



Net Zero Wales Plan - Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee 2021.

These are the themes we suggest the Committee may explore, especially in relation to woodland and land management and the role of woodland carbon:

1. Ensuring the Net Zero Wales Plan works for people, nature and climate.

- 1.1. We welcome the commitment to the CCC recommended targets for woodland and importantly the need for diverse multi-purpose woodlands that also deliver for people in an equitable way and for nature recovery. How will these qualities be ensured?
- 1.2. What are the priority setting and monitoring measures that will ensure that all parts of the Net Zero Wales Plan are delivered in ways that match the well-being goals and ways of working set out in the WBFG Act?
- 1.3. What mechanisms will there be to enable the public, local authorities and community leaders to contribute to creating equitable low carbon living and working environments? What actions will the Wales National Forest Program contribute?
- 1.4. What is the green jobs potential of the Green Recovery Program that would support all this?

2. Sufficient support for Sustainable Farming.

- 2.1. We welcome the acknowledgement of the central role of farmers and the potential for the expansion of agroforestry, as highlighted by NFU Cymru “growing Together” campaign. How will this be supported?
- 2.2. Having established the case for “public funding for public goods” under the new Sustainable Farming Scheme, will sufficient public funding actually be available to support this? Is the level of funding available in Wales proportionate to the contribution that Wales can make to the UK net zero outcome?
- 2.3. Most planting schemes funded by corporate carbon off-setting do NOT focus on public benefit. What oversight of these schemes is possible?

3. Protection of existing carbon stores

- 3.1. The long term secure storage of carbon is a fundamental necessity for climate mitigation. Many Welsh landscapes can provide this, especially including native trees and woodland, peatlands and seagrass meadows. What more is planned to urgently prevent the further degradation of such habitats and ensure their restoration?
- 3.2. What aspirations and quality criteria will be used to assess the state of woodland in Wales in 2030 and 2050 and the success of the Welsh woodland economy and the Wales National Forest in securing long term outcomes?