

A Manifesto from



Tirweddau
Cymru
Landscapes
Wales



A Policy Framework for Nature, Culture, Communities, and Future Generations

As Wales approaches the 2026 Senedd Election, **Tirweddau Cymru** is calling on all political parties to recognise the essential role of Designated Landscapes in delivering environmental, cultural, social, and economic outcomes for the nation.

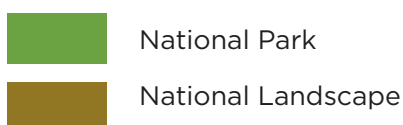
Wales' National Parks and National Landscapes (previously known as AONBs) cover 25% of Wales and are not solely scenic or recreational spaces. They are critical landscapes that support nature, rural economies, water supplies, cultural identity—including the Welsh language—and climate resilience. This document sets out a clear, collaborative agenda for policy alignment and investment in these vital areas.

We advocate a partnership approach. As key stakeholders within these landscapes, with a statutory responsibility towards them, we are ready to lead in delivering place-based, future-focused action, supported by Welsh Government. The majority of land in Designated Landscapes is privately owned, so everything we do is in collaboration with the local communities management bodies, and land managers.



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**Tirweddau Cymru Landscapes
Wales** is a Partnership of the
Designated Landscapes of Wales.



Our Call to Action

1. Strengthen Nature's Recovery

- Strengthen the Duty of Regard to ensure bodies who are subject to the duty seek to further the purposes of Designated Landscapes in their functions and decision making
- Emphasise the role of nature recovery as a key part of the existing statutory purposes of Designated Landscapes which include nature restoration alongside conservation and public enjoyment. Draw on the recommendations of a new British Ecological Society Report.
- Resource Designated Landscapes to further deliver landscape scale nature recovery and contribute to the 30x30 commitment (protecting 30% of land and sea by 2030). Including support for the farming in designated landscapes scheme; Ffermio Bro.

2. Drive Climate Action and Resilience

- Support Designated Landscapes as centres of innovation and a just transition to resilient communities, safeguarding water, food and energy, integrating nature-based solutions into national decarbonisation pathways.
- Establish clear policy mandates linking the Well-being of Future Generations Act and Net Zero Wales with practical delivery on the ground, enabling Designated Landscapes to tackle the climate emergency.
- Deliver targeted support for peatland restoration, woodland expansion, agro-ecological / regenerative farming, and flood management drawing on Designated Landscape expertise and knowledge, including through Ffermio Bro.



3. Invest in Our Communities

- Recognise the unique rural leadership of Designated Landscapes and support with sustainable funding models to enable delivery of rural economic, cultural, and social priorities alongside environmental goals.
- Develop equitable policies that reflect Welsh language, heritage, and culture in Designated Landscape management and decision-making.
- Support regenerative tourism, ensuring the sector provides an excellent experience for visitors while also contributing to local communities.

4. Enable Access, Wellbeing, and Inclusion

- Invest in accessible active travel and public transport to and within Designated Landscapes, ensuring everyone in Wales can benefit from these places for health, wellbeing, and cultural connection.
- Create a Natural Health Service for Wales, engaging with Designated Landscapes to help to tackle physical inactivity, mental health issues and health inequalities. Including initiatives like social prescribing, this can help reduce pressures on the NHS by addressing causes of illness rather than treating symptoms alone.
- Support the development of Tirlun, outdoor learning through Wales' Landscapes, with every child in Wales being able to visit a Designated Landscape before they leave primary school.



5. Support Effective Governance and Collaboration

- Consider improvements to the efficiency and modernisation of Designated Landscape bodies in Wales.
- Embed Designated Landscapes within wider spatial, land use, and environmental policy frameworks for maximum delivery impact, augmented with a strengthened Duty (1 above).
- Provide stability in funding cycles to allow long-term, transformational delivery programmes that have the capacity to attract and manage blended finance.

Our vision:

With these commitments behind us the Designated Landscapes of Wales can:

- Deliver for nature, climate, health, wellbeing, culture, and communities in alignment with the Well-being of Future Generations Act.
- Take the lead in climate action and adaptation, nature recovery, and regenerative tourism.
- Inspire current and future generations to connect with and care about the outstanding natural beauty of the Designated Landscapes, engendering a wider pride in the landscapes of Wales.
- Work in partnership with Welsh Government, local authorities, stakeholders, rural communities, and wider society to realise this vision.

