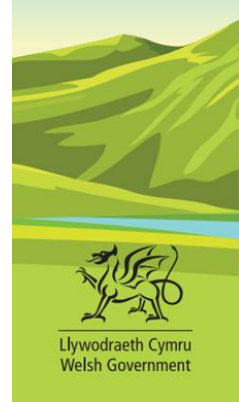


Deep Dive Designated Landscapes Working Group



Meeting Notes

Date of meeting: 13th October 2023

Time of meeting: 10:00-12:00

Attendees: Andrew Blake, Wye Valley AONB, Elinor Roberts, TCLW, Emma Story, TCLW, Kate Frawley, WG, Graham Berry, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Howard Davies, Chair, Isobel Ollard, WG, Jim Latham, NRW, Karen Stothard, WG, Keith Davies, NRW, Llyr Jones, NAAONB, Michelle Webber, PNCPA, Nick Carella, WG, Paul Sinnadurai, BBNPA, Rhys Owen, Eryri NPA, Ruth Lovell, TCLW, Steve Spode, WG, Tom Cosson, WG, Tom Johnstone, TCLW

Apologies:

Anna Jones, TCLW

● Welcome

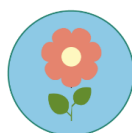
HD welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced himself and spoke briefly about his background. There are a lot of interesting things going on in protected landscapes now, particularly in regards to support for farmers and land managers. As the last generation that can really make any meaningful impact, there is a responsibility on us as protected landscapes to help meet that call to arms.

● Ways of Working

- Monthly meetings scheduled to keep momentum going.
- There is an interest in this group from external stakeholders, so it will be good to report on progress.
- The goal is to report to the Minister before the end of the financial year on progress.
- TC we have less than 6 months before the end of the financial year so it is important to think what we need to do in that window to demonstrate that this group can have an impact and show the value of the group.

● TOR

- TOR need to be signed off. HD asked if there were any concerns or changes to the TOR.
- AB – clarification on who the core biodiversity deep dive group is. TC and KS to cover this later in the meeting.
- KD – Wales Environment link have expressed an interest in participating in the group. Need to discuss how external stakeholders engage with the group and how this group fits in with wider groups.
- PS – highlighted the [Category V management guidelines](#) and if they should be referenced in the TOR.
- Amend and then sign off the terms of reference.



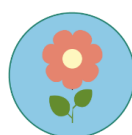
● Context

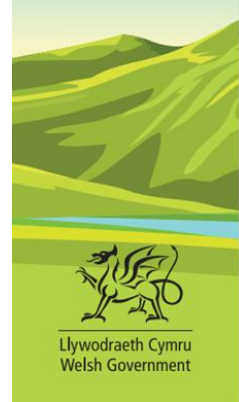
- KS discussed some of the wider activity the WG are doing within the context of biodiversity and put this in context of what has already happened with the deep dive. Following COP15 last year there were a few things that the Minister had committed to do. One of these was to introduce legally binding nature targets. WG are currently working on a White paper, which will go out to consultation by January next year. This will set out three things –
 1. Provisions for an overarching environmental governance body
 2. It will put into law the five environmental principles.
 3. Bring in biodiversity nature targets.
- KS is happy to discuss this in more detail at future meetings. In addition to these targets, WG will also be refreshing their nature recovery action plan, which is their biodiversity strategy.
- Discussed the 30x30 target definition as this was the focus of the biodiversity deep dive that the Minister undertook last year.
- KS to circulate the presentation after the meeting and include more links for further information.



DL Subgroup
meeting 1 - Biodiversity

- Members of the biodiversity deep dive core group are –
 - Professor Richard Cowell
 - Dr Ceri Davies
 - Professor Mike Elliott
 - Hilary Kehoe
 - Dr Katie Medcalf
 - Professor Steve Ormerod
 - Dr Tim Pagella
 - Dr Philippa Pearson
 - Dr Paul Sinnadurai
 - Dr Sharon Thompson
 - Dr Richard Unsworth
 - Howard Davies
 - David Tudor
- KS will circulate the minutes from the other groups for further information.
- TC – presentation on biodiversity deep dive recommendations. Keen to turn these recommendations into actions and themes. A few high-level actions that could get going now, that tie in with the work that Emma and Tom are leading on.
- Need to start thinking about what will happen at the end of the current funding programme (1st of April 2025). It is difficult to predict as no indication what the budget will look like then.
- Need to be actively looking at different funding opportunities.
- There also needs to be a 6 monthly update, which ties in with reporting to the Minister.
- We need to make sure that we are talking to people outside of this group and making sure that our colleagues are aware of what's needed, what's coming out of the meetings, and taking conversations back to our desks.





- TJ & ES – beginning to get a clearer picture of what outputs may be and how it will fit in the landscapes. Two main pieces of work that are emerging at the moment is an overarching framework, and a series of nature recovery heat maps.
- TJ and ES to present visual framework at the next meeting.
- The National Lottery Heritage Fund and its potential opportunities need to be looked at but would need to be an all Wales effort.

● NRW perspective

- KD began by discussing the context of NRW's new corporate plan. This plan covers a seven-year period up to 2030. This links back to the SONAR reports. The plan is framed around three main principals –
 1. Climate change mitigation
 2. Adaptation and nature recovery
 3. Challenges of pollution
- NRW have received funding from WG to establish a landscapes programme, which has two main projects. The National Park designation work, and secondly a piece of work looking at mapping natural beauty, outside existing designated landscapes.
- RO asked if there is an opportunity for DLs to be a preferred strategic partner or a streamlined way of putting applications in for faster processing.
- KD to meet with RO to discuss and feedback.

● Action Plan and priorities

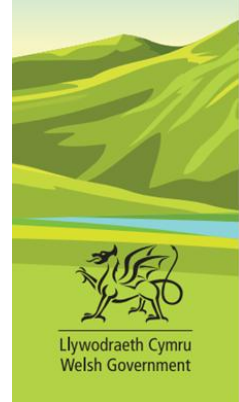
- PS –partnership approach is needed to enable work at pace and at scale. We need a unified approach on how mapping and GIS work. Issue here with skills gap to do this work. We need to be 21st century organisations working with data, and working with data habitually and actively.
- TJ - Need to factor in international perspective of habitat and species protection.
- JL – Nature networks map. JL to contribute to a future meeting and present more about the mapping work that's going on and the connections.
- TJ – need to look at planning issues and wider consenting issues, which are huge barriers to projects, coupled with short funding cycles.
- KF – discusses the collaborative layer of the SFS scheme and how they are looking at different delivery mechanisms.
- KF to set up a DL working group to look at the collaborative layer of the SFS as it develops.
- GB – raised issues of equitability and the pace and speed of change. Landowners need some certainty in terms of how they can be supported.
- AB – we need to be more ambitious than 30% to enable us to hit the target.
- HD – magnitude of the challenge ahead of us is huge. Need to look at businesses that are doing the right thing and we have to work closely with people and aim well above the target to get anywhere near it.
- KD to ask NRW behavioural scientist to attend the next meeting.

● External engagement

- HD – asked how do we engage with external stakeholders. Suggested publishing outputs of the meeting.
- AB – TOR allows us to bring in external stakeholders and NGOs, who could be invited on a needs basis. Suggested sending a bulletin out after each meeting on mail chimp rather than formal minutes.



- RO – would be good to show some initial quick wins
- HD – happy to speak to someone from Wales Environment Link to scope who could attend.
- TC – happy with mail chimp approach, coming from HD. Minutes could be hosted on the TCLW website.
- RL to look at mail chimp and options for minutes on TCLW website
- MW – Nature partnership very active in Pembrokeshire and have a good insight into lots of different stakeholders across the county. The members are very engaged, and their input could be valuable.
- MW happy to contact Local Nature Partnership.



Action	Owner	Status
Amend and sign off TOR		
KS to circulate the presentation after the meeting and include more links for further information.	KS	
KS will circulate the minutes from the other groups for further information	KS	
TJ and ES to present visual framework at the next meeting.	TJ & ES	
KD to meet with RO to discuss and feedback	KD & RO	
JL contribute to a future meeting and present more about the mapping work that's going on and the connections.	JL	
KF to set up a DL working group to look at the collaborative layer of the SFS as it develops.	KF	
KD to ask NRW behavioural scientist to attend the next meeting	KD	
RL to look at mail chimp and options for minutes on TCLW website	RL	
MW happy to contact Local Nature Partnership	MW	

