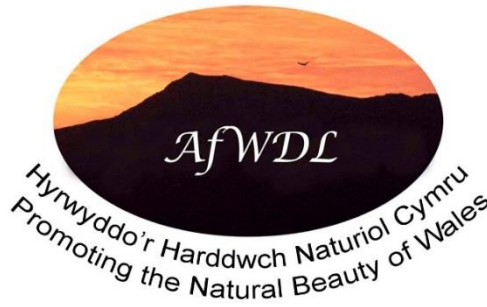


Alliance
for
Welsh Designated
Landscapes



Cynghrais
dros
Dirluniau Dynodedig
Cymru

27th September 2017

Annwyl Aelod Cynulliad / Dear Assembly Member

**Taking Forward Wales's Sustainable Management of Natural Resources:
Consultation response from Alliance for Welsh Designated Landscapes**

The Alliance for Welsh Designated Landscapes represents its members which include The Gower Society, Ramblers Wales, RSPB Cymru, YHA Cymru, CPRW, BMC Cymru, Wildlife Trusts Wales, National Trust Wales, Brecon Beacons Park Society, Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, and Cymdeithas Eryri The Snowdonia Society.

The Alliance presents its response to the consultation 'Taking Forward Wales's Sustainable Management of Natural Resources'. We hope this response will inform the implementation of sustainable management of natural resources (SMNR) in designated landscapes.

We note with concern that the [Natural Resources Policy](#), published in August, appears to prejudge the outcome of the current consultation, which continues until 30th September. Thus p.26 of the Natural Resources Policy states:

'The collaborative Future Landscapes Wales review process has identified clear principles for the future of our designated landscapes. This includes aligning their purpose, processes and governance with the new framework set by the Environment (Wales) Act and Well-being of Future Generations Act and providing for new community-led proposals for places and landscapes to come forward, drawing on the experience of international models. Detailed actions, including the potential legislative changes identified in the report, will be developed using the same collaborative process...'

We have previously circulated to you our views on the 'collaborative' Future Landscapes Wales process and report. It is a matter of some urgency that the designated landscapes review process takes on board the clear feedback from participants and stakeholders.

We request that:

- the Future landscapes report be rewritten to provide traceability from the Marsden report
- there is proper oversight (independent, non-political) of the Future Landscapes process
- the status of the Sandford Principle be clearly reaffirmed
- proposals to amend the purposes of designated landscapes are backed by evidence
- effort is invested in building on existing mechanisms, rather than only on novel concepts
- the existing duty on public authorities to 'have regard to' National Park purposes be strengthened.

Yours sincerely
Professor Terry Marsden
Chair, Alliance for Welsh Designated Landscapes