



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Sustainable Land Management Indicators and Targets Statement

December 2025

Introduction

The Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023 places a duty on Welsh Ministers to act in the way they consider will best contribute to achieving the four Sustainable Land Management (“SLM”) objectives.

This SLM Indicators and Targets Statement is part of a series of publications providing transparency around the support delivered by the Welsh Government to the Agricultural Sector in Wales and includes:

- Multi Annual Support Plan – MASP
- Annual Report
- Impact Report
- Sustainable Land Management Report

This statement has been prepared pursuant to sections 4 and 5 of The Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023.

The development of the SLM I&T statement has been informed by the ERAMMP report 111: SLM Theory-of-Change Development of Sustainable Land Management and Evaluation Framework, Indicators and Targets – ERAMMP.

The tables illustrate how each indicator corresponds to the SLM objectives and identifies the primary purpose of support they most directly address. Relevant targets are also set out, where applicable.

If any information provided within the statement becomes inaccurate or obsolete, or needs to be revised for any other reason, the statement will be amended to reflect the changes published and laid in the Senedd as soon as reasonably practicable.

Sustainable Land Management

The Act established SLM as the framework for future agricultural support and regulations in Wales. Four SLM objectives were defined which will underpin agricultural support and regulations in Wales: –

- Produce food and other goods in a sustainable manner.
- Mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- Maintain and enhance the resilience of ecosystems and the benefits they provide.
- Conserve and enhance the countryside and cultural resources and promote public access to and engagement with them, and to sustain the Welsh language and promote and facilitate its use.

Each objective is also intended to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and to contribute to achieving the well-being goals in section 4 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Act.

Sustainable Land Management Indicators & Targets

INDICATORS	TARGETS (where applicable)
1. Produce food and other goods in a sustainable manner	
(a) Encouraging production of food in an environmentally sustainable manner	
1.1A. Average agricultural output by farm (£) <u>Average Farm Output Headings by Farm Type and Year</u>	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
1.1B. Sustainable soil management	Indicator / target in development.
(b) Helping rural communities to thrive and strengthening links between agricultural businesses and their communities	
1.2A. Strength of supply chains between farmers & their local communities (upstream & downstream)	Indicator / target in development.
1.2B. Number / proportion of rural households beneath median income (WFG) <u>Households Below Average Income</u> <u>Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation</u> <u>National Survey for Wales</u> <u>Bevan Foundation Surveys</u>	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
1.2C. Number / proportion of reported mental health issues, number of deaths by suicide and reported incidences of self-harm in rural communities <u>National Survey for Wales – Mental Well-being Module</u> <u>StatsWales – Mental Health Statistics Dashboard</u> <u>ONS – Census for England and Wales</u> <u>Well-being of Wales Report</u> <u>MIND – The Big Mental Health Report</u>	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
1.2D. Land used for horticulture (hectares) <u>Survey of Agriculture & Horticulture 2024</u>	Increase area of overall land dedicated to horticulture by 60% compared to 2024 baseline: 1,599 hectares.
(c) Improving the resilience of agricultural businesses	
1.3B. Net farm income (showing levels of public funding) Welsh Government: Farm Incomes. <u>Farm Incomes</u> Stats Wales – <u>Income Data</u> Farm Business Survey – <u>Farm Data</u>	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.

INDICATORS	TARGETS (where applicable)
1.3C. Agricultural workforce numbers <u>Agriculture & Horticulture Survey</u>	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
1.3D. Agricultural workforce age <u>ONS Census</u>	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
1.3E. Number / proportion of reported mental health issues, number of deaths by suicide and reported incidences of self-harm by farmers / farm workers <u>Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI) – Big Farm Survey</u> <u>National Survey for Wales – Mental Well-being Module</u> <u>StatsWales – Mental Health Statistics Dashboard</u> <u>ONS – Mental Health and Suicide Data</u> <u>ONS – Opinions and Lifestyle Survey</u> <u>ONS – Census for England and Wales</u>	Prevent further decline in mental health indicators among farmers and farm workers by 2030.
(m) Achieving and promoting high standards of animal health and welfare	
1.4A. Animal Health and Welfare Indicator	Indicator / target in development.
(n) Maximising resource efficiency (duplicate of 3.4)	
1.5A. Utilised Agricultural Area (hectares)	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
1.5B. Total Inorganic Fertiliser Use (all farms; all crops and grass) (kilotons) <u>British Fertiliser Practice Survey (BFPS) – British Fertiliser Practice</u> <u>Wales Farm Business Survey – Farm Business Survey</u> <u>Animal feed – UK Soya Annual Progress Report</u>	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
1.5C. Organic Manure use (% dressing cover all crops and grass) (In Development) <u>British Fertiliser Practice Survey (BFPS) British Fertiliser Practice</u>	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
1.5D. Plant Protection Product (PPP) Use in Agriculture	Indicator / target in development.

INDICATORS	TARGETS (where applicable)
2. Mitigate and adapt to climate change	
(e) Reducing emissions of Greenhouse gases (GHG)	
2.1A. Annual emissions of greenhouse gases by agriculture (Agriculture GHG Inventory) Agriculture GHG Inventory for Wales – Greenhouse Gas Emissions	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
(f) Maximising carbon sequestration and storage	
2.2A. Annual rate of carbon sequestration and storage (Land Use and Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) greenhouse inventory) Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry GHG Inventory for Wales – Greenhouse Gas Emissions	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
2.2B. Farm Level Carbon and / or GHG reporting tool	Indicator / target in development.
2.2C. Area of peatland restored	3,600 hectares by 2029.
2.2D. Trees planted	21,500 hectares by 2030.
(l) Mitigating flood and drought risks	
2.3A. Area of farmland subject to prolonged flood / drought National LIDAR programme – LIDAR WG Earth Observation Program & Planet Labs – Earth Observation Programme Living Wales Living Wales – Living Wales Environment Platform Wales – Environment Platform Wales	Indicator / target in development.
2.3B. Quantity of water abstraction licenses for Agriculture Water Resource	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
(o) Encouraging agricultural businesses to manage energy effectively	
2.4A. Installed capacity of renewable energy locally owned by Welsh farms & estates (and communities) Regen for Welsh Government – Energy Generation in Wales Accredited official statistics: UK Energy Trends MCS Data Dashboard	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.

INDICATORS	TARGETS (where applicable)
3. Maintain and enhance the resilience of ecosystems and the benefits they provide	
(g) Maintaining and enhancing the resilience of ecosystems	
3.1A. / 4.2B. Ecosystem Health and Resilience	Indicator / target in development.
3.1B. Abundance of species	Indicator / target in development.
(i) Improving air quality	
3.2A. Ammonia	Indicator / target in development.
3.2B. Canopy Cover contributing to air quality improvement	Indicator / target in development.
(j) Improving water quality	
3.3A. All freshwater bodies in good overall status in Wales Natural Resources Wales – Water Quality in Wales Wales land Management Forum – Agricultural Pollution	Good overall status for all waters.
3.3B. Pathogens from agriculture in fresh and coastal waters Natural Resources Wales	Indicator / target in development.
3.3C. Percentage of soils under arable and improved grassland land uses that exceed threshold levels for phosphorus leaching risk	Indicator / target in development.
(n) Maximising resource efficiency (duplicate of 1.5)	
3.4A. Utilised Agricultural Area (hectares)	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
3.4B. Total Inorganic Fertiliser Use (all farms; all crops and grass) (kilotons) British Fertiliser Practice Survey (BFPS) – British Fertiliser Practice Wales Farm Business Survey – NPK Application by Farm Type Animal feed – UK Soya Annual Progress Report	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
3.4C. Organic Manure use (% dressing cover all crops and grass) (In Development) British Fertiliser Practice Survey (BFPS) British Fertiliser Practice	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.
3.4D. Plant Protection Product (PPP) Use in Agriculture	Indicator / target in development.

INDICATORS	TARGETS (where applicable)
4. Conserve and enhance the countryside and cultural resources and promote public access to and engagement with them, and to sustain the Welsh language and promote and facilitate its use	
(d) Sustaining the Welsh language and promoting and facilitating its use	
4.1A. Number and proportion of Welsh speakers in rural area and / or agricultural sector ONS – Welsh Language National Survey for Wales National Survey for Wales – National Survey for Wales Annual Population Survey – Welsh Language Welsh Language Use Survey – Welsh Language	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports
(h) Conserving and enhancing landscapes and historic environment	
4.2A. / 3.1A. Ecosystem Health and Resilience: Condition of designated landscapes	Indicator / target in development.
4.2B. Scheduled Monuments and Historic Environment Features Cadw Monument at Risk Survey 2025 – Internal document Historic Environment Record – HER/HENEB ERAMMP – Technical Annex – 105TA1S11	Achieve 75% of scheduled monuments in favourable / low risk condition by 2035.
(k) Maintaining and enhancing public access to and engagement with the countryside and the historic environment	
4.3A. Public Rights of Way open and signed ERAMMP – National Field Survey	Increase the proportion of PROWs open and signed to 60% by 2030 compared to ERAMMP 2025 data.
4.3B. People and Nature Survey Wales engagement statistics PaNS Wales – People and Nature Survey	Indicator / target in development.
4.3C. Farm open days / farm visits / school groups PaNS Wales – People and Nature Survey LEAF – Open Farm Sunday Sustainability in Agriculture Farms for City Children	No target. Data for each reporting period, including cumulative progress towards achieving the SLM objectives will be included in the Impact and SLM reports.