue accounts throughout the life of the lease.

The Authority rents a number of properties in support of its services, and also receives rental income from a number of owned properties. The owned properties are held as fixed assets in the balance sheet. The lease income is accounted for on a straight line basis.

**19. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment.

**Recognition:** Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Authority and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

**Measurement:** Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the purchase price
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management (the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located.)

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be its fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e. it will not lead to a variation in the cash flows of the Authority). In the latter case, where an asset is acquired via an exchange, the cost of the acquisition is the carrying amount of the asset given up by the Authority.

Where gains are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet using the following measurement bases:

- Assets under construction and heritage assets – depreciated historical cost where known
- Non-operational assets (surplus assets) - measured at fair (market) value.
- All other assets – service potential at existing use value (EUV), determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use.

Where there is no market-based evidence of fair value or existing use value because of the specialist nature of an asset, depreciated replacement cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of the value.

Where non-property assets that have short useful lives or low values (or both), depreciated historical cost basis is used as a proxy for fair value. Other than for information systems equipment, a de minimis level of £10k has been used for the recognition of non-current assets.

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at fair value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their fair value at the year-end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. [Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service.]

Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for by:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains)
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation. Gains arising before that date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

**Componentisation** :The Authority has applied the componentisation principle to those assets valued at £150k or over and where the difference in depreciation cost is identified as being material. This principle is applied in order that those elements of a property that have different operational lives and thereby differing rates of depreciation are recognised and accounted for.

**Impairment:** Assets are assessed at each year-end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall.

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains)
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where an impairment loss is reversed subsequently, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, up to the amount of the original loss, adjusted for depreciation that would have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

**Depreciation:** Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain Community Assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction). Neither investment assets nor assets held for sale are depreciated.

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

- Buildings – straight-line allocation over the useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer
- Vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment – a straight line depreciation method

Depreciation is applied on the basis of a full year in the year when the asset is first recognised in the Authority's accounts. Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately. Revaluation gains are also depreciated, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on their historical cost being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

### **Disposals and Non-current Assets Held for Sale**

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previously losses recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classified as Assets Held for Sale, they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount before they were classified as held for sale; adjusted for depreciation, amortisation or revaluations that would have been recognised had they not been classified as Held for Sale, and their recoverable amount at the date of the decision not to sell.

Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as Assets Held for Sale.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether Property, Plant and Equipment or Assets Held for Sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10k are categorised as capital receipts. The balance of receipts is required to be credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment [or set aside to reduce the Authority's underlying need to borrow (the capital financing requirement)]. Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against the General Fund. These amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

## **20. PROVISIONS, CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS**

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Authority a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For instance, the Authority may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

### Provisions

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the Authority becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the balance sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

### Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Authority a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the authority. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

### Contingent Assets

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Authority a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the authority.

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts where it is probable that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

## **21. RESERVES**

The Authority sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover risks. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net charge against the General Fund for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Authority – these reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

## **22. REVENUE EXPENDITURE FUNDED FROM CAPITAL UNDER STATUTE**

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Where the Authority has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the General Fund Balance.



**23. VALUE ADDED TAX**

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (H.M.R.C.). VAT receivable is excluded from income. It is the Authority's practice to include any input tax which cannot be recovered from H.M. Revenue and Customs within the costs of relevant services. As a result of the change in Plas Tan y Bwlch's current business model, the Authority has not sustained any irrecoverable VAT cost there in 2022/23.

## THE COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

2021/22	2021/22	2021/22		2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure		Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure
£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000
4,468	(2,367)	2,101	Planning and Land Management	4,877	(3,233)	1,643
9,746	(2,477)	7,269	Corporate	7,410	(2,229)	5,181
-	-	-	Non-distributable Costs			-
<b>14,214</b>	<b>(4,844)</b>	<b>9,370</b>	<b>Net Cost of Service</b>	<b>12,286</b>	<b>(5,462)</b>	<b>6,824</b>
		-	Other Operating Expenditure	(6)		
		145	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure (note 10)	(100)		
		<b>9,515</b>	<b>Net Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>6,718</b>		
		(5,845)	Non-specific grant Income (note 11)	(5,998)		
		<b>3,670</b>	<b>Suprlus (-) / Defecit on Provision of Services for the year)</b>	<b>720</b>		
		74	Net surplus on revaluation of fixed assets and impairment losses charged to the revaluation reserve (note 21)	(188)		
		(7,704)	Actuarial gains/ losses on pension assets/ liabilities (note 36)	(1,891)		
		(7,630)		(2,079)		
		<b>(3,959)</b>	<b>Total Comprehensive income and Expenditure</b>	<b>(1,359)</b>		

## BALANCE SHEET

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Authority. The net assets of the Authority (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Authority. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Authority may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves is those that the Authority is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve) where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line "Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations".

2021/22		Notes	2022/23
£'000			£'000
14,483	Property, Plant & Equipment	12	14,557
807	Heritage Assets	13	795
12	Long Term Debtors	17	4
<b>15,302</b>	<b>Long Term Assets</b>		<b>15,357</b>
-	Assets Held for Sale	14	-
7,848	Short term investments	15	7,051
116	Inventories	16	141
2,028	Short Term Debtors	17	1,322
2,333	Cash and Cash Equivalents	18	4,080
<b>12,325</b>	<b>Current Assets</b>		<b>12,594</b>
(1,756)	Short Term Creditors	19	(1,311)
(689)	Grants Received in Advance	29	(734)
<b>(2,444)</b>	<b>Current Liabilities</b>		<b>(2,045)</b>
(884)	Pension Fund Liability	36	-
(452)	Long Term Creditors	29	(702)
<b>(1,336)</b>	<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>		<b>(702)</b>
<b>23,846</b>	<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>25,205</b>
(9,684)	Usable Reserves	8	(10,116)
(14,162)	Unusable Reserves	21	(15,089)
<b>(23,846)</b>	<b>Total Reserves</b>		<b>(25,205)</b>

## The Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Authority, analysed into "Usable reserves" (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure) and other reserves. The Surplus (+) or Deficit (-) on the Provision of Services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Authority's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. These are different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance. The Net Increase/Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves line shows the statutory General Fund Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Authority.

### MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT 2022/23

	General Fund & Earmarked Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grant Unapplied Reserve	Total Usable Reserve	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2022 brought forward</b>	(7,426)	(164)	(2,094)	(9,684)	(14,162)	(23,846)
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	720	-	-	720	(2,079)	(1,359)
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations (note 7)	(1,133)	-	(20)	(1,153)	1,153	-
<b>Increase/ Decrease in 2022/23</b>	<b>(413)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(20)</b>	<b>(433)</b>	<b>(926)</b>	<b>(1,359)</b>
<b>Balance as at 31st March 2023</b>	<b>(7,838)</b>	<b>(164)</b>	<b>(2,114)</b>	<b>(10,116)</b>	<b>(15,088)</b>	<b>(25,205)</b>
General Fund	(1,100)					
Earmarked Reserves	(6,738)	(see note 8)				
	<b>(7,838)</b>					

**MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT 2021/22**

	General Fund & Earmarked Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve	Total Usuable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2021 brought forward</b>	<b>(6,560)</b>	<b>(164)</b>	<b>(2,413)</b>	<b>(9,137)</b>	<b>(10,749)</b>	<b>(19,886)</b>
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	3,670	-	-	3,670	(7,630)	(3,960)
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations (note 7)	(4,536)	-	319	(4,217)	4,217	-
<b>Increase / Decrease in 2021/22</b>	<b>(866)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>(547)</b>	<b>(3,413)</b>	<b>(3,960)</b>
<b>Balance as at 31 March 2022 carried forward</b>	<b>(7,426)</b>	<b>(164)</b>	<b>(2,094)</b>	<b>(9,684)</b>	<b>(14,162)</b>	<b>(23,846)</b>
General Fund	(850)					
Earmarked Reserves	(6,576)	(see note 8)				
	<b>(7,426)</b>					

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

The **Cash Flow Statement** shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Authority during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Authority generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Authority are funded by way of grant and levy income or from the recipients of services provided by the Authority. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Authority's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Authority.

2021/22 £'000		2022/23 £'000
3,670	Net Surplus or Defecit on the provision of services	725
(5,265)	Adjustment to net suplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements (note 23)	(2,325)
689	Adjusments for items included in the net suplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	621
<b>(906)</b>	<b>Net cash flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>(979)</b>
2,444	Investing Activities (note 23)	(760)
(12)	Financing Activities (note 24)	(8)
1,526	Net increse (-) or decrease (+) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,747)
3,859	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	2,333
<b>2,333</b>	<b>Cash and Cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period (note 18)</b>	<b>4,080</b>

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 1. EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING ANALYSIS

The objective of the Expenditure and Funding Analysis is to demonstrate how the funding available to the Authority (i.e. government grants, rents, fees & charges etc.,) for the year has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the council's directorates. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2022/23					
	Net Expenditure Chargeable to General Fund	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	Adjustments between Outturn and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	Outturn
	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)
Planning and Land management	1,326	(317)	1,643	390	1,255
Corporate and Communication	4,365	(816)	5,181	514	4,460
Costs that cannot be allocated	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>5,691</b>	<b>(1,133)</b>	<b>6,824</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>5,715</b>
Other Income and Expenditure	(6,104)	(6)	(6,104)	(6,098)	-
<b>Suplus/ Defecit</b>	<b>(412)</b>	<b>(1,139)</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>(5,194)</b>	<b>5,715</b>
<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>(7,426)</b>				
Surplus for the year	(412)				
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>(7,838)</b>				
	(1,100)	General Fund			
	(6,738)	Earmarked Reserves (note 8)			
	<b>(7,838)</b>				

<b>2021/22</b>					
	<b>Net Expenditure Chargeable to General Fund</b>	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis	<b>Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>	Adjustments between Outturn and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	<b>Outturn</b>
	<b>(£'000)</b>	<b>(£'000)</b>	<b>(£'000)</b>	<b>(£'000)</b>	<b>(£'000)</b>
<b>Planning and Land management</b>	938	(1,163)	2,101	1,055	1,046
<b>Corporate and Communication</b>	3,896	(3,373)	7,269	3,437	3,832
Costs that cannot be allocated	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>4,834</b>	<b>(4,536)</b>	<b>9,370</b>	<b>4,492</b>	<b>4,878</b>
Other Income and Expenditure	(5,700)	-	(5,700)	(5,700)	-
<b>Suplus/ Defecit</b>	<b>(866)</b>	<b>(4,536)</b>	<b>3,670</b>	<b>(1,208)</b>	<b>4,878</b>
<b>Opening balance</b>	<b>(6,560)</b>				
Surplus for the year	(866)				
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>(7,426)</b>				
	(850)	General Fund			
	(6,576)	Earmarked Reserves (note 8)			
	<b>(7,426)</b>				



## 1a Note On Adjustments Between The Funding And Accounting Basis

**Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis 2022/23**

<b>Adjustments from the general fund to arrive at the CI &amp; E statement amounts</b>	<b>Adjustment for Capital Purposes</b>	<b>Net Change for the Pensions &amp; Employee Benefit adjustments</b>	<b>Other differences</b>	<b>Total Adjustments</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Planning and Land Management</b>	13	(331)	-	(318)
<b>Corporate</b>	(119)	(696)	-	(815)
<b>Costs that cannot be allocated</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>(106)</b>	<b>(1,027)</b>	-	<b>(1,133)</b>
Other income and Expenditure from the Exp. And Inc Analysis		-	-	-
<b>Difference between the General Fund surplus or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement Suplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>	<b>(106)</b>	<b>(1,027)</b>	-	<b>(1,133)</b>

**Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis 2021/22**

<b>Adjustments from the general fund to arrive at the CI &amp; E statement amounts</b>	<b>Adjustment for Capital Purposes</b>	<b>Net Change for the Pensions &amp; Employee Benefit adjustments</b>	<b>Other differences</b>	<b>Total Adjustments</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Planning and Land Management</b>	(552)	(611)	-	(1,163)
<b>Corporate</b>	(2,747)	(626)	-	(3,373)
<b>Costs that cannot be allocated</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Cost of Services</b>	<b>(3,299)</b>	<b>(1,237)</b>	-	<b>(4,536)</b>
Other income and Expenditure from the Exp. And Inc Analysis	-	-	-	-
<b>Difference between the General Fund surplus or deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement Suplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>	<b>(3,299)</b>	<b>(1,237)</b>	-	<b>(4,536)</b>

**1B NOTE ON INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ON A SEGMENTAL BASIS**

<b>Income Analysed by Segment</b>		
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
<b>Fees, charges and other service income</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Planning, Cultural Heritage and Land Management	(640)	(675)
Corporate	(1,781)	(1,865)
	<b>(2,421)</b>	<b>(2,540)</b>

<b>Significant 'non-cash' costs analysed by Segment</b>							
	<b>Planning, Cultural Heritage and Land Management</b>		<b>Corporate (including Communication)</b>		<b>Totals</b>		
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	
Depreciation	132	35	696	363	828	398	
Revaluation Loss	143	-	338	-	481	-	
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	338	312	13	172	351	484	
IAS 19 Pension Adjustment	638	328	633	679	1,271	1,007	
Employee Accrual Adjustment	(27)	4	(7)	17	(34)	21	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,224</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>1,673</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>2,897</b>	<b>1,910</b>	

**1c NOTE ON EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ANALYSED BY NATURE**

<b>Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature</b>				
The Authority's expenditure and income is analysed as follows:				
			<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
Expenditure/ Income			<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Employee benefits expenses			5,724	6,019
Other services expenses			4,864	5,857
Non distributable costs			-	-
Depreciation, amortisation, impairment, Revaluation losses			3,626	394
<b>Total Expenditure</b>			<b>14,214</b>	<b>12,269</b>
				-
<b>Income</b>				
Fees, charges and other service income			(2,421)	(2,540)
Net interest on net defined benefit liability (IAS 19 pension adjustment)			157	36
Interest and investment income			(12)	(136)
Government grants and contributions			(2,423)	(2,911)
Non specific grant income			(5,845)	(5,998)
Gain on disposal of assets				
<b>Total income</b>			<b>(10,544)</b>	<b>(11,549)</b>
<b>Deficit on the provision of services</b>			<b>3,670</b>	<b>720</b>

**2. ACCOUNTING STANDARDS THAT HAVE BEEN ISSUED BUT HAVE NOT YET BEEN ADOPTED**

There are no standards that have an effect on the 2022/23 Statement of Accounts.

**3. CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

In applying the accounting policies set out on pages 11-21, the Authority has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. The Authority, however, has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Authority might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision.

**4. ASSUMPTIONS MADE ABOUT THE FUTURE AND OTHER MAJOR SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY**

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Authority about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

Those assumptions made by the Actuary relating to the pension fund are disclosed in note 35.

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Pensions Liability (note 35)	<p>Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and, for the Local Government Pension Scheme, the expected return on pension fund assets.</p> <p>An assessment of the liabilities is provided by Hymans Robertson. Further information is provided within note 35.</p>	<p>Relatively small changes in the assumptions made can have a significant impact on the pension net liability. The pension net liability shown in the balance sheet will only become payable over the retirement period of current and retired employees, so adjustments to the liability can be spread over a number of years through changes in employee and employer contributions. Increases in employer contributions have a direct impact on the budget.</p> <p>The effect of the change in actuarial assumptions is referred to in note 5 of the Narrative Report.</p>
Property valuations (note 12)	<p>The Authority revalues its assets every 5 years. The last full valuation was undertaken on 1st April 2021. It is possible that property values could fluctuate considerably within this 5 years time frame. In this respect an annual review is undertaken by the Head of Finance and Head of Property to identify any interim valuations required.</p> <p>It bases its valuations on assumptions about asset conditions, useful lives, residual values and market conditions.</p> <p>These judgements are underpinned by the best available information and made by qualified valuers but are still based on estimates.</p>	<p>A fluctuation in property values would impact on the values held in the Balance Sheet and on the corresponding depreciation charge.</p>

**5. MATERIAL ITEMS OF INCOME AND EXPENSE**

The Authority received specific grants from Welsh Government worth £2,911,096 in 2022/23.

**6. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE**

The Statement of Accounts have been approved for publication by the Chief Finance Officer as at 28<sup>th</sup> August 2024. Events after this date are not reflected in neither the financial statements nor the notes. Where events before this date provide information about the situation before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, the figures in the financial statement and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to show the effect of this information.

## 7. ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN ACCOUNTING BASIS AND FUNDING BASIS UNDER REGULATIONS

This note details the adjustments that are made in the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Authority in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Authority to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

2022/23	Useable Reserves			
	General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserves	Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve	Movement in Unuseable Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE CAPITAL ADJUSTMENTS ACCOUNT</b>				
<b>Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>				
Charges for depreciation, impairment and revaluation losses on non-current assets	(602)	-	-	602
Losses on revaluation	(1)	-	-	1
Net book value of assets disposed of	-	-	-	-
Capital grants and contributions applied	285	-	-	(285)
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(485)	-	-	485
<b>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>				
Capital grants received in previous financial years and used in 2021/22	-	-	404	(404)
Capital grants received in previous years and transferred to revenue in 2021/22	(1)	-	1	-
Capital Expenditure Charges against the General Fund 2020/21	274	-	-	(274)
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE CAPITAL GRANTS UNAPPLIED ACCOUNT</b>				
Capital grant received in 2022/23 and transferred to revenue in 2022/23	-	-	-	-
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	425	-	(425)	-
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE CAPITAL RECEIPTS RESERVE</b>				
Capital Receipts used in 2021/22	-	-	-	-
Capital receipts in 2021/22 not utilised	-	-	-	-
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE PENSION RESERVE</b>				
Reversal of Items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(1,790)	-	-	1,790
Employers Pension Contribution and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	783	-	-	(783)
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE ACCUMULATED ABSECES ACCOUNT</b>				
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(21)	-	-	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>(1,133)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(20)</b>	<b>1,153</b>



2021/22	Useable Reserves			Movement in Unuseable Reserves
	General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserves	Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE CAPITAL ADJUSTMENTS ACCOUNT</b>				
<b>Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>				
Charges for depreciation, impairment and revaluation losses on non-current assets	(742)	-	-	742
Losses on revaluation	(2,884)	-	-	2,884
Net book value of assets disposed of	-	-	-	-
Capital grants and contributions applied	168	-	-	(168)
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(351)	-	-	351
<b>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>				
Capital grants received in previous financial years and used in 2021/22	-	-	604	(604)
Capital grants received in previous years and transferred to revenue in 2021/22	(57)	-	-	57
Capital Expenditure Charges against the General Fund 2020/21	281	-	-	(281)
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE CAPITAL GRANTS UNAPPLIED ACCOUNT</b>				
Capital grant received in 2020/21 and transferred to revenue in 2021/22	-	-	-	-
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	286	-	(286)	-
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE CAPITAL RECEIPTS RESERVE</b>				
Capital Receipts used in 2021/22	-	-	-	-
Capital receipts in 2021/22 not utilised	-	-	-	-
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE PENSION RESERVE</b>				
Reversal of Items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(1,979)	-	-	1,979
Employers Pension Contribution and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	708	-	-	(708)
<b>ADJUSTMENTS PRIMARILY INVOLVING THE ACCUMULATED ABSENCES ACCOUNT</b>				
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	34	-	-	(34)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(4,536)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>(4,217)</b>

**8. TRANSFERS TO/FROM EARMARKED RESERVES**

	Balance at 31 March 2021	Transfers out 2021/22	Transfers in 2021/22	Balance at 31 March 2022	Transfers out 2022/23	Transfers in 2022/23	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Earmarked Revenue and Capital reserves (approved as earmarked revenue and capital expenditure)	(556)	556	(775)	(775)	775	(358)	(358)
Specific Risks Reserves (to meet probable budget pressures)	(424)			(424)	109	(353)	(668)
Capital Projects Reserves (to fund one-off capital commitments)	-			-			-
Planning Reserve (To meet costs of Public Enquiry)	(225)			(225)			(225)
Match Funding Revenue Reserve (For Convergence Fund Purposes)	(1,064)	216	(114)	(962)	241	(178)	(899)
Match Funding Reserve NRW (For Convergence Fund Purposes)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revenue Grants reserve	(2,109)	810	(265)	(1,564)	272	(95)	(1,387)
Bequest reserve	-			-			-
Pen y Pass Income reserve (for facilities related to Snowdon)	(56)			(56)			(56)
Section 106 reserve (for purposes related to affordable housing)	(295)		(190)	(485)	14	(126)	(597)
Projects reserve	(504)	45	(483)	(942)	199	(302)	(1,045)
Asset Management Reserve	(444)	57	(536)	(923)	28	(107)	(1,002)
Staff Resilience	(120)			(120)	5	(285)	(400)
Commercial Risk reserve	(100)			(100)			(100)
Liability relating to the Pension reserve	-			-			-
	<b>(5,897)</b>	<b>1,684</b>	<b>(2,363)</b>	<b>(6,576)</b>	<b>1,643</b>	<b>(1,804)</b>	<b>(6,738)</b>
<b>Other Reserves</b>				-			-
General Fund	(663)	45	(232)	(850)	61	(311)	(1,100)
Capital:	-			-			-
Capital Grants Unapplied reserve	(2,413)	1,184	(865)	(2,094)	473	(493)	(2,114)
Useable Capital Receipts reserve (to only finance capital expenditure)	(164)			(164)			(164)
	<b>(9,137)</b>	<b>2,913</b>	<b>(3,460)</b>	<b>(9,684)</b>	<b>2,177</b>	<b>(2,608)</b>	<b>(10,116)</b>

**9. OTHER OPERATING EXPENDITURE**

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
<b>0</b>	Gains/losses on disposal of non-current assets	<b>6</b>

**10. FINANCING AND INVESTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
157	Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset)	36
(12)	Interest receivable and similar income	(136)
<b>145</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

**11. NON-SPECIFIC GRANT INCOME**

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
(4,190)	National Park Grant	(4,120)
(1,373)	Levies on Constituent Authorities	(1,373)
(282)	Capital Grants and Contributions	(505)
<b>(5,845)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>(5,998)</b>

## 12. PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

### Movement on Balances

2022/23	Land and Buildings	Vehicles Plant & Equipment	Community	Surplus Assets	Assets under Construction	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Cost or valuation</b>						
At 1 April 2022	15,909	2,194	620	40	316	19,079
Additions	372	205			3	580
Disposals		(18)			(109)	(127)
Revaluation gain (loss) to the CIES	(1)					(1)
Revaluation gain/ (loss) to the Revaluation Reserves	357					357
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<b>16,637</b>	<b>2,381</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>19,888</b>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation and Impairments</b>						
At 1 April 2022	(2,930)	(1,667)	-	-	-	(4,597)
Depreciation	(175)	(205)				(380)
Disposals		18				18
Impairment	(372)					(372)
<b>At 31st March 2023</b>	<b>(3,477)</b>	<b>(1,854)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(5,331)</b>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 March 2023</b>	<b>13,160</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>14,557</b>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2022	12,979	527	620	40	316	14,482

2021/22	Land and Buildings	Vehicles Plant & Equipment	Community	Surplus Assets	Assets under Construction	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Cost or valuation</b>						
At 1 April 2021	18,892	2,177	108	-	210	21,387
Additions	382	121	25		106	634
Disposals		(104)				(104)
Reclassification	(21)					(21)
Revaluation gain (loss) to the CIES	(2,859)		(25)			(2,884)
Revaluation gain/ (loss) to the Revaluation Reserves	(485)		512	40		67
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>	<b>15,909</b>	<b>2,194</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>19,079</b>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation and Impairments</b>						
At 1 April 2021	(2,276)	(1,583)	-	-	-	(3,859)
Depreciation	(158)	(188)				(346)
Impairment	(496)					(496)
Disposals		104				104
<b>At 31st March 2022</b>	<b>(2,930)</b>	<b>(1,667)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(4,597)</b>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 March 2022</b>	<b>12,979</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>14,482</b>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2021	16,617	594	108	-	210	17,529

### Depreciation

Depreciation of fixed assets is charged on a straight line basis to write off their cost less any projected residual value in equal instalments over the expected useful life of the asset using the following bases:-

Operational Land & Property	: between 10 – 60 years
Community Assets	: nil
Information Systems Equipment	: 3 years
Vehicles	: over 7 years to nil value.
Furniture & Other Equipment	: estimated operational life

### Revaluations

A revaluation of all land and building was carried out at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

### Capital Commitments

The only capital commitment on tendered contracts the Authority has as at 31/03/2023 is:

- Dolgellau Heritage Townscape Scheme - £429k

### 13. HERITAGE ASSETS

The Authority's classification of tangible heritage assets relates to :

- **Ynys y Pandy Slate Mill** - a listed building with no operational use, and removed from the land and buildings valuation in 2011/12 due to being below the de-minimis level.
- **Craig Yr Aderyn** - a Site of Special Scientific Interest and retained for its environmental qualities. Valuation at "existing use value"
- **Yr Ysgwrn** - home of the poet Hedd Wyn having been purchased to protect its cultural heritage. These assets are held at historic cost.

2022/23	Ynys y	Craig yr		
	Pandy Slate Mill	Aderyn	Ysgwrn	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
1 April 2022	-	28	870	898
Additions			-	-
Revaluation loss to the CI&ES				-
<b>31 March 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>898</b>
<b>Depreciation and Impairment</b>				
1 April 2022	-	-	(91)	(91)
Depreciation and Impairment	-	-	(12)	(12)
<b>31 March 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(103)</b>	<b>(103)</b>
<b>Net Book value at 31 March 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>795</b>
Net Book value at 31 March 2022	-	28	779	807

2021/22	Ynys y	Craig yr		
	Pandy Slate Mill	Aderyn	Ysgwrn	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
1 April 2021	-	28	818	846
Additions	-	-	31	31
Reclassification	-	-	21	21
Revaluation gain/(loss) to the CIES	-	-	-	-
<b>31 March 2022</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>898</b>
<b>Depreciation and Impairment</b>				
1 April 2021	-	-	(48)	(91)
Depreciation and Impairment	-	-	(43)	43
<b>31 March 2022</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(91)</b>	<b>(91)</b>
<b>Net Book value at 31 March 2022</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>807</b>
Net Book value at 31 March 2021	-	28	770	798



**14. ASSETS HELD FOR SALE**

As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 there were no assets held for sale. (As at 31/03/2022 no assets were designated as Assets for Sale).

**15. SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS**

As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 the Authority held term deposits worth £7,051k. (£7,848 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022).

**16. INVENTORIES**

Stocks are brought into account at cost price. Stocks held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 consisted of :-

		<b>Balance as at 31 March 2022 £'000</b>	<b>Balance as at 31 March 2023 £'000</b>
<b>Information Centres</b>	Goods for resale	75	90
<b>Access</b>	Snowdon maps	4	3
	Stones & bags	7	13
<b>Plas Tan y Bwlch</b>	Bar	1	2
	Goods for Resale	7	1
	Catering and cleaning	2	2
<b>Administation and Customer Care</b>	Protective Clothing	3	3
<b>Agriculture</b>	Trees	11	21
<b>Ysgwrn</b>	Café and shop goods	3	4
<b>Pen y Pass</b>	Goods for resale	2	1
<b>Llyn Tegid</b>	Goods for resale	1	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>116</b>	<b>141</b>

**17. DEBTORS**

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
	Amounts falling due within one year :	
93	Trade	154
54	Prepayments	59
1,881	Other	1,108
<b>2,028</b>		<b>1,321</b>
	<b>Long Term debtors (amounts falling due after one year)</b>	
12	Car loans to employees	4
<b>12</b>		<b>12</b>

**18. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

The balance of Cash and Cash Equivalents is made up of the following elements :

<b>31 March 2022</b>		<b>31 March 2023</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
2	Cash held by the Authority	2
418	Bank current accounts	541
1,913	Short-term deposits with banks	3,537
<b>2,333</b>	<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>4,080</b>

**19. CREDITORS**

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
	Amounts payable within one year :	
(1,262)	Trade	(911)
(494)	Other	(400)
<b>(1,756)</b>		<b>(1,311)</b>

**20. USABLE RESERVES**

Movements in the Authority's usable reserves are as noted in the Movement in Reserves Statement (and note 8)

**21. UNUSABLE RESERVES**

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		
(7,920)	Revaluation reserve	(8,102)
(7,377)	Capital adjustment account	(7,259)
884	Pensions Reserve	-
251	Accumulated Absences Account	272
<b>(14,162)</b>		<b>(15,089)</b>

## The Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Authority arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment (and Intangible Assets).

The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- Revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost,
- Used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation, or
- Disposed of and the gains are realised

The reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007, the date that the Reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

2021/22		2022/23
£'000		£'000
<b>(7,967)</b>	Balance as 1st April	<b>(7,920)</b>
<b>(3,125)</b>	Upward revaluation of assets	<b>(357)</b>
<b>3,199</b>	Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus/ Deficit on the Provision of Services	<b>169</b>
<b>74</b>	Surplus or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	<b>(188)</b>
<b>(27)</b>	Depreciation on revaluation gains written off to the Capital Adjustment	<b>6</b>
<b>(7,920)</b>	<b>Balance as 31st March</b>	<b>(8,102)</b>

## Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The Account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Authority as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Authority.

The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007, the date that the Revaluation reserve was created to hold such gains.

Note 8 provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation reserve.

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
(10,385)	Balance at 1st April	(7,377)
	<b>Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>	
742	Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	392
2,884	Revaluation losses on Property, Plant and Equipment	210
-	Book value of equipment disposals	-
352	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	484
<b>(6,407)</b>		<b>(6,291)</b>
	<b>Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation reserve</b>	
27	Depreciation adjustment	(6)
<b>(6,380)</b>	<b>Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year</b>	<b>(6,297)</b>
	<b><u>Capital financing applied in the year</u></b>	
57	Capital grants received in previous years and transferred to revenue in 2021/22	
(168)	Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	(274)
(605)	Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve	(284)
(281)	Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund balances	(404)
<b>(7,377)</b>	<b>Balance at 31st March</b>	<b>(7,259)</b>

## Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Authority accounts for post-employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Authority makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Authority has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
7,317	Balance at 1st April	884
(7,704)	Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability/ (asset)	(14,407)
1,979	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	1,790
(708)	Employer's pension contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(757)
-	Reversal of pension fund asset	12,490
<b>884</b>	<b>Balance at 31st March 2023</b>	<b>-</b>

## Accumulated Absences Account

The Accumulated Absences Account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Fund Balance from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31<sup>st</sup> March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund Balance is neutralised by transfers to or from the Account.

2021/22		2022/23
£'000		£'000
286	Balance ar 1st April	251
(286)	Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	(251)
251	Amount accrued at the end of the current year	271
(35)	Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	20
<b>251</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>271</b>

## 22. CASH FLOW STATEMENT – OPERATING ACTIVITIES

The “adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements” comprises of :

2021/22		2022/23
£'000		£'000
(358)	Depreciation and impairment	(398)
(3,270)	Revaluation losses on Property Plant and Equipment	
-	Impairment losses on Property Plant and Equipment	(210)
702	Movement in creditors	(71)
(1,067)	Movement in debtors	(664)
(1)	Movement in stock	26
(1,271)	Provision of Services costs for post employment benefits	(1,007)
<b>(5,265)</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>(2,324)</b>

**23. CASH FLOW STATEMENT – INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
	Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(479)
662		
-	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	6
2,514	Proceeds from short term and long term investments	797
(742)	Other receipts from investing activities	437
<b>2,433</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>760</b>

**24. CASH FLOW STATEMENT – FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
(13)	Car loan repayments and related interest together with finance lease interest	(8)
-	New car loans advances	-
<b>(13)</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>(8)</b>



## 25. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES

The Authority paid the following amounts to members of the Authority during the year.

The allowances paid to members were:-

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
97	Members Allowances	108
0	Travel & Subsistence	3
<b>97</b>		<b>111</b>

Further information is available on the Authority's website. See the following link : [HTTPS://WWW.SNOWDONIA.GOV.WALES/AUTHORITY/PUBLICATIONS/MEMBER-ALLOWANCES](https://www.snowdonia.gov.wales/authority/publications/member-allowances)

## 26. STAFF REMUNERATION

Regulation 7A of The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2010 requires disclosures of employees' remuneration.

The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 require the Authority to disclose a remuneration ratio between the median remuneration of all the authority's employees during the year and that of the authority's chief executive.

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>(£'000)</b>		<b>(£'000)</b>
92	Chief Executive Officer	94
29	SNPA Median Salary	22
3.15	Ratio	4.27

The remuneration paid to the Authority's senior employees is as follows:

<b>2021/22</b>				<b>2022/23</b>		
<b>Salary</b>	<b>Employer Pension Contribution</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>Salary</b>	<b>Employer Pension Contribution</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
92	18	109	Chief Executive Officer	94	19	112
7	1	9	Chief Finance Officer (Section 151)*	7	1	9
64	13	77	Director of Corporate Services	70	14	83
64	13	77	Director of Planning and Land Management Services	70	14	83

- \* The Chief Finance Officer was also Gwynedd Council's Head of Finance during the year, this relationship has been disclosed under note 29 – Related Parties.

No officers received a sum of over £60k (excluding Pension and Employer National Insurance Contributions) including a redundancy payment in 2022/23.

Number of Officers that received over £60k including salary and redundancy benefits.							
2021/22				2022/23			
Planning and Land Management	Corporate	Total	Range	Planning and Land Management	Corporate	Total	
0	0	0	60,000-64,999	0	0	0	
0	0	0	65,000-69,999	0	0	0	

### Termination Benefits

There no exit packages or redundancies made during the 2022/23, or 2021/22:

Exit package cost band	Number of compulsory redundancies		Number of other departures agreed		Total number of exit packages by cost band		Total cost of exit packages in each	
	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23	2021/22	2022/23
£'000							£'000	£'000
0-40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40-60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
60-80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
80-100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
100-150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**27. EXTERNAL AUDIT COSTS**

The Audit Wales audit plan stipulates the following costs in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts, certification of grant claims and statutory inspections and to non-audit services provided by the Authority's external auditors :-

<b>2021/22 £'000</b>	<b>Regulatory area</b>	<b>2022/23 £'000</b>
29	Fees payable to the auditor general for Wales with regard to external audit services carried out under the Code of Audit Practice prepared by the auditor general for Wales	29
18	Fees payable to the Auditor General for Wales in respect of statutory inspections and the LG Measure 2009	18
<b>46</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>

**28. GRANT INCOME**

The Authority credited the following grants, contributions and donations to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2022/23

<b>2021/22</b>		<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
	<b>REVENUE GRANTS</b>	
	<b>Credited to Services</b>	
	<b>Planning and Land Management</b>	
25	Natural Resources Wales	358
8	National Trust	10
10	RSPB LIFE	10
416	EU LIFE	632
354	Welsh Government	526
42	Local Authorities	38
195	Heritage Lottery Fund	307
-	Welsh water	-
27	Woodland Trust	10
77	National Grid	122
85	WCVA	36
4	HMRC (furlough scheme)	-
30	Other	39
<b>1,273</b>		<b>2,088</b>
	<b>Corporate</b>	
254	Natural Resources Wales	-
243	Welsh Government	76
1	Local Authorities	5
23	HMRC (Furlough Scheme)	-
1	Other	4
<b>522</b>		<b>85</b>
<b>1,795</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,173</b>

2021/22		2022/23
£'000		£'000
	<b>CAPITAL GRANTS</b>	
	<b>Credited to non-specific grant income</b>	
	<b>Planning and Land Management</b>	
-	Heritage Lottery Scheme	-
7	Welsh Government	21
	Other	-
7		21
	<b>Corporate (including Communication)</b>	
275	Welsh Government	480
	Other	4
275		484
<b>282</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>505</b>
	<b>Credited to Services</b>	
	<b>Planning and Land Management</b>	
305	Welsh Government	86
126	Heritage Lottery Fund	153
	Other	197
<b>431</b>		<b>436</b>
	<b>Corporate</b>	
428	Welsh Government	1,092
	Other	4
<b>428</b>		<b>1,096</b>
<b>1,141</b>		<b>2,037</b>
	<b>Capital Grants Received in Advance and utilised in the current year</b>	
604	Welsh Government	342
	Heritage Lottery Fund	
	Natrural Resources Wales	25
	British Mountainerring Council	38
<b>604</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>405</b>
<b>1,745</b>	<b>Total Capital Grants</b>	<b>2,442</b>

2021/22		2022/23
£'000		£'000
	Amounts payable within one year :	
(689)		(734)
<b>(689)</b>		<b>(734)</b>
	<b>Long Term payable (amounts falling due after one year)</b>	
(452)	Grants received in advance	(702)
<b>(452)</b>		<b>(702)</b>

The Authority has received a number of grants, contributions and donations that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that will require the monies or property to be returned to the giver. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

The £702k under Long Term grants represents:

- £253k Welsh Government grant for works on Hafod Eryri
- £1k relating to the Nant Peris TAIS scheme
- £415k LIFE Scheme
- £32k Nature Recovery Project – Welsh Government Grant

## 29. RELATED PARTIES

The Authority is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Authority or to be controlled or influenced by the Authority. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Authority might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Authority.

The Authority has adopted a materiality level of £1k for disclosure of Related Party Transactions relevant to Members and Staff.

### Welsh Government

The Welsh Government exerts significant influence through legislation and grant funding. The relevant sums are disclosed in notes 11 (“non-specific grant income”) and 28 (“grant income”).

### Members

Members of the Authority have direct control over the Authority's financial and operating policies. The total members allowances paid in 2022/23 is shown in Note 25. Details of members' interests are recorded in the Register of Members' interests, open to public inspection at the Authority's offices during working hours.

Members have declared an interest or relationship (as defined) in companies, businesses and organisations, public bodies and authorities. A breakdown of payments made to these bodies and companies under this heading during 2022/23 and balances at 31 March 2023 is as follows;

<b>Payments made (including creditors)</b>	<b>Amounts owed by the Authority</b>	<b>Income Received (including debtors)</b>	<b>Amounts owed to the Authority</b>
<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>8,143</b>	<b>4,282</b>	<b>19,051</b>	<b>14,580</b>

### **Other Public Bodies**

The Constituent Local Authorities within whose boundaries the Authority's own boundary runs, contribute to the finances of the Authority by means of a statutory levy, determined by the Welsh Assembly Government. Each of these authorities provides a number of councillors to serve as members of the National Park Authority, broadly in proportion to the size of the levy they contribute and their area within the National Park. The representation of the 18 members of Snowdonia National Park Authority is as follows - Gwynedd Council (9), Conwy Council (3) and Welsh Government (6). Further detail is available from the Authority agenda for the Annual General Meeting held in June each year.

Grants for specific purposes are also received from or via local authorities and the total of these is shown in note 28.

### **Officers**

The Authority's Chief Finance Officer is also Gwynedd Council's Head of Finance. The Authority received circa £1.1m (including the levy) from Gwynedd Council in 2022/23 (£1.1m in 2021/22) This total also includes income received for searches relating to the Planning Service which are outside the influence of the Chief Finance Officer as well as income in relation to various grants which are included in note 28. Income is also received from Conwy County Council for searches relating to the Planning Service

### **Entities controlled or significantly influenced by the Authority**

The Authority gives grants for specific purposes to organisations under the Eryri Partnerships Fund but it is not considered that the Authority has control, joint control or significant influence over the entities assisted.

The Authority had contracts with Gwynedd Council to provide the Authority with the following services during 2022/23:

- Pension Fund administration & Payroll Support Service (£6k)
- Internal audit Service (£8k)
- Temporary Support Service to the Finance Department (£24k)
- Temporary Human Resource Service (£3K)

The Authority has an interest in a Limited Liability Partnership (National Parks Partnership) together with 13 other UK National Park Authorities for the purpose of generating income mainly from sponsorship. A charitable body has been established which is ancillary to the National Parks Partnership for the purpose of raising monies for the national parks.



**30. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND CAPITAL FINANCING**

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the table below, together with the resources that have been used to finance it

2021/22		2022/23
£'000		£'000
0	<b>Opening Capital Financing Requirement</b>	-
	<b>Capital Investment</b>	
	<b>Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>	
	<b>Planning and Land Management</b>	
101	Ysgwrn	10
16	Pen y Pass & Llyn Tegid	-
-	Planning Service System	3
31	Equipment	-
-	Dark Skies projects	
-	Vehicles	35
45	Woodlands	4
7	Woodlands (SLSP Grant)	-
<b>200</b>		<b>52</b>
	<b>Corporate (including Communication)</b>	
40	Car park upgrades	153
53	Upgrade public conveniences	117
9	I.T. General Replacement programme	10
15	Vehicles	-
26	Equipment	-
16	Snowdon Partnership Scheme	-
7	Electricity charging points	-
91	New website	17
(1)	Dol Idris (TAIS scheme)	-
2	Ogwen Centre (TAIS scheme)	-
(3)	Nant Peris (TAIS scheme)	-
9	Betws y Coed Information Centre	20
43	I.T. (Welsh Gov. and SLSP Grants)	34
39	Main Offices Heating System	-
20	Ogwen - Fibre Scheme	-
20	Morfa Dyffryn Boardwalks	-
-	Morfa Mawddach	17
41	Decarbonisation (SLSP Grant)	13
-	Nature (SLSP Grant)	7
35	Electric Vehicle Charging Points (SLSP Grant)	6
-	Plas Tan y Bwlch improvements	21
-	Hafod Eryri	12
<b>462</b>		<b>427</b>
<b>662</b>		<b>479</b>

<b>2021/22</b>	<b>Revenue expenditure funded from capital under Statute</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
	<b>Planning and Land Management</b>	
9	Built Environment schemes	161
167	Dolgellau Townscape Heritage Scheme	323
58	Dark Skies Projects	84
3	Woodlands (Welsh Govt. grant)	-
104	Woodlands (SLSP grant)	1
69	Biodiversity (Welsh Govt. grant)	3
42	Agriculture and Conservation Projects	62
-	Traditional Boundaries (SLSP grant)	122
-	Eryri Nature (SLSP grant)	93
-	Ty Natur Project	77
<b>452</b>		<b>925</b>
	<b>Coporate</b>	
72	Access Improvements	74
-	Carneddau Path	33
33	Ffridd Uchaf	-
-	Nant Gwynant	5
6	Pont Llugwy Capel Currig	-
2	Canolfan Ogwen (TAIS Scheme)	-
56	Bwlch Mawr - Brithdir	1
56	Brithdir - Pen Ceunant	17
24	Cader Idris	76
6	Lon Gwyrfai (Welsh Govt. grant)	-
5	Llyn Nantlle (SLSP grant)	-
138	Eryri Community Fund	20
147	Crafnant - Capel Currig (SLSP grant)	11
-	Eryri Community (SLSP grant)	1
-	Eryri Sustainable Tourism (SLSP grant)	50
6	Cwm Rhwyddfor (SLSP grant)	-
<b>551</b>		<b>287</b>
<b>1,003</b>	<b>REFCUS Total</b>	<b>1,212</b>
<b>1,665</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,691</b>
	<b>Sources of Finance</b>	
	Capital Receipts	
(1,141)	Government Grants and other Contributions	(1,532)
(564)	Grant received in previous years and applied in 2022/23	(405)
89	SLSP grants Administration Fee	95
288	Grant received in advance in 2022/23	425
(281)	Sums set aside from revenue: Direct revenue contributions	(274)
<b>(1,609)</b>		<b>(1,691)</b>
	<b>Closing capital financing requirement</b>	
<b>0</b>	<b>Increase/decrease in Capital Financing Requirement</b>	<b>-</b>

From the total spend of £1,691k (£1,609k in 2021/22), £1,212k (£1003k in 2021/22) relates to expenditure on fixed assets not owned by the Authority. The relevant grants and contributions finance amounts to £1,027k (£595k in 2021/22). The net revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute is therefore £185k (£408k in 2021/22).

### 31. LEASES

#### AUTHORITY AS LESSEE

Finance Leases The Authority as lessee has no finance leases.

Operating Leases The Authority has operating leases relating to vehicles, photocopiers and franking machines.

The future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

31 March 2022		31 March 2023
<u>£'000</u>		<u>£'000</u>
138	Not later than 1 year	140
340	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	311
12,070	Later than 5 years	12,023
<b>12,548</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>12,474</b>

Lease costs of £63,164, (£36,710 in 2021/22) on **equipment** were charged to the Corporate Directorate within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement during the year.

No lease costs (£4,899 in 2021/22) on **Authority vehicles** was charged to the Corporate Directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement during the year.

Lease costs of £94,415 (£82,583 in 2021/22) on **properties** were charged to the Corporate Directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement during the year.

**AUTHORITY AS LESSOR**Finance Leases

As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 the Authority has no finance lease as lessor.

Operating Leases

The Authority leases out property under operating leases for the following purposes: commercial, ground rents on chalets at Plas Tan y Bwlch, office accommodation, grazing and recreational/access.

The income receivable for 2022/23 was £60,875, (£56,242 in 2021/22).

The estimated minimum lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases in future years are :

<b>31 March 2022</b>		<b>31 March 2022</b>
<b>£'000</b>		<b>£'000</b>
60	Not later than 1 year	136
397	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	455
75,706	Later than 5 years	75,729
<b>76,163</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>76,319</b>

Figures are subject to the effect of rent reviews, and income generated and also the number of visitors for Hafod Eryri.

The associated depreciation charge on the assets relevant to operating leases is £37,569 (2021/22 £37,569).

**32. IMPAIRMENT LOSSES**

There were impairment losses of £210k arising on property, plant and equipment during 2022/23. The impairment losses are mainly a result of non-enhancing capital expenditure.

**33. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 the Authority had no contingent liabilities.

### 34. NATURE AND EXTENT OF RISKS ARISING FROM FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Authority's activities can expose it to a variety of financial risks:

- **Credit risk** – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Authority,
- **Liquidity risk** – the possibility that the Authority might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments,
- **Market risk** – the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Authority as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates. Changes in the foreign exchange rate can constitute a significant risk within the Celtic Rainforest (LIFE) project.

The above risks were managed through the Authority's debt recovery arrangements and Annual Treasury Management Strategy, with no significant negative impacts in 2022/23. The value of the Authority's financial instruments is the same as their fair value.

### 35. PENSION FUND

#### PARTICIPATION IN PENSION SCHEMES

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers, the Authority makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Authority has a commitment to make the payments that needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Authority participates in two post-employment schemes:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme, administered locally by Gwynedd Council – this is a funded defined benefit final salary scheme, meaning that the Authority and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets.
- Discretionary post-retirement benefits upon early retirement. This is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement under which liabilities are recognised when awards have been made. No investment assets were built up to meet these pensions liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet the actual pensions payments as they fall due. The Authority has an annual liability based on past awards made under these arrangements, but has not added to that liability in recent years. Rather, any extra pension liability ensuing from granting early retirement is recognised and paid off in that specific year.

**TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

We recognise the cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge we are required to make against the General Fund is based on cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund Balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

**CHANGE IN THE FAIR VALUE OF PLAN ASSETS, DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS AND NET LIABILITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023.**

<b>Period ended 31 March 2023</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Obligations</b>	<b>Net (liability) / asset</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Fair Value of employer assets	45,786	0	45,786
Present value of funded liabilities	0	46,306	(46,306)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	0	364	(364)
<b>Opening position as at 31 March 2022</b>	<b>45,786</b>	<b>46,670</b>	<b>(884)</b>
Service cost			
- Current service cost *	0	1,754	(1,754)
- Past Service Cost (including curtailments)	0	0	(0)
<b>Total Service Cost</b>		<b>1,754</b>	<b>(1,754)</b>
Net interest			
- Interest income on plan assets	1,236	0	1,236
- Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	0	1,272	(1,272)
<b>Total Net Interest</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>(36)</b>
<b>Total defined benefit cost recognised in Profit or (Loss)</b>	<b>1,236</b>	<b>3,026</b>	<b>(1,790)</b>

<b>Cashflows</b>			
- Plan participants' contributions	245	245	0
- Employer contributions	757	0	757
- Benefits paid	(983)	(983)	0
- Unfunded benefits paid	(26)	(26)	0
- Contributions in respect of unfunded benefits	26	0	26
<b>Expected closing position</b>	<b>47,041</b>	<b>48,932</b>	<b>(1,891)</b>
<b>Remeasurements</b>			
- Change in demographic assumptions	0	(18,420)	18,420
- Change in financial assumptions	0	(282)	282
- Other experience		2,409	(2,409)
- Return on assets excluding amounts included in net interest	(1,912)	0	(1,912)
<b>Total remeasurements recognised in Other Comprehensive Income (OCI)</b>	<b>(1,912)</b>	<b>(16,293)</b>	<b>14,381</b>
Fair value of employer assets	45,129	0	45,129
Present value of funded liabilities	0	32,356	(32,356)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	0	283	(283)
<b>Closing position as at 31 March 2023</b>	<b>45,129</b>	<b>32,639</b>	<b>12,490</b>

**CHANGE IN THE FAIR VALUE OF PLAN ASSETS, DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS AND NET LIABILITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2022.**

<b>Period ended 31 March 2022</b>	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Obligations</b>	<b>Net (liability) / asset</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Fair Value of employer assets	41,635	0	32,215
Present value of funded liabilities	0	48,550	(36,436)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	0	402	(402)
<b>Opening position as at 31 March 2021</b>	<b>41,635</b>	<b>48,952</b>	<b>(7,317)</b>
Service cost			
- Current service cost *	0	1,822	(1,822)
- Past Service Cost (including curtailments)	0	0	0
<b>Total Service Cost</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,822</b>	<b>(1,822)</b>
Net interest			
- Interest income on plan assets	831	0	831
- Interest cost on defined benefit obligation		988	(988)
<b>Total Net Interest</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>(157)</b>
<b>Total defined benefit cost recognised in Profit or (Loss)</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>2,810</b>	<b>(1,979)</b>
Cashflows			
- Plan participants' contributions	218	218	0
- Employer contributions	680	0	680
- Contributions in respect of unfunded benefits	(996)	(996)	0
- Benefits paid	(28)	(28)	0
- Unfunded benefits paid	28	0	28
<b>Expected closing position</b>	<b>42,368</b>	<b>50,956</b>	<b>(8,588)</b>
Remeasurements			
- Change in demographic assumptions	0	(3,289)	3,289



- Change in financial assumptions	0	(1,010)	1,010
- Other experience	463	13	450
- Return on assets excluding amounts included in net interest	2,955	0	2,955
<b>Total remeasurements recognised in Other Comprehensive Income (OCI)</b>	<b>3,418</b>	<b>(4,286)</b>	<b>7,704</b>
Fair value of employer assets	45,786	0	45,786
Present value of funded liabilities	0	46,306	(46,306)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	0	364	(364)
<b>Closing position as at 31 March 2022</b>	<b>45,786</b>	<b>46,670</b>	<b>(884)</b>

The current service cost includes an allowance for administration expenses of 0.5% of payroll

This liability comprises of approximately £283k in respect of LGPS unfunded pensions and £0 in respect of Teachers' unfunded pensions. For unfunded liabilities as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, it is assumed that all unfunded pensions are payable for the remainder of the member's life. It is further assumed that 90% of pensioners are married (or cohabiting) at death and that their spouse (or cohabitee) will receive a pension of 50% of the member's pension as at the date of the member's death.

#### INFORMATION ABOUT THE DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATION

	Liability split		Weighted Average Duration at Previous Valuation
	£'000	Percentage (%)	
Active members	3,366	141	51
Deferred members	295	130	52
Pensioner members	773	97	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,434</b>	<b>100</b>	

(Figures are for funded obligations only and do not include the unfunded pensioner liabilities. The durations are effective as at the previous formal valuation as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022).

**SCHEME HISTORY**

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£,000
Present value of liabilities in the Local Government Pension Scheme	(38,018)	(43,173)	(36,804)	(48,952)	(46,670)	(32,639)
Fair Value of Assets in the Local Government Pension Scheme	32,666	35,421	32,215	41,635	45,786	45,129
<b>Surplus / (deficit) in the scheme :</b>	<b>(5,352)</b>	<b>(7,752)</b>	<b>(4,589)</b>	<b>(7,317)</b>	<b>(884)</b>	<b>12,490</b>

The total contributions by the Authority, as estimated by the Actuary, for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 is £783k. The Actuary estimates employers contributions for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 at £783k.

The Discretionary Benefits arrangements have no assets to cover its liabilities. The Local Government Pension Scheme's assets consist of the following categories, by proportion of the total assets held :

31 March 2022		31 March 2023
(%)		(%)
68	Equity investments	68
22	Debt investments (bonds)	23
9	Property	9
1	Cash	1
<b>100</b>		<b>100</b>

**The Major Categories of Plan Assets as a Percentage of Total Plan Assets**

The actuary has provided a detailed breakdown of Fund assets in accordance with the requirements of IAS19. This analysis distinguishes between the nature and risk of those assets and to further break them down between those with a quoted price in an active market and those that do not. The asset split for Snowdonia National Park Authority is assumed to be in the same proportion to the Fund's asset allocation as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. The split is shown in the following table. The actuary estimates the bid value of the Fund's assets as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 to be £45,129k based on information provided by the Administering Authority and allowing for index returns where necessary.

## Fair Value of Employer Assets

The asset values below are at bid value as required under IAS19.

Asset category	31 Mar 2023				31 Mar 2022			
	Quoted prices in active markets	Prices not quoted in active markets	Total	%	Quoted prices in active markets	Prices not quoted in active markets	Total	%
	(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)		(£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)	
<b>Equity Securities :</b>								
Consumer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manufacturing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Energy & Utilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Financial Institutions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Health & Care	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Information Technology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Debt Securities :</b>								
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Private Equity :</b>								
All	0	2,841.1	2,841.1	6	0	2,617.9	2,617.9	6
<b>Real Estate :</b>								
UK Property	0	3,719.3	3,719.3	9	0	4,165.2	4,165.2	9
Overseas Property	0	0	0	0	0			0
<b>Investment Funds &amp; Unit Trusts :</b>								
Equities	0	28,094.3	28,094.3	64	0	28,549.6	28,549.6	62
Bonds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infrastructure	0	1,281.3	1,281.3	2	0	1,112.0	1,112.0	2
Other	0	9,052.2	9,052.2	20	0	9,101.3	9,101.3	20
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>								
All	140.8	0	140.8	0	240.0	0	240.0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>44,988</b>	<b>45,129</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>240.0</b>	<b>45,546</b>	<b>45,786</b>	<b>100</b>

## Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc., Both the Local Government Pension Scheme and Discretionary Benefits liabilities have been assessed by Hymans Robertson, an independent firm of actuaries, estimates for the Authority Fund being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

The principal assumptions used by the actuary have been :

	Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2022/23	2021/22
Long term expected rate of return on assets in the scheme :	4.75%	2.7%
Mortality Assumptions :		
Longevity at 65 for current pensioners :		
Men	21.5 years	21.5 years
Women	23.9 years	23.9 years
Longevity at 65 for future pensioners :		
Men	22.0 years	22.7 years
Women	25.8 years	25.9 years
- Rate of inflation (CPI)	2.95%	2.9%
- Rate of increase in salaries	3.45%	3.2%
- Rate of increase in pensions	2.95%	2.9%
- Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	4.95%	2.0%
Take up of option to convert annual pension into retirement lump sum	65% pre 1/4/2014 service and 65% post 1/4/2014 service.	50% pre 1/4/2014 service and 65% post 1/4/2014 service.

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in the table above. In order to quantify the impact of a change in the financial assumptions used, the actuary has calculated and compared the value of the scheme liabilities as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 on varying bases. The approach taken is consistent with that adopted to derive the IAS19 figures provided in this note.

To quantify the uncertainty around life expectancy, the actuary has calculated the difference in cost to the Authority of a one year increase in life expectancy. For sensitivity purposes this is assumed to be an increase in the cost of benefits of broadly 3-5%. In practice the actual cost of one year increase in life expectancy will depend on the structure of the revised assumption (i.e. if improvements to survival rates predominantly apply at younger or older ages). The figures in the table below have been derived based on membership profile of the Authority as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, the date of the most recent actuarial valuation. The approach taken in preparing the sensitivity analysis shown is consistent with that adopted in the previous year.

<b>Impact on the Defined Benefit Obligation in the Scheme</b>		
<b>Change in assumption</b>	<b>Approximate increase to Employer 31 March 2023</b>	<b>Approximate monetary amount 31 March 2023</b>
	<b>(%)</b>	<b>(£'000)</b>
0.1% decrease in real discount rate	2	615
1 year increase in member life expectancy	4	1,306
0.1% increase in salary increase rate	0	91
0.1% increase in the pension increase rate	2	532

### **Projected Defined Benefit Cost for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

	<b>Assets</b>	<b>Obligations</b>	<b>Net (liability) / asset</b>	
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>% of pay</b>
Projected Current Service Cost*	0	720	(720)	(18.8)%
Past Service Cost including curtailments	0	0	0	0
Effect of settlements	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Service Cost</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>(720)</b>	<b>(18.8)%</b>
Interest income on plan assets	2,141	0	2,141	56.0%
Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	0	1,548	(1,548)	(40.5)%
<b>Total Net Interest Cost</b>	<b>2,141</b>	<b>1,548</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>(15.5)%</b>
<b>Total Included in Profit and Loss</b>	<b>2,141</b>	<b>2,268</b>	<b>(127)</b>	<b>(3.3)%</b>

\* The current service cost includes an allowance for administration expenses of 0.6% of payroll. The monetary value is based on a projected payroll of £3,822k.

The contributions paid by the Employer are set by the Fund Actuary at each triennial actuarial valuation (the most recent being as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022), or at any other time as instructed to do so by the Administering Authority.

## **The independent auditor's report of the Auditor General for Wales to the members of Eryri National Park Authority**

### **Opinion on financial statements**

I have audited the financial statements of Eryri National Park Authority for the year ended 31 March 2022 under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004.

Eryri national Park Authority's financial statements comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK adopted international accounting standards as interpreted and adapted by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021-22.

In my opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of Eryri National Park Authority as at 31 March 2022 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and UK adopted international accounting standards as interpreted and adapted by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021-22.

### **Basis of opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing in the UK (ISAs (UK)) and Practice Note 10 'Audit of Financial Statements of Public Sector Entities in the United Kingdom'. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of my report. I am independent of the Eryri National Park Authority in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, I have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work I have performed, I have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on Eryri National Park Authority's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

My responsibilities and the responsibilities of the responsible financial officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other Information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. The Responsible Financial

Officer is responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in my report, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

My responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Report on other requirements**

### **Opinion on other matters**

In my opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of my audit:

- the information contained in the Narrative Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and the Narrative Report has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021-22;
- The information given in the Annual Governance Statements for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and the Annual Governance Statement has been prepared in accordance with guidance.

### **Matters on which I report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of Eryri National Park and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, I have not identified material misstatements in the Narrative Report or the Annual Governance Statement.

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters, which I report to you, if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for my audit have not been received from branches not visited by my team;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;  
or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

## **Responsibilities**

### **Responsibilities of the responsible financial officer for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts set out on page 11, the responsible financial officer is responsible for the preparation of the statement of accounts, which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as

the responsible financial officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of statements of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the statement of accounts, the responsible financial officer is responsible for assessing the name of local government body's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless deemed inappropriate.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. I design procedures in line with my responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

My procedures included the following:

- Enquiring of management, the Authority's head of internal audit and those charged with governance, including obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation relating to Eryri National Park's policies and procedures concerned with:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Considering as an audit team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud. As part of this discussion, I identified potential for fraud in the following areas: posting of unusual journals and reviewing accounting estimate for biases.
- Obtaining an understanding of Eryri National Park Authority's framework of authority as well as other legal and regulatory frameworks that the Authority operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of Eryri National Park Authority.

In addition to the above, my procedures to respond to identified risks included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above;
- enquiring of management, the Performance and Resources Committee and legal advisors about actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias;



and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

•

I also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all audit team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

The extent to which my procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is affected by the inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities, the effectiveness of the Authority's controls, and the nature, timing and extent of the audit procedures performed.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website

[www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of my auditor's report.

### **Certificate of completion of audit**

I certify that I have completed the audit of the accounts of Eryri National Park Authority in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and the Auditor General for Wales' Code of Audit Practice.

Adrian Crompton

Auditor General for Wales  
13 June 2024

1 Capital Quarter  
Cardiff  
CF10 4BZ

### ***Maintenance and integrity of the Authority's website :***

*The maintenance and integrity of the Authority's website is the responsibility of Snowdonia National Park Authority; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and accordingly auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website.*

# 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)

[Mae'r ddogfen yma ar gael yn y Gymraeg / This document is available in Welsh](#)

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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><b>Code of Corporate Governance</b></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 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2022.</p>
<p><b>Standards Committee</b></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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2002.</p> <p>The second meeting of Standards Committee which was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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><b>Whistle Blowing Policy</b></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><b>Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy</b></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>

<b>Model Code of Conduct</b>	During 2022/23, no amendments or revisions were made to the Model Code of Conduct.
<b>Complaints – Officers</b>	<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>
<b>Complaints - Members</b>	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.
<b>Standing Orders</b>	<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>
<b>Standing Orders relating to Contracts</b>	<p>A new revised version of the Standing Orders relating to Contracts was presented to the Authority for adoption in its meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> 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>

<p><b>Scheme of Delegation</b></p>	<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>
<p><b>Members' Register of Interests</b></p>	<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

<p><b>Strategic Equality Plan</b></p>	<p>The Annual Report on the Strategic Equality Plan was presented to the Performance and Resources Committee on the 30<sup>th</sup> 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>
<p><b>Direct Consultation</b></p>	<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><b>Communication and Engagement Strategy</b></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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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><b>Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations Requests</b></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 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><b>Committee Agendas and Associated Reports</b></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><b>Cynllun Yr Wyddfa Partnership Plan</b></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><b>Cynllun Eryri (Eryri National Park Partnership Plan)</b></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-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 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and it is hoped that it will be presented to Authority members in the AGM on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 for adoption.</p>
<p><b>Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031</b></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 19<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Visitor Economy</b></p>	<p>In its meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Corporate Work Programme 2021-22</b></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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Budget Strategy 2022/23</b></p>	<p>The Authority's revenue budget for 2022/23 was confirmed in the Chief Finance Officer's report to the Authority on the 9<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 and to the Performance and Resources Committee on the 22<sup>nd</sup> 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><b>Mid Term Financial Plan 2023/24 – 2026/27</b></p>	<p>In its meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Performance Management</b></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 12<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Members' Role Descriptions</b></p>	<p>Revised role descriptions for Members and for the Chair and Vice Chair were adopted by the Authority on the 27<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Members' Attendance</b></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 30<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Member Training</b></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 14<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Staff Performance Appraisals and Training</b></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><b>Human Resources Strategy</b></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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 recruitment and retention issues. For example, the</p>

	<p>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><b>Financial Statements</b></p>	<p>The draft Statement of Accounts was not completed within the extended timeline of 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2022. They were presented to the Authority on the 12<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> of July 2022.</p> <p>Audit Wales commenced an audit of the Statement of Accounts on the 19<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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>

<b>Risk Management</b>	<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>
<b>External Audit</b>	<p>At the Authority meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2022, Audit Wales presented their Audit Plan for 2022. The report sets out the audit risks and proposed audit response to be undertaken during the year. The report also notes that the performance audit was yet to be confirmed at that time. The audit fees were also confirmed.</p> <p>At the Authority meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> 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>
<b>Internal Audit</b>	<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>
<b>Health and Safety</b>	<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>
<b>Information Centres</b>	<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 30<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Borrowing and Investment Strategies / Treasury Management</b></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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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>



	Investment Strategy for 2023/24, and noted the content with regard to the Prudential Code.
<b>Plas Tan y Bwlch Study Centre</b>	<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&amp;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 19<sup>th</sup> 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>
<b>Yr Ysgwrn</b>	<p>Yr Ysgwrn's Annual Report was presented to the Authority on the 27<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Pay Policy Statement</b></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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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><b>Annual Report and Improvement Plan 2021/22</b></p>	<p>The Annual Report and Improvement Plan for 2021/22 was presented to the Authority meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Hybrid Committees and Broadcasting</b></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><b>Member Scrutiny</b></p>	<p>At the Performance and Resources Committee on the 20<sup>th</sup> 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><b>Grant Funding</b></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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.
<b>Place Names Task and Finish Group</b>	<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"> <li>➤ 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.</li> <li>➤ 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.</li> <li>➤ To define success, a work programme and which partners can collaborate.</li> </ul> <p>In a report to the Authority on the 16<sup>th</sup> 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"> <li>1. Adopt the Place Names Principles as a guide for the Authority's use of place names.</li> <li>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</i> (<i>Snowdon</i>) and <i>Eryri</i> (<i>Snowdonia</i>) in English, should the context require this for education and engagement purposes.</li> </ol>

## Significant Governance Issues and Actions Proposed for 2023/24

### 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.

Specifically, following the Authority’s adoption of the Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Visitor Economy in Gwynedd and Eryri (2035), work has commenced on producing an Action Plan which will include holistic measurements on the impacts of tourism (R1 and R2). However, it is important to note that implementing this Strategic Plan will require significant capacity and resource commitment over the coming years, which is an identified risk and a potential barrier of success.

Specific projects within Cynllun Eryri already involve working closely with tourism businesses to both promote and deliver various sustainable tourism practices such as Yr Wyddfa Di-blastig project (R3), the progress of which are outlined in the Cynllun Eryri Annual Report.

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	<p>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:</p> <p>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.</p>
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### The Authority's Risk Profile

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

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Action Identified / Progress to date</b>
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.	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

		<p>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 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>

## 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.



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**EMYR WILLIAMS**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
SNOWDONIA NATIONAL  
PARK AUTHORITY**

**DATE: 14.06.2023**

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**ANNWEN HUGHES**

**CHAIR  
SNOWDONIA NATIONAL  
PARK AUTHORITY**

**DATE : 14.06.2023**



## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### **ACCRUALS**

The concept that income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as money is received or paid.

### **CAPITAL CHARGE**

A charge to service revenue accounts to reflect the cost of fixed assets used in the provision of service.

### **CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset or expenditure which adds to and not merely maintains the value of an existing fixed asset.

### **CAPITAL RECEIPTS**

Proceeds of not less £10k from the sale of fixed assets. They may be used to finance new capital expenditure or repay debt. They cannot be used to finance normal day to day revenue spending.

### **COMMUNITY ASSETS**

Assets that the authority intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life, and that may have restrictions on their disposal.

### **CONTINGENT LIABILITIES/ASSETS**

These arise from a past event which is dependent upon future uncertain events and timing prior to being recognised in the accounts.

### **REVENUE EXPENDITURE FUNDED FROM CAPITAL UNDER STATUTE**

Expenditure classified as capital for funding purposes but which does not result in the expenditure being carried on the balance sheet as a fixed asset. These items are generally grants and expenditure on property not owned by the Authority.

### **DEFINED BENEFIT SCHEME**

A pension scheme where the scheme rules define the benefits independently of the contributions payable, and the benefits are not directly related to the investments of the scheme.

### **FINANCE LEASE**

A lease that transfers all of the risk and rewards of ownership of a fixed asset to the lessee.

### **OPERATING LEASE**

A lease other than a finance lease.

### **FIXED ASSETS**

Tangible assets that yield benefits to the authority and the services it provides for a period of more than one year.

**USEFUL LIFE**

The period over which the authority will derive benefits from the use of a fixed asset.

**ABBREVIATIONS**

**CIPFA** Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

**LASAAC** Local Authority (Scotland) Accounts Advisory Committee

**IFRS** International Financial Reporting Standard

**IAS** International Accounting Standard

**ERAMMP** Environment and Rural Affairs Monitoring & Modelling Programme

**TAIS** Tourism Amenity Investment Support

**ITEM NO. 11**

<b>MEETING</b>	Snowdonia National Park Authority
<b>DATE</b>	11 September 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>2024/25 BUDGET UPDATE</b>
<b>REPORT BY</b>	Head of Finance
<b>PURPOSE</b>	To inform Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- of significant virements.</li><li>- of the expenditure to date against the revenue and capital budgets and present any projections for the financial year.</li></ul>

**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 This report provides a review of the 2024/25 budget including a summary of the revised revenue and capital budgets following the first four months of the financial year i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2024.
- 1.2 Part 4 of the report indicates the progress made to date against the net revenue budget as well as a comparison with the situation from the same period in 2023/24.
- 1.3 Slippage and underspend from the 2023/24 financial year ear-marked for specific purposes has been included in the revised net budget. This includes funds for specific orders, underspend on grant schemes offered by the Authority and contribution towards salaries as well as underspend from the Authority's Capital projects.
- 1.4 The Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places (S.L.S.P) 2022/23 – 2024/25 grant projects are on-going. The total value of these projects is £2.5 million with the proposed expenditure profiled over three years with £850,000 for 2024/25.
- 1.5 The main purpose of the S.L.S.P grants is to fund capital work but an agreement with Welsh Government has enabled for administration/overhead fees of up to 10% as well as delivery costs to be utilised from the total funding. These delivery fees range from 5% - 15% depending on the complexity of the projects and the requirement of additional resources to effectively complete

them. Normally, grant schemes such as these have a net effect of '£0' on the Authority's baseline, but the delivery fee element can contribute towards staff resources creating a saving against the services and the baseline.

1.6 Local Places for Nature Capital grant scheme is continuing in 2024/25 with the expenditure being claimed back from Welsh Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA). Heritage Lottery schemes such as Carneddau are also continuing.

1.7 No additional grants have been received or are currently expected from Welsh Government.

## 2. 2024/25 REVISED REVENUE BUDGET

2.1 The Original Net Budget was approved by the Authority on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Service Areas	Original Budget	Virements	Revised Net Budget
	£	£	£
Planning & Land Management	1,655,650	224,492	1,880,142
Corporate	5,325,509	63,396	5,506,305
Balances, reserves and provisions	379,000		379,000
<b>Total Expenditure to Services</b>	<b>7,360,159</b>	<b>287,888</b>	<b>7,648,047</b>
Interest Earned on Surplus Funds	- 100,000		- 100,000
Revenue Financing of Capital Expenditure	526,262	331,505	857,767
Capital Charges Adjustment	- 591,050		- 591,050
<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>7,195,371</b>	<b>619,393</b>	<b>7,814,764</b>
<b>Financed from</b>			
National Park Grant	4,119,789		4,119,789
Constituent Authority Levy	1,373,262		1,373,262
	<b>5,493,051</b>		<b>5,493,051</b>
Contributions from reserve	1,061,757	1,259,956	2,321,713
<b>Revised Net Budget</b>	<b>6,554,808</b>		<b>7,814,764</b>

2.2 A detailed breakdown showing the revised net budget per service as of 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2024 can be seen in Appendix 1. This appendix also details virements to/from the reserves made within the year.

2.3 The budget was adjusted from £7,195,371 (as approved in February 2024) to £7,814,764 as a result of the following:

- £27,500 increase in recruitment costs due to the need to recruit a new Chief Executive
- £52,400 adjustment to the Peatlands Project in order to utilise funding received from National Grid
- £35,135 adjustment to Planning and Land Management salaries and posts
- £299,370 adjustment for the transfer of 2023/24 slippages to the 2024/25 budget

- £220,000 adjustment for the capital remedial works at Hafod Eryri
- 2.4 The majority of the above adjustments are funded from reserves already earmarked for those purposes. The £35,135 adjustment to Planning and Land Management salaries will increase the deficit from £640,563 to £675,700, which will be funded from the Financial Hardship Reserve, set up at the end of the last financial year in order to meet the current financial challenge.

### 3. REVISED CAPITAL BUDGET

- 3.1 A summary of the revised net budget for capital expenditure for 2024/25 is shown in the following table, with additional detail in appendix 2.

<b>Capital Budget 2024/25</b>					
<b>Service Areas</b>		<b>Grant Incwm</b>	<b>Net Original Budget</b>	<b>Virements</b>	<b>Revised Net Budget</b>
	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>
Planning and Land Management	369,320	-	369,320	-	369,320
Corporate	156,940	-	156,940	331,505	488,445
<b>Total</b>	<b>526,260</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>526,260</b>	<b>331,505</b>	<b>857,767</b>

- 3.2 These adjustments are due to budget adjustments following the outturn and a review of the funds in the capital grant projects reserve. Other adjustments were requested by the Heads of Services to include historic grant projects which they intend to complete as well as slippage from the Capital projects budget in 2024/25.

### 4. FORECASTED POSITION FOR 2024/25

- 4.1 The following table summarises the progress against the budget to July 31<sup>st</sup>, and a comparison with the same period in 2023/24.

Services	Revised Net Budget	Net Expenditure to date	2023/24 Comparison	Variance
	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
Planning and Land Management	1,880,142	1,127,920	728,926	398,994
Corporate	5,388,905	2,510,823	1,410,588	1,100,235
Balances, reserves, and provisions	379,000	-	-	-
<b>Total Services Expenditure</b>	<b>7,648,047</b>	<b>3,638,743</b>	<b>2,139,514</b>	<b>1,499,229</b>
				-
Interest Earned on Surplus Funds	- 100,000	- 92,596	- 66,694	- 25,902
Revenue Contribution Towards Capital	857,767	542,993	353,891	189,102
Capital Charges adjustment	- 591,050	- 197,120	- 197,120	-
<b>Net Revenue Budget</b>	<b>7,814,764</b>	<b>3,892,020</b>	<b>2,229,591</b>	<b>1,662,429</b>
<b>FUNDED FROM</b>				
National Park Grant	4,119,789			
Constituent Authority Levy	1,373,262			
Contributions from reserve	1,061,757			
<b>Original Net Budget</b>	<b>6,554,808</b>			
Additional Welsh Government Grant				
Contributions from reserve	1,259,956			
<b>Revised Net Budget</b>	<b>7,814,764</b>			

- 4.2 To summarise, the net expenditure position of the services compares favourably to 2023/24, with services on target to keep within their budget for the year. As expected, expenditure has increased on elements effected by inflation, specifically on energy. The budget was adjusted to address this in 2023/24 and so far, the budget for 2024/25 seems sufficient. Bank interest rates remain high due to a slower reduction in inflation than expected, which has led to significant income from bank interest for the Authority, with £92.5k received already in the first 4 months of the financial year. Further discussions will be required with the Heads of Services and the Management Team during the financial year to discuss further adjustments to the budget or to fund any unexpected expenditure.

A detailed explanation for some of the adjustments to the original budget and current projected variances are as follows.

#### 4.3 **Corporate:**

Plas Tan y Bwlch – The budget for Plas Tan y Bwlch has been funded from the reserves for 2024/25 due to possible disposal, and therefore the current expenditure within the service has no effect on the baseline budget. Due to difficulty recruiting staff, Plas Tan y Bwlch no longer offers a B&B service, and has had to close on certain dates due to staff shortages. This means a less income than expected, which may result in a higher amount being required from the reserves.

Car Parks – Income from car parking fees remains high with £466k received up to the end of July against the budget target of £820k for the year, although the figure is significantly lower than the income received for the same period in

2023/24 (£550k). The car park at Llyn Tegid has also been particularly busy with £67k received compared to the annual target of £56k. Any potential surplus income from car parking fees will likely be needed to address the financial challenge that currently faces the Authority.

Human Resources – The budget for recruitment has been increased by £27,500 due to the recruitment of a new Chief Executive in 2024/25.

Legal – A public enquiry is due to start in September, which means additional legal costs of potentially £40,000

4.4 **Planning & Land Management**: Overall, the current net expenditure remains within budget. There are variances within the services as detailed below.

Cultural Heritage – The projects within these service areas are projects which are expected to be grant funded. Any potential deficit will not be apparent until the final grant claims have been submitted.

Development Management and Compliance – Due to difficulties recruiting for certain specialist posts within the service, there is higher than expected expenditure on external consultancy fees which may result in an overspend within the budget.

Yr Ysgwrn –The budget and the income target have been adjusted in 2024/25 to reflect a more achievable/realistic target. The service is currently within budget.

Conservation, Trees, and Agriculture – Several projects tied to this service are grant funded including Mind the Gap, Eryri Fringes and Peatlands projects. It is likely that the expenditure will be claimed back via grants within the year. When setting the original budget there was no assurance of these grants and the budget for salaries on some of these schemes were set against the baseline as a precaution. Current projections do not suggest a situation where the grants will not be available and unless this scenario changes during the year, an underspend on salaries within this service is expected.

4.5

**Balances, Reserves and Provisions** - The original baseline balance of £30,000 for inflation remains unallocated as well as the salary increase provision of £349,000. A decision on salary increases is yet to be agreed by the unions.

4.6

**Interest** – The target for interest income was increased from £28,000 to £100,000 for the 2024/25 budget due interest rates remaining high and inflation decreasing at a slower rate than initially expected. In the first 4 months of the financial year, a total of £92.5k interest income has already been received.

4.8 **Capital:** The main net spends to the end of July are on -

Warden Vehicles	£68,329
Dolgellau Townscape Heritage Fund Project	£79,003
Cultural Heritage	£25,106
National Grid, Mind the Gap Project	£70,489
Traditional Boundaries (Collaborative S.L.S.P)	£22,681
Sustainable Tourism (S.L.S.P)	£24,288
Betws y Coed (Welsh Government Grant)	£31,659
Hafod Eryri Capital Repairs	£111,738

**5. VIREMENTS BETWEEN THE BUDGETS WORTH OVER £30,000 FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE AUTHORITY.**

5.1 Part 3 of the Authority's Financial Regulations state the need to report to the Authority or the Performance & Resources Committee regarding virements worth between £30,000 and £100,000 between budgets, where they have not been previously approved by the Authority. In addition, the Authority's approval is required for any virement worth £100,000 or more.

5.2 No such virements have been approved during the first four months of this financial year.

**6. RECOMMENDATION**

- **Approve the report and note the current financial situation for 2024/25**

**7. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**NONE**



**Snowdonia National Park Authority**  
**Revised Budget for 2024/25 on 31 July 2024**

	Original Budget	Virements	Revised Net Budget
	£	£	£
<b>PLANNING AND LAND MANAGEMENT</b>			
Conservation, Trees and Agriculture	533,200	5,372	538,572
Eryri Finges	-	18,924	18,924
Dark Skies	58,180	-	58,180
Celtic Rainforests (LIFE)	74,800	-	74,800
Carneddau Partnership	25,000	5,308	30,308
Archaeology	67,540	23,552	91,092
Cultural Heritage	80,780	-	80,780
Peatland projects	-	136,206	136,206
Ysgwrn	118,820	-	118,820
Development Control	452,960	12,230	465,190
Planning & Policy	244,370	22,900	267,270
<b>Sub-total carried forward</b>	<b>1,655,650</b>	<b>224,492</b>	<b>1,880,142</b>
<b>CORPORATE</b>			
Members Costs	112,510	-	112,510
Authority Support	94,380	-	94,380
Corporate Management	664,176	-	664,176
Property	247,490	-	247,490
Legal	58,380	-	58,380
Administration and Customer Care	223,423	-	223,423
Translation	108,530	-	108,530
Personnel and Training	208,160	27,500	235,660
Head Office	261,750	-	261,750
Information Technology	368,010	-	368,010
Finance	230,630	-	230,630
Plas Tan y Bwlch Study Centre	486,490	-	486,490
Engagement	368,110	11,000	379,110
New Website	-	-	-
<b>Sub-total carried forward</b>	<b>3,432,039</b>	<b>38,500</b>	<b>3,470,539</b>

**Snowdonia National Park Authority**  
**Revised Budget for 2024/25 on 31 July 2024**

	Original Budget	Virements	Revised Net Budget
	£	£	£
<b>Subtotals Brought Forward</b>			
<b>PLANNING &amp; LAND MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>1,655,650</b>	<b>224,492</b>	<b>1,880,142</b>
<b>CORPORATE</b>	<b>3,432,039</b>	<b>38,500</b>	<b>3,470,539</b>
Engagement with Young People (W.G. Grant)	39,310	-	39,310
Well-being Paths (W.G. Grant)	40,000	-	40,000
Management Plan and Partnerships	468,810	-	468,810
Plastic-free Wyddfa	43,420	24,896	68,316
Information Centres	186,580	-	186,580
Llyn Tegid	- 20,180	-	- 20,180
Car Parks	- 483,210	-	- 483,210
Litter Clearance	19,510	-	19,510
Traffic and Transport	5,000	-	5,000
Visitor Facilities	263,450	-	263,450
Public Access	123,550	-	123,550
Wardens, Estate Workers & Volunteers	1,207,230	-	1,207,230
	<b>5,325,509</b>	<b>63,396</b>	<b>5,388,905</b>
<b>BALANCES</b>			
General Inflation Provision	30,000	-	30,000
Payroll Inflation provision	349,000	-	349,000
	<b>379,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>379,000</b>
	<b>7,360,159</b>	<b>287,888</b>	<b>7,648,047</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			
Interest Earned	- 100,000	-	- 100,000
Revenue Financing of Capital Expenditure	526,262	331,505	857,767
Capital Charges Adjustment	- 591,050	-	- 591,050
	<b>7,195,371</b>	<b>619,393</b>	<b>7,814,764</b>
<b>FUNDED FROM</b>			
National Park Grant	4,119,789	-	4,119,789
Constituent Authority Levy	1,373,262	-	1,373,262
Tfrs from reserves	1,061,757	1,259,956	2,321,713
<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>6,554,808</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,814,764</b>

**Capital Budget 2024/25**

<b>Service Areas</b>	<b>Gross Original Budget</b>	<b>Grant Income</b>	<b>Net Original Budget</b>	<b>Virements</b>	<b>Revised Net Budget</b>
	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>	<b>(£)</b>
<b>Planning and Land Management</b>					
Cultural Heritage Schemes	149,490	-	149,490	-	149,490
Gorseddau (W.G. Grant)	148,220	-	148,220	-	148,220
Carneddau - Data LiDAR (W.G. Grant)	3,000	-	3,000	-	3,000
Carneddau - Paths (W.G. Grant)	35,000	-	35,000	-	35,000
Mobile Observatory (W.G. Grant)	23,600	-	23,600	-	23,600
Sky Paths	10,010	-	10,010	-	10,010
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>369,320</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>369,320</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>369,320</b>
<b>Corporate</b>					
Information Systems - Replacement Prog.	22,340	-	22,340	-	22,340
Snowdon Partnership Scheme (W.G. Grant)	15,000	-	15,000	-	15,000
Snowdon Interpretation (W.G. Grant)	23,000	-	23,000	-	23,000
Public Access	10,000	-	10,000	10,660	20,660
Wardens - Vehicles	14,000	-	14,000	90,845	104,845
Llyn Llywelyn (W.G. Grant)	23,750	-	23,750	-	23,750
Gwyrfai Route (W.G. Grant)	23,850	-	23,850	-	23,850
Penmaen Brith (W.G. Grant)	25,000	-	25,000	-	25,000
Plastic-free Wyddfa	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Hafod Eryri	-	-	-	220,000	220,000
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>156,940</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>156,940</b>	<b>331,505</b>	<b>488,445</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>526,260</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>526,260</b>	<b>331,505</b>	<b>857,765</b>

## ITEM NO. 12

<b>MEETING</b>	Authority meeting
<b>DATE</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Youth Manifesto</b>
<b>REPORT BY</b>	Ailish Roberts, Young People's Officer
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Submitting the Youth Manifesto for approval.

### BACKGROUND

In spring 2018 the EUROPARC federation's journey to create a youth manifesto started when young people from 7 countries met. EUROPARC has since taken the lead by forming a manifesto that identifies and highlights the need for protected areas, environmental organisations, and rural communities, to identify and act on the challenges facing the youth.

Over the years some national parks across Europe have formed their very own youth manifestos, identifying the challenges faced by the youth in their areas.

The Snowdonia National Park Authority identified and determined the need to form a Youth Manifesto for the Authority. With will money and a Welsh Government grant, the post of Young People's Officer was created with one of the objectives of creating a manifesto for the Authority.

During Autumn and Winter 2023 a number of sessions and workshops were held with school pupils and groups to promote the work of the Authority and to receive their views on what they would like to see happen in their local area. The information and data was gathered, and the manifesto drafted.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

The manifesto has been circulated within the appropriate services to receive comments on the appropriate aspects, e.g. local housing needs with the planning policy department. Parts of what is set out in the manifesto is work that is already being done by the authority but this can be developed and improved - there is certainly further work that can be done. This could include setting up a Youth Council or Committee, apprenticeships etc, it is work that dedicated grants can be attracted to implement. The Young People's Officer would lead on this work by collaborating services within the authority and leading on attracting additional funding through grants.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The manifesto was created with the intention of being a 'living' document so that it can be used as a foundation of the authority's work.

Recommendation – Approve and adopt the manifesto and the work highlighted therein. We propose that the manifesto and work to be reviewed every two years.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Attached



SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY:

# YOUTH MANIFESTO





# ERYRI NATIONAL PARK YOUTH MANIFESTO



# PURPOSES OF THE SNPA:

This SNPA Youth Manifesto strives to align with the values and purposes of the national park.

The purposes of National Parks are set out in law under Section 61 of the Environment Act 1995.

The two statutory purposes for National Parks which guide their future are to:

- Conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage
- Promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of National Parks by the public

When National Park Authorities carry out these purposes, they also have the duty to seek **to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities** within the National Parks.

When these purposes conflict with each other, then the Sandford Principle should be used to give more weight to conservation of the environment.

## THE SANDFORD PRINCIPLE EXPLAINED:

*If there is a conflict between protecting the environment and people enjoying the environment, that cannot be resolved by management, then protecting the environment must always take priority.*





# WHAT IS A YOUTH MANIFESTO AND WHY DO WE NEED ONE?

This SNPA Youth Manifesto is a document which attempts to reflect the collective voices of the young people of Eryri; a written statement declaring publicly the intentions, motives, and views of the SNPA, in relation to our young people. It outlines what goals we aim to achieve on behalf of our youth, based on the changes that they have asked to see within the park.

The SNPA recognizes that younger generations are the future of the protected area - of our lands, communities, and culture. It is them who will see and shape the future of Eryri.

The SNPA aims to refer to that which is written in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.”

## THE SNPA YOUTH MANIFESTO AIMS TO;

- Support and facilitate youth inclusion, engagement and representation.
- Connect young people to places, nature and heritage.
- Draw from the purposes of the National Park; how they can affect or include the young people who live in or visit the park.
- Bring about changes and developments in SNPA that improves living, learning and working for our young people.

This SNPA Youth Manifesto is a 'living document'; it should be reviewed and adjusted accordingly to be kept current and updated with the times.

### Origin:

*In spring 2018 a group of youths from across seven countries gathered to create the EUROPARC Youth Manifesto; A document that draws the attention of Protected Areas, environmental organisations and rural communities to the challenges of their youth. The SNPA has taken inspiration from the EUROPARC Youth Manifesto, using it as a blueprint to create a similar document which is specific to our unique and individual National Park.*



# 1. YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

During autumn / winter 2023/2024, the SNPA ran a series of engagement workshops, seeking the advice and opinions of our young people. Our findings have been used to write this Youth Manifesto. It's important to us that this Youth Manifesto has come from the youth themselves – their opinion, their ideas, and their voice.

## *TO ENSURE THIS, THE SNPA HAVE:*

- Included Young People in the making of the Youth Manifesto visiting, numerous events, fairs, schools, clubs and youth groups to run workshops; gathering information, data and quotes from young people on what they would like to see in the 'latest version' version of the Youth Manifesto.

## *THE SNPA WILL:*

- Establish a youth council or youth committee to bring young people's ideas and needs to local and national decision makers.
- Establish forums or platforms for Young People to discuss the changes that they would like to see.



# YOUTH VOICE - THE SNPA AIMS TO:

- Provide a place on boards for youths; invite young people to participate at our National Park meetings, and at events that the National Park partake in or run.
- Create a youth project fund for projects planned, implemented, and reported upon by young people. They may decide that they want to create projects or run events as solutions to some of the issues young people face in the community and will need the funding to do this.
- Encourage young people to get involved in the Authority's work, in our forums, taking part in our schemes and getting involved in improving our written documents; the Eryri Ambassador Scheme, Local Development Plan process, ect... for example, ensure that young people feed into Cynllun Eryri (the National Park Management Plan) so that their ideas are reflected in the future goals and work programme of the National Park Authority and its Partners.
- Help young people to create and deliver an induction scheme that enables staff, board members and the public to understand youth representation and connect with young people. For example, we could create a similar program to the 'Eryri Ambassador Program' and include a series of videos, information, data, questionnaires or quizzes to help others engage in the projects and to understand the importance of young voices in future decision-making.
- Establish communication: educate and demonstrate using social media and online platforms and forums as places to share ideas and have discussions, but also to celebrate achievements, and spread awareness to other audiences - especially other young people - on issues the committee are tackling within the national park. Similar set-ups to 'the Student room' (online forum).



## 2. LIVING

The 'Living' section of the SNPA Youth Manifesto is separated into three main sections. These are:

### **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

Rural areas are hard to reach and travel between. It's important to our young people that we establish active travel networks that close that gap through better/cheaper transport and improved communication, which should hopefully result in more participation and engagement.

### **COMMUNITY**

Young people are a vital part of the culture, tradition and the history of their area. There should be plenty of opportunities provided for them to connect with their local communities, so that they may learn and care about their history and cultural heritage. Welsh culture is special, as is the Welsh language. The National Park should encourage participation through seminars and workshops – extended to visitors too (example – learning Welsh language, and Welsh history workshops for university students from away) Fight the stigma surrounding young people by establishing good relations with the youth and their local councils and committees.

### **AFFORDABILITY:**

Young people are an integral part of the national park, and are the future – however, those who want to stay and live in Eryri are faced with the expenses of doing so. Affordable living for young people would help encourage them to stay. The SNPA should continue to research into the state of housing for young people in the area and connect with services to offer help (e.g - 'Low-Cost Home Ownership' schemes)



# INFRASTRUCTURE:

Here are some ideas young people had on how to improve SNPA's Infrastructure (in order of priority)

- 1 Safer / cheaper travel
- 2 Better public transport networks
- 3 Other transport initiatives 'e.g. cycling'
- 4 Good mobile phone Signal
- 5 Communications improvements 'e.g. free Wi-Fi in public spaces'

The SNPA is already working in partnership across the region to improve public transport networks for residents and visitors alike and develop better Active Travel routes in this rural area. It is important the young people have the portal to add their voice to these chances which affect them on a daily basis and strengthens the offer for young people to remain in the area.



# COMMUNITY:

Here are some ideas young people had on how to improve SNPA's communities (in order of priority)

- 1 Keep Welsh place names
- 2 Raise awareness of local culture and heritage
- 3 Extend welcome to visitors 'e.g. Welsh lessons'
- 4 Work in partnership with communities and local councils when implementing new programs and publicise the positive work accomplished.
- 5 Raise awareness of local history
- 6 Fight stigma surrounding young people

SNPA has developed a successful ambassador scheme which aims to enhance peoples understanding of the special qualities of the National Park. This could be offered as a resource to young people if adapted well, and with the input of younger residents. Our Community Engagement Officer is currently working on better ways to ensure partnership working across the Authority, a forum for young people to feed their ideas in would assist greatly with this sort of engagement.



# AFFORDABILITY:

Here are some ideas the young people had on how to improve Affordability in SNPA (in order of priority)

- 1 Affordable housing for people who want to stay in the area
- 2 Help people on low wages to buy local housing
- 3 Purchase goods at reduced rates for local people
- 4 Grants to help local people with buying a home
- 5 Subsidies to help university students to stay in Wales
- 6 Grants for self-employed people
- 7 Financial advice in schools
- 8 Cost of Living Grants

The SNPA is already taking steps to improve affordability for those living in Eryri by partnership working with Gwynedd and Conwy Council on a Local Housing Market Assessment, the Rural Housing Enabler Partnership, Tai Teg and through distributing commuted sum payments for the Homebuy Scheme and other first time buyer initiatives with Gwynedd and Conwy housing authorities.

“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” is included in the Authority’s Well-being Objective.



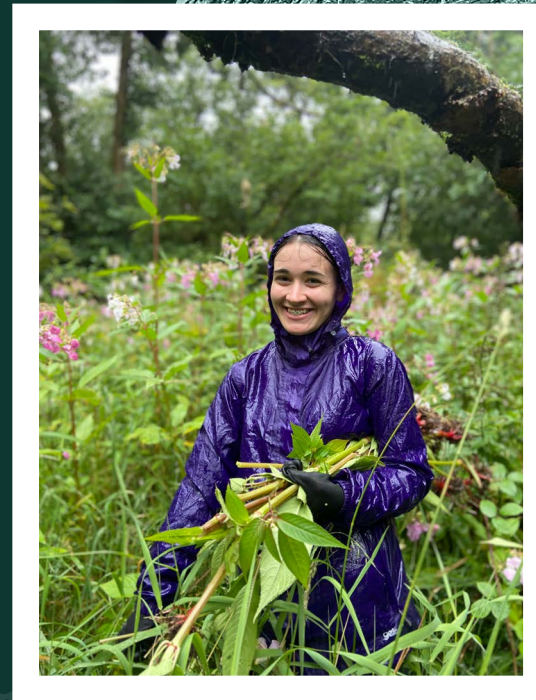
# HEALTH & WELLBEING

The SNPA recognises how important it is that we take action to help improve the health and wellbeing of young people. This is especially relevant in the wake of COVID-19.

The SNPA aims to achieve this through running youth engagement projects that address poor mental and physical health conditions (including but not limited to; social anxiety, depression, and obesity). We intend to facilitate stimulating sport-based outdoor activities activities that can benefit lives and improve social and emotional skills in young people, as well as boost self-confidence.

By establishing links with a wide range of health groups and services that support young people in our local communities, we will safeguard the wellbeing of the young people who engage with our projects. These organisations include Mind, Barnados, NSPCC, Llamau, Gista, DPJ Foundation, Hafal, Meddwl etc. Collaborating with these services will enhance the effectiveness and reach of our projects and help us to explore more ways that we can support young people's wellbeing and create a healthier, happier future for all.

The National Park can also support the health and wellbeing of young people by involving them in our existing wellness days, such as Guided Mindful Walks and Outdoor Yoga sessions. These activities promote relaxation, stress reduction, and mental clarity, whilst introducing people to some of the most tranquil and beautiful places in Eryri.





# 3. LEARNING

Education is key – from a young age, people should be taught to understand and care for the National Park, to encourage them to continue to protect it in the future. The SNPA should be working alongside schools as well as other services that are vital to our protected areas to provide better education to our young people.

Here are some ideas young people had on how to improve learning in Eryri (in order of priority)

- 1 Facilitate more educational trips – geography, geology, biodiversity, wildlife, climate change, history, ect...
- 2 Establish, promote and encourage schemes such as 'forest Schools' and 'young rangers' that encourage learning about the natural world through practical outdoor tasks and activities.
- 3 Organise warden visits to schools – workshops and activities
- 4 Create partnerships between schools and services – e.g. National Trust, Mountain Rescue, Cadw...
- 5 Create more volunteering and conservation opportunities for young people
- 6 Assist with Teacher Training – help and encourage teachers to learn about the National Park so that they can use this in their lessons.



# CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND BIODIVERSITY

Feeding into both 'Learning' and 'Living', the National Park recognises that Climate change is an important topic that must be tackled. Our young people are the ones that will be most affected by the changes to the planet, and should be supported to lead on green projects that will address climate change and sustainability, as well as environmental activities in conservation and biodiversity (projects such as 'Plastic-free Wyddfa')

Therefore, the national Park aims to:



Create new projects that focus specifically on Climate Change and helping the environment through conservation work or helping young people to learn about it through workshops etc...



Continue the work that the SNPA is already doing on this subject, while ensuring that young people are given more opportunity to get involved.



Work in partnership with other external services and organisations to find out what work is being done, and to collaborate to tackle climate change (such as 'Recover with Nature' and 'Green Pathways' with National Parks UK, or 'Generation Green' with the YHA)



# INSPIRING INTERESTS

This entails creating a program of varied events which invite Young People to celebrate their National Park.

Here are some ideas young people had on how to inspire Interests in Eryri (in order of priority)

- 1** Continue and develop funding opportunities for training and awards in all industries, including, but not limited to, the outdoor sector, creative arts, hospitality.... Remove financial barriers such as course fees and associated costings such as equipment and transport.
- 2** More projects and clubs that allow young people to explore their National Park and enjoy what it has to offer; such as the 'Young Ranger Scheme'
- 3** Raise awareness – learn about the variety of job roles in the countryside.
- 4** Give young people experience in a wide range of work and traditional crafts – e.g stonewalling, footpath maintenance, hedge laying, ect...
- 5** Use social media aimed at Young People, (interacting online – e.g. Eryri Ambassador.)
- 6** Provide entrepreneurship workshops that could lead to self-employment.



# 4. WORKING

It is important that the SNPA supports young people in any way they can towards finding a career that suits them and providing opportunities that help with obtaining future employment. This may also encourage young people to stay in the area.

Here are some ideas young people had on how to improve working in Eryri for young people (in order of priority)

- 1 Ensure schemes are accessible to all, including those not in fulltime education or already working.
- 2 Give young people the opportunity to shadow roles so that they get a sense of what kind of job roles there are and what the average working day would look like – e.g. warden.
- 3 Create partnerships with local businesses to help create job opportunities for those in education – e.g. after school or weekends
- 4 Establish apprenticeships within the park – e.g. Stonewalling, path maintenance, warden
- 5 Run careers sessions in schools with park employees discussing job opportunities within the park.
- 6 Provide work experience – e.g. through GCSE / Welsh BACC
- 7 Encourage local businesses and employers to do ‘Development schemes’ with discounted or free training.



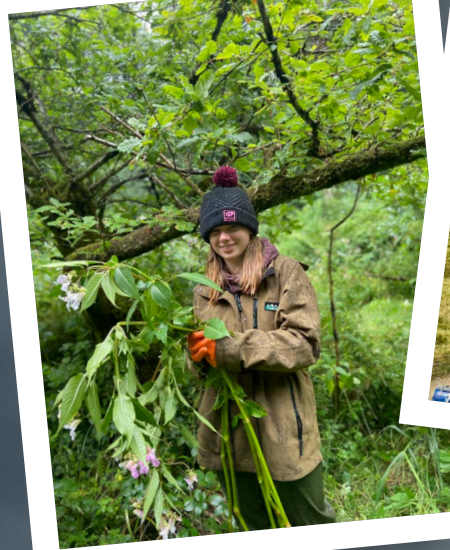
# 5. OUR CALL TO ACTION

- ➔ **Take Action** through implementing projects
- ➔ **Connect & Co-work** with others (partnership work with other organizations and services)
- ➔ **Monitor & Adjust** the work we do to ensure it remains current and effective
- ➔ **Report, Promote & Publicize** to share and celebrate the work being carried out

The SNPA aims to adhere to this Youth Manifesto to the best of our ability and to assist and support in the implementation of future projects, so long as it is within our remit to do so. However, all actions and projects must be discussed, agreed and approved by the Authority.



# NEXT STEPS:



## **YOUTH COMMITTEE:**

Set up and run a Youth Committee; invite members across the National Park to join. This could be an informal first meeting to brainstorm plans, or a day specifically planned around one of the researched suggestions of the young people in our surveys – example; concerns over climate change combined with concerns over lack of transport for those who don't or are too young to drive – a day of exploring travel via bike hire schemes across Gwynedd/Conwy.



## **TAKE ACTION:**

Ensure that steps are taken to achieve the aims outlined in the Youth Manifesto; that projects and schemes are created to address the issues highlighted by the young people of Eryri.



## **REVIEW**

This Youth Manifesto should be treated as a 'living document' – therefore it should be regularly reviewed to ensure that it remains current and updated.

## **& PROMOTE:**

Spread the word by attending events in the area that are aimed at / will draw young people (such as careers workshops and seminars, open days, academic fairs, and social events that celebrate culture and heritage) and using these opportunities to discuss and promote the Youth Manifesto and the Youth Committee.

# CONTACT US:

Please feel free to get in touch and get involved –  
The SNPA look forward to working with you to create an  
exciting future for nature, rural areas and young people!

**Email:** [park@snowdonia.gov.wales](mailto:park@snowdonia.gov.wales)

**Telephone:** 01766 770274

**Website:** <https://snowdonia.gov.wales/>





# ERYRI NATIONAL PARK YOUTH MANIFESTO





<b>MEETING</b>	Snowdonia National Park Authority
<b>DATE</b>	11 September 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>YR YSGWRN ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24</b>
<b>REPORT BY</b>	Head of Cultural Heritage
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Updating Members on Yr Ysgwrn activity

## 1. OVERVIEW OF 2023/24

- 1.1. Yr Ysgwrn reopened in early April 2023.
- 1.2. Yr Ysgwrn is now open six days a week over the school holidays and during May-August and five days a week in April, September and October.
- 1.3. The centre had a full complement of seasonal staff, working the equivalent of 2.4 full-time people for most of the season.
- 1.4. Two strategic projects were successfully completed, the Disappearing Words / Geiriau Diflanedig collaboration and the Fama community heritage project. Full details of both projects are provided below.
- 1.5. In 2023-24, November was one of Yr Ysgwrn's busiest and most prosperous months, underlining the significance of education groups in the business model. Historically, several year 12 and 13 groups studying the Hedd Wyn film visit in November.
- 1.6. Over 20 activities were held successfully and attracted over 500 attendees during the year. Grants have been received for all 2023-24 activities, via Artfund, Gwynedd Museums and Galleries Federation, Magnox and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- 1.7. The Head of Property is working on the tenancy of the bungalow and meeting the requirements of Rent Smart Wales.
- 1.8. The year was completed within budget.

## 2. DISAPPEARING WORDS / GEIRIAU DIFLANEDIG

- 2.1. The Disappearing Words exhibition opened in June 2023, a partnership between Arfordir Penfro and Eryri National Park Authorities and Amgueddfa Cymru / National Museum of Wales.

- 2.2. In addition to the exhibition itself, with financial support from Artfund, Conwy County Borough Council was commissioned to produce a Welsh education resource, based on 'Disappearing Words / Geiriau Diflanedig and responding to the curriculum for Wales requirements', for pupils aged 7-11. Ysgol Llanddoged and Ysbyty Ifan schools piloted the resource, and they created wonderful work in the process. Pupils explored their locality to discover their local wildlife species and created artwork and acrostic poems inspired by local biodiversity, creating a masterpiece in class, interpreting the wildlife in areas such as the Migneint. Both schools visited Yr Ysgwrn to pilot some of the activities of the on-site education resource, e.g. environmental artwork inspired by the artist Tim Pugh and writing with raven feathers. This work was a great highlight of the exhibition launch.
- 2.3. There was a very successful exhibition opening at Yr Ysgwrn in the company of two of the novels' authors, Jackie Morris and Mererid Hopwood, and included creative contributions from both. Gerallt Pennant hosted the evening and seeing Jackie Morris creating otters while reciting 'Otter' and 'Dyfrgi' poems in collaboration with Mererid Hopwood was a thrilling and memorable experience.
- 2.4. At the Llŷn and Eifionydd National Eisteddfod, a further soft launch was held for the Disappearing Words / Geiriau Diflanedig education resource, in the form of art and animation workshops with Robin and Catrin Williams.
- 2.5. The workshops were initiated at the Eisteddfod and relationships were then fostered with Robin Williams and the Society for Welsh Education and two Disappearing Words / Geiriau Diflanedig courses were held for teachers and classroom assistants at Yr Ysgwrn. This relationship has been very fruitful, with the resource being used in schools and teachers returning to Yr Ysgwrn on a visit with their class, after the course.
- 2.6. The other output of the Artfund grant was to run art and poetry workshops at Ysgol Bro Hedd Wyn, Trawsfynydd with artist Eleri Jones and the Chief bard / Prifardd Meirion McIntyre Huws. The printed work produced is of a very high standard and adorns Beudy Llwyd Yr Ysgwrn.

### **3. FAMA PROJECT**

- 3.1. The Fama project was initiated because of the vandalism committed on the Hedd Wyn memorial during 2022. The action attracted attention in the Welsh press and the Trawsfynydd community was disappointed at the incident. This was an opportunity to work with the community to reinterpret the relationship with Hedd Wyn and the heritage of Yr Ysgwrn and the local community, exactly a century after the memorial was unveiled, in 1923.
- 3.2. Financial support for a community arts-heritage project was attracted by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (£10,000), Magnox Community Fund (£3,000) and the Welsh Federation of Museums and Galleries (£3,000).
- 3.3. One aspect of the project was to coalesce the relationship between the village of Trawsfynydd and Yr Ysgwrn and an illustrated map of Hedd Wyn's story through the village has been created and is about to be launched.

- 3.4. The main product of the Fama project was 10 months of collaboration with the Trawsfynydd community via a range of engagement activities. We were able to successfully involve elements from all aspects of village life – babies and their mothers through the Clwb Ti a Fi club, Ysgol Bro Hedd Wyn, Lliaws Cain and Meibion Prysor Choir, local businesses and individual residents of all ages. Through the sessions, podcasts, Films, artwork, poems, music samples and new songs were produced – all kinds of arts, creative products, to respond to Hedd Wyn's story and Yr Ysgwrn's heritage, today.
- 3.5. The product was shared online, with a particularly good response but the highlight of the project was the Fama concert at Trawsfynydd Hall, in February this year. All project products were performed for Trawsfynydd residents, and the Hall was in for a memorable and uplifting event. The project was met with a very positive response from Trawsfynydd residents, and the aim is to maintain relationships with the groups involved. Thanks to the Trawsfynydd community for their work on the project, we appreciate the willingness of the people from the area to support and participate in projects.

#### **4. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- 4.1. With the advent of the Geiriau Diflanedig / Disappearing Words exhibition, a commercial opportunity came to light via the sale of products and souvenirs relating to the exhibition, such as the authors' books, various books from the Geiriau Diflanedig / Disappearing Words series, jigsaw puzzles and other thematically compatible products, e.g. notebooks, greeting cards, household products etc. Shop, café and ticket sales increased by 14% during the year, which is evidence of the success of the initiative.
- 4.2. Prices have increased in the coffee shop, reflecting the increase in purchase prices, e.g. coffee, cakes etc. Ysgwrn coffee shop prices remain highly competitive, and prices are planned to rise again before Easter 2025.
- 4.3. Income is of course just one element and there has also been a huge cost increase during 2023-24, due to inflation. Yr Ysgwrn's main costs in 2023-24 were electricity, heating and staffing.
- 4.4. Despite the challenge, we managed to complete the year on budget.

#### **5. LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024-25**

- 5.1. A new exhibition 'Yr Ysgwrn Yn Ysbrydoli / Yr Ysgwrn Inspires' will open in July 2024. It will feature several artworks by leading Welsh artists, such as Luned Rhys Parri, Iwan Bala, Rob Piercy, Catrin Williams and Wini Jones Lewis, as well as work by the community, poetry and music.
- 5.2. We will be launching further resources, including a children's tour pack and a new education resource for A-Level Welsh studies on *Hedd Wyn's* film.

- 5.3. Officers will submit grant applications for:
  - Improving on-site interpretation and signage.
  - Running activities during the Museums Wales Festival, 2024 (October 2024).
  - Creating a marketing campaign for the 2025 season.
- 5.4. We will begin to draw together an application for the renewal of Yr Ysgwrn's accreditation, ready for submission in October 2025.
- 5.5. We will confirm the tenancy of the bungalow.
- 5.6. The establishment of a development trust for Yr Ysgwrn and the re-launch of Cyfeillion Yr Ysgwrn / Friends of Yr Ysgwrn have been on the work programme of work for quite some time. This work is scheduled to be completed by Summer 2025.
- 5.7. Revision of marketing methods and create a new marketing plan.

**Recommendation:**

**For Members to receive the report for information and to discuss any issues requiring further attention.**

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	11 September 2024
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>EUROPARC e-Forum: 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 Effective Management; Better Parks Moving forward together</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Interim Chief Executive
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To inform Members of the e-Forum, and nominate attendance

## 1. BACKGROUND:

- 1.1. EUROPARC Federation is the representative body of Europe's Protected Areas. The Federation has a membership of 378 responsible authorities in over 36 countries and facilitates international co-operation in all aspects of Protected Area Management to improve and conserve our natural inheritance.

The Federation is recognised worldwide as a professional network of European Protected Areas providing a forum to share professional experiences, collaborate on technical projects and progress common aims. The e-Forum alternates with a face-to-face Conference which is located in a host National Park - Leeuwarden, Northern Netherlands hosted the conference in 2023. The CEO and Cllr. Ifor G. Lloyd attended in 2023 and provided a feedback on the conference to Authority Members.

- 1.2 Eryri National Park has been a member of the EUROPARC Federation for over 25 years and hosted the EUROPARC Conference in Eryri in 2006.

## 2. EUROPARC FEDERATION e-Forum, 2024:

- 2.1 The e-Forum will take a "big picture view" of management effectiveness and look at planning, governance and decision-making, capacity building and communication. The e-Forum will comprise sessions by expert keynote speakers and case studies which will provide background for interactive workshops.
- 2.2 Unfortunately this year the date of the e-Forum clashes with National Parks Wales Members Seminar which will be held in Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.
- 2.3 The full e-Forum programme has not yet been released.

**3. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 3.1 Members are requested to decide if SNPA should be represented at the 2024 EUROPARC e-Forum, nominate a member to attend (if someone can be available) and/or agree that the Interim Chief Executive requests nominations from officers to attend.**

**4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Conference Website:

[EUROPARC e-Forum | Effective Management; Better Parks – EUROPARC 2024 Conference \(europarcconference.com\)](https://europarcconference.com)

Fee for attending: €50 (£43 – as at 16.08.24.)

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	11 September 2024
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>NATIONAL PARKS WALES MEMBERS' SEMINAR, 2024</b> <b>6 – 7 November, Pembrokeshire Coast NPA</b> <b>National Parks for All?</b>
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	(Interim) Chief Executive
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To inform Members of the Seminar

## 1. BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Welsh National Parks Authorities support an annual workshop to provide opportunities for members to be briefed on emerging matters and share experience with other National Parks in their role as Authority members. The last workshop was held in Brecon in May 2023.
- 1.2 Welsh Members Workshop is a popular date in Members calendar which is open to all Members, and an important element in developing knowledge and understanding of National Park Members. The Member's Workshop is in addition to local and UK training opportunities offered to Members in terms of development. Member training has been highlighted as an important aspect of being a member and our Minister has highlighted that member development should be a priority.

## 2. 2024 SEMINAR:

- 2.1 This year's Members Seminar is hosted by Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority and held at the Giltar Hotel, Tenby.

The theme for the seminar is "National Parks for All?". The format of the seminar consists of site visits and study tours on the first day followed by presentations and in-depth discussion on the second day.

## 3. RECOMMENDATION:

- 3.1 **Members to confirm their attendance or not at the Seminar by informing the Democratic Services Officer.**

Awst 12 August 2024



**Awdurdod  
Parc Cenedlaethol  
Arfordir Penfro**

Parc Llanion, Doc Penfro  
Sir Benfro SA72 6DY

**Pembrokeshire Coast  
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Annwyl Gydwethwyr,

Dear Colleagues,

Bydd Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Arfordir Penfro yn trefnu Seminar Blynnyddol Aelodau Cymru ar 6 a 7 Tachwedd 2024.

The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority will be hosting the annual Welsh Members Seminar on 6 and 7 November 2024.

Hoffwn wahodd Aelodau y tri Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol yng Nghymru i fynychu'r seminar, a fydd yn cael ei gynnal yng Ngwesty Giltar, Dinbych-y-pysgod, Sir Benfro.

I would like to invite Members of the three Welsh National Park Authorities to attend the event, which will be held at the Giltar Hotel, Tenby, Pembrokeshire.

A fyddech gystal â ddychwelyd y ffurflen archebu sydd ynghlwm i'ch Tîm Gwasanaethau Aelodau erbyn **Dydd Gwener 06 Medi 2024**. Mae croeso i chi gysylltu â mi os ydych am drafod y digwyddiad mewn unrhyw fodd.

Please would you complete the attached booking form and return to your Member Services Team by **Friday 06 September 2024**. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss the event in any way.

Diolch am eich cefnogaeth.

Thank you for your support.

Yn ddiffuant

Yours sincerely

Di Clements  
Cadeirydd/Chairman

Cymraeg

*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. **232**ponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.*



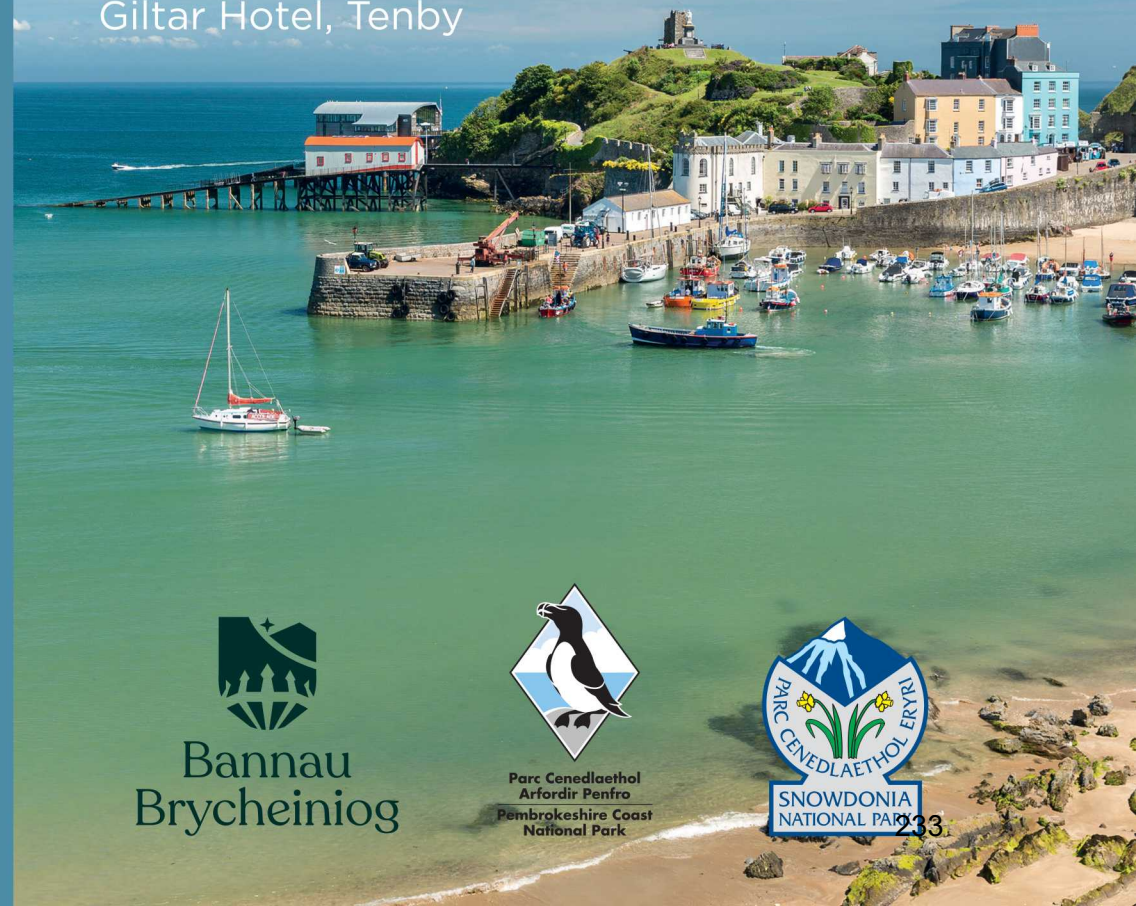


# SEMINAR AELODAU CYMRU Parciau Cenedlaethol i Bawb?

6-7 Tachwedd 2024  
Gwesty Giltar, Dinbych-y-pysgod

# WELSH MEMBERS' SEMINAR National Parks for All?

6-7 November 2024  
Giltar Hotel, Tenby



# Parciau Cenedlaethol i Bawb?

## RHAGLEN

### Dydd Mercher 6 Tachwedd

- 10am **Cofrestru**
- 11am **Croeso**
- 11.15am **Cyflwyniad**
- 12pm **Cinio**
- 1pm **Ymweliadau Safle:**
- i) Cadeiriau Olwyn y Traeth ac Offer Pob Tir
  - ii) Prosiect 1000 Diwrnod Cyntaf
  - iii) Gwirfoddoli â Chymorth (Llwybrau/Gwreiddiau i Adferiad)
  - iv) Sesiwn Dan Do ar Gydlynu Digwyddiadau Hygyrch
- 4.15pm **Te / Coffi**
- 5.30pm **Sesiwn gyda Chenhedlaeth Nesaf Parc Cenedlaethol Arfordir Penfro**
- 6.30pm **Derbyniad â Diodydd ym mhafiliwn De Valence**  
a gynhelir gan Gyngor Tref Dinbych-y-pysgod
- 7.30pm **Cinio, Gwesty Giltar**

### Dydd Iau, 7 Tachwedd

- 9.15am **Cyflwyniadau gan bartneriaid ar y themâu canlynol:**
- i) Ymgysylltu â'r mwyafrif byd-eang
  - ii) Cefnogi'r rhai sydd am wella eu lles meddyliol a chorfforol
- 10.30am **Te / Coffi**
- 11am **Trafodaeth grŵp**
- 12pm **Adborth o'r drafodaeth**
- 1pm **Cinio a chloi'r seminar**

# National Parks for All?

## PROGRAMME

### Wednesday 6 November

- 10am **Registration**
- 11am **Welcome**
- 11.15am **Introduction**
- 12pm **Lunch**
- 1pm **Site visits:**
- i) Beach Wheelchairs and All-terrain equipment
  - ii) First 1000 Days project
  - iii) Supported Volunteering (Pathways/Roots to Recovery)
  - iv) Indoor Session on Coordinating Accessible Events
- 4.15pm **Tea & Coffee**
- 5.30pm **Session with the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Next Generation**
- 6.30pm **Drinks Reception at The De Valence**  
hosted by Tenby Town Council
- 7.30pm **Dinner, Giltar Hotel**

### Thursday 7 November

- 9.15am **Presentations from partners on the following themes:**
- i) Engaging with the global majority
  - ii) Supporting those looking to improve their mental and physical wellbeing
- 10.30am **Tea & Coffee**
- 11am **Group discussion**
- 12pm **Feedback from discussion**
- 1pm **Lunch and end**

# SEMINAR AELODAU CYMRU 2024

## Ymweliadau Safle



### Cadeiriau Olwyn Traeth ac offer pob tir

Lleoliad – Traeth Dinbych-y-pysgod  
Mae Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Arfordir Penfro yn gwella mynediad i draethau arobryn Sir Benfro a mannau eraill yn yr awyr agored drwy ddarparu amrywiaeth o offer gan gynnwys cadeiriau olwyn traeth.

Ar y daith hon, cewch gyfle i gael tro ar y treiciau mynydd ac amrywiol offer pob tir ar daith gerdded dywys ar y traeth. Bydd y cyfranogwyr yn cael cyfle i gwrdd â staff busnes lleol sy'n cynnal cadair olwyn traeth i drafod manteision y cynllun.

Hefyd ar y daith hon bydd cyfle i'r Aelodau ddarganfod mwy am yr offer wedi'i addasu a gynigir gan bartneriaid yr Awdurdod ac effaith cyllid prosiect Y Pethau Pwysig ar wneud yr ardal yn fwy hygrych.

### Y 1,000 Diwrnod Cyntaf

Lleoliad – Castell Caeriw

Mae'r prosiect Y 1,000 Diwrnod Cyntaf wedi'i ysbyrdoli gan fenter Llywodraeth Cymru 'Y 1,000 Diwrnod Cyntaf' sy'n cydnabod mai'r 'cyfnod hwn yw'r mwyaf arwyddocaol ym mywyd plentyn'.

Mae tîm y 1,000 Diwrnod Cyntaf yn cynnig cyfleoedd i aelodau ieuengaf ein cymunedau dreulio mwy o amser yn yr awyr agored a chynnal arferion da mewn dysgu yn yr awyr agored yn y lleoliadau cyn-ysgol yn y sir.

Ymunwch â thîm y prosiect a rhai o'u cyfranogwyr ifanc i ddarganfod mwy am y prosiect arloesol hwn. Hefyd mae'r ymweliad safle hwn yn cynnig cyfle i gyfranogwyr archwilio rhyfeddodau Castell Caeriw, mwynhau'r golygfeydd godidog ar draws Pwll y Felin, a dysgu mwy am y gwaith amhrisiadwy a wneir gan y tîm gwych hwn ar y safle.

### Gwirfoddoli â Chymorth (Llwybrau/Gwreiddiau at Adferiad)

Lleoliad – Penalun/ Traeth y De, Dinbych-y-pysgod

Mae Llwybrau/Gwreiddiau at Adferiad yn brosiectau sy'n ceisio cynorthwyo cyfranogwyr i ddarganfod a gwirfoddoli ym Mharc Cenedlaethol Arfordir Penfro a'r cyffiniau.

Prosiect yw Gwreiddiau at Adferiad mewn partneriaeth â MIND sy'n gweithio gyda'r rhai sy'n nodi bod ganddynt iechyd meddwl gwael. Mae Llwybrau yn cynnig cyfleoedd i wirfoddoli â chymorth mewn gweithgareddau cadwraeth mwy traddodiadol.

Mae'r daith hon yn cynnig cyfle i'r Aelodau gwrdd â gwirfoddolwyr a staff sy'n rhan o'r prosiectau, ac ymuno â'r ddau grŵp mewn gweithgaredd gwirfoddoli ar lan y môr. Bydd gweithgareddau gwirfoddoli yn cynnwys tasgau syml megis casglu sbwriel, clirio tywod oddi ar risiau a chlirio mieri.

### Sesiwn Dan Do ar Gydlynau Digwyddiadau Hygrych

Lleoliad – Gwesty'r Giltar

Mae Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Arfordir Penfro a Croeso Sir Benfro yn cydweithio i ddatblygu arlwy twristiaeth cynhwysol gyda'r gorau yn y byd yn Sir Benfro.

Mae'r prosiect Agored i Bawb yn gweithio gyda busnesau a sefydliadau i wneud Sir Benfro yn ddewis cyntaf i'r trigolion ac i ymwelwyr sy'n wynebu rhwystrau i deithio a thwristiaeth.

Yn ystod y gweithdy Cydlynau Digwyddiadau Hygrych, cewch gyfle i roi prawf ar ein rhestr newydd o wirio digwyddiadau, datblygu datganiad mynediad a dod o hyd i ffyrdd o wella'ch gwefan a'ch cyfryngau cymdeithasol.



# Seminar Aelodau Cymru

## Gwesty Giltar, Dinbych-y-pysgod

### 6-7 Tachwedd 2024

#### Manylion y cynrychiolydd

<b>Sefydliad:</b>	
<b>Enw:</b>	
<b>Rhif Ffôn:</b>	
<b>E-bost:</b>	
<b>Cyswllt mewn Argyfwng</b> (enw, rhif a pherthynas):	

#### Rhaid dychwelyd pob ffurflen archebu erbyn: 06 Medi 2024

Anfonwch eich ffurflenni wedi'u llenwi:

Drwy'r e-bost: [georgiaj@arfordirpenfro.org.uk](mailto:georgiaj@arfordirpenfro.org.uk)

Drwy'r post: Georgia Jones  
Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Arfordir Penfro  
Parc Llanion  
Doc Penfro  
Sir Benfro SA72 6DY

Os oes angen rhagor o wybodaeth arnoch, cysylltwch â Georgia Jones drwy ffonio: 01646 624898 (llinell uniongyrchol).



**Ymweliad Safle: Noder pa ymweliad safle fyddai orau gennych drwy nodi '1' a '2' gyferbyn â'ch dewisiadau cyntaf ac ail.**

1. Cadeiriau Olwyn y Traeth ac Offer Pob Tir	
2. Prosiect 1000 Diwrnod Cyntaf	
3. Gwirfoddoli â Chymorth (Llwybrau/Gwreiddiau i Adferiad)	
4. Sesiwn Dan Do ar Gydlyn Digwyddiadau Hygyrch	

**Nodwch eich anghenion:**

Cynrychiolydd Diwrnod yn unig: 6  7  Tachwedd

Llety: Dydd Mawrth 5 Tachwedd

(Dim ond yn berthnasol i fynychwyr cyfarfod Parciau Cenedlaethol Cymru)

Dydd Mercher 6 Tachwedd

Cinio: Nos Mercher 6 Tachwedd

**Anghenion Deietegol**

Nodwch a oes gennych unrhyw ofynion deietegol a nodwch yn glir beth ydynt:

**Anghenion Arbennig**

Nodwch a oes gennych unrhyw anghenion symud/anghenion corfforol:

A oes unrhyw beth arall y dylem wybod?

Unwaith y byddwn wedi derbyn eich ffurflen archebu a'ch cais am lety, bydd eich sefydliad yn atebol am yr ystafell a archebwyd are ich cyfer ac unrhyw gostau cychylltiedig. Noder: Gellir enwebu dirprwyon unrhyw adeg.

**REPORT OF THE MEMBERS' WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2024****PRESENT:****Members appointed by Gwynedd Council**

Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Annwen Hughes, June Jones, Edgar Owen (Chair), John Pughe Roberts, Meryl Roberts, Einir Wyn Williams;

**Members appointed by Conwy County Borough Council**

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

**Members appointed by the Welsh Government**

Brian Angell, Sarah Hattle, Tim Jones, Naomi Luhde-Thompson;

**Officers**

G. Iwan Jones, Jonathan Cawley, Adam Daniel, Ailish Roberts, Anwen Gaffey, Sarah Roberts.

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

**1. Apologies**

Councillors Louise Hughes, Elfed Powell Roberts; Delyth Lloyd.  
Emyr Williams, Chief Executive.

**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 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024 were accepted and the Chair signed them as a true record.

**4. Youth Manifesto**

Submitted – A report by the Young People's Officer together with the Draft Youth Manifesto for Members' comments and approval.

Reported – The Head of Warden Service and the Young People's Officer presented the report and manifesto and provided Members with the background and resource implications.

Members welcomed the manifesto and discussed the following in detail:-

- a member thanked officers for the comprehensive report and also took the opportunity to thank Tracey Evans, a former member of the Authority, for her work on the Youth Manifesto Task and Finish Group which will be disbanded following formal adoption of the manifesto.
- in response to a question, the Young People's Officer said that in this case the definition of "youth" were persons aged 30 years and under. The Member welcomed the report but felt the document should mention climate change and biodiversity and include young people's views on the subjects. He asked that the Authority should further consider the process of engagement with young people and how they can influence the Authority's work for the future.

- officers advised that 'Section 3. Learning' would focus on climate change and biodiversity and that various options were being considered for introducing young people to the work of the Authority. Establishing a Youth Council was one such option for young people to express their opinions and Fforwm Eryri could also be a forum as it has a more informal arrangement.
- a Member, whilst supportive of the document, asked officers to be consistent in their use of Eryri / Snowdonia in the Manifesto. He also suggested that in future, it may be possible to appoint a young person as a Welsh Government Member. The document should also include reference to the Well-being of Future Generations Act and also to sustainability.
- a Member stated that young people should also be encouraged to get involved in the Local Development Plan process, to provide a different perspective, as they are the people who will have to live with the consequences of these decisions.
- a member also highlighted the Authority's Ambassador Scheme.

### **RESOLVED**

- 1. to note the report and endorse the Youth Manifesto.**
- 2. that the Youth Manifesto is reviewed every two years.**

**The meeting ended at 12.05**

## **REPORT OF THE MEMBERS' WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 26<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2024**

### ***PRESENT:***

#### **Members appointed by Gwynedd Council**

Councillors Elwyn Edwards, Annwen Hughes, Louise Hughes, June Jones, Edgar Wyn Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, 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**

Brian Angell, Tim Jones, Naomi Luhde-Thompson, Delyth Lloyd;

#### **Officers**

Emyr Williams, G. Iwan Jones, Jonathan Cawley, Dafydd Roberts, Elin Smith, Anwen Gaffey, Sarah Roberts;

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

#### **1. Election of Chair**

The Director of Corporate Services outlined the procedure for electing a Chair to the Members' Working Group.

#### **RESOLVED to elect Councillor Ifor Glyn Lloyd as Chair of the Members' Working Group.**

The Chair thanked Members for their support and also personally thanked the Chief Executive for his work and for his support and guidance over the last 10 years.

#### **2. Apologies**

Councillor Einir Wyn Williams; Sarah Hattle.  
Dewi Aeron Morgan, Section 151 Officer.

#### **3. Declaration of Interest**

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

#### **4. Minutes**

The minutes of the Members' Working Group meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 were accepted and the Chair signed them as a true record.

#### **5. Eryri Nature Recovery Action Plan**

Submitted – An information report by the Head of Conservation Woodlands and Agriculture.



Reported – The Director of Planning and Land Management advised that the Head of Conservation, Woodlands and Agriculture was currently undergoing hospital treatment. The Director of Planning and Land Management introduced the Senior Ecologist and the Biodiversity Officer who were presenting the report in his absence.

The Biodiversity Officer presented the report and background, and Members received a detailed introduction to the Draft Eryri Nature Recovery Action Plan. Members were advised that the Eryri Nature Partnership were currently assessing the first draft and their comments/recommendations will be considered by the task group at their first meeting in July.

Members considered the report and the Draft Eryri Nature Recovery Action Plan in detail and made the following observations:-

- the Chair congratulated officers for preparing a document that was easy to read and understand.
- a Member asked whether a communication strategy should accompany the document to highlight the main issues. The Member also noted concerns that funding was only available until March 2025 which left little time to campaign and for the partners to come together.
- Members discussed managing invasive species in Eryri. The Senior Ecologist advised that the Rhododendron Strategy is used to help prioritise and focus on this work. He confirmed that the Head of Conservation Woodlands and Agriculture was discussing the possibilities for creating a similar strategy for both Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam, but no specific date had been set for this work.
- a Member arranged to discuss a number of amendments directly with the Biodiversity Officer after the meeting.
- in response to a question, the Biodiversity Officer confirmed that the information will be shown on a map and was part of the material awaited from Atmos.
- a Member felt there was a need to:-
  - provide a reference when data is quoted, either as a note or footer.
  - look into the correct term for freshwater pearl etc.
  - include targets and specific timescales as agreed with partners.
  - include maps of SSSI's and areas of ecological interests as a nature network with condition scores which would help with strategic planning. Officers should get the partnership's view on this with the aim of focusing the work of all the agencies in terms of strategy rather than being fragmented on species.
- Members discussed the sustainable farming scheme and a Member asked whether farmers have an opportunity to input into the Eryri Nature Recovery Action Plan. The Biodiversity Officer confirmed that FUW were members of the task group.
- a Member noted that the SSSI report for the Berwyn area was still awaited, and that the farming community should not be held responsible for the decline in nature.
- in response, a Member felt it was important to recognise that habitat loss was partly due to unsustainable agricultural policies and that there was now a role for conservation and agriculture to work in partnership.
- Members noted concerns that some policies protect one species to the detriment of others which was a matter for further discussion.

- the Chief Executive felt it was important to complete the Eryri Nature Recovery Action Plan in order to establish what Eryri needs before the Sustainable Farming Scheme is published.
- a Member agreed that this was a strategy for the National Park with conservation at the heart of its purposes. It was important to set out our direction based on the scientific data and its interpretation, which will provide a platform for discussions with other industries, including agriculture, forestry and tourism etc.
- in response to a question on how the Nature Recovery Action Plan corresponds with the Future Wales Act: the National Plan 2040, the Senior Ecologist felt that its main objectives would help to achieve a more resilient Wales.
- Members were invited to forward any further comments to the Biodiversity Officer.

**RESOLVED to note the report and the contents of the Draft Eryri Nature Recovery Action Plan.**

**The meeting ended at 11.40**

<b>MEETING</b>	Snowdonia National Park Authority
<b>DATE</b>	11 September 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Exempting the Report: DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE OF PLAS TAN Y BWLCH</b>
<b>REPORT BY</b>	(Interim) Chief Executive
<b>PURPOSE</b>	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 “Discussion on the Future of Plas Tan y Bwlch” exempt from disclosure.**