

**From:** [Gareth Thomas](#)  
**To:** [NDE](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** NDF response from Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council  
**Date:** 23 October 2019 20:26:55  
**Attachments:** [NDFresponse-formAwLCC.docx](#)

---

Dear Sir,

Please find attached a response form to the NDF consultation from Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council.

Best Regards

Gareth Thomas

## Questionnaire on the draft NDF

To help us make our 20-year Plan better we want to know what you think of it. There are 8 questions to answer – you can answer all or some of the questions.

You don't have to fill in the questionnaire on your own – you can fill it in with a friend or with a member of your family.

There's a space for you to choose how you feel about each question – just tick the box below the symbol to let us know whether you agree. If you want to write comments about the questions you can do that too, but you don't have to.

Remember, you have until **15<sup>th</sup> November 2019** to give your feedback.

### Part A – the main points of the NDF

Our plan is for the biggest developments in Wales to happen in towns and cities – places like Cardiff, Newport, Swansea and Wrexham. We want to make transport clean and make lots of clean energy, to help improve our environment.




1. Do you think we are aiming to do the right things with our plan?

Yes	Not sure	No
		
<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Comments: The aims are fine, it's just the recommendations that are not well thought out.</p>		




2. We have 10 aims in the NDF. Should we think about anything else? Tell us anything we've missed out

Yes	Not sure	No
		✓
<p>The NDF also needs to think about...</p>		

3. Do you think the Plan will help achieve healthy and well-planned places?

Yes	Not sure	No
		
		✓
<p>Comments:</p> <p>With the amount of on shore wind farms proposed for Mid Wales, the noise pollution will drive everybody out. Also, the scale of what is planned will kill all the tourism and decimate local communities, hardly well planned.</p>		




4. Do you think the plan will help us take care of our environment?

Yes	Not sure	No
		
		✓
<p>Comments:</p> <p>To quote the NDF, “The principle of Landscape change is acceptable”. The environment in Mid Wales has been sacrificed by the NDF proposals through a complete ignorance of the alternatives available and the consequences of its recommendations.</p>		




**Part B – different parts of Wales**

We have plans for the three regions in Wales to help them grow. You can tell us what you think about these ideas - even if you live or work in a different area.




5. Do you agree with our plans for North Wales?

Yes	Not sure	No
		
		✓
<p>Comments:</p> <p>Nuclear Power is hardly mentioned and this has a major role to play in reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.</p>		

6. Do you agree with our plans for Mid and South West Wales?

Yes	Not sure	No
		
		✓
<p>Comments:</p> <p>See section C.</p>		

7. Do you agree with our plans for South East Wales?

Yes	Not sure	No
		
		✓
<p>Comments:</p> <p>This area seems to have got away without providing any renewable energy, but with the growth planned will consume much more energy. The tidal range at 15m in the Severn Estuary is one of the largest in the world, but inexplicably it is not mentioned for this area in the NDF.</p>		

## Part C

### 8. Do you have any other comments you would like to make about this plan?

#### Comments:

In its introduction, the NDF has identified 7 Well-being goals, 2 of which are: A Wales of cohesive communities and a more equal Wales, which is admirable and very encouraging when first read.

In section 2, Wales is described as a living landscape with mountains, river valleys and many areas of outstanding natural beauty. It also goes on to highlight the importance of visitors to the country and the Ecosystems which must be allowed to prosper and support communities across Wales.

In section 3, outcome 2 indicates that in Wales, people should live in vibrant rural places and outcome 10 indicates that we should live in places with bio diverse, resilient and connected ecosystems. This later outcome is expanded upon on page 21 thus; while biodiversity has declined in recent decades, we will reverse these losses and enhance the resilience of ecosystems. The planning system will ensure wildlife is able to thrive in healthy, diverse habitats, both in urban and rural areas, recognising and valuing the multiple benefits to people and nature. The importance of biodiversity enhancement is highlighted again in Policy 8 of the NDF Spatial Strategy under Supporting Strategic Green Infrastructure. Under policy 9, the target to increase woodland cover in Wales by 2000 hectares / annum is very laudable.

However, the remainder of the document is very depressing when read from a Mid Wales perspective. It is contradictory to all that has been written before it and flies in the face of the goals set out in the first half of the document. Whilst the Community Council supports the need to de-carbonise for the benefit of future generations, the Strategy in how to achieve this has not been investigated thoroughly. Everybody knows that wind is the most unreliable source of renewable energy, when the wind does not blow on still, cold winter days; other generation systems have to be brought on line to make up the shortfall. Offshore wind is more reliable, but the NDF fails to even mention offshore wind generation. Wales has a massive potential for power generation from tidal schemes, the Severn estuary has one of the highest tidal ranges in the world at 15m. Inexplicably, tidal power generation is not even mentioned of the South East Wales region where the tidal range is greatest, but is briefly mentioned for the North Wales and West Wales regions where it is only 6 – 7m. In addition to the tidal range, it is much better to generate electricity close to where the major consumption is because losses in 400kV overhead lines is typically 0.05MW/km, contributing to global warming. Mention of other renewable energy sources is scant, with only a brief mention under policy 13, another indication of the little effort that has been put in to investigating this important area.

Policy 10 is particularly disturbing in that there is an associated acceptance of landscape change in the Mid Wales region. This flies in the face of the equality for all and the

preservation of biodiversity outlined in the early part of the document. The industrialisation of our hills will remove large amounts of peat which is an important part of carbon capture and also remove large areas of habitat for many species. In England decision making on renewable energy developments has been devolved to local authorities, where local knowledge of the areas being considered is well known; whilst in Wales this democratic decision making has been removed and replaced by dictatorship by the Welsh Assembly without any knowledge of the resulting effects.

Tourism is an important part of the Mid Wales economy, with many local communities and shops relying on the many static caravan sites that are dotted around the area. The NDF as it stands will decimate our communities. The total disregard for our communities in the NDF's irrational and misinformed analysis of renewable energy, is both unfair and disrespectful to the people of Mid Wales.

Compiled by Cllr. Gareth Thomas for AwLCC.

### **Tell us a little about you:**

Name:	Abermule with Llandyssil Community Council
Where you are from:	Powys
Best way to contact you about the NDF (for example, email address):  We won't share your details with anyone and will only use it so that we can tell you when we have done more work on the NDF.	llandyssilcommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk

To return the questionnaire:

Email it to: [ndf@gov.wales](mailto:ndf@gov.wales)

Post it to: NDF Team, Planning Directorate, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

Thank you very much for your feedback. We will read what you have told us and think about how we can improve the NDF. We will let you know when we have finished this work.