

Draft National Development Framework

1. NDF Outcomes (chapter 3)

Q1. The NDF has proposed 11 Outcomes as an ambition of where we want to be in 20 years' time. Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree the 11 Outcomes are a realistic vision for the NDF?

Agree

Q2. To what extent do you agree with the 11 Outcomes as ambitions for the NDF?

Agree with most of them

If you disagree with any of the 11 Outcomes, please tell us why:

Regarding Item 11, I don't consider that destroying large areas of natural beauty in Wales with windfarms and solar panels is a positive or sensible way forwards! In fact, it will destroy the fast developing tourist industry in this area. Either better methods of "green" power generation should be employed or use existing methods in non-sensitive, industrial or urban areas.

2. Spatial Strategy (policies 1 - 4)

Q3. The NDF spatial strategy is a guiding framework for where large-scale change and nationally important developments will be focused over the next 20 years. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the spatial strategy and key principles for development in...

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No opinion
Urban areas (Policies 1, 2 & 3)		X					
Rural areas (Policy 4)				X			

Q4. If you have any comments on the spatial strategy or key principles for development in urban and rural areas, please tell us:

Rural areas, for example the area in which I live outside of Llandrindod Wells, is one of the most beautiful in Powys. To change or industrialise this area in anyway (eg. solar, windfarms, etc) will only serve to destroy not just the beauty of the area but also destroy the growing tourist industry.

3. Affordable Housing (policy 5)

Q5. The NDF sets out the approach for providing affordable housing, encouraging local authorities, social landlords, and small and medium-sized construction and building enterprises to build more homes. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the approach to increasing affordable housing?

Neither agree nor disagree

Q6. If you disagree, in what other ways can the NDF approach the delivery of affordable housing?

No Response

4. Mobile Action Zones (policy 6)

Q7. To what extent do you agree or disagree the identification of mobile action zones will be effective in encouraging better mobile coverage?

Agree

Q8. If you disagree, in what other ways can the NDF improve mobile phone coverage in the areas which currently have limited access?

No Response

5. Low Emission Vehicles (policy 7)

Q9. To what extent do you agree or disagree that policy 7 will enable and encourage the roll-out of charging infrastructure for ultra-low emission vehicles?

Neither agree nor disagree

Q10. If you disagree, in what other ways can the NDF enable and encourage the roll-out of charging infrastructure for ultra-low emission vehicles?

No Response

6. Green Infrastructure (policies 8 & 9)

Q11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the approach to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecological networks?

Agree

7. Renewable Energy and District Heat Networks (policies 10-15)

Q12. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the NDF's policies to lower carbon emissions in Wales using...

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No opinion
Large scale wind and solar developments					X		
District heat networks		X					

Q13. If you disagree with the NDF's approaches to green infrastructure, renewable energy or district heat networks, what alternative approaches should we consider to help Wales to enhance its biodiversity and transition to a low carbon economy?

See my response on the last item . . . I agree with the CPRW's response to this matter.

8. The Regions (policy 16)

Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the principle of developing Strategic Development Plans prepared at a regional scale?The NDF identifies three overall regions of Wales, each with their own distinct opportunities and challenges. These are North Wales, Mid and South West Wales, and South East Wales.

Neither agree nor disagree

9. North Wales (policies 17-22)

Q15. We have identified Wrexham and Deeside as the main focus of development in North Wales. A new green belt will be created to manage the form of growth. A number of coastal towns are identified as having key regional roles, while we support growth and development at Holyhead Port. We will support improved transport infrastructure in the region, including a North Wales Metro, and support better connectivity with England. North West Wales is recognised as having potential to supply low-carbon energy on a strategic scale.To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed policies and approach for the North Region?

Neither agree nor disagree

10. Mid and South West Wales (policies 23-26)

Q16. Swansea Bay and Llanelli is the main urban area within the region and is our preferred location for growth. We also identify a number of rural and market towns, and the four Haven Towns in Pembrokeshire, as being regionally important. The haven Waterway is nationally important and its development is supported. We support proposals for a Swansea Bay Metro.To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed policies and approach for the Mid and South West Region?

Neither agree nor disagree

11. South East Wales (policies 27-33)

Q17. In South East Wales we are proposing to enhance Cardiff's role as the capital and secure more sustainable growth in Newport and the Valleys. A green belt around Newport and eastern parts of the region will support the spatial strategy and focus development on existing cities and towns. Transport Orientated Development, using locations benefitting from mainline railway and Metro stations, will shape the approach to development across the region. There is support for the growth and development of Cardiff Airport. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed policies and approach for the South East Region?

Neither agree nor disagree

Q18. If you have any comments about the NDF's approach or policies to the three regions, please tell us. If you have any alternatives, please explain them and tell us why you think they would be better.

I feel that these matters should be viewed on a county basis as that structure is already in place and the situation in those areas is already defined and understood.

12. Integrated Sustainability Appraisal

Q19. As part of the consultation process, an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) was conducted to assess the social, economic and environmental impacts of a plan. The report identified a number of monitoring indicators, including health, equalities, Welsh language, the impact on rural communities, children's rights, climate change and economic development. Do you have any comments on the findings of the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Report? Please outline any further alternative monitoring indicators you consider would strengthen the ISA.

It appears that little or no notice is taken of comments from local residents . . . it is hoped that this situation may improve!

13. Habitats Regulations Assessment

Q20. As part of the development of the NDF, a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) was undertaken. The purpose of the HRA process is to identify, assess and address any 'significant effects' of the plan on sites such as Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas for birds. Do you have any comments on the Habitats Regulations Assessment report?

I don't consider that it goes far enough in protecting all species . . . including humans!

14. Welsh Language

Q21. We would like to know your views on the effects that the NDF would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English. What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

No comment.

Q22. Please also explain how you believe the proposed NDF could be formulated or changed so as to have: positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, and no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

No comment.

15. Further comments

Q23. Are there any further comments that you would like to make on the NDF, or any alternative proposals you feel we should consider?

1. Yes, great to have a plan in place . . . and yes, reducing/eliminating emissions is vital. We all know that . . . but why should Powys (where I live) have to take the burden of the renewable energy production when it's already ahead of itself in this respect?

2. I want to take issue on the matter of WIND FARMS and WIND TURBINES as a means of power generation. There are a number of statements in the NDF which in my mind are contradictory . . . but the CPRW will cover those in detail I'm sure.

There's little mention of any other means of power generation for which there are many new methods in development as I'm sure you are aware. Whatever happened to the Swansea Bay project? There's little mention of locating (and restricting) wind farms to non-sensitive areas, eg. urban and industrial areas (which there are many throughout Wales) or out at sea. I cannot comprehend why Welsh Government's publicity features so many pictures of windfarms . . . as though they are something that people delight in seeing!

3. I find it hard to understand why Welsh Government simply don't seem to comprehend the devastating effect that just the mere threat of wind and solar farms pose on residents! It's as though they are completely oblivious to both the visual aspects as well as the massive disruption and damage caused as a result of the required infrastructure that goes with them, not to mention the huge amount of damage to wildlife, ecology and the like for which there is plenty of data.

4. I live in one of the designated areas in a totally unspoilt area outside of Llandrindod Wells, in a very popular area for walkers and visitors and tourists of all nationalities. That's what supports most businesses in this area . . . but according to Welsh Government and Arup that's now under serious threat.

My family moved to this location (from the London area) about 8 years ago as we recognised the exceptional beauty of the area. Our investment in the locality, including house purchase, support for local businesses, etc is over £1m and growing. We know of many others who have also moved into the area bringing their wealth and spending power with them.

And yet your NDF has already reduced the value of our properties according to local estate agents, and effectively labelled it as a BLIGHTED AREA, an area to be avoided . . . because who knows what's going to happen next!

We live in constant worry that our area of Wales is about to be industrialised by unscrupulous developers . . . Hendy windfarm being an obvious example. Surely this is an unacceptable situation and doesn't comply with what Welsh Government purport to promote.

Anyway, who visits Wales to see the windfarms? There's much evidence that visitors head for the unspoilt areas and definitely avoid those areas that have already been ruined by wind farms.

5. Why the uncertainty and dis-trust? Hendy wind farm as already mentioned . . . planning totally rejected by Powys following years of local protest. The developers (who had large subsidies at stake) appealed which resulted in an expensive review that involved a Welsh Government inspector. This went on for a week with much legal wrangling. The inspector wholeheartedly sided with Powys that the overwhelming evidence showed that it was a bad move. BUT . . . the Welsh Government inspector's decision was overturned by Leslie Griffiths AM who then rode rough-shod over everything that had gone before and granted the developers planning permission the following week, costing Powys council (ie. local taxpayers) huge amounts of money that they can't afford!

Since then, the developers have ignored all planning rules and regulations as required by Powys and continue to this day to do whatever they wish, regardless of the opposition, presumably because they know that Powys are strapped for cash and can't afford to challenge them legally.

6. So, Welsh Government officials, I respectfully suggest that you put aside for one moment all of your Arup facts and figures and visit us here in the hills to see just what a tragedy it would be for the whole of Wales to industrialise this area, and to understand the devastating effect it would have. I'd be very happy to show you around!

That's my summary.

16. Are you...?

Q24. Are you:

Providing your own personal response

Submit your response

Q25. You are about to submit your response. Please ensure you are satisfied with the answers you have provided before sending.

Name

[REDACTED]

Organisation (if applicable)

-

Preferred contact details (email/phone/post)

[REDACTED]

Q26. If you want to receive a receipt of your response, please provide an email address.
Email address

[REDACTED]

☐ Responses to consultations may be made public. To keep your response anonymous (including email addresses) tick the box.

Keep my response anonymous