

**Report of: Chief Executive**

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**Subject: Remit Letter for Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority**

**Decision Required: No**

**Recommendation**

**Members are asked to note the Welsh Government's Remit letter.**

**1. Key messages**

The paper provides Members with an updated Remit Letter from the Welsh Government.

**2. Background**

2.1. The Authority receives the majority of its funding from the Welsh Government, who outline our priorities in a Remit Letter. In 2022 the Authority received a Remit letter that covered the Term of Government (until 2026). However, for the final year of the Term of Government we have received a Remit Letter that in part reflects our financial challenges and provides areas to provide greater focus along with the budget allocation. A copy of the Remit Letter is included as Annex A.

2.2. The Authority has a long-established relationship with the Welsh Government and therefore we are well placed to deliver Core Priorities along with the majority of the Supporting Priorities listed in the Remit letter.

**3. Financial considerations**

The Welsh Government provides the majority of the Authority's funding and therefore a failure to take account of the requirements of the Remit letter could have a negative impact on future budget settlements. The paper outlines the full funding settlement the Authority will receive during 2025-26.

**4. Risk and Compliance Considerations**

The Authority will be required to report on progress in delivering the actions and outcomes listed in the letter. A failure to make sufficient progress could have an impact on the funding provided by the Welsh Government.

**5. Impact on our Public Sector Duties**

The Authority will take account of the full extent of its Public Sector Duties when delivering its work.

## **6.1 Welsh language considerations**

The Authority will take full account of the relevant Welsh Language Standards as well as contributing to the policy aim of A Million Welsh speakers by 2050.

## **6.2 Biodiversity Duty and Decarbonisation**

The work outlined in the Remit Letter supports the delivery of our Biodiversity Duty and our approach to Decarbonisation and Climate Adaptation.

## **6.3 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act**

The Remit Letter will be delivered in a way that supports meeting our Well-being Goals for Wales and the five Ways of working under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

## **7. Conclusion**

Members are asked to note the Welsh Government's Remit letter.

*Author: Tegryn Jones, Chief Executive*

*Supporting Papers: [15 22-Remit-Letter.pdf](#)*



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA/HIDCC/0573/25

Cllr Di Clements  
Chair  
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

15 April 2025

Dear Di,

2025-26 marks the final year of our current Programme for Government. I wanted to set out what I see as our most important shared priorities for the coming year. This builds on the Term of Government Letter that you received in 2022. It also offers some guidance in how you should prioritise your work within the current political and financial context, over and above your statutory responsibilities. I hope that this will be useful to you.

### Funding in 2025-26

I can also confirm your funding allocations for 2025-26, following the conclusion of the Welsh Government budgetary process. I have allocated £3,411,926 in core Revenue Grant to Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority in 2025-26. You should use this figure to trigger the levy from your contributing Local Authorities. This represents an uplift of 5% on your original grant allocation for 2024-25, in recognition of the pressures you face around rising costs, particularly inflation in staff costs.

In addition to this allocation, I will also be providing a range of other funding for specific measures. These comprise:

- £330,000 in general capital funding, for you to utilise on your capital priorities in 2025-26;
- £500,000 from the Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places Nature & Carbon capital fund;
- £237,561 for the Ffermio Bro: Farming in Designated Landscapes scheme.

Further information on your budget allocation is included at Annex B.

### Priorities

The First Minister has committed to driving forward progress across 4 key areas. I look to you to seek opportunities to support these areas, where appropriate to your remit:

- 'Iechyd da' - A Healthier Wales;
- Green jobs and growth;

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

- Opportunity for every family;
- Connecting communities.

In addition, you should continue to align work with our key Wellbeing Objectives, including:

- Build a stronger, greener economy as we make maximum progress towards decarbonisation;
- Embed our response to the climate and nature emergency in everything we do;
- Celebrate diversity and move to eliminate inequality in all of its forms;
- Push forward towards a million Welsh speakers, and enable our tourism, sports and arts industries to thrive;
- Make our cities, towns and villages even better places in which to live and work.

Designated Landscape bodies must continue to focus attention on responding to the climate and nature emergency as an overarching and urgent priority.

The Senedd declared a nature emergency in 2021, and we have also committed to the global 30x30 goal. You have a key role to play in helping us deliver action for nature; this has been articulated through the Biodiversity Deep Dive and Designated Landscapes expert group. Your work will continue to be underpinned by the expert group, who I expect you to work closely with.

Our ambition is for the Welsh public sector to be collectively net zero by 2030. You have already made good progress in reducing your emissions as organisations. You must also continue to look beyond your own organisations to the wider environment, communities and visitors. I therefore expect to see continued evidence-led progress in reducing emissions and enabling sequestration in the landscape.

Sustainable farming is an intrinsic part of our landscape and is critical to achieving our aims for nature and climate. As we move closer to our new Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS), I am delighted that we are introducing a bespoke scheme for Designated Landscapes in 2025-26. We have developed Ffermio Bro: Farming in Designated Landscapes as a key element of the SFS preparatory phase, and in response to calls from your sector. I look forward to it delivering bigger and better outcomes for the environment, people and communities across designated landscapes as part of the wider SFS package.

Our ambition is to 'grow tourism for the good of Wales'. People choose to visit Wales to enjoy our superb natural environment, as well as to experience our culture, including the Welsh language. The role of your bodies, in enabling better visitor management to minimise the impact of tourism on the environment and on your communities, is critical.

I am also keen to see the NPAs become exemplars in good governance and the ongoing governance programme Welsh Government is funding is key to this. I expect to see the recently published NPA Governance Handbook embedded in both new Member induction and in the development of all existing Members. There are additional resources associated with the governance programme available to your Members via the Tirweddau Cymru Landscapes Wales website and I ask you to encourage Members to engage with them.

In our Programme for Government, we have committed to establishing a new National Park in north-east Wales, and I would like you to support the process as needed.

It is my intention that our relationship will continue to be based on mutual trust and respect, and on open and honest communication. This letter is designed to provide you with a clear framework within which to work for 2025-26. At Annex A I have outlined core priorities where I expect you to play a significant role as well as other priorities where you can play a contributory role, where appropriate. You should map the priorities set out in this Annex to your annual Corporate Plan (or equivalent) and provide updates on a 6-monthly basis, using data as appropriate, to Welsh Government that can form the basis of discussions in your meetings with myself and my officials. I would welcome discussion and agreement of a number of these key deliverables early in the new financial year.

I look forward to working with you to deliver for the people and environment of Wales.

I am copying this letter to the Chief Executive Officer.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area. A small handwritten mark is visible to the left of the box.

**Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS**

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs



## ANNEX A: Priority Objectives and Actions for the Senedd term

My priorities have been grouped according to three themes of action: ***Environment; People and Place; Governance and Collaboration.***

### **Environment**

NRW's State of Natural Resources Report (SoNARR) 2020 together with its Protected Sites Baseline report 2020 present a stark picture. Most habitat types have seen a reduction in diversity over the last 100 years, with the rate of decline increasing from the 1970s onwards. Very few Welsh habitats are reported as being in good condition. Despite the protection designation affords, protected sites within Designated Landscapes are not in significantly better condition than those outside. That is something we must change.

Management bodies will need a systematic, data-led approach to the ecosystems and protected sites within their landscape, which enable the areas with most potential to meet the 30x30 target to be targeted. The urgency of the situation brings a need to make difficult decisions to improve the connectivity, condition, extent and diversity of habitats, and also to focus more on alternative sources of funding.

Our ambition is for the Welsh public sector to be collectively net zero by 2030. You have already made good progress in reducing your emissions as organisations, and I expect this to continue. You must also continue to look beyond your own organisations to the wider environment, communities and visitors.

### **Core Priorities**

- Actively support Welsh Government's commitment to achieving a zero-carbon economy by working to become carbon neutral by 2030 through your everyday work and a range of decarbonisation interventions
- Proactively facilitate carbon sequestration by supporting woodland creation where appropriate, and peatland restoration at scale through the National Peatland Action Programme (NPAP)
- Take action to improve the connectivity, condition, scale/extent and diversity of ecosystems, and maintain and enhance resilient ecological networks, embedding delivery in emerging national targets arising from the 30x30 commitment
- Deliver the Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places Nature & Carbon Fund, and other WG schemes to deliver on nature and decarbonisation goals

### **Supporting Priorities:**

- Support a shift away from private car use to more sustainable transport modes for the majority of journeys amongst staff, visitors and service users
- Support the PfG commitment to establish a targeted scheme to support restoration of seagrass and saltmarsh habitats along our coastline, help deliver the ambitions of the Marine Protected Area Network Management Framework and contribute to emerging policy on blue carbon.
- Engage in Local Energy Planning to help bring about the transformation of the energy system needed to reach Net Zero, securing greater benefits for your communities
- Engaging positively in initiatives to promote reuse and repair, to grow the circular economy, and reduce the harm caused to the environment by single use plastics through discouraging their use wherever possible.

## People and Place

I want you to continue seeking to encourage participation in an environmentally, economically and culturally sensitive way, and advocate for sustainable solutions where tensions and issues arise.

We have committed to take forward actions to control the number of second homes and licence holiday lets. NPAs can influence this agenda through their work as Local Planning Authorities and should work with the Housing Authority, local communities and developers to make more affordable houses available.

The long-term sustainability of many of our most sensitive landscape areas and their communities is also intertwined with Welsh language and culture; I would like to see you continuing to deliver our commitment to achieve a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

### **Core Priorities:**

- Contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Farming Scheme and deliver the Ffermio Bro scheme
- Work with Housing Authorities, Community Land Trusts and private developers, to develop innovative solutions to acute housing issues and contribute to the Welsh Language Communities Housing Plan
- Working with partners such as Local Authorities and Transport for Wales, implement solutions to the pressures of visitors on local infrastructure, including more sustainable transport systems, and communication campaigns to ensure responsible recreation.
- Collaborate with key partners to deliver against Welsh Government priorities for tourism, culture and heritage.
- Develop policies that ensure that the Welsh language can thrive, delivering against *Cymraeg 2050: Our plan for 2021 to 2026*
- Increase opportunities for people in vulnerable or disadvantaged groups and under-represented communities to benefit from the landscapes you manage
- Increase provision of skills training, apprenticeship and volunteering opportunities.

### **Supporting Priorities:**

- Contribute, where appropriate, to the PfG commitment to establish a Community Food Strategy to encourage the production and supply of locally-sourced food
- Support the designation of inland bathing waters and deployment of Sustainable Drainage Systems
- Engage with the development of the proposed all-Wales framework for social prescribing

## Governance and Collaboration

I value the contribution of all NPA appointees. When it works well, the local perspective of LA appointees complements the national perspective Ministerial appointees bring.

NPAs already have a robust scrutiny structure through the work of Audit Wales, internal audit and the ongoing monitoring arrangements with Welsh Government. There are several areas where we can do more work collectively to support NPA members, to ensure they can contribute as effectively as possible. More active participation and adoption of the governance excellence framework supported by Welsh Government should be a priority.



I am pleased to see the progress of the Tirweddau Cymru partnership and to support it as it develops a stronger and better resourced governance and delivery framework in 2025.

**Core Priorities:**

- Strive for excellence in governance including the sharing of best practice and training between NPAs and other bodies
- Embed diversity and diverse viewpoints within your governance structures and decision-making processes
- Support Tirweddau Cymru to develop its ambition, embed collaboration at all levels within NPAs and NLs, and proactively develop and deliver new collaborative working opportunities
- Embed the resources created during the NPA Governance Assistance programme, including the Members' Governance Handbook, training Provision and toolkits, in Member induction and development arrangements
- Share experience and best practice as designation for a new National Park progresses.

**Supporting Priorities:**

- Proactively contribute to setting local and regional planning policy, including through the CJC structure and through regional and national collaboration to implement the policies in Future Wales (with particular reference to Policy 9 and the requirement to secure resilient ecological networks and green infrastructure).

## ANNEX B: FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR 2025-26

<b>NPA Core Grant</b>	<b>£3,411,926</b>	<b>To be claimed quarterly:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £852,981.50 in Quarter 1</li> <li>• £852,981.50 in Quarter 2 with update on Strategic Grant letter priorities</li> <li>• £852,981.50 in Quarter 3</li> <li>• £852,981.50 in Quarter 4 with update on Strategic Grant letter priorities</li> </ul>
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### Tirweddau Cymru

DFMCSCCRA has agreed £386,280 in additional funding for the Tirweddau Cymru partnership, as set out in your business plan, in both 2025-26 and 2026-27. This will be paid to you on a quarterly basis in advance, alongside your core revenue grant unless you ask for it to be paid otherwise.

<b>General Capital Funding</b>	<b>£330,000</b>	<b>To be claimed quarterly:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £82,500 in Quarter 1</li> <li>• £82,500 in Quarter 2</li> <li>• £82,500 in Quarter 3</li> <li>• £82,500 in Quarter 4</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The purpose of the General Capital funding is to allow flexibility to the NPAs in addressing pressures within the National Park area through targeted projects. There is no requirement to submit project proposals to the Welsh Government DL unit for approval, but all projects will be subject to end of year reporting and ad hoc monitoring throughout the duration of the funding period.</li> <li>• Funding must be spent in year within or adjoining (buffer zone) the National Park boundary and must be in support of the Statutory Purposes/Management Plan.</li> <li>• Funding must be utilised by the NPA. It should be fully spent within the financial year to which the grant relates.</li> <li>• Funding should not be used as a grant or support scheme for private sector bodies, and any funding paid to community bodies must only be paid following a transparent and auditable process.</li> </ul>		
<b>Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places Capital funding</b>	<b>£500,000</b>	<b>Grant allocated through separate letter detailing projects</b> <b>To be claimed 6-monthly:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £100,000 in November 2025</li> <li>• £400,000 in March 2026</li> </ul>

<b>Ffermio Bro: Capital Funding</b>	<b>£198,206*</b>	<b>Please see RPW Scheme Rules</b>
<b>Ffermio Bro: Revenue Funding</b>	<b>£39,355*</b>	<b>Please see RPW Scheme Rules</b>

\*note: this does not include allocations you may be managing on behalf of other partners