

Environment and Sustainability Committee

Meeting Venue:
Committee Room 3 – Senedd

Meeting date:
Thursday, 26 March 2015

Meeting time:
09.30

Cynulliad
Cenedlaethol
Cymru

National
Assembly for
Wales



For further information please contact:

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Agenda

1 Introductions, apologies and substitutions

2 Planning (Wales) Bill: Stage 2 – Consideration of amendments (9:30–10:30)

In accordance with Standing Order 26.21, the Committee will dispose of amendments to the Bill in the following order:

Sections 42–55

Schedules 1–7

Section 1

Long title

In attendance

Carl Sargeant AM, Minister for Natural Resources

The papers for this item, including the Marshalled List of Amendments and the Groupings of amendments, can be found on [the agenda for the meeting on 18 March](#).

Break (10:30–10:45)

3 Minister for Natural Resources: Financial scrutiny session (10:45–11:45) (Pages 1 – 22)

Carl Sargeant AM, Minister for Natural Resources
Matthew Quinn - Director, Environment & Sustainable Development
Graham Rees - Deputy Director, Marine & Fisheries
Tony Clark - Head of Finance, Natural Resources & Food

E&S(4)–10–15 Paper 1

4 Papers to note

Correspondence from the Minister for Natural Resources (Pages 23 – 26)

E&S(4)–10–15 Paper 2

Correspondence from the Deputy Minister for Farming and Food (Pages 27 – 28)

E&S(4)–10–15 Paper 3

Marine policy in Wales: Correspondence from Natural Resources Wales (Pages 29 – 32)

E&S(4)–10–15 Paper 4

Natural Resources Wales annual scrutiny: Correspondence from Emyr Roberts (Pages 33 – 34)

E&S(4)–10–15 Paper 5

Agenda Item 3

Document is Restricted

Minister for Natural Resources

Environment and Sustainability Committee

Thursday 26 March 2015

Financial Scrutiny

1. This annex responds to the Committee's e-mail of 21 January identifying particular financial information it would like to receive in advance.

Changes made within the portfolio as a result of the two Supplementary Budgets 2014-15, compared to the Final Budget 2014-15, to BEL Level

2. There were no budget changes made within Supplementary 1, and the following were actioned as part of Supplementary 2.

Near cash

- £12.981m in year savings returned to reserves as requested by the Finance Minister to support additional investments into the NHS;
- £8.8m resource to capital switch to fund pressures (see breakdown under capital);
- £1m Flood funding brought forward from 2013-14 under the Budget Exchange Mechanism (BEM) to support the re-profiled programmed flood prevention schemes delayed as a result of the emergency flood repairs which were undertaken due to last years winter storms;
- £2.5m Invest to Save (ITS) funding from reserves into the NRW budget for Natural Resources Wales ITS successful bid;
- £2.392m Wind farm Income from NRW to reserves in respect of expected income from wind farm leases;
- £0.167m from clean energy programme to EST in respect of Energy programme resources, which transferred to EST during the last portfolio change in July;
- £0.365m from the Landscape and Outdoor Recreation Action to EST in support of Free Swimming and the Schools Sports programme which transferred to EST during the last portfolio change in July;
- £0.450m from the NRW budget to Central Services and Admin (CS&A) MEG to transfer to Departmental Resource Costs (DRC) to fund Forestry staff who joined WG following the formation of NRW;
- £0.038m from Climate Change Action budget to the CS&A MEG as a contribution to the 'Size of Wales' Africa programme;
- £0.030m from Singe Payment Administration budget to CS&A in respect of Land Tribunals, which now resides in their portfolio;
- All the intra MEG transfers were actioned to realign budgets for improved reporting and to fund a number of pressures across the MEG;

Non cash

- £5.706m from reserves to cover increased depreciation costs of NRW's ICT infrastructure system;

- £0.670m from reserves to cover the depreciation costs arising from the implementation of the RPW Online IT system after initial capital investment.

Capital

- £5m Flood funding brought forward from 2013-14 under the Budget Exchange Mechanism (BEM) to support the re-profiled programmed flood prevention schemes delayed as a result of the emergency flood repairs which were undertaken due to last years winter storms;
- £8.8m additional capital from a near cash to capital switch to fund the following pressures:
 - New Farm Entrants: £1.6m (a capital grant with revenue funding)
 - EID Cymru: £0.3m (development funding)
 - CAP Reform: £6.9m (Investment of ICT infrastructure)
- £2.74m from Communities and Tackling Poverty portfolio to part fund Arbed Phase 2 - this is the final year of a three year agreement;
- Various intra MEG transfers to realign budgets and ease pressures across the Meg.

Details of any additional funding provided to NRW in 2014-15 on top of grant-in-aid shown in the Final Budget 2014-15.

- At the start of this financial year (2014/15) NRW planned for a balanced budget of £191.4m. The current forecast is:
 - **Annual income £203.3m** (primarily due to £5m of additional income from Welsh Government for Invest to Save initiatives, Natural Resource Management trials, and additional commercial income).
 - **Annual expenditure £202.2m** (reduced from £202.7m by increased efforts on internal costs.)
 - **Forecast Outturn: £1.1m surplus** at the year end, (plan to carry forward to 2015/16).
- Please see below the individual projects which have received a commitment for additional support. These figures relate to provisions which will be paid in 2014/15. **To note** that there are likely to be additional payments before year end but the exact figures are unknown as yet

Invasive Non Native Species Research (preparation for new legislation)	£138,500
Appraisals for water strategy	£8,000
A465 additional capacity for scheme assessment (EST funded)	£128,700
Glastir Advanced - Water Quality	£470,000
Seascape characteristic assessment	£35,000
Welsh Marine Plan	£40,595
Burry Inlet Cockle Fishery	£75,000
Waste data stream	£138,500
Fly Tipping Action Wales	£185,000
Natural resource management area	£1,000,000

trials	
Nature Fund (Llynfi project)	£627,000
Flood Capital - WEFO Convergence Funding	£190,000
Flood Capital - Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan	£8,150,000
Transfer of IDBs	£296,500

Nature Fund

5. The following table sets out the allocated funding to each of the Nature Fund projects. It also shows the projected payments from the fund to each project and a note on whether payments are in arrears or in advance.

Project Title	Nature Fund Award	Payment to end January 2015	Payment Forecast end March 2015	Projected final payment totals for 2015
Coed Cymru & River Trusts	£658,500	0	£373,600	£284,900
Berwyn & Migneint, Black Mountains and Radnor Upland Recovery Project	£241,800	0	£241,800	0
Natural Buzz - a project to support the Action Plan for Pollinators	£130,000	£108,000	£22,000	0
Cynllun Gwella Dyffryn Elwy Habitat Improvement Project	£180,000	0	£180,000	0
Llyn Partnership Coastal Connectivity	£200,000		£30,000	£170,000
Unwanted vegetation and restoration of peatlands	£132,000		£132,000	0
Long Forest nature funding proposal	£190,000	£121,550	£45,900	£22,550
Peatland Push Cymru - Pumlumon Living Landscape (PLL) – A Payment For Ecosystem Service (PES) Scheme	£59,000	0	£34,356	£24,644
Eastern Valleys Upland Project	£280,000	0	£205,493	£74,507
Pond Connections	£63,000	0	£27,822	£35,178
Castlemartin Peninsula: Integrating Natural and Social Resources	£144,000	0	£71,750	£72,250
Future Fisheries - Living Seas	£62,000	£0	£52,250	£9,750
Pollinators for life project	£282,100	0	£242,920	£39,180
Elenydd Purple Moor Grass Project	£152,000	0	£90,045	£61,955
Ecosystem Enterprise Partnership (EEP) – Ecobank Project	£150,000	0	£150,000	0
Black Mountains Ecosystem Restoration: Linking Peatlands, Heathlands, Rivers and Woodlands	£201,500	0	£188,750	£12,750

Project Title	Nature Fund Award	Payment to end January 2015	Payment Forecast end March 2015	Projected final payment totals for 2015
Manage and benefit from woodland resources in rural Conwy	£125,000	£51,000	£74,000	0
NWM Futurescape programme (Incorporating Lake Vyrnwy, Sustainable Moorland, Developing ecosystem & Farm Advisory Focus)	£241,800	0	£179,711	£62,089
Connectivity work in the Duhonw Catchment	£128,000	0	£128,000	0
Llynfi Valley	£627,000	0	£627,000	0
NRW Transition Fund	£750,000	0	£750,000	0
Total	£4,997,700	£280,550	£3,847,397	£869,753

6. The expenditure and the earmarked budget for the Nature Fund sits with the BEL 2828 in the 1000NRF MEG. Funding to date has been allocated from uncommitted monies from Natural Environment BEL 2825, Flood Risk BEL 2230 (the projects supported by the proposed funding include ones which will utilise natural flood risk management solutions or provide better land management which could reduce the risk of flooding), and Climate Change BEL 2815 (the projects supported by the proposed funding utilise natural measures to mitigate for climate change or add resilience for example carbon sequestration in peatlands, wetland and woodland creation).
7. The final element of the Nature Fund is the provision of £750,00k to NRW to help the organisation with their transition to taking forward integrated Natural Resource Management. The funding will be mainly used to support a number of projects that will be contributing to the three area trials currently taking place in the Dyfi, Rhondda and Tawe catchments to help provide the evidence and learning to inform the transition towards integrated natural resource management.

Flood and Coastal Erosion

8. Over this financial year we will have invested £55.6m into flood risk management. This is broken down as follows:
 - FCERM Capital: £9.8m
 - FCERM Revenue: £27.3m
 - ERDF: £6m
 - WIIP: £12.5m
9. We have invested over £245 million in flood and coastal erosion risk management over the lifetime of this Government. This is supported by almost £50 million from the European Regional Development Fund over a six year period ending in 2015.

Yearly breakdown of FCERM core budget:

Financial Year	Annual Departmental FCERM Budget			Additional Capital Funding Received in Year			Total Funding (FCERM + additional sources)
	Capital	Revenue	Total FCERM Budget	CRC/ WIIP	Divisional Transfers	ERDF	
2011/12	17.0	19.7	36.7	2.2	3.5	15.0	57.4
2012/13	14.7	21.0	35.7	11.0		9.0	55.7
2013/14	14.7	27.4	42.1	14.0		5.0	61.1
2014/15	9.8	27.3	37.1	13.5		7.0	57.6
2015/16	9.8	27.3	37.1	12.5		6.0	55.6
Life of Gov't	66.0	122.7		53.2	3.5	42.0	287.4

Revenue: Natural Resources Wales (NRW) take the majority of the revenue budget with around £19.5m annually. The rest of the revenue budget is split between the LLFA grant, programme staff costs and key priority areas for Flood Programme.

Capital: Flood and Coastal Risk Management Grant in aid (FCERM) Capital allocations for this year is outlined in the table below. Land drainage schemes have an 85% grant rate, which require 15% match funding from lead local authority whilst the grant rate for coastal schemes can be up to 100%.

10. NRW are responsible for main river schemes and manage their own capital programme with funding from the Wales Infrastructure Investment Programme (WIIP), Flood and Coastal Risk Management Grant-in-Aid and ERDF funding through Europe. NRW are forecasting £19.3M spend on capital schemes for 2014/15.
11. In January, I announced an additional £150,000 of funding to NRW from within Flood Risk Management budgets to assist in progressing the recommendations. This additional funding will allow for at least 37 to be completed by the end of 2015, without the need to re-prioritise work.
12. Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water can also benefit from ERDF funding for flood risk management. For 2014/15 this amounts to £1.4m.

2014/15 local authority schemes:

Local Authority	FCERM Budget	ERDF	Includes Schemes at:
Ceredigion	3,725,000		Borth Phase 2 (Coastal)
Conwy	1,960,679		Colwyn Bay phase 1c (Coastal), Afon Bach, Llansannan. Land Drainage)
Denbighshire	1,823,935	1,975,887	West Rhyl (Coastal)

Local Authority	FCERM Budget	ERDF	Includes Schemes at:
Isle of Anglesey	568,758	551,167	Beaumaris (Coastal)
Caerphilly	178,500		Ynysddu (Land Drainage)
Cardiff	854,326	702,674	Whitchurch/Rhiwbina (Land Drainage)
Monmouthshire	411,457	522,972	Station Road, Blake street (Land Drainage)
Pembrokeshire	465,000		Little Haven (Tidal flooding)
Powys	955,990	999,329	Kerry Gilfach, Tregynon village, Talgarth phase 2 (Land Drainage)
Rhondda Cynon Taff	679,474	760,009	Nant Gwawr, Bwlffa Road, Rhydfelin, Nant y Fedw (Land Drainage)
Vale of Glamorgan	474,791	457,018	Coldbrook (Catchment)

Funding for the delivery of the Marine and Fisheries Strategic Action Plan in 2014-15

13. The Marine Strategy Framework Directive is expected to spend in the region of £500k this financial year in support of the Marine Strategic Action Plan. The spend will focus across the projects within the programme as well as legislation. Because of uncertainty of the expected spend in this area during the year, along with the expected level of budget reductions, funding wasn't allocated during the supplementary budget process, instead the Marine and Fisheries budget as a whole is being monitored and can absorb some of this spend, and any shortfall will be managed within the year end MEG flexibilities. Once the profile of current and further spend on the Strategic Action Plan is further identified, the budgets will be allocated during the supplementary process during 2015/16.

Funding for the delivery of the Climate Change Strategy in 2014-15

14. The budget for the Climate Action and Resilience Team, who have responsibility for the Climate Change Strategy, is contained within the Climate Change and Sustainability line of the Natural Resources Management Expenditure Group (MEG) and for 2014-15 it is £617,000.

15. This budget line includes statutory funding to the UK Climate Change Committee as well as support for the Climate Change Commission for Wales. Expenditure to the end of December 2014 was £471,851 and it is anticipated that there will be a full spend by the financial year end.

16. It should be noted, however, that climate change is a cross-cutting issue and all departments within the Welsh Government work towards tackling it. Maximising the usage of our resources in militating against and embedding resilience to the effects of climate change is a key element of the Welsh Government's climate change policy.

Funding for the delivery of the Wales Data Hub in 2014-15

17. The Information Hub website was launched in July 2014 and provides access to up-to-date, robust data. By working with internal and external stakeholders, additional key data sets have been identified as having value to a wide range of users. Welsh Government officials are working in collaboration with partners and stakeholders to prioritise the publication of these data in line with user need and to develop the tools to allow users to access the data easily.
18. A key principle of the Information Hub is to ensure the hub is developed in the most efficient and effective way to add value to the existing network. As such, development of the hub has built on existing systems, utilising existing in house skills and resources. A further £10,000 - £20,000 has been allocated from the same budget before the end of the financial year for maintenance of the IT infrastructure and to secure IT developer resource from the Welsh Government's Knowledge and Analytical Services Division to enable the priority data sets to be published and development of associated tools. Long term resourcing and maintenance of the Information Hub will be addressed as part of a strategic plan.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol
Minister for Natural Resources

Ein cyf/Our ref: SF/CS/0454/15

Alun Ffred Jones AM
Chair
Environment and Sustainability Committee

18 March 2015

Dear Alun Ffred,

Further to the email from the Committee Clerk on 10 March, I am delighted to provide a response to the action points raised during my recent appearance before the Committee.

During the scrutiny session I agreed to provide further information on issues regarding the prices paid by Gypsies and Travellers for energy and water, a clarification of self-reporting methods in Nest and also the introduction of legislation to restrict the size of fishing boats in the 0-6 nautical mile area. The specific actions raised by the Committee, together with my responses, are available in Annex 1.

During the session, I also stated that I would update the committee with a timetable on Marine and Fisheries priorities and if available, an update on discussions about the increase in abstraction licences by NRW for water use and energy generation and a solution based on proportionate cost (scale vs. cost).

I will be submitting a written statement in the coming days which will set out my priorities on marine and fisheries matters and when they will be delivered, as well as updating the November 2013 Wales Marine and Fisheries Strategic Action Plan.

With regards to the abstraction licences, historically the cost of abstractions for hydro schemes has been subsidised by grant in aid. Moving to cost recovery is a more appropriate charging model for the longer term and NRW are shortly to submit their first charging scheme for my approval.

I am aware that significant work has been undertaken on streamlining NRW's abstraction application process and in particular they have been working with the hydropower sector to develop a tiered charging scheme for the charging period 16/17 which they consider would be a fair approach to setting application fees. They are now collecting this data to support the development of a tiered scheme over the next 6 months.

In the meantime I will be considering whether I am able to provide some additional funding so that NRW are able to reduce the impact of the abstraction charge in 2015/16 on applicants for smaller hydro schemes.

I trust that I have addressed the Committee's queries in full and I look forward to working closely with you in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Sargeant'.

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cyfoeth Naturiol
Minister for Natural Resources

Actions points arising from the Environment and Sustainability Committee Scrutiny Session of 4 March 2015

- 1. *Write to the Committee with regard to the prices paid by Gypsies and Travellers for energy and water, including how they could benefit from the Nest and Arbed programmes***

Energy Efficiency Schemes

Gypsies and Travellers are already able to access advice and support under our Energy Efficiency Programme, which includes the Nest and Arbed schemes and grant funding for local authority area-based schemes to leverage ECO funding into Wales.

A number of Gypsy and Traveller households have already benefited from advice and free home energy improvements under the Nest scheme. It is for local authorities to determine which properties in their area to include in proposals for Arbed or grant funding, and if they were to include Gypsy and Traveller properties, the scheme would be evaluated in exactly the same way as any other proposal.

While our energy efficiency programme is one option, local authorities can also bid for funding under the Sites Capital Grant. Responsibility for this funding does not sit within my Ministerial portfolio, it sits with the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty. My officials are working closely with colleagues leading on policy for Gypsy and Travellers.

In January, my officials arranged for an energy advisor from SSE to undertake an event in Pembrokeshire for residents from the local Gypsy and Traveller community to learn more about their energy use and how to reduce their energy bills. The event was held in the local school, but disappointingly, none of the Gypsy and Traveller residents attended the event. Representatives from the Unity Project, who are working with the residents, did attend and will hopefully pass on the knowledge they have gained to the residents.

My officials will continue to work with colleagues across Welsh Government to ensure that we do everything we reasonably can do to help Gypsy and Traveller communities to reduce their energy use and energy bills.

Water

The Task and Finish Group on water supply to Gypsy and Traveller site pitches was set up to look at the issues and try to reach an agreement regarding the development of future sites to ensure that the correct infrastructure to allow individual water supplies will be installed prior to their opening.

During the process, further work was identified for both the local authorities and the water companies, to help improve affordability for residents. This includes actions on better management of the sites by some local authorities and the development of education campaigns around water efficiency.

The Group has provided officials with comments on the draft Welsh Government guidance regarding Managing and Designing Gypsy and Traveller sites, to ensure sites are designed to allow residents to take control of their water usage more efficiently and effectively, ultimately, reduce water bills.

I have written direct to Julie Morgan AM with further details on the progress made by the Task and Finish group.

The Task and Finish Group will host a final session in April 2015 and I would be happy to write to the committee in due course outlining any further agreement or proposals reached.

2. Clarify the meaning of 'self-reporting' in relation to Arbed and Nest.

The Welsh Government uses self-reporting in the evaluations of the Nest and Arbed schemes to provide feedback from beneficiaries on their perception of whether the advice and / or home energy improvements they received under the schemes has had a positive difference.

Some of the questions we use for this form of self reporting include:

- whether the warmth of the beneficiary's home prior to receiving advice and / or improvements impacted on the way they used their home and their heating
- whether the advice / improvements received have affected their fuel bills and if they are able to estimate what they spend on fuel now compared to before the intervention
- whether they have experienced other benefits such as feeling happier or healthier in their home
- whether they experienced any problems and if their overall experience could be improved in any way

The other form of self-reporting used by Welsh Government is under the Nest scheme, where applicants are asked if they will provide information on their household income (by income band) and their fuel bills. Eligibility for free home energy improvements under Nest uses receipt of means tested benefits and an energy inefficient property, which is considered to be a good proxy for fuel poverty.

Collecting self-reported data on income and energy bills provides another indication of the likelihood of the applicant's household living in fuel poverty or severe fuel poverty, but is difficult to verify. In addition, information on income levels and energy bills is not a requirement for receiving support so not all applicants agree to provide this information.

I am happy to consider the benefits of increasing the use of self-reported data in our energy efficiency and fuel poverty schemes in future, but as the independent report on the Nest scheme has highlighted, self-reported data has its limitations. Participants may not give accurate responses and there may be bias in the answers they give, and these limitations will increase when looking at long term impacts.

3. Update the Committee on the introduction of legislation to restrict the size of fishing boats in the 0-6 nautical mile area.

On 11 February 2014, the then Minister for Natural Resources & Food announced his intention to proceed with the proposal to remove the Historic Access Rights for fishing boats in the 0-6 Nautical Mile area of Welsh Waters as soon as possible and that it would need to be notified to the European Commission in accordance with the Technical Standards Directive (Directive 98/34/EC) ("TSD") with a three month standstill period.

That period has now closed and no objections were raised. I intend to announce shortly how I intend to proceed on this matter.

Rebecca Evans AC / AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Ffermio a Bwyd
Deputy Minister for Farming and Food

Agenda Item 4.2



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref:
Ein cyf/Our ref: SF/CS/0292/15

Alun Ffred Jones AM
Chair
Environment and Sustainability Committee
National Assembly for Wales

18 March 2015

Dear Alun Ffred,

Further to the email from the Committee Clerk on 10 March, I am pleased to provide a response to the action points raised during my appearance before the Committee on 4 March.

During the scrutiny session I agreed to provide further information on assurances in relation to feed sources for large-scale dairy farms.

I can confirm that the majority of dairy farms in Wales, both large and small, operate a pasture-based system, either by grazing or through conserved forage. Wales' temperate climate is ideally suited for grass growing and is a relatively cheap and efficient animal feed.

The major source of protein continues to be derived from soya beans which are mainly imported to the UK from the USA and South America. Due to the levels of volatility being experienced in the global markets the need to secure protein and compound feedstuffs has increased.

Farmers are now looking at alternative sources of protein, this will include home-grown high quality silage, or alternative protein-rich crop sources such as peas, beans, clover or lupins.

We also discussed the ongoing engagement with Defra and the levy boards with regard to the redistribution of the red meat levy in Wales.

To bring you fully up to date, a Red Meat Industry Forum was established to consider a solution to the redistribution of the red meat levy. The Forum is made up of representatives from the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board, Quality Meat Scotland and Hybu Cig Cymru.

They are currently developing an options paper on the potential delivery models for the redistribution of levy that would be deliverable, cost effective and offer value for money to each region.

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This paper is currently in development and will be circulated to Defra, the Welsh Government and the Scottish Executive once the relevant levy boards have agreed on the proposals.

I will of course keep the Committee updated on this issue and the suggested proposals put forward.

I trust that I have addressed the Committee's queries in full.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yours, Rebecca'.

Rebecca Evans AC / AM

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Ffermio a Bwyd
Deputy Minister for Farming and Food

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Alun Ffred Jones AM
Chair
Environment and Sustainability Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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CF99 1NA

12 March 2015

Dear Alun

**National Assembly for Wales' Environment and Sustainability Committee Inquiry
into Marine Policy in Wales**

Supplementary Submission by Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales

Further to the Committee's evidence session on the 26th February, the following additional information is offered by Natural Resources Wales to clarify an area of substantial marine policy and legislative delivery that is currently underway but which was not discussed at the evidence session.

The UK stocktake and subsequent analysis of gaps in the marine protected area (MPA) network, is, as was discussed at the evidence session on the 26th February, still underway.

We are, however, already aware of some existing gaps in coverage of marine features that require protection under the European Birds Directive and European Habitats Directives.

The specific gaps include:

- The need for Special Conservation Areas (SCAs) for harbour porpoise
- The need for Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for birds at sea

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee has worked with Natural Resources Wales and other UK Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies to analyse the best available data to identify important areas for both harbour porpoise and birds at sea. These analyses are being used to develop formal site recommendations in Wales and across the UK. The areas concerned in Welsh waters are of interest to the same stakeholders and as a result we are taking forward a joint programme of work for both marine SCAs and SPAs.

Natural Resources Wales began a period of substantial informal stakeholder engagement on the 23rd February to explain and discuss the possible new sites and explore implications. A formal consultation will follow later this year.

Ein cyf/Our ref: Marine Policy
Inquiry
Eich cyf/Your ref:

Maes y Ffynnon
Penrhosgarnedd
Bangor

A leaflet summarising the possible sites, and a supporting set of Frequent Asked Questions have been developed and these are provided to accompany this letter. These are also available to download from the following web page:

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/marine/information-about-our-marine-work/?lang=en>
<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/marine/information-about-our-marine-work/?lang=cy>

The decision on whether or not to designate sites in Welsh territorial waters is the responsibility of Welsh Ministers. The decision must be based solely on the scientific evidence. As part of the process the Welsh Government must consider advice from Natural Resources Wales on potential sites and decide whether or not to proceed to formal consultation on the basis of this advice.

Natural Resources Wales' role in the process is as statutory advisor to Government on site selection. Natural Resources Wales also undertakes public consultation on possible sites on behalf of, and as instructed by, the Welsh Government.

NRW Marine Work Programme

We are currently working on confirming our forward marine work programme for 2015/16 and as discussed at the evidence session on the 26th February, we will forward this to the Committee as soon as it is available.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Keith Davies
Head of Planning Energy, Landscape and Climate Change



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Alun Ffred Jones AC
Cadeirydd
Y Pwyllgor Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd
CF99 1NA

12 Mawrth 2015

Annwyl Alun

Ymchwiliad Pwyllgor Amgylchedd a Chynaliadwyedd Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru i Bolisi Morol yng Nghymru

Cyflwyniad Atodol gan Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales

Yn dilyn sesiwn dystiolaeth y Pwyllgor ar 26^{ain} Chwefror, caiff yr wybodaeth ychwanegol a ganlyn ei chynnig gan Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru i egluro maes yn ymwneud â pholisi morol a chyflawni deddfwriaethol sydd ar waith ar hyn o bryd, ond na chafodd ei drafod yn y sesiwn dystiolaeth.

Fel y trafodwyd yn y sesiwn dystiolaeth ar 26^{ain} Chwefror, mae gwaith y DU o bwysu a mesur a dadansoddi bylchau yn y rhwydwaith o ardaloedd morol gwarchodedig yn dal i fod ar y gweill.

Fodd bynnag, rydym eisoes yn ymwybodol fod bylchau i'w cael o safbwynt nodweddion morol y mae angen eu gwarchod dan Gyfarwydddeb Adar Ewrop a Chyfarwydddebau Cynefinoedd Ewrop. Mae'r bylchau penodol yn cynnwys:

- Yr angen am Ardaloedd Cadwraeth Arbennig (ACA) ar gyfer llamidyddion
- Yr angen am Ardaloedd Gwarchodaeth Arbennig (AGA) ar gyfer adar ar y môr

Mae'r Cydbwyllgor Gwarchod Natur (JNCC) wedi gweithio gyda Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru a Chyrrff Cadwraeth Natur Statudol eraill yn y DU i ddadansoddi'r data gorau sydd ar gael er mwyn canfod ardaloedd pwysig i lamdyddion ac adar ar y môr. Caiff y dadansoddiadau hyn eu defnyddio i ddatblygu argymhellion ffurfiol yn ymwneud â safleoedd yng Nghymru ac ar draws y DU. Mae'r ardaloedd dan sylw yn nyfroedd Cymru o ddiddordeb i'r un rhanddeiliaid, ac o'r herwydd rydym yn bwrw ymlaen â rhaglen waith ar y cyd ar gyfer ACA morol ac AGA morol.

Dechreuodd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ar gyfnod ymgynghori sylweddol ac anffurfiol gyda rhanddeiliaid ar 23^{ain} Chwefror, er mwyn esbonio a thrafod y safleoedd newydd posibl ac archwilio'r goblygiadau. Bydd ymgynghoriad ffurfiol yn cael ei gynnal yn ddiweddarach eleni.

Mae taflen yn crynhoi'r safleoedd posibl a chyfres ategol o Gwestiynau Cyffredin wedi'u llunio, a cheir copïau ohonynt gyda'r llythyr hwn. Mae'r rhain ar gael hefyd i'w lawrlwytho oddi ar y we-dudalen a ganlyn:

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/marine/information-about-our-marine-work/?lang=cy>
<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/marine/information-about-our-marine-work/?lang=en>

Cyfrifoldeb Gweinidogion Cymru yw penderfynu pa un a ddylid dynodi safleoedd yn nyfroedd tiriogaethol Cymru, ai peidio. Rhaid i'r penderfyniad gael ei seilio'n llwyr ar y dystiolaeth wyddonol. Fel rhan o'r broses, rhaid i Lywodraeth Cymru ystyried cyngor gan Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ynghylch safleoedd posibl, a phenderfynu pa un a ddylid bwrw ymlaen â'r ymgynghoriad ffurfiol ai peidio ar sail y cyngor hwn.

Swyddogaeth Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn y broses yw bod yn gynghorydd statudol i'r Llywodraeth ynghylch dewis safleoedd. Ymhellach, bydd Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru yn cynnal ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ynghylch safleoedd posibl ar ran, ac yn ôl cyfarwyddyd, Llywodraeth Cymru.

Rhaglen Waith Forol CNC

Ar hyn o bryd rydym yn ceisio cadarnhau ein rhaglen waith forol ar gyfer 2015/16, ac fel y trafodwyd yn y sesiwn dystiolaeth ar 26^{ain} Chwefror byddwn yn anfon hon at y Pwyllgor cyn gynted ag y bydd ar gael.

Os byddwch angen unrhyw wybodaeth bellach, mae croeso ichi gysylltu â mi.

Yn gywir

Keith Davies

Pennaeth Cynllunio Ynni, Tirweddau a Newid Hinsawdd

Ty Cambria / Cambria House
29 Heol Casnewydd / 29 Newport Road
Caerdydd / Cardiff
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Ffôn/Phone:
0300 065 4444

Alun Ffred Jones AM
Chair, Environment and Sustainability Committee,
National Assembly for Wales,
Cardiff Bay,
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

9 March 2015

Dear Alun,

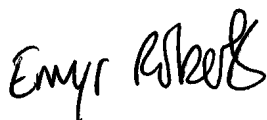
SCRUTINY OF NATURAL RESOURCES WALES

We look forward to the scrutiny session with the Committee on May 6.

As part of the consultation process for the scrutiny, the Committee may wish to consider consulting with the stakeholders in the attached list. I should stress that this is not an exclusive list, and is in no particular order, and represents some of NRW's main stakeholders.

I hope the Committee finds the list to be useful.

Yours sincerely,



Emyr Roberts

**Prif Weithredwr
Chief Executive**

NRW Scrutiny Stakeholder List

Utilities:	Other public bodies:
	National Parks
Dwr Cymru Welsh Water	AONBs
Severn Trent	The Crown Estate
National Grid	Coal Authority
Dee Valley Group	Public Health Wales
	Sport Wales
Business / Industry:	Planning Inspectorate
	Natural England
Renewables UK Wales	Environment Agency
Horizon	Forestry Commission
Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon	JNCC
British Hydropower Association	SEPA
Vattenfall	National Museums of Wales
Miller Argent	
Celtic Energy	Regulators:
Tidal Energy Ltd	
Viridor	OFWAT
MURCO	OFGEM
RWE	
First Milk Cheese Ltd	Professional bodies/Other partners:
Tata	
Valero Energy Ltd	Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management
South Hook LNG	Chartered Institute of Waste Management
Carmarthenshire Waste Management	Minerals Products Association
Microsoft	Institution of Civil Engineers
BSW Timber	Civil Engineers Contractors Association
Milford Haven Port Authority	WRAP
Port of Mostyn	Water Aid
ABP	Coleg Cenedlaethol Cymru
Atkins	Universities Wales
Infinis	CBI Wales
Dow Corning	Federation of Small Businesses
	RTPI Cymru
Land/Forestry/Marine:	WLGA
	Institute of Chartered Foresters
NFU Cymru	RICS
FUW	
CLA Wales	
CONFOR	
Welsh Fishermans Association	
UPM	
Forest Holidays	
Third sector/NGOs:	
Keep Wales Tidy	
National Trust	
RSPB Cymru	
Wildlife Trusts	
Carmarthenshire Rivers Trust	
Clwyd and Conwy Rivers Trusts	
Pembrokeshire Rivers Trust	
Severn Rivers Trust	
South East Wales Rivers Trust	
Teifi Rivers Trust	
National Botanic Garden	
Wye and Usk Foundation	
Wales Environment Link	
Glandwr Cymru - canal and river trust in Wales	
WWF Cymru	
Disability Wales	
Cynnal Cymru - Sustain Wales	
Sustrans	