National Park Authority
24 June 2026

Present (In-person)
Dr M Havard (Chair)
Miss F Day, Councillor T Evans, Councillor C George, Ms H Gwenllian, Councillor SL Hancock MBE, Mr GA Jones, Councillor C Williams BEM and Councillor M Williams.

Present (Remotely)
Councillor M Bowen, Councillor D Clements, Mr J Hogg, Mrs S Hoss, Councillor M James, Councillor B Price, Councillor A Tinley, and Councillor V Thomas.

Also in attendance:
Phil Barlow (Research and Sustainability Appraisal Officer), Lynwen Davies (Simultaneous Interpreter), Emma Gladstone (Strategic Policy Manager), Georgia Jones (Democratic Services Officer), Tegryn Jones (Chief Executive), Mike Kent (Monitoring Officer), Gayle Lister (Principal Planning Officer – Strategic Policy), Caroline Llewellyn (Democratic Services Manager), and Sara Morris (Director of Place and Engagement).

[Preseli Suite, Llanion Park, Pembroke Dock and Online, 10.15am – 12.30pm]

1. Apologies
An apology for absence was received from Councillor S Skyrme-Blackhall.

2. Disclosures of Interest
No disclosures of interest were received.

3. Minutes
The minutes of the meeting held on the 20 May 2026 were presented for confirmation and authentication.

On the proposal of Dr M Havard, seconded by Councillor C George, it was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 20 May 2026 be confirmed and authenticated.

4. Action Log and Matters Arising
In relation to action 1107, to invite the Friends of the Pembrokeshire Coast to do a presentation of their work, the Chair reported that she and the Authority's Chief Executive were set to meet with the Group in August and would raise this topic with them then.

Noted.

5. Chair's Announcements

Dr M Havard reported that she had attended the following events/meetings in the past month:

- The Annual General Meeting of the Corporate Joint Committee where Councillors R Stewart and R Hunt were appointed Chair and Deputy Chair, respectively, and the reconstitution of the CJC was approved.
- An event held to provide potential future Members with information about the Authority.
- A Ffermio Bro Assessment Panel where the scoring system for the scheme was agreed.
- A Members Study Tour to Nevern where Authority Officers conducted a drone display and the archaeology, interpretation and conservation of Nevern Castle were discussed.
- The unveiling of the 2026 Eisteddfod Chair, commissioned by the Authority, and a procession of the Arglwydd Rhys as part of the 850th anniversary celebrations of the National Eisteddfod.

The Chair reported that the Authority's Development Management Team had been recognised during the recent RTPI Cymru Awards for Planning Excellence 2026, after Phase 2 of the Saundersfoot Harbour Redevelopment Project was named best project. The Director of Place and Engagement added that the project had been praised by judges as 'an exemplar for coastal economic resilience in smaller settlements' and 'a very good example of planning enabling place-based regeneration'. The Director expressed thanks to Andrew Richards (Senior Planner), Nicola Gandy (Former Director of Planning) and Saundersfoot Harbour Commission for their contributions to the project. It was reported that the Dark Skies Guidance for Wales, developed by a working group from across Wales including Principal Planning Officer (Strategic Policy) Gayle Lister, had also won the Chair's Award at the RTPI Cymru Awards for Planning Excellence 2026.

With regards to external meetings, the Deputy Chair reported that she had attended the Welsh Local Government Association Annual General Meeting where Councillor Anthony Hunt was appointed Leader.

Noted.

6. Reports of meetings of various Authority Committees

The minutes of the meeting of the Development Management Committee held on the 22/04/2026 were presented to Members for consideration.

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the above-mentioned Committee be received.

7. Local Development Plan (LDP) 3

The Strategic Policy Manager presented the Report of Consultation relating to LDP 3 documents which included the Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report and the Draft Issues, Vision and Objectives Paper. It was reported that Officers had undertaken a consultation on the above documents for the replacement LDP 3 for an eight-week period. Officers explained that amendments had been made to the documents to take into account comments received, where appropriate.

A discussion ensued regarding the importance of protecting and promoting the Welsh Language with the link to affordable housing to offer individuals the opportunity to stay within their communities. The LDP was recognised as a key document that could support the Authority in addressing these issues and the Strategic Policy Manager highlighted that these matters had been noted in the Scoping Report. It was explained that as part of the next phase, the team would develop several strategy options to align with the key issues identified, and these would be presented to Members for consideration in a future workshop.

It was noted that despite best efforts, only eleven consultation responses had been received and Members queried how this could be improved in future. Officers confirmed that the lack of engagement with consultations was a key challenge and further resources would be invested into the next stage with additional in-person drop-in sessions available. It was added that, subject to resources available, the team would endeavour to develop a more aesthetically pleasing document and a recording available online to ensure the consultation was as accessible as possible.

With regards to conservation, the Chair queried whether the LDP3 documents would reference designated sites for nature conservation. In response, the Officer confirmed that work was being undertaken by Officers to establish which sites should be designated as strategic green infrastructure and once established, these would be featured in the LDP3.

Noted.

8. Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2025/26

The Chief Executive presented the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 which provided an overview of the Authority's governance arrangements including a consideration of where governance processes and issues needed improving. It was reported that the governance statement provided transparency and gave assurance that the Authority was committed to continuously improving the way in which it functioned.

Under the section titled 'How the Authority Demonstrates its core principles of good governance', it was noted that the Engagement and Inclusion Team had carried out a Stakeholder Mapping Exercise in 2024/25 and a Member requested further information regarding this. The Chief Executive highlighted that the stakeholder mapping data had previously been shared with Members at an Operational Review Committee however he agreed to recirculate this information.

It was noted that a Governance Improvement Action Plan had been featured in the AGS and a Member queried whether the Authority could complete all featured actions within the set target dates. The Chief Executive confirmed that whilst the Authority endeavoured to complete each action within the set target date, there were many external factors that had an impact on the Authority's ability to complete the actions.

On the proposal of Councillor SL Hancock, seconded by Dr M Havard, it was **resolved** that the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 be agreed with delegated approval granted to Officers should any further minor updates be required.

9. Welsh Language Standards Annual Report

The Democratic Services Manager presented the Welsh Language Standards Annual Report for Members' endorsement prior to submission to the Welsh Language Commissioner. The Officer explained that the Authority was required to produce an Annual Report by the 30th of June every year in line with Standards 158, 164 and 170 of the Compliance Notice. The report summarised the work of the Authority in complying with the Welsh Language Standards during the previous year, featuring details in respect of each of the groups of standards in addition to highlighting matters arising during the reporting period, and setting out some actions to be undertaken during the coming year.

The Officer highlighted that some of the figures featured in the Welsh version of the report were incorrect however these had since been corrected.

The Officer also highlighted that some Members were yet to complete a survey indicating their Welsh language skills and this was noted by Members to action.

With regards to matters that had arisen during the reporting period, it was reported that the Authority had been subject to an investigation by the Welsh Language Commissioner in respect of a complaint that it failed to comply with Standards 36, 81 and 52 which related to a walking event. In response to a Members query, the Chief Executive provided further information regarding the nature of the complaint and the progress of the investigation. It was added that the Authority had challenged the definition of the Standard as Officers considered it to be unreasonable in the context of outdoor events. It was confirmed that following further discussion with the Commissioner and evidence that other organisations were also not adhering with the Standard, the Authority had received a positive draft response though the Commissioner's final and official response to the complaint was yet to be published. The update was noted by Members, and the Chief Executive was commended for his approach to the matter.

On the proposal of Councillor D Clements, Seconded by Mr G A Jones, it was **resolved** that the Welsh Language Standards Annual Report 2025/26 be endorsed for submission to the Welsh Language Commissioner.

10. Income Diversification Group Annual Report 2025/26

The Chief Executive presented the Annual Report of the Income Diversification Group that outlined the Membership of the Group, the issues discussed, the suggestions not taken forward, details of a relevant Audit Wales Report, Next Steps for the Group, updated Terms of Reference for the Group and a breakdown of all non-staff cost saving options discussed.

It was reported that the terms of reference stated that every 12 months, the Authority would agree whether to extend the remit for another 12 months. It was proposed that the work of the Group be extended for another 12 months with an expansion of the remit of the Group to include all financial issues that could contribute towards achieving a balanced budget. It was explained that the proposed expansion of the remit was due to the unlikelihood that the Authority could balance the budget through non-staff cost savings alone and also took account of the conclusions of the Audit Wales report on Financial Sustainability.

A discussion ensued regarding the challenges faced by the Authority including uncertainties in the financial settlement from Welsh Government, changes in Local Government, uncertainty with the proposed tourism levy and increasing costs. Members recognised the benefits of expanding the Scope of the group in the bid to address the Authority's challenging financial situation.

On the proposal of Councillor C George, seconded by Councillor D Clements, it was **resolved** that;

i. The extension of Group for another 12 months be agreed.

ii. The revision of the remit of the Group, to expand it to include all financial issues that can contribute towards achieving a balanced budget be agreed.

11. Exclusion of the public

It was noted that in discussing the following report, information might be shared which was commercially sensitive, and it was therefore requested that the public be excluded from the meeting.

On the proposal of Dr M Havard, seconded by Councillor SL Hancock, it was **resolved** that the public be excluded from the meeting as exempt information, as defined in Paragraph 14 of part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.

[Councillor D Clements left the meeting at this juncture.]

12. Risk Register

The Chief Executive presented the Annual Update of the Risk Register and reported that the Risk Register had been considered on a monthly basis by the Authority's Management Team meeting and on a Quarterly basis by the Audit and Corporate Services Review Committee. The report featured the following documents:

- Risk Register
- Risk Appetite Statement
- 2nd Line Assurance Report
- Report outlining changes and future actions

Noted.