



16.05.23

Dear Paul Davies MS, Chair of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee,

Future work programme of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

We are writing on behalf of Climate Cymru, a partner organisation of over 4,000 partner organisations and 13,000 individuals, as we understand that you are considering the future work programme of your committee in the next few sessions.

We wish for you to consider carrying out work in the following areas. We would also like to inform you that our partner network includes specialists in climate change, housing, renewable energy and community development, therefore should you wish to utilise our resources in any way, visit schemes that our partners administer, we would be more than happy to facilitate this.

We wish for you to carry out an inquiry on the possibility of devolving the Crown Estate to Wales. The Estate recently confirmed six new offshore wind energy lease agreements, worth an estimated £1 billion. The Keeper of the Privy Purse has written to the Prime Minister and Chancellor to share the King's wish that this windfall be directed for wider public good, rather than to the Sovereign Grant, through an appropriate reduction in the proportion of Crown Estate surplus that funds the Grant. One of the 6 projects will be located off the North Wales coast, and is an opportunity for offshore wind to support and help grow the Welsh economy. Management of the Crown Estate in Wales is reserved, yet in Scotland, the management has been devolved to the Scottish Government since 2017. There is growing support for the Welsh Government to receive the same powers as Scotland so that we can benefit directly from the economic opportunities presented by the potential renewable energy production in question. We believe that the Committee should explore this matter, with a view to understanding how devolution in this area could better aid our economy.

We also wish for the committee to consider carrying out a piece of work on the announcement by the Welsh Government in October 2022 to launch a publicly owned renewable energy developer. The Climate Change Minister has said energy profits created in Wales will deliver greater benefits for people in Wales, and that surplus funds generated through the new developer will go back into the public purse to be reinvested in improving energy efficiency in homes in Wales and creating good quality, home grown, clean energy jobs. However, since its announcement, we have seen very little public detail on its development. Alongside the organisation Cwmpas we have

written to the Climate Change Minister to discuss how it can be shaped, and while we have had positive engagement from civil servants, we wish for this committee to look into the matter in more detail in relation to taking evidence from civil society to understand what the people of Wales want to see happen in this regard, and comparing it to International examples where Government's run their own such energy system. How does it benefit the economy in their respective countries? How can we ensure that we implement it in Wales having learnt from best practice elsewhere?

Another area of interest that we would wish for the Committee to work on is how to ensure that we have positive benefits for communities and the people of Wales when the private sector invests in renewable energy projects in our Nation. What are the models that would work for our communities, ensuring regeneration and economic stability follows? We are sure you are aware that there are big investors currently working or seeking to put planning permission forward for development in Wales, and wish to utilise their funds to support the communities where their renewable energy infrastructure is or may be built. The question is how can we ensure that their community investment is longstanding, sustainable and is relevant to what the community actually wants? We would appreciate your work on this matter.

Nature Positive is also as relevant to this committee as it is to your colleagues on the Climate Change committee, as it crosses all areas of Government work. We are currently working with partners to seek to influence the Welsh Government to implement a Nature Positive Bill. It would help Wales avoid another lost decade for nature by establishing a duty on Welsh Ministers to achieve a Nature Positive Wales, implemented via a framework of legally binding nature recovery targets. It would create a robust, independent environmental governance body to close the gap that has existed in Wales since the UK left the EU. We would appreciate any views you are able to formulate on this Bill proposition.

We appreciate your time in considering our ideas, and look forward to hearing your response,

Kind Regards,

Bethan Sayed on behalf of Climate Cymru



16.05.23

Annwyl Paul Davies AS, Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Economi, Masnach a Materion Gwledig,

Blaenrhaglen waith Pwyllgor yr Economi, Masnach a Materion Gwledig

Rydym yn ysgrifennu ar ran Climate Cymru, sefydliad partner o dros 4,000 o sefydliadau a 13,000 o unigolion, gan ein bod yn deall eich bod yn ystyried eich blaenrhaglen waithl yn yr ychydig sesiynau nesaf.

Hoffem i chi ystyried gwneud gwaith yn y meysydd canlynol. Hoffem eich hysbysu hefyd bod ein rhwydwaith partner yn cynnwys arbenigwyr newid hinsawdd, tai, ynni adnewyddadwy a datblygu cymunedol, felly os hoffech ddefnyddio ein hadnoddau mewn unrhyw ffordd, ymweld â chynlluniau y mae ein partneriaid yn eu gweinyddu, byddem yn fwy na hapus. i hwyluso hyn.

Dymunwn ichi gynnal ymchwiliad i'r posibilrwydd o ddatganoli Ystad y Goron i Gymru. Yn ddiweddar, cadarnhaodd yr Ystad chwe cytundeb ynni gwynt alltraeth newydd, gwerth tua £1 biliwn. Mae Ceidwad y Cyfrin Bwrs wedi ysgrifennu at y Prif Weinidog a'r Canghellor i rannu dymuniad y Brenin i'r arian hwn gael ei gyfeirio er budd ehangach y cyhoedd, yn hytrach nag at y Grant Sofran, trwy ostyngiad priodol yng nghyfran Ystad y Goron sy'n ariannu'r Grant. Bydd un o'r 6 phrosiect wedi'i leoli oddi ar arfordir Gogledd Cymru, ac mae'n gyfle i wynt ar y môr gefnogi a helpu i dyfu economi Cymru. Mae rheolaeth ar Ystad y Goron yng Nghymru wedi ei ganoli yn San Steffan, ond eto yn yr Alban, mae'r rheolaeth wedi'i datganoli i Lywodraeth yr Alban ers 2017. Mae cefnogaeth gynyddol i Lywodraeth Cymru dderbyn yr un pwerau â'r Alban fel y gallwn elwa'n uniongyrchol o'r cyfleoedd economaidd a gyflwynir gan gynhyrchiad ynni adnewyddadwy posibl. Credwn y dylai'r Pwyllgor archwilio'r mater hwn, gyda golwg ar ddeall sut y gallai datganoli yn y maes hwn fod o gymorth i'n heconomi.

Rydym hefyd yn dymuno i'r pwyllgor ystyried gwneud darn o waith ar y cyhoeddiad gan Lywodraeth Cymru ym mis Hydref 2022 i lansio datblygwr ynni adnewyddadwy sy'n eiddo cyhoeddus. Mae'r Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd wedi dweud y bydd elw ynni a grëir yng Nghymru yn sicrhau mwy o fanteision i bobl Cymru, ac y bydd yr arian dros ben a gynhyrchir drwy'r datblygwr newydd yn mynd yn ôl i'r pwrs cyhoeddus i'w ail-fuddsoddi mewn gwella effeithlonrwydd ynni mewn cartrefi yng Nghymru a chreu swyddi o ansawdd da, a chartrefi gyda gwell effeithlonrwydd ynni. Fodd bynnag, ers ei gyhoeddiad, ychydig iawn o fanylion cyhoeddus sydd am y datblygiad o dan sylw.

Ochr yn ochr â'r sefydliad Cwmpas, rydym wedi ysgrifennu at y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd i drafod sut y gellir ei siapio. Er i ni gael ymgysylltiad cadarnhaol gyda gweision sifil, rydym yn dymuno i'r pwyllgor hwn ymchwilio i'r mater yn fanylach mewn perthynas â chymryd tystiolaeth gan cymdeithas sifil i ddeall yr hyn y mae pobl Cymru am ei weld yn digwydd yn hyn o beth, a'i gymharu ag enghreifftiau rhyngwladol lle mae'r Llywodraeth yn rhedeg eu system ynni eu hunain. Sut mae'r cwmni ynni yn buddio'r economi yn eu gwledydd priodol? Sut y gallwn sicrhau ein bod yn ei roi ar waith yng Nghymru ar ôl dysgu o arfer gorau mewn mannau eraill?

Maes arall o ddiddordeb yr hoffem i'r Pwyllgor weithio arno yw sut i sicrhau bod gennym fanteision cadarnhaol i gymunedau a phobl Cymru pan fydd y sector preifat yn buddsoddi mewn prosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy yn ein Cenedl. Beth yw'r modelau a fyddai'n gweithio i'n cymunedau, gan sicrhau bod adfywio a sefydlogrwydd economaidd yn dilyn? Rydym yn siŵr eich bod yn ymwybodol bod yna fuddsoddwyr mawr ar hyn o bryd yn gweithio neu'n ceisio cyflwyno caniatâd cynllunio ar gyfer datblygiadau yng Nghymru, ac yn dymuno defnyddio eu harian i gefnogi'r cymunedau lle mae eu seilwaith ynni adnewyddadwy wedi'i adeiladu neu lle gallai cael eu hadeiladu. Y cwestiwn yw sut y gallwn sicrhau bod eu buddsoddiad cymunedol yn hirsefydlog, yn gynaliadwy ac yn berthnasol i'r hyn y mae'r gymuned eisiau mewn gwirionedd? Byddem yn gwerthfawrogi eich gwaith ar y mater hwn.

Mae Nature Positif yr un mor berthnasol i'r pwyllgor hwn ag y mae i'ch cyd-Aelodau ar y pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, gan ei fod yn croesi pob maes o waith y Llywodraeth. Ar hyn o bryd rydym yn gweithio gyda phartneriaid i geisio dylanwadu ar Lywodraeth Cymru i roi Bil Natur Positif ar waith. Byddai'n helpu Cymru i osgoi degawd coll arall i fyd natur drwy sefydlu dyletswydd ar Weinidogion Cymru i gyflawni Cymru Natur Bositif, wedi'i gweithredu drwy fframwaith o dargedau adfer byd natur sy'n ei rhwymo'n gyfreithiol. Byddai hefyd yn creu corff llywodraethu amgylcheddol cadarn, annibynnol i gau'r bwlch sydd wedi bodoli yng Nghymru ers i'r DU adael yr UE. Byddem yn gwerthfawrogi unrhyw barn y gallwch eu llunio ar y Bil hwn.

Gwerthfawrogwn eich amser yn ystyried ein syniadau, ac edrychwn ymlaen at glywed eich ymateb,

Cofion cynnes,

Bethan Sayed ar ran Climate Cymru