



**The Natural Resources Body for Wales (Functions) Order 2012:
Report for the purposes of section 19 of the *Public Bodies Act 2011***

Introduction

1. On 15 November 2012, the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development, John Griffiths AM, laid a draft of *The Natural Resources Body for Wales (Functions) Order 2012*.
2. The Order is to be made in accordance with the powers conferred by sections 13, 14, 15 and 35 of the *Public Bodies Act 2011* (“the 2011 Act”).
3. In accordance with section 19(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, an Assembly Committee “charged with reporting on the draft order” may, within 30 days of laying, recommend that an extended reporting period of 60 days should apply, effectively extending the reporting period by 20 days.
4. We undertook an initial consideration of the draft Order in private session on 19 November 2012.

Consideration

5. Under Standing Order 21, our committee is clearly a committee that is charged with reporting on the draft Order.
6. We note that, in accordance with section 17 of the 2011 Act, the consent of the Secretary of State is required before the Order can be made. According to the Explanatory Memorandum accompanying the draft Order, such consent had not been received at the time of laying.¹ In addition, we note that the Order is intended to come into force on 1 April 2013.
7. We consider that the Order is a significant piece of legislation, which is complex in nature.

¹ Welsh Government, *Explanatory Memorandum to the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Functions) Order 2012*, 14 November 2012, page 3.

8. As a consequence, **we recommend that the procedure set out in subsections (6) to (9) of section 19 to the Public Bodies Act 2011 should apply to the draft Order.** This will allow our committee to report on the draft Order within 60 days of the date of its laying (for the purposes of the 2011 Act).