

Vibrant Welsh Landscapes for Future Generations: A Manifesto for Action

Our treasured National Parks and National Landscapes (formerly AONBs) are vital sources of Welsh identity, community and wellbeing. Since the founding of our first National Park in 1951 (Eryri), Designated Landscapes in Wales have provided a place of sanctuary, pride and adventure for millions of visitors and residents who have explored and been inspired by their beauty and rich cultural history.

In the face of climate breakdown, a nature crisis, and fragmenting rural communities, Designated Landscapes have a vital role to play in tackling some of the biggest challenges Wales faces today. And that's why we want to see the next Welsh Government prioritise Wales' Designated Landscapes in the next term of Government, taking urgent action to bring forward reforms which will maximise their potential to be more nature-rich, inclusive and enjoyed by all. Below we have outlined some key priorities for your party to bring forward at the next election.

1. A new National Park for the People of Wales

Commit to delivering a new National Park in North East Wales which includes the coastline, is an exemplar for biodiversity and climate, and which boosts local communities.

A new National Park will encourage local investment, business diversification and tourism opportunities. A National Park will also put the culture, history and language of the area on the international stage whilst providing new opportunities for farming businesses and pioneering new landscape management opportunities.

2. Rapid Nature Recovery of Designated Landscapes

An updated legislative agenda which enables nature recovery in Designated Landscapes to go further and faster toward Welsh Government's agreed 30x30 target. This should include:

A new nature recovery and climate purpose for Designated Landscapes with a stronger duty on public bodies to further this purpose and contribute to management plans.

An end to water pollution in Designated Landscapes through tighter nutrient management regulations, proper enforcement on water pollution, and a commitment to improved regulations for water bodies in these areas from source to sea.

Reform of National Park Authority governance, stronger enforcement of existing laws, and new laws to control damaging activities such as peatland burning and wildlife crime.

A multifunctional land use framework for Wales and clearly defined targets for Designated Landscapes as part of the 'Nature Positive' Bill.

3. Funding the Future of Designated Landscapes

The restoration of funding, in real terms to 2010 levels, a funding commitment for the next decade, and ringfenced additional money for the new National Park. We also need a strong framework to attract and regulate private sector investment, starting with robust responsible investment principles and the development of a climate peatlands fund.

4. Designated Landscapes Supporting Rural Wales

Back farmers in National Parks through an enhanced Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) and a long-term commitment to the Ffermio Bro programme.

Greater incentives and an earlier commencement of adequately funded optional and collaborative actions are needed within SFS which encourages collaborative landscape recovery projects in Designated Landscapes and empowers landscape bodies to support farmers and nature directly.

Improve sustainable travel to tackle the climate crisis and ensure that Designated Landscapes are truly available for all. We are calling for innovative road-user charging schemes to reduce car travel, with the revenue raised invested in sustainable and active travel to enable visitors to enjoy and experience Designated Landscapes car-free.

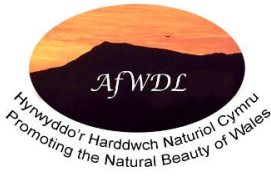
A visitor levy which is designed and implemented to maximise the benefits to the visitor economy in National Parks, ensuring that local communities and businesses are supported. This should include ensuring that National Park Authorities have control over the revenue raised in these areas.

5. Accessible National Parks for All

A future designation programme which includes updating designation criteria to ensure they align with the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, new National Landscapes, and the extension of National Parks into the marine environment to enable National Parks at land, coast and sea.

A right for every child in Wales to have an adventure in a Designated Landscape with outdoor learning experiences being a core part of the National Curriculum.

Alliance
for
Welsh Designated
Landscapes



Cynghrair
dros
Dirfuniau Dynodedig
Cymru


CAMPAIGN for
NATIONAL PARKS


YMGYRCH y
PARCIAU CENEDLAETHOL

The expansion of freedom to roam to achieve wider recreational access to the countryside. This should include an increase in ranger services, trials for backpack camping, and encouraging more responsible access through education and greater enforcement of fly-tipping and the countryside code awareness.

Legal reform to ensure equality in access and participation, including a change in purposes to promote inclusion, health and wellbeing; reform of National Park Authority governance and a role for citizen assemblies.

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