

**From:** [Caroline Johnson](#)  
**To:** [NDE](#)  
**Subject:** NDF Response  
**Date:** 30 October 2019 07:05:31

---

Please find below a response to the proposed NDF which exactly sums up my views:

### **Decarbonisation and Renewable Energy:**

- work undertaken by Local Planning Authorities on renewable energy assessments which identify the potential for solar energy, wind energy and district heating networks should inform the NDF (Powys LDP has been ignored completely)
- SSA Areas in TAN 8 are a complete failure. They did not recognise local issues of biodiversity, water retention in upland areas, historic landscapes and the unspoilt landscapes that draw tourists to Wales and are essential to well-being. The NDF should not take them forward. (So we get badly considered and designed PAs, which are set to be an even greater failure)

In a separate response to call for evidence SP Energy Networks states, there is no grid capacity in mid Wales:

"Building on references in TAN8 and PPW, it is anticipated that the new nDF will include reference to the need for new grid infrastructure to support sustainable development. As such, reference is expected to be made in the NDF to the lack of additional grid capacity currently available in Mid-Wales to facilitate a development of this scale"

### **Economy (including Tourism, Rural Economy and Agriculture)**

- when considering proposals for the NDF, their impact upon tourism must be fully understood and assessed. It is important that the pursuit of one objective does not unintentionally damage the tourism sector

### **Transport and Connectivity**

- rural transport is a major issue across Wales and the NDF should ensure this is addressed
- opportunities for Mid Wales arising from their proximity to the English midlands are not fully realised. The NDF should consider how these links can be improved and Mid Wales can benefit from economic opportunities across the border

### **Natural Environment**

- landscape and the natural environment are fundamentally important to the Welsh tourism economy. The NDF should ensure that changes to the landscape are carefully assessed and managed and negative impacts prevented. The impacts can be economic as well as environmental
- management of the natural environment and landscapes are intrinsically linked to farming. The NDF must ensure that the objectives seeking to protect, manage and utilise the natural environment are aligned with objectives for agriculture

### **Spatial Strategy**

- the NDF should identify 4 regions – North Wales, Mid Wales, Swansea Region and Cardiff Region
- the NDF strategy must not adopt a one-size fits all approach. Different solutions are required for different areas. Urban responses to issues should not uncritically be applied to rural areas
- the NDF strategy must recognise parts of Wales are very different from each other. It is recognised urban and rural areas are different. It must also be recognised there are often very significant differences between different rural parts of Wales.

Yours,  
Caroline Johnson

