

Operational Review Committee

11 June 2025

Present: Dr R Plummer (Chair)

Councillor M Bowen, Councillor T Evans, Councillor C George, Councillor S Hancock MBE, Mrs S Hoss and Mr G A Jones.

Also in attendance: Tom Bean (Education Officer), Georgia Jones (Democratic Services Officer), Tegryn Jones (Chief Executive), James Parkin (Director of Nature Recovery & Tourism), Graham Peake (Learning and Inclusion Team Leader), Bryony Rees (Outdoor Schools Coordinator), Angela Robinson (Health and Wellbeing Officer), Libby Taylor (Head of Engagement and Inclusion), and Mair Thomas (Performance and Compliance Officer).

(Virtual Meeting: 10.00am – 1:00pm)

1. Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor C Williams BEM.

2. Disclosures

No disclosures of interest were received.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12 March 2025 were presented for confirmation and authentication.

On the proposal of Mrs S Hoss, seconded by Councillor C George, it was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2025 be confirmed and authenticated.

4. Action Log and Matters arising

In relation to action 1045, for Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum to present to a future meeting, a Member requested an updated timescale, and the Officer confirmed that an update would be made available by the next meeting.

In relation to action 1057, to collate a list of Welsh language events to identify any gaps, Members suggested that a review would be beneficial rather than simply collating a list. The Chief Executive confirmed that a review of the Authority's Welsh language events would be conducted as part of a wider piece of work and further details of this would be presented to Members at the next National Park Authority meeting.

Noted.

[Councillor M Bowen joined the meeting during consideration of the next item.]



5. Well-being Objective Deep Dive/Self-Assessment: Connection

The Head of Engagement and Inclusion presented a deep dive report and self-assessment on the wellbeing objective of Connection. It was reported that the Connection objective focused on creating a Park that was a natural health service that supported people to be healthier, happier and more connected to the landscape, nature and heritage. The report featured details of the outcomes for the objective, a progress assessment, relevant statistics, case studies, challenges and opportunities, details of contributions to cross-cutting outcomes and an overall assessment with next steps.

It was noted that Roots to Recovery had hubs in South and Mid Pembrokeshire and a Member commented that it would be positive to see a hub also based in the North to improve accessibility. It was confirmed that a hub in Fishguard had been secured however the team were unable to sustain a group for the project in that area. Despite this, the team had intentions to set up a hub in the North once again in the future.

A discussion ensued regarding the Stakeholder Mapping exercise featured in the report and the benefits of it in understanding the stakeholders that the Authority engaged with and the groups that required a stronger connection. The Officer stated that the next steps as part of the Stakeholder Mapping exercise would be to understand the capacity of the team and to develop a framework that would enable Officers to prioritise work.

Noted.

6. Learning in Partnership

The Team Leader for Learning and Inclusion, Education Officer and Outdoor Schools Coordinator presented a report that outlined a review of the Authority's education work with a particular focus on how the objectives in this area could be achieved through working in partnership with others.

It was reported that in 2024/25, the Authority's Learning, Ranger and centre based team worked directly with 9,400 learners, from pre-school through to A level and college students. The report provided a further breakdown of the National Park Authority's Education services and the various projects through which the team worked in partnership with others to deliver education work and resources. Officers discussed challenges such as the need to actively adapt to changes in the Welsh Curriculum and limited staff capacity and also highlighted some achievements such as the increase in engagement with secondary schools and the launch of 'Tirlun' which enabled education providers to conduct sessions without the support of Authority Officers.

It was noted that the team had been collaborating with the other Welsh Designated Landscapes to deliver 'Tirlun' which was a bilingual, Curriculum for Wales linked learning resource, and a Member queried whether the project had the potential to be shared further afield. In response, the Officer

confirmed that the team were focusing on their home audience to begin with however workshops would be organised in the future with the aim to further promote Tirlun and bring more educators together.

The financial considerations within the report were highlighted to Members as the Officer explained that the cost of delivering education services was high when staff costs and overheads were included. It was added that the funding for the Pembrokeshire Outdoor Schools project ran until September 2025 and the Chief Executive subsequently made a plea to Members that also sat on the County Council to request support from Pembrokeshire County Council for this project.

Members took the opportunity to thank Graham Peake, Learning and Inclusion Team Leader, for his hard work and contributions to the Authority over the years as he was set to retire in the Autumn of 2025.

[The meeting was adjourned from 11:38am – 11:45am]

7. Health and Wellbeing

The Health and Wellbeing Officer presented a report that provided a review of the Health and Wellbeing team and how present and planned activity in this area had been developed to meet the needs of people by reducing inequality, improving wellbeing and supporting the all-Wales framework for Social Prescribing. The report provided further details regarding the activity undertaken, community engagement, examples of impact, priorities for 2025/26, an overview of the team, new audiences reached, inclusive initiatives, accessibility equipment use and impact, partnership development, booking system improvements and team development.

The Officer gave a presentation to Members which outlined the concept of Social Prescribing, the achievements of the Authority in this area and areas in which improvements could be made. The Officer went on to discuss challenges faced by the team which included the complexity of partnering with organisations such as Hywel Dda and consistent marketing due to limited resources.

Members discussed the importance of the Health and Wellbeing work delivered by the Authority and a Member queried whether the team facilitated peer support. In response, the Officer confirmed that the Authority had changed its approach to offer more opportunities for peer mentoring and peer support with more of a focus on giving people equal roles to build skills and relationships.

Noted.

8. Wellbeing Objectives Performance Report

The Performance and Compliance Officer presented the Well-being Objectives Performance Report that detailed progress made against priority

indicators/projects/work programmes for the period ending 31 March 2025 and included quarter 4 statistics for some measures, capturing the Authority's performance for the full financial year. The performance report set out the Authority's performance against its four Well-being Objectives (Conservation, Climate, Connection and Communities) as set out in the Authority's Corporate and Resources Plan 2023/24 – 2026/27.

A Member noted that the Authority had seen a 43% increase in public rights of way (PROW) concerns in 2024/25 compared to the previous year. The Chief Executive explained that he had been in discussions with the Welsh Government regarding the maintenance of PROW in Pembrokeshire as further support would be required to protect the Coast Path for the future.

Noted.