

Cyflwynwyd yr ymateb i ymgynghoriad y [Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb a Chyfiawnder Cymdeithasol](#) ar [Y Bil Partneriaeth Gymdeithasol a Chaffael Cyhoeddus \(Cymru\)](#)

This response was submitted to the [Equality and Social Justice Committee](#) consultation on [Social Partnership and Public Procurement \(Wales\) Bill](#)

SPPP 16

Ymateb gan: Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru | Response from: Natural Resources Wales

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## **Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Response – Social Partnership & Public Procurement Bill**

*Written evidence submitted as part of the consideration of general principles of the Bill / including view on committee's terms of reference.*

<b>Response</b>
<p><i>1. The establishment of a Social Partnership Council</i></p> <p>NRW would welcome a Social Partnership Council. We would like to understand whether they would be issuing guidance and recommendations or making it a legal requirement to implement initiatives. If the latter, there would need to be consideration of the financial impact on organisations and whether this would be financially supported by Welsh Government.</p>
<p><i>2. A statutory duty on certain public bodies to seek consensus or compromise with their recognised trade unions (or where there is no recognised trade unions) other representatives of their staff, when setting their well-being objectives and delivering on those objectives</i></p> <p>This would not cause NRW any issues – we already undertake extensive collaboration with our five recognised trade unions – GMB, PCS, Prospect, Unison and Unite – who represent their members through a collective bargaining agreement.</p>
<p><i>3. A statutory duty on Welsh Ministers to consult social partners, employers and workers representatives through the Social Partnership Council when delivering on their well-being objectives</i></p> <p>No Comment</p>
<p><i>4. A statutory duty on public bodies to consider socially responsible public procurement when carrying out procurement, to set objectives in relation to well-being goals and to publish a procurement strategy</i></p> <p><i>5. Certain public bodies to carry out contract management duties to ensure that socially responsible outcomes are pursued through supply chains</i></p> <p><i>6. Reporting duties to be imposed on public bodies and Welsh Ministers in relation to Social Partnership Duty and Procurement Duty</i></p>

Response to 4, 5 and 6 above, we will remain working closely with the Wales Procurement Reform Team via a number of different procurement forums and working groups in order to prepare for these responsibilities.

*7. Any barriers to implementation of the Bill and whether Bill takes account of them*

None identified

*8. Appropriateness of the powers of the Bill for Welsh Ministers to make subordinate legislation*

None identified

*9. Whether there are unintended consequences arising from the Bill*

None identified

*10. The financial implications of the Bill*

This is dependent on whether the Social Partnership Council will be directing public bodies to implement new initiatives or whether it will be advisory so that it's at the discretion when and how initiatives are implemented. If the former, then financial consequences must be fully costed, and budgets allocated accordingly.

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022