

REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND MARINE POLICY OFFICER

**SUBJECT: CONSULTATION DRAFT NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN
("PARTNERSHIP PLAN") 2025 - 2029**

Purpose of the report

1. This report seeks Members' approval for the following consultation draft materials:
 - National Park Management Plan ("Partnership Plan") for 2025-2029 (Annex 2 to this report)
 - Consultation questions on the Partnership Plan (Annex 3 to this report)
 - Equalities Impact Assessment (Annex 4 to this report – online only)
 - Habitats Regulations Assessment (Annex 5 to this report – online only)
 - Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment (Annex 6 to this report – online only)
 - Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Annex 7 to this report – online only)
 - Well-being of Future Generations Assessment (Annex 8 to this report – online only)
 - Summary of the Equality, Welsh Language and Well-being Assessments (Annex 11 to this report – online only).
2. The intention is to consult partners and the public on these items for twelve weeks (July to September 2024) to allow residents, visitors and town, city and community councils to respond. A report of consultations, and amended draft documents, will then be presented to Members later in the year for approval.
3. Three further annexes accompany this report.
 - Annex 1 (online only) provides an overview of the Spring 2024 Special Qualities survey results.
 - Annex 9 (online only) is the Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment, on which Cadw and Natural Resources Wales were consulted in April/May 2024.
 - Annex 10 (online only) is a draft report of the consultation on the Scoping Report.

Background

4. The National Park Authority is required by section 66 of the Environment Act 1995 to prepare a management plan for the National Park. The Environment Act 1995 gives relevant authorities a legal duty to have regard to Park

purposes and to the Sandford Principle¹. The current National Park Management Plan covers the period 2020-2024.

5. Working draft Designated Landscape Management Plan Guidance (Natural Resources Wales, 2024) restates the view, contained in previous guidance, that a management plan is a plan for the National Park area, not just for the National Park Authority². As such, the plan should take a long view, and set policy direction which has relevance beyond the plan's maximum term of five years. Learning from current and previous planning should inform plan review.
6. Collaboration with partners and stakeholders in plan preparation, delivery and monitoring is essential. Accordingly, it is proposed that the draft replacement management plan being considered today is referred to as a 'Partnership Plan'. (Almost half of the national park management plans in Wales, England and Scotland now include the phrase 'partnership plan' in their title.)

Special qualities survey

7. An online survey on the special qualities of the National Park was open for five weeks between 15th March and 19th April 2024. Options to reply by email or post were also provided. The survey was voluntary and anonymous and was publicised via social media and newspaper. Interim results were reported to Members at a workshop on 17th April 2024. By the close of the consultation, sixty-four responses to the survey had been received (over 9,500 words of response in total).
8. A report of the special qualities consultation is provided at Annex 1 to this report. Overall, the comments reflected a strong sense of pride in and concern for the future of the National Park, and a desire for robust action to conserve landscape / seascape, wildlife and ecological integrity, and heritage for future generations. Water quality and recreational disturbance are particular concerns.
9. The survey results have informed section 2 of the draft Partnership Plan (*Special qualities of the National Park*), section 3 (*The State of the Park – challenges and opportunities*) and the proposed policies and actions (sections 4 to 7 of the draft). A selection of quotes from the survey is included in the draft Partnership Plan.

Stakeholder engagement

¹ If there is a conflict between the purposes that cannot be resolved, the first purpose has greater weight.

² At the National Park Authority meeting of 20th December 2023 it was reported that Natural Resources Wales was commissioning new protected landscape management plan guidance, to replace the current guidance (2007). Officers engaged with Natural Resources Wales and the appointed consultants in the guidance preparation process. A working draft of the new management plan guidance was available in time to inform this review.

10. Officers engaged with a range of partners and partnerships in February and March 2024. These included Natural Resources Wales, the Public Services Board (Nature, Decarbonisation and Climate), Next Generation (formerly the Youth Committee), the Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership, the National Park Volunteer Forum, and Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.
11. Internal meetings were also held with Authority topic specialists and teams. The all-staff meeting of the National Park Authority in March included a visioning exercise. These discussions informed an early draft of the Partnership Plan. This draft was made available to Management Team and to Members for comment via OneDrive.

Scoping Report of the Strategic Environmental Assessment / Sustainability Appraisal

12. A timetable for Plan review was approved by Members at the National Park Authority meeting of 20th December 2023. At the Plan workshop in April, Members were advised that, to allow for non-minor modifications to be made to existing policy, it would be necessary to consult the statutory consultees (namely Cadw and Natural Resources Wales) on a Scoping Report. The Scoping Report sets out the context and objectives, baseline and scope of Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment. The statutory consultation period on the Scoping Report of 5 weeks closed on 31st May 2024.
13. Comments on the Scoping Report (which is attached for information at Annex 9 to this report) were received from Cadw and Natural Resources Wales. The responses can be characterised as follows:
 - Revisions to update / enhance the policy and legal framework.
 - Revisions to update / enhance baseline information.
 - Enhancement / clarification of the sustainability objectives.
 - Enhancement / clarification of the sustainability issues / topics.
 - Additional reference / consideration of ecological integrity, soils and water resources.
14. The comments from Cadw and Natural Resources Wales add valuable context and detail but are not considered to have a substantive effect on the Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment methodology or outcomes.
15. Annex 10 is a draft report of the consultation on the Scoping Report. It is proposed to publish this (together with a final Scoping Report and appendices), for information. Where relevant, comments on the Scoping Report will also be reflected in the draft Partnership Plan prior to consultation.

Draft National Park Partnership Plan 2025-2029

16. A consultation draft National Park Partnership Plan 2025-2029 is attached as Annex 2 to this report. The more significant changes made since April are listed below:
 - The draft has been entitled a Partnership Plan, for reasons outlined above.

- A foreword from the Chief Executive and an introduction from the Next Generation have been added.
- A dedicated section on the special qualities of the National Park has been added (section 2). This includes quotes from the special qualities survey, featuring people's favourite locations, special qualities, issues identified and proposed solutions.
- A more detailed assessment of the State of the Park, and challenges to it, has been added (section 3). This section also includes quotes from the special qualities survey.
- Policy and action have been reorganised, under the "four C's" of the Authority's corporate plan: Conservation, Connection, Climate and Communities. The four C's approach (which replaces the five themes used previously) will provide better read-across to the Authority's workstreams.
- A number of proposed measures for monitoring delivery have been added as an annex to the draft Partnership Plan.

17. The Partnership Plan at Annex 2 is a 'text only' version. This is in the process of being formatted for consultation (layouts, addition of images etc.) by the National Park Authority's Graphics Team.

Consultation questions on the Partnership Plan

18. Proposed consultation questions on the draft Partnership Plan are included at Annex 3 to this report.

Impact assessments

19. The Partnership Plan is accompanied by a set of individual statutory impact assessments. The general purpose of impact assessments is to identify and correct any unintended effects of proposals and to enhance policy and action where possible. The assessments are also considered together so as resolve any conflicts there may be between them. This approach responds to concerns raised by the Welsh Language Commissioner and Audit Wales in relation to incorporation of Welsh Language Assessments and Equality Impact Assessments into Integrated Assessments. More detail on each assessment is provided below.

Equality Impact Assessment

20. The Equality Impact Assessment is required by the Equality Act 2010. The Authority is required (in the formative stages of policies, procedure, practice or guidelines) to consider the impact of proposals on people who are protected under the Equality Act 2010; that is, people who share a protected characteristic of age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, and religion or belief.

21. The public equality duty requires the National Park Authority to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different communities.

22. Welsh Ministers implemented the socio-economic duty (sections 1 to 3 of the Equality Act 2010) in Wales in March 2021. The socio-economic duty requires

public bodies in Wales, when making decisions of a strategic nature, to have regard to reducing the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage.

23. Socio-economic duty impacts have been considered as part of the Equality Impact Assessment. This includes aspects of intersectionality (that is, the ways in which multiple aspects and systems of inequality interact with one another and create distinct experiences and outcomes), and socio-economic disadvantage.
24. The consultation draft Equality Impact Assessment is attached at Annex 4 to this report. The recommendations include suggestions regarding:
- Suggestions for improving accessible formatting and ensuring that the feel of the document in terms of imagery and phraseology is inclusive.
 - Amendment of Policy W2 by adding “well-being”: “Provide and promote inspiring outdoor learning, well-being and personal development experiences for all.”
 - Making reference to the Pembrokeshire Coast Youth Manifesto and the role that the Partnership Plan and partnership working play in helping to achieve calls for actions within it.
 - Additions to complete the range of partners that could support delivery of policies and actions.
 - Additions to complete the policy and legislative framework.
 - The role of equality impact assessment in recreation management and the need to engage with a cross-section of users to inform decision-making.
 - The impact that recreation management tensions may have on the experiences of new users of the National Park.
 - Supporting a wide range of people to participate in action for nature, and exploring skills development opportunities / pathways to employment for under-represented groups in terms of nature recovery.
 - The barrier presented by lack of access to toilets / changing facilities, making it difficult for people to access recreational, volunteering, social and community engagement opportunities, exacerbated for people who have additional needs relating to health, disability, faith or caring responsibilities.
 - Ensuring light pollution solutions consider potential safety / access needs of some people.
 - Adding to the actions listed, and partners involved, in water safety.
 - Comments regarding equality impacts and cumulative assessment of local lettings policies; in particular, amendment of “SE1/A Appropriate homes for local communities are delivered through the planning system and joint working, and local lettings policies applied” to “SE1/A Appropriate homes for local communities are delivered through the planning system and joint working. Local lettings policies applied on rural exceptions sites where appropriate and where evidence demonstrates they support delivery against desired outcomes.”
 - Comments regarding lack of access to accessible and affordable transport and the barrier this presents, with particular impacts on people with protected characteristics.
 - Comments regarding differential impacts of car parking charges.

- Comments regarding wider budget pressures and potential impacts on provision of community services.
- Recommendations for partnership effort to support an appropriate range of fair work opportunities.
- Comments regarding opportunities to look at representation in art, culture and heritage opportunities, particularly in regard to the “Connection” theme and what this means for people from a variety of backgrounds.
- Comments regarding opportunities to reframe how the heritage and history of the National Park is portrayed.
- Suggestions for enhancing some of the example actions to take account of removing barriers and promoting opportunities to more diverse audiences.
- Comments regarding incorporating the proposed ambitions of *Welsh Government’s Priorities for Culture 2024 -2030*.
- Providing greater visibility to wider range of partners in order to increase access and gain new perspectives in terms of the National Park’s heritage.

25. The full set of recommended changes to the draft Partnership Plan can be found at pp 87-97 of Annex 4 (Follow-up actions). A summary of the Equality, Welsh language and Well-being of Future Generations impact assessments is provided at Annex 11.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

26. The National Park Authority is a competent authority under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017³ (“the Habitats Regulations”). In accordance with Regulation 63, the Partnership Plan must be assessed for likely significant effects on the UK National Site Network (Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas), and Ramsar sites. Such an assessment is referred to as a Habitats Regulations Assessment and the regulations set out a clearly defined step-wise process which must be followed. Habitats Regulations Assessment of the draft has been sourced from the consultancy Footprint Ecology.

27. Footprint Ecology’s ‘shadow’ Habitats Regulations Assessment⁴ of the Partnership Plan is attached at Annex 5 to this report. Section 4 of the Assessment screens in eight policies for appropriate assessment. The risks associated with these various policies fall into two broad themes:

- Ground works with potential risks relating to direct damage and disturbance (policy L1/D which is intended to reduce the visual impact of existing infrastructure, e.g. telecommunications and power distribution networks)
- Increased recreation use (policies W1/A, W1/B, W1/D, W1/H, W2/A, W2/B and SE1/D all of which include some intention to promote, extend or support recreation provision).

³ The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

⁴ Annex 5 is a shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment that has been prepared to help the National Park Authority discharge its duties under the Habitats Regulations, The National Park Authority is the competent authority, and may decide whether to accept this report and adopt the conclusions or otherwise.

28. However, the inclusion of policy E1/K ensures that no component policies within the draft Plan can result in any harm to European sites. This allows the overall conclusion to be made that the draft Partnership Plan will have no adverse effects on European site integrity, either alone or in-combination.
29. Footprint Ecology has also advised in email correspondence that policy E1/K in its current format could constrain the National Park Authority if it ever wishes to rely on the derogation provisions of the Habitats Directive⁵. That is, E1/K offers a commitment stricter than that provided in law. It is therefore proposed (using phrasing suggested by Footprint Ecology) to amend policy E1/K to read *“Resist proposals which have a likely significant adverse effect (either alone or in combination with other plans and projects) on the UK National Site Network, unless they satisfy the legal tests within the Habitats Regulations.”* This amendment does not alter the conclusion of the Habitats Regulations Assessment, nor impact the recommendations of any other impact assessment.

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

30. Sustainability Appraisal assesses the environmental, social and economic implications of the Partnership Plan’s strategies and policies. Strategic Environmental Assessment requires the formal assessment of certain plans and programmes that are likely to have significant effects on the environment⁶. The requirements of both can be met in a single appraisal.
31. The consultation draft Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment is attached at Annex 6 to this report. The proposed policies of the Partnership Plan have been assessed to predict their impacts with regard to fifteen sustainability objectives. The Appraisal commentary largely relates to the likely positive impacts of the policies, and no recommendations for changes are made.
32. The draft report of consultation on the Scoping Report (Annex 10) sets out the proposed changes to the Scoping Report. These will also be applied where relevant to the draft Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Welsh Language Assessment

33. Review of the Partnership Plan must be carried out in accordance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards Regulations (No.1) 2015. The Authority must conscientiously consider⁷

⁵ The derogation provisions allow for certain plans or projects to proceed despite potentially causing harm to a European site, provided they serve an overriding public interest, there are no alternative solutions and compensatory measures are implemented.

⁶ EU Directive 2001/42/EC (“the SEA Directive”) as transposed into Welsh law through The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Wales) Regulations 2004.

⁷ Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council vs. Welsh Language Commissioner. The Tribunal's decision highlighted two important elements: (1) Organisations must include sufficient information in consultation documents about the possible effects of

specific possible impacts of policy on the Welsh language, via a Welsh Language Assessment.

34. The consultation draft Welsh Language Impact Assessment is attached at Annex 7 to this report. The recommendations include:

- Greater recognition of the Welsh language dialect in Pembrokeshire and Welsh language use in communities within the north of the National Park where there is currently, and traditionally, strong Welsh language use.
- Addition of text on how Welsh language-related culture evolves to be an integral part of a new, inclusive, vibrant and contemporary culture.
- Additions to complete the policy and legislative framework linked to Welsh language.
- Additions to complete the range of partners that could support delivery of policies and results linked to Welsh Language, e.g. those linked to well-being.
- Ensuring that children accessing Welsh medium education or being supported through language centres (from within and outside Pembrokeshire) are able to access opportunities to learn about the National Park in Welsh.
- Additions to partnership working to promote and develop existing opportunities to learn Welsh in Pembrokeshire.
- Ensuring Welsh Language is integrated when developing regenerative tourism approaches, e.g. raising awareness of the significance of Welsh language and promoting it to visitors.
- Potential enhancement of policy SE1/D “Appropriate support and controls promote a regenerative tourism offer” to incorporate the idea of a visitor promise.
- Ensuring that Welsh language speakers and learners can access information in Welsh while also raising the visibility of language to non Welsh speakers / visitors.
- Additional recommendations for partnership effort to conserve historical geographical names.
- Additional recommendations for partnership effort to support an appropriate range of fair work opportunities, reflecting the importance of a strong economy as well as a sufficient supply of affordable homes in enabling vibrant communities where the Welsh language can thrive.
- Comments regarding training and job opportunities arising from conservation and climate objectives - e.g. the role regenerative farming role could play for the next generation of farmers within Welsh-speaking communities - and more generally supporting a wide range of people to participate in taking action for nature.

their proposals on the Welsh language, so that the public can consider them and respond intelligently to them. That means that it is necessary to do more than just state that consideration has been given to the effects. A conscientious effort must be made to identify the relevant factors and their impact on the Welsh language. (2) Direct and indirect effects must be considered.

35. The full set of recommended changes to the draft Partnership Plan can be found at pp 57-63 of Annex 7 (Follow-up actions). A summary of the Equality, Welsh language and Well-being of Future Generations impact assessments is provided at Annex 11.

Well-being of Future Generations Assessment

36. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015) defines sustainable development as the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals. The Partnership Plan will be assessed against the seven well-being goals for Wales and five ways of working under the Act.

37. The consultation draft Well-being of Future Generations Assessment is attached at Annex 8 to this report. The recommendations include:

- Additions to complete the policy and legislative framework.
- Additions to support a wide range of people to participate in taking action for nature, including exploring skills development opportunities / pathways to employment for underrepresented groups.
- Strengthening outcomes and measures in the “Communities” section to capture “fair work”.
- Including a statement on how the five ways of working (sustainable development principles) are being applied through the Partnership Plan.

38. The full set of recommended changes to the draft Partnership Plan can be found at pp 30-35 of Annex 8 (Follow-up actions). A summary of the Equality, Welsh language and Well-being of Future Generations impact assessments is provided at Annex 11.

Consultation - next steps

39. With Members’ agreement of the recommendations below, officers will finalise the materials for public consultation during July, August and September 2024. The consultation will be publicised via a press notice and press release, and via the Authority’s website and social media. The online consultation will include the mapped resources (“Vital Signs” maps) demonstrated at the Members’ workshop of 17th April. The consultation questions will be hosted using Microsoft Forms for ease of completion and analysis.

40. An Easy Read version of the consultation draft Partnership Plan and associated questions, in Welsh and in English, has been commissioned.

41. An online evening session for community, town and city councils, to include a segment on the draft Partnership Plan, is provisionally planned for the 9th July 2024. The Partnership Plan consultation will also be promoted at the National Park Authority’s presence at the County Show in August and at local country shows.

42. Officers have discussed commissioning a short video to animate the consultation, but resources and timing are such that it is considered more appropriate and cost-effective to commission an awareness-raising video about the final Partnership Plan in the next financial year i.e. 2025/6. (Such an awareness-raising video would also have more longevity.)

Reporting on the consultation

43. It is intended to bring a report of the consultation, including recommendations for change, to Members at the National Park Authority meeting on 23rd October. Final versions of all the relevant documents would subsequently be prepared for publication. If the October deadline proves unachievable the next option is the National Park Authority on 11th December 2024 (this would still allow adopted policy to be in place for 2025).

Data acquisition and management

44. Contact data acquisition and retention must take place in accord with the General Data Protection Regulation, transposed into UK law by the Data Protection Act 2018.

Resource considerations

45. Most document drafting and formatting for consultation is being undertaken by Authority staff. There is a nominal budget of £3,000 for Partnership Plan preparation. It is recognised that this will be insufficient to cover all elements of preparation (e.g. Welsh translation, Habitats Regulations Assessment), and budgeting provision has been made for the additional items.

Human Rights considerations

46. The Partnership Plan will ensure compatibility with the Human Rights Act 1998 where there is a need to reconcile differing demands. The preparation and assessment procedures listed above support this requirement.

Recommendations

- 1. That officers are granted delegated authority to incorporate, as necessary, into the draft Partnership Plan and draft Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environment Assessment, and into a final Scoping Report:**
 - i. Recommendations of the impact assessments (Annexes 4 to 8 of this report).**
 - ii. Results of the report of consultation on the draft Scoping Report (Annex 10 to this report).**
 - iii. The additional recommendation from Footprint Ecology regarding rewording policy E1/K (see paragraph 29 of this report).**
 - iv. Minor changes as needed (e.g. typos, factual corrections).**

- 2.) That the following documents are agreed for public consultation, subject to any comments which Members may wish to make.**

- i. **Draft Partnership Plan 2025-2029 (Annex 2 to this report, duly amended as per Recommendation 1)**
- ii. **List of proposed consultation questions on the draft Partnership Plan (Annex 3 to this report)**
- iii. **Draft Equality Impact Assessment (Annex 4 to this report)**
- iv. **Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment (Annex 5 to this report)**
- v. **Draft Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment (Annex 6 to this report, duly amended as per Recommendation 1)**
- vi. **Draft Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Annex 7 to this report)**
- vii. **Draft Well-being of Future Generations Assessment (Annex 8 to this report)**
- viii. **Summary of the Equality, Welsh Language and Well-being of Future Generations impact assessments (Annex 11 to this report).**

3.) That the following are agreed for publication for information purposes as part of the consultation:

- i. **Report of consultation on the Special Qualities survey (Annex 2 to this report)**
- ii. **Final Scoping Report of the Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment (Annex 9 to this report, duly amended as per Recommendation 3)**
- iii. **Report of consultation on the Scoping Report (Annex 10).**

Background documents

Welsh Assembly Government / Countryside Council for Wales 2007 [National Park Management Plans Guidance](#) (a working draft of new guidance has informed this review; however this is not yet publicly available).

(For further information please contact Michel Regelous, National Park and Marine Policy Officer, extension 4827.)

Consultees: Senior Leadership Team, Head of Strategic Policy, Research and Sustainability Appraisal Officer, Performance and Compliance Co-ordinator.

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

A Partnership Plan for the National Park 2025-2029

Draft for public consultation

For approval for consultation by the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority, 19th June 2024

DRAFT

Foreword

“Look closely at the present you are constructing: it should look like the future you are dreaming.”

– Alice Walker

National Parks are some of our most special places, designated for their outstanding landscapes. They are also places where people live, work and visit and therefore play a critical economic role as well as being spaces with huge cultural and social value.

We know that as a society we are facing unprecedented challenges - with both climate and nature emergencies that must be responded to. We also face what may be termed a health emergency - in a post pandemic world we have seen significant increases in the number of people are suffering with anxiety or other mental health challenges, and where our lifestyles are increasingly resulting in poor health outcomes.

We also face considerable challenges regarding the provision of jobs and housing, in particular for young people. House prices and rents in the National Park are significantly higher than the rest of Pembrokeshire; the median sale price for houses in the National Park in 2023 was almost ten times the median wage. At the 2011 Census the National Park had one of the highest rates of second / holiday home use of its general housing stock in England and Wales, at 27.7%. This impacts negatively on housing affordability and support for local facilities. As at March 2024, there were more than 5,000 households on the Pembrokeshire Housing Waiting List - excluding transfers.

While there appears to be no shortage of employment opportunities in Pembrokeshire, the jobs available are often low paid (over 25% of full-time workers earned less than £18,000 per year in 2017) and seasonal (winter benefit claimant rates are almost double those for summer).

There are many key ways in which the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park as a place can help respond to these challenges, playing a key role for local communities but also improving outcomes in a way that supports a national response. This might be responding to coastal erosion and adapting the line of the world-famous Pembrokeshire Coast Path National Trail; it can also be by strengthening habitat connectivity to allow movement of species.

As human beings we have always adapted successfully and we can do so now – we can also help ourselves as we help the environment around us, as examples such as the award-winning Roots to Recovery project showcase – people working to support changes to places and receiving health benefits at the same time.

Responding to these challenges is not something that the National Park Authority can do alone – the challenges are too great and require collaborative action. While this document is in legal terms the National Park Management Plan, we use the term *Partnership Plan* because of our need to work together to build the future that the Pembrokeshire Coast deserves – a future that not only protects the things that make the National Park special at the moment, but which ensures they remain so and even improve in quality in the future.

This Partnership Plan for the next five years sets out how all of those involved in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park can work together to deliver the best outcomes for the place and its people. I have been fascinated to read some of the public feedback around what makes the National Park special and I hope you will enjoy reading these within this Plan. These views have fed directly into the policies and actions in this Partnership Plan as

we consider how we use the next few years as a 'stitch in time' to work towards a brighter future.

I hope you will work with us in this aim and look forward to receiving constructive feedback on this Plan through the consultation process this summer.

Tegryn Jones
Chief Executive
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
May 2024

DRAFT

An introduction from the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Next Generation

We founded the National Park Youth Committee - now known as Next Generation - in 2020, with the aim of making positive changes by working together for the future.

We recognize that in order to deliver real lasting change we have to work in partnership. We have been excited to input into the development of this Partnership Plan for the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park for the next 5 years. The Pembrokeshire Coast is our home but we know that other people also love to visit this special place. We want to be able to continue to live here in the future and so how this Plan supports its local communities is a critical issue for us. Our priorities have fed into this Plan and we are pleased to see the importance of young people accessing nature recognized.

We feel that young people have a key role to play in addressing nature recovery and adapting to climate change. We also know that getting out into nature can bring huge well-being benefits. We hope that you will look at the example actions set out in the Plan and commit to working for the Pembrokeshire Coast's future alongside us.

**Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Next Generation
May 2024**

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List of partners mentioned in this Plan

<p>Agents Anglers Amgueddfa Cymru Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust Beach Wheelchair Scheme hosts Boatowners Buglife Building owners Bumblebee Conservation Trust Businesses Cadw (the Welsh Government's Historic Environment Service) Commons graziers Commons Resilience partners Communities Community, Town and City Councils Community and support groups (e.g. MIND, St David's Care in the Community, Point Youth Centre) Community groups Community Land Trusts Corporate Joint Committee for South-West Wales Cwm Arian Renewable Energy Destination Pembrokeshire Partnership Developers Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water Dyfed-Powys Police Experiences for All partners Farmers' Union of Wales Farming Connect First 1000 days project partners Fishers Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Future Works Get Outdoors Gyda'n Gilydd dros Newydd / Together for Change Harbour authorities Heneb: The Trust for Welsh Archaeology Heritage Guardians Heritage Watch partners Historic asset owners / managers Historic Environment Working Groups (Welsh Government) Hospitality businesses Householders Housing Authorities Industry John Muir Award participants Keep Wales Tidy Landowners / managers Let's Walk Pembrokeshire Partnership Local Access Forum Marine Protected Area Management Steering Group Milford Haven Waterway Environmental Surveillance Group Ministry of Defence National Farmers' Union of England and Wales National Library of Wales National Parks UK National Trust Natur am Byth! Project partners Natural Resources Wales Nutrient Management Board Nyfer am Byth Office of the Welsh Language Commissioner Open to All project partners Outdoor Schools Pathways Pembrokeshire Association of Community Transport Organisations</p>	<p>Pembrokeshire College Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Trust Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Grazing Network Pembrokeshire Greenways Partnership Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation Relevant Authority Group Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter Group Pembrokeshire Sustainable Agriculture Network Pembrokeshire Water Safety Forum Pembrokeshire Wildfire Group PLANED Plantlife Port of Milford Haven Property owners Prosiect Nos partners Public Health Wales Public Services Board Race to Zero partners Registered Social Landlords Relevant Authority Groups Roots to Recovery partners Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments Wales Royal National Lifeboat Institution Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Schools Skomer Marine Conservation Zone Advisory Group Sky Ocean Rescue partners South Hook LNG Terminal Co Ltd South Wales Industrial Cluster Swansea University Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum The Cleddau Project The Crown Estate The National Trust Tirweddau Cymru / Landscapes Wales Transport for Wales UK National Parks Climate and Energy Group UK National Parks Partnership Universities University of Wales User groups Visit Pembrokeshire Visit Wales Visitors Volunteers Wales Coastal and Seas Partnership Wales Wildfire Charter Welsh Government Welsh Place-Name Society West Wales Standing Environment Group Western Power Distribution / National Grid Wildlife Trust South and West Wales Woodland Trust World Wide Fund for Nature Youth Committee Youth Rangers</p>
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1 A living, working landscape

UK national parks

The UK's national parks are exceptional landscapes. The statutory purposes of national parks are:

- to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park
- to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public¹

If there is a conflict between the purposes that cannot be resolved, the first purpose has greater weight (this is known as the 'Sandford principle').

Map: Pembrokeshire Coast National Park



With an area of 629 km², Pembrokeshire Coast National Park is one of the more densely-populated of the UK's national parks, with almost 21,000 people living in 49 community, town and city council areas in 2021. Pembrokeshire Coast is the only primarily coastal national park in the UK and was formally designated in 1952. The shape and size of the National Park makes

¹ The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 provided the framework for the creation of National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Pembrokeshire Coast National Park was designated in 1952.

partnership working and working across boundaries essential to achieving National Park purposes.

Natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage underpin people's health and wellbeing, prosperity and culture. Landscapes, rivers and coastal waters support the processes that help produce food, regulate climate, reduce flooding and store carbon.

The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park is home for 21,000 people, a dazzling range of wildlife, and is at the heart of Pembrokeshire's visitor offer.

The National Park Authority

The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority ("the National Park Authority") is charged with delivering national park purposes in this National Park. The National Park Authority has a duty to seek to foster the social and economic wellbeing of National Park communities in its pursuit of the purposes.

Many other organisations also have a legal duty to have regard to National Park purposes, and to the Sandford Principle². In practice the National Park Authority and its partners - organisations, landowners, businesses and individuals - work together to achieve shared and complementary goals.

Welsh Government has outlined its priorities for national parks and national landscapes (as some areas of outstanding natural beauty are now known) in Wales. These protected landscapes are places of high natural and cultural value. They are for everyone in Wales. And they are essential to delivering national and local environmental, social and sustainable economic development ambitions³.

The priorities of a term of Government remit letter to the National Park Authority is reflected in this Partnership Plan.

People and place

Although parts of some UK national parks are wild and remote, they have long histories of human occupation. The special qualities of the landscape which we enjoy today have been shaped by previous generations – people making practical decisions, using the tools and technology available to them, and within the context of their culture and values.

The National Park Authority has a duty to support the social and economic wellbeing of Park communities in its pursuit of National Park purposes. Natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage, and people's enjoyment of them,

² This duty is set out in section 62 of the Environment Act 1995.

³ *Valued and Resilient: The Welsh Government's Priorities for the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks* (2018)

provide a wide range of social and economic benefits in their own right. On a practical level, healthy, functioning landscapes enable society to grow food (about 60% of the National Park land area is managed for production of food or forage⁴) and, taking landscape and wildlife sensitivities into account, the landscape can contribute to renewable electricity and heat production.

Landscape and wildlife also underwrite key natural processes such as climate and weather regulation, soil formation, carbon storage, pollination, natural flood protection, and water and nutrient cycling. Diverse, healthy ecosystems provide a buffer against environmental change.

These ecosystem services are the basis of people's wellbeing and prosperity, and underpin many other aspects of our quality of life, including culture and spirituality.

National Park purposes, and the National Park Authority's duty to foster socio-economic wellbeing in the pursuit of them, cannot be separated.

Together, the purposes and duty form a sound economic strategy – protection and growth of natural, cultural and social capital, with an income that is sustainable and equitable.

Most of the National Park is privately owned, with about a quarter lying in the public realm or in charitable ownership. The National Park Authority leases or owns about 1% of the land area of the National Park, including flagship sites such as Carew Castle and Tidal Mill, Castell Henllys Iron Age Hillfort and Oriell Parc. In addition, the NPA leases large sections of the foreshore west and north of Giltar Point from The Crown Estate.

Around 7% of the National Park is Common Land, while the National Trust's holdings account for over 6%. The Ministry of Defence owns around 4%; the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales owns or leases approximately 1% and Natural Resources Wales around 0.6%.

About this plan

The Environment Act 1995 requires the National Park Authority to prepare a Management Plan for the National Park⁵. The current Management Plan is for 2020-2024. This draft replacement Partnership Plan is for 2025-2029.

The Partnership Plan builds on previous plans, takes account of changes in legislation and policy, and incorporates learning from ongoing conversations with partner organisations and stakeholders. The Plan takes an iterative approach to planning, where the outputs and learning from one plan cycle inform the next.

⁴ Based on 2015 Phase 1 habitat data (grassland and arable classes).

⁵ Each National Park Authority must prepare a five-yearly Management Plan "which formulates its policy for the management of the relevant Park and for the carrying out of its functions in relation to that Park" (Section 66 of the Environment Act, 1995).

As part of the process, the National Park Authority has reviewed evidence and stakeholder input to identify the key issues that the Partnership Plan needs to address. These are described in section 3 of this Plan, 'the State of the Park', and include:

- promoting ecosystem recovery at scale and improving the state of wildlife on land and in the marine environment (as a milestone to clear recovery by 2050).
- achieving favourable conservation status on high nature value sites.
- maintaining and enhancing species for which Pembrokeshire is uniquely important.
- increasing the connectivity of the landscape for wildlife .
- supporting use of the Welsh language and Pembrokeshire dialects.
- providing outdoor learning opportunities, in particular for children.
- providing sustainable outdoor recreational opportunities for a full cross-section of society, and increasing the frequency of people's participation.
- managing potential / actual recreational pressures such as those arising from unauthorised camping and congestion.
- reducing the significant waiting list for affordable housing in Pembrokeshire (over 5,000 in 2024).
- addressing the issue of high numbers of poorly paid seasonal jobs and limited employment opportunities.
- supporting the recovery of the increasing number of people suffering poor mental health post-Covid 19.
- adapting to the changing physical and well-being needs of residents and visitors.
- maintaining and extending sustainable transport and active travel options.
- halving carbon emissions within the National Park area in the lifetime of this Plan (a milestone in achieving carbon-neutrality in the National Park area by 2050).
- proactively addressing the impacts of climate change on coastal communities and infrastructure.
- reducing pollution from phosphates, nitrates and ammonia, and eliminating environmental harm from storm overflow sewage discharges.

This draft Partnership Plan sets out the purposes of the National Park, the action to be taken over the next five years, the partners involved and the measures of success.

This draft is your opportunity to help shape the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Partnership Plan 2025-2029.

Please let us know what you think by completing the online questionnaire on the National Park Authority's website.

In preparing this Partnership Plan, the National Park Authority has collaborated with Natural Resources Wales as new guidance on management

planning for protected landscapes in Wales has been prepared. A working version of the guidance has informed preparation of this Plan.

Impact assessments for consultation, available on the National Park Authority's website, accompany this draft Plan. The purpose of the impact assessments is to ensure that policy proposals do not have negative impacts, and that where possible policies deliver additional value in terms of, for example, communities, people sharing protected characteristics, health, and internationally important wildlife sites.

Relevant public bodies, including the National Park Authority, are required to promote the Welsh language and its use and to mitigate potential negative impacts. Welsh Government's *Technical Advice Note 20: Planning and the Welsh Language* provides statutory guidance and a requirement to identify Welsh linguistic sensitive areas. A Welsh language impact assessment for the draft Plan is published for consultation on the National Park Authority's website.

Four themes for partnership action

Protected landscapes are a national asset and are a key mechanism for delivering Welsh Government's, UK and international environmental, social and economic ambitions. This is therefore a plan for the National Park area, not just for the National Park Authority. A list of partners is included earlier in this draft.

The Partnership Plan is based on action across four complementary themes. The themes relate directly to National Park purposes and the special qualities, and align with Welsh Government's well-being, climate, natural resource and ecosystem resilience goals.

This Partnership Plan is based on four themes:

- **Conservation - of landscape and wildlife**
- **Connection - of people with nature and heritage**
- **Climate and natural resources**
- **Communities**

Links from the themes to Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 goals

Theme	Description	Well-being goal
Conservation	<i>Conserving and enhancing natural beauty and wildlife.</i>	A prosperous Wales A Wales of cohesive communities A globally responsible Wales
Connection	<i>Conserving and enhancing cultural heritage and Welsh language.</i>	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language A more equal Wales

	<i>Promoting enjoyment and understanding of the National Park.</i>	
Climate and natural resources	<i>Managing natural resources sustainably.</i>	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language A more equal Wales
Communities	<i>Landscapes for lives and livelihoods.</i>	A prosperous Wales A healthier Wales A more equal Wales

The themes also align with the principles of sustainable management of natural resources⁶, with the priorities identified in the South West Area Statement and the Marine Area Statement prepared by Natural Resources Wales, and with key legislation, policy and guidance including:

Legislation

- Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
- Environment Act 1995
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016⁵ including the principles of sustainable management of natural resources
- Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023
- National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949
- Planning (Wales) Act 2015
- The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Policy and proposals

- Biodiversity Deep Dive 2022 (including the 30x30 target)
- *Environmental principles, governance and biodiversity targets: White Paper 2024*, which includes proposals for a statutory target framework for biodiversity in Wales, delivered locally through the Local Nature Recovery Action Plan, geared to improvement in the status of species and ecosystems by 2030 and their clear recovery by 2050
- European Landscape Convention
- Future Wales National Plan 2040
- Marine Area Statement
- National Parks UK Climate Emergency Response Statement
- Natural Resources Policy 2017
- Net Zero Strategic Plan 2022
- Noise and Soundscape Plan for Wales 2023-2028
- Planning Policy Wales Edition 12, February 2024
- South-West Area Statement
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (including the five ways of working principles)

⁶ *Valued and Resilient: The Welsh Government's Priorities for the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks* was issued by Welsh Government in July 2018. It includes a proposal for a legal requirement on national park authorities to pursue sustainable management of natural resources in the exercise of their functions.

- Well-being Plan for Pembrokeshire 2023-2028
- Welsh Government's 2018 policy statement *Valued and Resilient: The Welsh Government's Priorities for the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks*
- Welsh National Marine Plan 2019

Guidance and resources

- Future Trends Report (2021)
- LANDMAP – the Welsh landscape baseline
- the Nature and Us / Natur a Ni vision (2023) for a 2050 where society and nature thrive together, and where people are more involved in decisions that impact on nature.
- State of Natural Resources Report for Wales 2020 / Bridges to the Future
- The State of Nature 2023
- Third UK Climate Change Risk Assessment: Summary for Wales

In future, the Partnership Plan must also have regard to the sustainable land management report published under section 6 of the Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023. The first of these is due in December 2026, so will fall within the lifetime of this Plan.

Local Development Plan 2 (to 2031)

Policy proposed in this Partnership Plan provides a context for planning and managing the built environment.

Development planning policies are set out in the *Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Local Development Plan 2 (to 2031)* for the National Park, prepared by the National Park Authority.

Local Development Plan 2 is supported by Supplementary Planning Guidance notes on a range of topics, many of which are also of direct relevance to this Partnership Plan. Local Development Plan 2 policy implementation is monitored via an Annual Monitoring Report produced by the National Park Authority. Some of the key trends identified by the Annual Monitoring Report are highlighted in the Partnership Plan.

Review of the adopted Local Development Plan 2 will start in September 2024. This Partnership Plan together with monitoring and review of the existing plan and evidence base will inform that review.

2 Special qualities of the National Park

The second purpose of the National Park is *to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public.*

In 2024, the National Park Authority asked people what they consider to be the special qualities of the National Park, what the risks are to those qualities, and what extra action is needed to protect them.

In the statements of significance below we have tried to capture the essence of people's experiences of the National Park, and the nature of the special qualities that underpin them. This section builds on previous public surveys on the special qualities, and on landscape assessment.

Additions / changes to the special qualities include a greater emphasis on Welsh language and dialects and on the sensory environment of the National Park – for example big seascapes, the sensitivity of the sea horizon to development, characteristic soundscapes and dark skies.

The National Park Authority is grateful for all the survey responses received.

Only a very small selection of quotes is included in this draft. The quotes give an idea of people's favourite places, the qualities which make these places special, the challenges and some possible solutions.

What's so special about the National Park?

Landscapes and seascapes

"Pristine, beautiful landscape. World class in every way."

"Fabulous landscapes, hospitable people, uncrowded, relatively unspoiled, rich history, feeling of connection."

The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park is a living, working landscape of outstanding natural beauty and cultural heritage. This distinctive part of Wales enables people to enjoy and explore many different coastal and inland landscapes, within the relatively small area of 629 km².

This is one of the more densely-populated of the UK's national parks, with almost 21,000 people living in 49 community, town and city council areas (2021 census figures). Pembrokeshire Coast was formally designated a National Park in 1952.

"The stunning coastline and beautiful Preselis: being a restorative haven preserving access to nature and wilderness in difficult times. A massive and priceless resource for people's mental and physical health."

Coastal scenery

“Treginnis headland - tide race through Ramsey Sound and expansive views over St Brides Bay.”

“Freshwater West is wild especially in stormy weather and often blows the cobwebs away!”

The National Park boundary extends to mean low water, but Pembrokeshire is a maritime county and the sea, waterway and rivers are integral to people’s experience of the Park.

Renowned for its spectacular coastline and big seascapes, the National Park features sandy beaches, dramatic cliffs, rugged headlands and includes the islands. The main islands are Caldey, Ramsey, Skokholm, Skomer and Caldey. The islands were named by the Vikings who sailed along this coast in the 8th to 10th centuries, though Caldey and Ramsey have older Welsh names reflecting early Christian tradition. The Smalls reef - which features Wales’ tallest lighthouse - is 20 miles offshore.

“The beaches in Pembrokeshire are better than any abroad.”

Distant, uninterrupted views and open horizons

“The Preseli hills. They are on the horizon over most of Pembrokeshire. Spectacular geography, incredible history and heritage and the largest “wild” area in SW Wales. From the tops of the hills to the bogs and rivers, they are the closest thing to a wilderness that we have in this area.”

The Preseli Hills are a dramatic ancient landscape of rolling heath and moorland with scattered rocky outcrops. The hills, and headlands such as St Davids Head and St Govans Head, offer panoramic views and breathtaking vistas of the county and beyond, to the north Wales, Irish and English coastlines, including Lundy Island.

Wildlife

“Cwm-yr-Eglwys in Dinas is sheltered and perfect for swimming. In the autumn it's a great place to see bioluminescent plankton and sea gooseberries.”

The coast, inshore waters and islands are home to an impressive array of wildlife, including internationally-important seabird colonies, and rare and endangered species.

There are 13 Special Areas of Conservation and 5 Special Protection Areas, 60 Sites of Special Scientific Interest, 7 National Nature Reserves, one Local Nature Reserve and one Marine Conservation Zone (around Skomer and the Marloes peninsula) within or partly within the National Park.

“Brynberian Moor, Carningli, the moor near Mynachlogddu. Special because they are relatively unspoilt, relatively peaceful, wild(ish) places where it's still

possible to roam freely without encountering fences, barbed wire (or not much!), where you can get away from the constant hubbub of 'modern' life, look at and smell rare plants, watch birds, dragonflies and other insects. They just make me feel better, less anxious, more whole."

Rights of way

"We need spaces like this where we can recharge our physical and psychological batteries."

Walking is by far the most significant recreational activity in the National Park. Running the entire length of the coast is the Pembrokeshire Coast Path National Trail - 299km of pure delight and a national treasure. Inland are secret valleys, ancient woodlands and tranquil rivers to explore and absorb, accessible thanks to an additional 1,000+ km of inland rights of way.

These routes, coupled with about 6,600 hectares of access land, enable people to make circular walks and provide links between communities inside and outside the National Park. The rights of way network also enables people to access the beaches, woods and hills and to find health, happiness, solace and solitude in the fresh, wide-open spaces, the inshore waters and characteristic soundscapes of the National Park.

"Marloes, St.Brides and the whole coastal path all special because of space to walk, enjoy the views, places to think in peace and beauty."

Tranquillity

"The peace and quiet - being able to escape."

Between the western and southern areas of the National Park lies the Milford Haven Waterway, where the serene and wooded reaches of the Cleddau, Carew and Cresswell Rivers feed into one of the finest natural deep-water harbours in the world. The National Park offers a year-round feast of sensory restoratives - like birdsong, and the tang of salt air.

"Preseli tops...Especially with the "steam train" clouds puffing their way towards Crymych."

Dark skies

Darkness reveals the humbling grandeur of the night sky, looking in many respects as it did to those who came before us.

Large areas of the National Park are relatively free of light pollution, and there are eight Dark Sky Discovery Sites in the National Park. These are accessible sites, with associated parking, which afford good views of the night sky on cloudless, moonless nights.

Heritage and culture

“Pentre Ifan Cromlech - history in a simple configuration amidst the Preselis.”

The National Park showcases evidence of human activity over thousands of years. The list includes 285 Scheduled Monuments, and about 10,000 sites in the Historic Environment Record.

There are over 1,200 listed buildings and 13 designated Conservation Areas. Nine Historic Landscape areas lie wholly or partly within the National Park, and there are 14 Historic Parks and Gardens.

The National Park serves as a backdrop for countless tales, legends, and folklore, reflecting a unique Welsh heritage. Standing stones, burial chambers and Iron Age hillforts provide evidence of early human settlement.

The historic buildings and built environments - including castles, churches, towns and villages – are evidence of the region's rich and ever-changing historical heritage and culture. Historic placenames hint at knowledge of natural features or cultural significance. By population, St Davids is the UK's smallest city.

“Nevern Castle, with its links to the Lord Rhys, a genuine hidden gem. Pencaer, for the coast, prehistoric archaeology and links to the Last Invasion.”

Welsh language

“Pentre Ifan, Carni Inqli and Cwm Gwaun. These places have deep cultural significance to Cymru. They still retain the Welsh language and culture...we can still connect with our deep past by being mindful in these beautiful places.”

The National Park is a melting-pot of language, dialect and slang. The language bears testament to the various collisions of people with place, inspiring literature, poetry, music, art across the generations. The Welsh language is enjoying a resurgence in the south of the National Park today.

“The Welsh poetry that has described the natural beauty of this place...”

Mur fy mebyd, Foel Drigarn, Carn Gyfrwy, Tal Mynydd,
Wrth fy nghefn ym mhob annibyniaeth barn.
A'm llawr o'r Witwg i'r Wern ac i lawr i'r Efail
Lle tasgodd y gwreichion sydd yn hŷn na harn.

*Wall of my boyhood, Moel Drigarn, Carn Gyfrwy, Tal Mynydd,
In my mind's independence ever at my back;
And my floor, from Witwig to Wern and to the smithy
Where from an essence older than iron, the sparks were struck.*

from Waldo Williams: “Preseli”

Patterns of use

“The way nature, farming, history, Welsh language and culture, and people now are intertwined.”

The National Park is today essentially a managed landscape, with large areas shaped by farming. Today, this is predominantly dairy farming, with beef, sheep, and some arable. Iconic Pembrokeshire hedgerows, farm woods and trees in the landscape form an intricate patchwork, a network essential to wildlife, while fieldnames hint at former homes, owners or land uses.

Today, military use of the Castlemartin Range enables extensive land management to continue, including ‘hafod a hendre’ - transhumance between the Range and the Preseli Hills.

Earth heritage

“Ceibwr, Moylegrove is a wild and secluded place with awe-inspiring geology.”

The area is exceptional geologically; earth heritage was a key reason for the National Park’s designation. Rugged cliffs and rock formations relate the ongoing story of millions of years of geological activity.

The National Park contains evidence of ancient landscapes, fossilised remains, and geological processes, making it a world-famous resource for research and education. There are 51 Geological Conservation Review sites (sites of national or international importance) and 66 Regionally Important Geological Sites in the National Park.

Recreational opportunity

“Access, both to the popular places and those off the beaten track.”

With natural and cultural attractions like these, the National Park is also exceptionally well-served with the recreational opportunities to enjoy them. Visitors are drawn from near and far, with 7.7 million visitor days in 2022⁷. Recreation and discovery are enhanced by a broad and inclusive range of outdoor activities, making Pembrokeshire Coast a top destination for people seeking relaxation, exploration, or adventure.

“The scenery and the fact that it is the only coastal National Park in the UK. It is wonderful to be able to access so many wonderful walks apart from the Coast Path.”

Community and stewardship

For all these reasons and more, residents and visitors forge lifelong bonds with the Pembrokeshire Coast. The National Park provides a shared focus and unites people in a sense of community and stewardship, place, identity, and pride.

⁷ STEAM Final Trend Report for 2011-2022 for Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, Global Tourism Solutions UK Ltd.

“For jobs related to the National Park, there needs to be a wide range of people employed from young to old, from different ethnic, social backgrounds to get different perspectives in the National Park.”

DRAFT

3 The State of the Park – challenges and opportunities

The previous section sets out the special qualities of the National Park. Here we report on the state of the National Park, including landscape and the natural and cultural resources which underpin the special qualities, and attributes of community well-being.

A range of outcome measures have been used. A selection of these are featured in online maps which accompany this consultation. These ‘vital signs’ have been chosen to help evaluate the direction and rate of travel with regard to National Park purposes and include data on:

- the state of the National Park (outcomes)
- trends in issues (factors affecting outcomes)
- efforts which contribute to National Park purposes (impacts).

[National Park Partnership Plan 2025 \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)
or <https://tinyurl.com/fhyttue>

Where are we now?

Landscapes and seascapes

“...campsites and holiday homes...I think we have enough to cater for tourism we do not need encourage further supply.”

LANDMAP is the national information system, devised by the former Countryside Council for Wales, for taking landscape into account in decision-making, based on five aspects: geology, habitat cover, visual and sensory attributes, historic character, and cultural associations.

Planning Policy Wales recognises LANDMAP as an important resource for local planning authorities in making the landscape assessments needed to inform local policy, guidance and decision-making, as the basis of a Wales-wide approach to landscape assessment.

The National Park Authority commissioned a Landscape Character Assessment in 2006, based on LANDMAP information and covering a combination of the five LANDMAP aspects. The Assessment identified 28 distinct Landscape Character Areas lying within or partly within the National Park.

A similar assessment has been carried out for seascape character. This identifies 44 Seascape Character Areas for the coast and inshore territorial waters up to 12 nautical miles from the Pembrokeshire coast, extending from Cardigan Island in the north to the Taf estuary in Carmarthen Bay in the

south. The study area reaches inland to include the areas of the Milford Haven Waterway outside the National Park, and up to the tidal limits of the Daugleddau.

Landscape Character and Seascape Character assessments identify the attributes of these areas and the challenges they face, and set out management guidance for them. They constitute adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Local Development Plan 2. They are therefore a material consideration in planning decisions, which are made in accordance with Local Development Plan 2. Decisions contrary to policy are monitored through an annual monitoring report. Planning approval conditions are also monitored and enforced, as is unauthorised development.

Landscape and seascape quality are vulnerable to a number of pressures. Most of the issues identified in this Partnership Plan have implications of for the appearance and functioning of the landscape. However, the following are of particular relevance for landscape and seascape quality and for the ecological functions that underpin it:

- *Land management practices*, which have particular implications for semi-natural habitat and associated wildlife, and for management of natural resources such as soils and water
- *Development*, which needs to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the National Park
- *Climate change*, which could significantly alter the distribution of biodiversity, crops, farming practice, and the appearance of the coast, low lying areas and hills.

“We don't want to be another Cornwall.”

Wildlife

“Extend the wild areas that exist through landscape scale projects.”

The state of wildlife remains a major concern going into this Plan cycle. Wildlife in general is suffering catastrophic declines. The *State of Nature: Wales 2023* reports that Welsh wildlife has in general decreased by 20% since 1994, and one in six species in Wales is at risk of extinction. Although 11% of Wales' land is designated for nature conservation, only 35% of assessed features were in favourable condition. Half of Wales' marine area is included in marine protected areas, but fewer than 50% of the features within them are in favourable condition. The report concludes that, despite some progress, Wales' biodiversity and its wider environment continue to decline and degrade.

“Please protect the biodiversity we are at a tipping point- A National Park should be conserved for future generations. A move towards Nature tourism and away from Adventure Tourism would be very welcomed.”

The “30x30” target agreed at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference 2022 is to protect and manage 30% of the earth’s surface for nature by 2030⁸. To deliver on this, areas designated for conservation need to be better, bigger and more connected, and based on the principles of resilient ecological networks⁹.

Designated nature conservation sites are essential components for restoring connectivity and ecosystem functioning. The National Park Authority is however mindful that designation does not necessarily confer protection. Within the National Park boundary, and even within protected sites such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest, the conservation status of habitats and species is often unfavourable, and the ecosystems of which they form one element are fragmented and dysfunctional.

“...only 14% of the SSSI land in the Park is in favourable condition – the Park is not currently delivering for nature.”

Similarly, designated sites cannot exist in isolation and the wider countryside and the wider marine environment must be able to provide the ecosystem functions necessary to the integrity of protected sites.

“These are huge issues and the responses may seem glib, but we simply cannot go on without greater regulation, enforcement and education to address pollution and ignorant and irresponsible behaviour.”

The state of designated conservation sites

The biodiversity importance of the National Park is reflected in the high number of designated conservation sites. The following lie wholly or partly within the National Park:

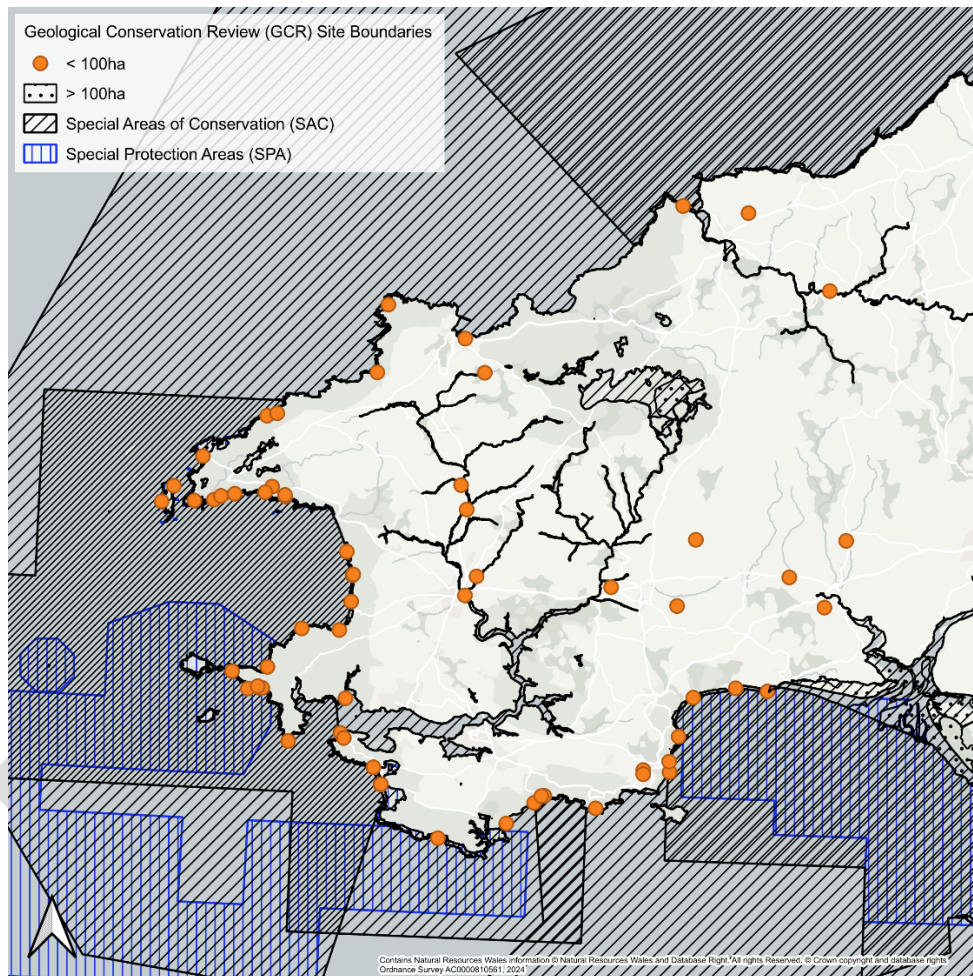
- 13 Special Areas of Conservation (Cardigan Bay, Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries, Cleddau Rivers, Gweunydd Blaencleddau, Limestone Coast of South West Wales, North Pembrokeshire Woodlands, North West Pembrokeshire Commons, Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes, Pembrokeshire Marine, Preseli, River Teifi, St Davids, Yerboston Tops)
- 5 Special Protection Areas (Ramsey and St Davids Peninsula Coast, Skokholm and Skomer, Grassholm, Castlemartin Coast, and Carmarthen Bay)

⁸ [The Nature Recovery Action Plan for Wales 2020 to 2021 \(gov.wales\)](#) is the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Wales. It sets out how the United Nations Environment Programme’s [Convention on Biological Diversity’s \(CBD\) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity \(and the associated Aichi Biodiversity Targets for 2011-20 in Wales\)](#) is addressed in Wales. A new Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) was agreed at COP15 in December 2022. All parties, including the UK, are required to develop a National Biodiversity Strategy to outline their approach to meeting the goals and targets set out in the new framework. In Wales, during the Biodiversity Deep Dive, the Minister for Climate Change agreed to revise the Natural Resources Policy and National Biodiversity Strategy (currently the Nature Recovery Action Plan) to reflect Deep Dive recommendations and post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

⁹ [Natural Resources Wales / Practitioners’ guide to Resilient Ecological Networks](#)

- 60 Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- 7 National Nature Reserves (Pengelli Forest, Ramsey, Skokholm, Skomer, Stackpole, Ty Canol, Grassholm)
- 1 Marine Conservation Zone (Skomer)
- 1 Local Nature Reserve (Freshwater East)

Map: Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and Geological Conservation Review sites within or partly within the National Park



“The Afon Nyfer habitats suffer from any pollution of the river and the spreading of invasive species such as Himalayan balsam. The road verges that wind through the park suffer when the cut is done before flowers set seed. Insects are given little time to complete their cycles before they are shredded by the mowing technique. And bordering fields are cultivated and slurried without an edge left for wildlife.”

About 80% of the length of the National Park coastline is designated Site of Special Scientific Interest. The boundaries of three marine European Marine Sites overlap 75% of the National Park’s coastline, and account for about 60% of the inshore area.

Based on data collected by Natural Resources Wales, the status of Special Areas of Conservation lying wholly or partly within the National Park is estimated as follows.

Special Area of Conservation feature status	Number of features	Percentage of features
Favourable	35	36%
Unfavourable	58	60%
No data	4	4%

Based on data collected by Natural Resources Wales, the status of Special Protection Areas lying wholly or partly within the National Park is estimated as follows.

Special Protection Area feature status	Number of features	Percentage of features
Favourable	6	75%
Unfavourable	1	12.5%
No data	1	12.5%

“Some of what is needed to protect nature and the “special qualities” of the National Park requires changes to the law, not to mention better funding. Can the PCNPA help formulate what is needed in order to make National Parks better able to protect the special areas they were created to cover?”

Recreation and discovery

A National Park should help inspire in people a lifelong interest in the environment and help change attitudes and behaviour towards it. Understanding, enjoyment and conservation of the National Park and of the wider environment are inextricably linked. Recreation usually involves learning and learning should be enjoyable; both can give people new perspectives on their surroundings and on themselves.

Outdoor recreation and learning also contribute significantly to people’s health and wellbeing and are a mainstay of the region’s economy. By managing the landscape that people come to enjoy and the Pembrokeshire Coast Path National Trail, inland rights of way, beaches and car parks that the majority of visitors use, the National Park Authority and its partners manage and protect some of the most important visitor facilities in Pembrokeshire.

“Use social media, tourism, social prescribing etc to encourage more beneficial understanding, connections and mutual care between people living inside and outside the Park, particularly young people living

elsewhere, who face such a difficult and uncertain future. Use nature to encourage hope and drive actions to stop the harm of our interdependent future.”

While Pembrokeshire has the highest participation rate in outdoor recreation in Wales, two thirds of residents are underactive. Across Wales, barriers to participation include time, disability, health issues and age. Scope exists to increase the number of people enjoying the National Park, particularly in the cases where activities are non-intrusive and take place in off-peak periods. There is also ample scope to welcome a more representative cross-section of society to the National Park.

The National Park offers world-class opportunities for coastal walking, climbing and watersports. People appreciate the landscape and beaches in particular and are generally very satisfied with their experience of the National Park and the Pembrokeshire Coast Path National Trail, with a high percentage of visitors returning again and again. There is latent demand amongst adults resident in Wales for walking and off-road cycling, and strong interest in paddlesports, coastering, camping, foraging and bushcraft amongst young people in Pembrokeshire.

Negative impacts of recreation on the National Park special qualities, its communities or other users tend to be localised in space and in time. While they can present management challenges, they can also be solved, for example through voluntary agreements and codes of conduct for user groups. That said, there are limited forms of sanction for the minority who behave irresponsibly or break codes of conduct (unless a crime has been committed). The National Park Authority and its partners are aware of some acute and persistent issues.

“Stronger nature conservation and planning measures to protect nature - with many species under threat and a goal for Wales of protecting nature, SSSIs and SACs should have more teeth, and nesting birds and beaches with seal pups should be better protected. It seems quite possible that coastering should simply not be allowed in sensitive areas where it is likely to disturb vulnerable nesting birds or seals. (The Pembrokeshire Marine Code does not seem to be strong enough - it's also a problem that these codes are not enforceable.)”

People's awareness of the purposes of UK national parks is generally good, and national parks are important to them. However, people find it difficult to name specific national parks and there is confusion about who owns and manages them. While general environmental awareness is increasing, specific knowledge about biodiversity, and possibly other special qualities of national parks, is relatively poor and it is possible that it will get progressively worse, as wildlife itself declines and as inter-generational awareness is lost.

“Disturbance, dogs and irresponsible humans cause a great deal of damage. Stop advertising wilder parts of the park as places to explore, they don't need the disturbance.”

Historically, National Park user groups and audiences have not reflected the breadth and diversity of UK society, and have neglected some local audiences. The National Park Authority and its partners need to keep innovating in terms of communication and engagement, to work to remove remaining barriers to enjoying and learning about the National Park, and to reach people living within or close to the National Park boundary, as well as those beyond it.

While everyone should be able to enjoy and learn about the National Park, particular audiences will continue to exist. These include people that influence National Park management (including land managers and policy-makers), people that live in and visit the National Park, and people who can help achieve specific management goals (for example owners of listed buildings).

Young people are a particularly important audience. Evidence suggests that, irrespective of performance in conventional learning settings, young people derive major benefits from outdoor learning and practical work, in terms of learning outcomes, health and wellbeing, and personal and social responsibility. In general, there appears to be a progressive separation of children from the rest of nature, linked to excessive screen time (a beguiling alternative), an impoverished environment (which is less attractive for exploration) and safety concerns. This has contributed to childhood weight issues, an increase in asthma, and a decrease in cardiovascular fitness in children. Lack of contact with nature is also partly implicated in an increase in behavioural and emotional problems.

Conversely, exposure to the natural environment, especially through active recreation and outdoor learning, can reduce stress and aggressive behaviour, increase attention span and improve mood and self-esteem. The National Park Authority and partner organisations have been successful in working with primary schools, but a limitation on working with secondary schools is the availability of teachers during the day. This makes it more important to involve children through extra-curricular activities, giving scope to include young people who may fall outside the National Curriculum.

The Pembrokeshire Coast Path National Trail is 186 miles (300km) in length with an additional 30 km of managed alternative routes at tidal crossings and military firing ranges. The National Park Authority manages the Pembrokeshire Coast Path with funding from Natural Resources Wales. The Pembrokeshire Coast Path is now part of the 870-mile long Wales Coast Path. It runs through spectacular scenery and wildlife, is a constant feature of the Pembrokeshire coastline and one of the main ways that visitors can explore and enjoy the coastline of the National Park.

The Coast Path is therefore an intrinsic part of the Pembrokeshire's tourism offer and an attraction in its own right. It is complemented by 1,000+ km of inland rights of way, including 180km of bridleways, almost all across privately-owned land. Within the National Park these are managed by the National Park Authority under a delegation agreement with Pembrokeshire County Council. While the open network is about 87% of the total, it meets the majority of user demand. There are about 6,600 hectares of access land.

The coastal scenery and beach and inshore recreation are the basis of the tourism product of Pembrokeshire. There are more than 50 clearly identifiable beaches in the National Park; on most of them the foreshore is leased by the National Park Authority from The Crown Estate, with beaches east of Giltar Point leased by Pembrokeshire County Council. Many of the beachheads are in public ownership and most beach management functions are provided by Pembrokeshire County Council, working closely with Natural Resources Wales, The National Trust, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the National Park Authority and others.

"Please, make the national park more accessible for people with a disability."

"We need to improve access to many beaches, e.g. Newgale, as it's very difficult for anyone with mobility issues to get across high pebble defences."

The coastal strip, Daugleddau and Eastern and Western Cleddau rivers form a key recreational interface in the National Park and the National Park Authority and partner organisations work to promote and manage water-related activities, subject to the achievement of management policies for wildlife, landscape and heritage conservation. There are excellent opportunities for accessing open-water swimming, surfing, kayaking/canoeing, windsports and for otherwise enjoying the water, exploring the coast and discovering wildlife, with benefits to people's health, wellbeing and personal development, as well as providing income to the region.

Tides and topography limit navigation in inshore waters for some craft, and military ranges constrain access to sea danger areas off the south coast. Harbour access outside the Haven is heavily tide-dependent and this, added to the exposed nature of much of the coast, tidal rips, and sea danger areas, limits the potential for expansion of coastal cruising. There has however been a recent major increase in paddling, paddleboarding and rowing use which have the advantages of sustainability, affordability and, particularly in the case of rowing, a strong community element.

A large number of slipways exist around the coast and on the Milford Haven Waterway, in numerous ownerships. Most slipways are unsupervised and free. While this makes them popular it can also make it more difficult to fund their maintenance and to manage inappropriate activities if necessary. Many launch sites are in village or remote locations with narrow road access

unsuitable for larger vehicle / trailer combinations, while launching across small beaches can cause disruption and pose risks to other users.

Subject to tide and draught there is good upriver boat access on the Milford Haven Waterway to Haverfordwest and Canaston Bridge. While there are no rivers with navigation rights above the tidal limits in Pembrokeshire, opportunities for negotiated access may exist outside the National Park on the Eastern and Western Cleddau rivers. The only significant non-tidal rivers in the National Park are the Nevern and the Gwaun. Both are open for fishing use and offer riverside footpaths but on-water recreation potential (subject to agreement) is limited to in-spate canoe use.

“Define areas for different types of activity: coasteering and paddleboarding in one place, quiet birdwatching in another; some places just for the seals and auks.”

Tranquillity

“The peace and quiet - being able to escape.”

Tranquillity has been defined as “a state of calm and quietude associated with peace, considered to be a significant asset of a landscape” (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environment Management and Assessment, 2013, *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment*, 3rd edition).

Although a significant area of the National Park can be considered tranquil by most definitions, traffic noise and insensitive or illegal use of vehicles can erode peace and quiet. Military activity generates significant amounts of noise. Wind turbines, electrical and communication infrastructure may be sited in prominent/ remote areas and can detract from the semi-natural aspect or perceived wildness of an area.

Tranquillity is rarely about silence. It includes sounds which contribute to sense of place, such as farmland birdsong or the hum of insects. The erosion and loss of natural soundscapes, a consequence of biodiversity loss, is likely to be a far more challenging issue than that of addressing unwanted noise.

Night skies

“...light pollution seems to be an increasingly issue for our dark skies status, particularly large farms seem to have very bright LED lights now in their cowsheds.”

Based on dark sky mapping commissioned by Natural Resources Wales¹⁰, large areas of the National Park are relatively free of light pollution. There are however significant light sources (including sources outside the National Park) as well as light originating from individual agricultural or business sources in what are otherwise dark areas.

¹⁰ [A link to a map showing light pollution, commissioned by Natural Resources Wales](#)

There are eight Dark Sky Discovery Sites in the National Park. These are accessible sites, with associated parking, which afford good views of the night sky on cloudless, moonless nights. The eight sites include Orion sites (from which the seven main stars in the winter constellation Orion are visible to the naked eye) and Milky Way sites (darker sites, where the Milky Way is visible to the naked eye). The sites are:

- Broad Haven South National Trust car park
- Garn Fawr National Trust car park
- Kete National Trust car park
- Martin's Haven National Trust car park
- Newgale Beach and National Park car park
- Poppit Sands National Park car park
- Skrinkle Haven National Park car park
- Sychpant National Park picnic site

Climate

"I think that the wild areas and water courses need more land around them and land that connects them. As the climate changes and the general ecology continues to decline it is more important than ever to protect what we have and where we can, enhance it and ensure that it's thriving into the future."

Climate change, including abrupt change, has in the past led to species migrations and extinctions, and changes in sea-level¹¹, land cover and ocean circulation.

Human pressures on the environment reduce the options for nature to adapt to climate change. This makes the need to reduce non climate-related human pressures even greater. Maintaining and scaling up conservation action and implementing nature-based solutions is therefore a major and direct response to climate change and resilience, particularly where it enhances habitat area and connectivity.

Welsh Government declared a climate emergency in 2019 and a nature emergency in 2021. The Climate Change Committee's report, *Adaptation and the Nature Emergency*¹² (September 2023), outlines seven principles for addressing the joint nature and climate emergency.

The *net zero target* refers to government commitments to ensure that the UK reduces its greenhouse gas emissions by 100% from 1990 levels by 2050. The Committee on Climate Change advises that this results in a 50% chance of avoiding a 'catastrophic' 1.5°C global temperature rise by the year 2100.

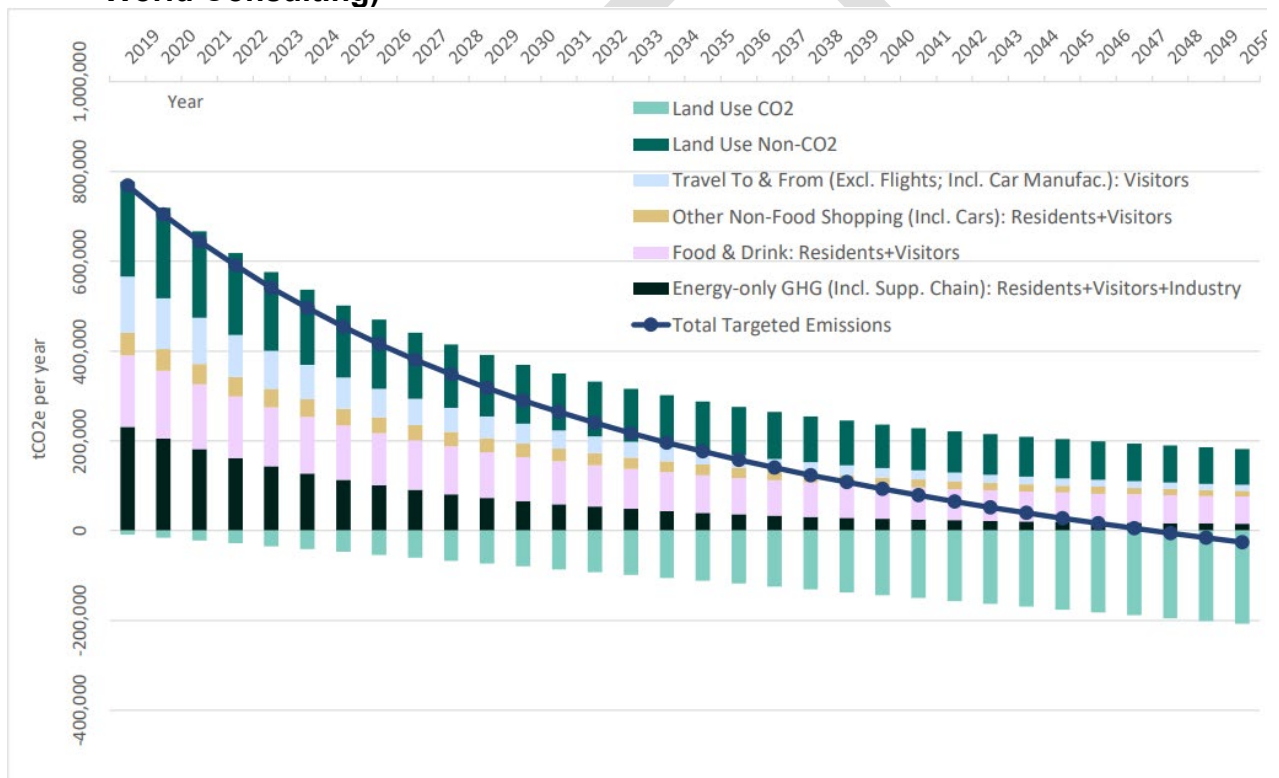
¹¹ Global sea-level, which appears to be rising and accelerating into the long term. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates put global mean sea-level rise at between 0.43m and 1.1m by 2100, (Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 2.6 and RCP 8.5 emissions scenarios).

¹² [A link to the document "Adaptation and the nature emergency" by the Climate Change Committee](#)

Welsh Government has a target for the Welsh public sector to be carbon neutral by 2030 and has identified renewable energy and decarbonisation as one of the priority areas for national park authorities in Wales. The National Park Authority has a target and carbon reduction profile for the National Park area to be net zero by 2048 (see below). The National Park is, with the other UK national parks, working towards joining the United Nations-backed *Race to Zero* initiative, to halve global greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.

There is also a need to plan for and adapt to climate related challenges - coastal erosion and flooding in particular - across the National Park, and to help people to respond to these challenges. This may mean for example preventing some development uses in at-risk locations, or supporting communities to understand how flood risk may affect them.

Pathway to net zero: Pembrokeshire Coast National Park area (Small World Consulting)



Climate and economic factors will continue to shape visitor season and demand. Wetter winters and increased storminess might make UK holidays less attractive out of the traditional season, but warmer summers might encourage more UK citizens to holiday at home, leading to increased seasonality and more intense recreational pressure. Consequences of climate change on people's recreational experience of the National Park could include:

- a changing landscape and wildlife.
- movement inland of some beaches and loss of others.
- more frequent and/or substantial realignments of coastal and other routes due to erosion.

- impacts on rights of way quality.
- impacts on bathing water quality.

“With rising sea levels and an increase in flooding the Pembrokeshire Coast and areas surrounding rivers may be flooded and underwater in the near future. There needs to be a plan in place if flood defences fail, to relocate buildings, wildlife and people etc so we are preparing for one of the worst case scenarios.”

Socio-economic well-being

“Need more focus on locals as well as tourism - support for businesses, and infrastructure remaining open/accessible out of season, with support for next generation to live and work locally.”

Gross Domestic Product for Pembrokeshire is estimated at £3.6 billion for 2021 (Office for National Statistics data). The top seven ranked employment classes in the National Park for people in work aged 16-74 are: human health and social work activities (13.8%); accommodation and food service activities (13.2%); wholesale and retail trade, vehicle repair (12.4%); construction (9.8%); agriculture, energy and water (8.6%); education (8.1%), and public administration and defence, compulsory social security (6.4%) (Census 2021).

There are specific challenges regarding the provision of jobs and housing, in particular for young people. House prices and rents in the National Park are significantly higher than the rest of Pembrokeshire; the median sale price for houses in the National Park in 2023 was 9.67 times the median wage¹³. As at March 2024, there were 5,238 households on the Pembrokeshire Housing Waiting List, excluding transfers.

At the 2011 Census the National Park had one of the highest rates of second / holiday home use of its general housing stock in England and Wales, at 27.7%. This impacts negatively on housing affordability and support for local facilities.

“...we should be focusing more on repairing existing rundown buildings.”

“Closing and reducing services. From reducing certain library times to closing physical banks.”

While there appears to be no shortage of employment opportunities in Pembrokeshire, the jobs available are often low paid (over 25% of full-time workers earned less than £18,000 per year in 2017) and seasonal (winter benefit claimant rates are almost double those for summer).

¹³ Based on postcodes that have at least a third of their area within the National Park.

The resident population of the National Park at the 2021 census was 20,933, a population decline of 7.6% on the 2011 Census (22,644) and the largest population decline of all the National Parks in England and Wales between the two censuses. The 2021 Census indicates that over a third (33.2%) of usual residents are 65 and over. Additional pressures placed by this on access to services include:

- Increased demand for health care services and longer wait times.
- Adaptation of public transport to accommodate older passengers and the potential for isolation as a result of lack of transport provision.
- Fewer people of working age to help provide for these needs.

The National Park is well-populated with only a few significant unpopulated areas. The population is however dispersed, which adds to the challenges of access to services and travel-based carbon reductions. Closure of local services and the distance of travel to some services mean that access to essential services can be difficult in some parts of the National Park. This is aggravated by the relatively high number of households (16.4% at the 2017 Census) that do not own a car.

All of the above present significant challenges for National Park communities. These cannot be solved by the National Park Authority alone; the solutions must come from communities, businesses and statutory organisations working together to find solutions.

“Promote political action on CAUSES not just SYMPTOMS.”

“Challenge the idea of everlasting economic expansion.”

The challenges facing local communities in terms of housing are very clear and the National Park Authority has acknowledged the key importance of delivering affordable housing within Local Development Plan 2 and of ensuring jobs and homes for local communities, within the wider context of landscape protection. The National Park Authority will ensure through its planning service and review of the Local Development Plan that appropriate housing and economic policies to support sustainable development are delivered.

Partners such as Registered Social Landlords and building companies are essential to deliver high quality development within this sensitive environment. Ensuring that local jobs and housing are available can support the retention of Welsh speakers within language-sensitive communities. Application of local lettings policies, for affordable housing exception sites, can also assist with reducing the potential for language impacts.

The tourism economy is a critical economic driver for Pembrokeshire and the beauty of the National Park is a key reason for many to visit the area. Operators can support accessibility and inclusion by working to consider the needs of visitors who may have additional needs. Broadening access to the

National Park can take many forms, from providing access for people with disabilities to providing sensory-friendly activities and events.

Transport

“Improving accessibility using public transport, cycling and walking.”

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park is a predominately rural area with a dispersed and ageing population. There are a number of issues regarding the transport system for people who live in, work in or visit the National Park.

Transport for residents and visitors to the National Park is dominated by the private car which places a strain on the designated landscape and local communities.

There are limited public transport options for residents and visitors. Mainline train services serve Pembrokeshire through three rail lines to Fishguard, Milford Haven and Pembroke Dock. Services are infrequent and slow and rail journeys have declined since Covid-19. Bus services in Pembrokeshire are reliant on public subsidy which is under significant pressure.

The Active Travel Network Maps for Pembrokeshire show existing and planned walking and cycling routes. These are concentrated around the main settlements and there is a need to develop more active travel opportunities within towns and villages. Pembrokeshire has a network of cycle routes, however, the majority of cycle routes are on road.

It is vital that the transport system in the next 15-20 years meets the needs of rural, as well as urban areas. To do this, the following components are needed:

- Support and development of active travel options throughout towns and villages. In rural areas where distances are typically greater, there is scope for safe use of electric bikes to play a greater part in active travel choices.
- Better provision of cycle parking within towns and villages and at primary visitor destinations.
- Support for public transport services to enable a shift away from reliance on the private car and make public transport a viable and attractive option for residents and visitors. Public transport options need to be affordable and accessible to all, including older and disabled people. Bus infrastructure needs improvement: better quality waiting areas and shelters, information provision and real time information displays, information on bus fares and improve integration between services.
- More frequent, faster, more dependable mainline train services to Pembrokeshire. Integration between public transport modes is required to make public transport an attractive choice and provision needs to be made for visitors who wish to visit Pembrokeshire car-free.

“Please, make the national park more accessible for people with a disability.”

The historic environment

Scheduled Monuments

The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, as amended by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, provides the legal framework for the designation, protection and management of scheduled monuments in Wales. Welsh Ministers, acting through the Welsh Government’s Historic Environment Service (Cadw), compile and maintain a schedule of monuments of national importance, which is used to manage operations on and around the sites.

Scheduled Monuments represent an important cross-section of the known archaeological resource. The Historic Environment Record for the National Park area contains more than 280 Scheduled Monuments. Over time, more categories of monuments will be considered, and more sites will be scheduled.

Some data on the condition of Scheduled Monuments in the National Park is available and has been provided by Cadw (September 2021). The data is not comprehensive and trend data is not currently available.

Scheduled Monument condition	Number	Percentage of features
Favourable	196	73%
Unfavourable	68	25%
Not assessed	5	2%

The number of Scheduled Monuments in unfavourable condition is due in part to coastal erosion, which makes degradation and eventual loss of some monuments inevitable, and which may make interim management unsafe. Coastal erosion also leads to more frequent discovery of at-risk sites and monuments, which further inflates the figure.

Non-scheduled historic assets

While Scheduled Monuments are protected by law, there are approximately 10,000 Historic Environment Record assets in the National Park and the vast majority of these are not protected. Risks stem from a range of activities, including agriculture, recreation, plant growth, animal activity and development. Coastal sites, whether or not they enjoy legal protection, may be vulnerable to erosion.

An additional source for historic environment information regarding known sites in the National Park is the National Monuments Record of Wales, part of the Royal Commission. This includes a database of records (some of which will not be held by the Historic Environment Record) together with a wider linked archive. The Royal Commission also manages and regularly updates

the Maritime Database for Wales which includes numerous offshore assets around the Pembrokeshire coast.

Historic landscape character

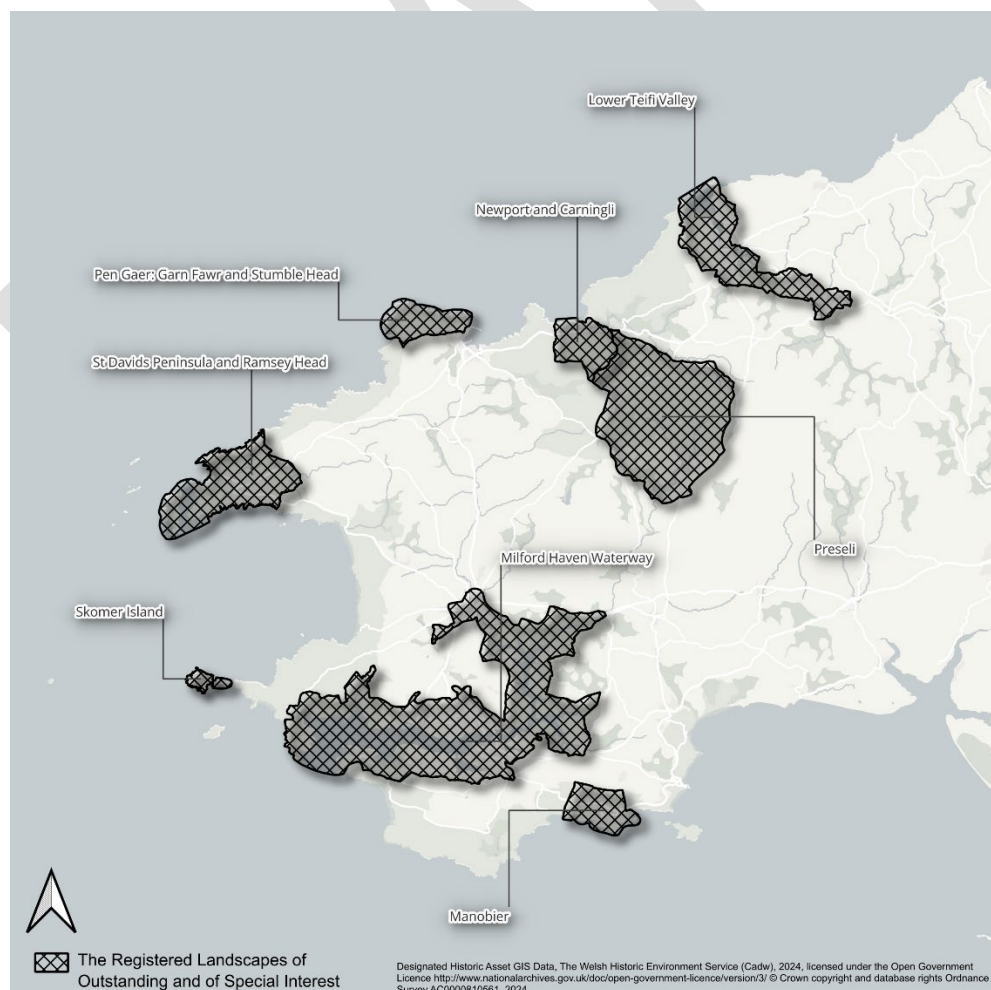
“Pencaer peninsula - historic landscape and sea views.”

Significant historic landscapes, the elements that give them their historic character, and the landscape’s risk status, are identified in two Registers.

The Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales is maintained by Cadw, the International Council on Monuments and Sites and Natural Resources Wales. It lists four areas in the National Park: Preseli; St David’s Peninsula and Ramsey Island; Skomer Island, and the Milford Haven Waterway.

The Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales lists five further National Park historic landscapes: Newport and Carningli; Pen Caer; Stackpole Warren; part of the Lower Teifi Valley, and Manorbier.

Map: Registered Historic Landscapes in the National Park



Registration does not afford any statutory protection, although it is taken into account in planning decisions and guidance on how better to protect historic landscape through existing statutory instruments. For example, the pattern and nature of field boundaries and vernacular buildings are key features of the National Park, and these have been taken into account in the National Park Authority's Landscape Character Assessment and in its Sustainable Design guide.

The Welsh landscape information system LANDMAP also includes a layer of historic landscape data, used in decision-making.

Listed buildings

Legal recognition of, and protection for, important historic buildings is provided by the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

Listed Buildings are buildings of special architectural and historic interest, group value, technical importance or association with important people / events. The number of Listed Buildings therefore reflects the significance and diversity of the historic built environment. Listed Buildings represent the best examples of the National Park's historic built resource and range from medieval churches and castles to milestones and telephone kiosks.

Cadw is responsible for designating Listed Buildings. Buildings can also be individually spot-listed. Listing covers not only the building itself, and its interior, but also its curtilage and buildings which pre-date 1948 within the curtilage. Listed Buildings are graded as I, II* and II according to their importance. There are over 1,200 Listed Buildings in the National Park: 33 of Grade I and 76 of Grade II*.

Most of the legally-protected historic buildings in the National Park are in good condition, although a number require repair and would benefit from re-use. 5.5% are identified as being at risk.

Conservation Areas

Areas of special architectural or historic interest are designated as Conservation Areas by the National Park Authority. There are 14 within the National Park: Angle, Caerfarchell, Caldey Island, Little Haven, Manorbier, Portclew, Porthgain, Saundersfoot, Solva, St Davids, Tenby (extended in 2019), Trevine, Newport and Newport Parrog. A Conservation Area in Nevern is under consideration, and other areas may be considered within the life of this Partnership Plan.

After designating Conservation Areas, the National Park Authority has a statutory duty to produce Conservation Area Statements, and Proposals Documents. These have been drawn up in partnership with the Conservation Area Working Groups (elected through the relevant City / Town / Community Councils), with full public consultation. The Character Statements assess the

importance of the Conservation Areas, together with their physical condition and risk factors.

The National Park Authority produced and adopted a *Conservation Area Proposals* Supplementary Planning Guidance in October 2022. Article 4 directions are applied to Little Haven, Newport, Solva, St Davids and Tenby conservation areas; these directions restrict permitted development and will help to further protect these areas.

Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest

Cadw, the International Council on Monuments and Sites and the former Countryside Council for Wales have compiled a Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales. The Register identifies the importance of the listed parks and gardens, but currently does not give them statutory protection.

There are 15 historic Parks and Gardens in the National Park: Boulston Old Hall; Colby Lodge; Cosheston Hall; Cresselly; Lawrenny; St Brynach's Churchyard; St Brides Castle; Upton Castle; Warpool Court Hotel; Caldey Priory; Trewarren; Picton Castle; Slebech Park; Coedcanlas; and Stackpole Court.

These are graded on a criteria basis and consist of 1 Grade I, 2 Grade II* and 12 Grade II sites. There is currently no condition or risk survey for Historic Parks and Gardens.

Local distinctiveness

Local building character contributes to the distinctiveness of the built heritage in the National Park. There is currently no agreed way of measuring the rate of change in local building character, but the likelihood is that it is in some cases being eroded by neglect and misrepair.

The Welsh language

"...protect Welsh language and culture heartlands within the national park, policies to do with housing and holiday accommodation, more jobs for local people, more support and money for landowners to support positive landscape interventions and environmental benefits."

"Although "priceless" there must be a way to place a value on these qualities, including the work local farming families do to preserve the environment, Welsh language and culture. Promote the learning and use of Welsh language as the wonderful asset it is. E.g. by using Welsh place names. Help meet the Welsh language speakers target."

The table below shows the proportion of Welsh speakers in the National Park and the county of Pembrokeshire at the 2001, 2011 and 2021 censuses.

Area	Welsh speakers 2001 Census (%)	Welsh speakers 2011 Census (%)	Welsh Speakers 2021 Census (%)
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park	23.3	21.5	19.4%
Pembrokeshire	21.5	18.4	20.7

Source: Office for National Statistics

The prevalence of Welsh speakers varies significantly across the county. The Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environment Assessment baseline provides greater detail (by community council area) of the proportion of persons who could speak Welsh at the 2021 census.

“Hoffwn obeithio y byddai un o amcanion y Parc Cenedlaethol, ynghyd â gwarchod a hyrwyddo rhinweddau tirwedd eithriadol yr ardal hefyd yn ymestyn i warchod a hyrwyddo’r iaith Gymraeg, treftadaeth a diwylliant ein hardal.”

The South Pembrokeshire dialect

The South Pembrokeshire dialect is highly flavoured by the Anglo-Norman settlement of the area when the Welsh language was increasingly replaced with the English spoken by settlers from the West Country. Many Flemish traders were encouraged to settle here in the early twelfth century, with Flemish still being spoken some four centuries later. Today, the intermediate zone between the ‘Englishry’ and ‘Welshry’ (later labelled the ‘Landsker’) is still distinctive, with Welsh spoken for example in Clynderwen but English predominating in Narberth, just three miles to the south.

“...understand how fragile Welsh community is and to properly engage with stakeholders and campaigners to explore means of housing local people over the unbridled housing market.”

Many words commonly used in the area stem from the settlers from the west of England - words such as culm (small coal), drang (alleyway), lake (confusingly, river) and evil (hay-fork). A few words have Flemish origins such as ‘slop’ (gap in a hedge) and hadridge (wild charlock).

Many placenames exist from this period, for example the suffix ‘ton’ is typical of English settlement. The survival also of many Welsh placenames across the area, such as Pwllcrochan and Rhoscrowther, suggests that pockets of the Welsh language also continued to thrive. Some older placenames did inevitably change - Merthyr Tywai becoming Martletwy for example.

There are many wonderful dialect words still in use today. ‘Why aye’ and ‘Why no’ are still common, ‘in a caffle’ or ‘all to clush’ (muddled), ‘kift (awkward), ‘pile’ (to throw), grip’ (ditch) and ‘stumming’ (hot) or stivling (cold). Some lovely words and phrases describe personal characteristics such as ‘tamping’ (angry)

'plenty of kidney' (boastful) a 'hernie' (sly person), 'talking rammass' (telling tall tales) and 'slammocky' (untidy person).

Local people still use their own pronunciation for placenames. These include 'Langum' (Llangwm), 'The Ross' (The Rhos), 'La-hadden' (Llawhaden), 'Landewy' (Llanddewi Velfey) and Sandersfoot (Saundersfoot). Some placenames are clipped such as 'Harfat' (Haverfordwest), 'Tish' (St Ishmaels) and 'Satson' (Sageston).

Finally, there is the almost forgotten Tenby 'backslang' invented to confound the Brixham trawlermen in the nineteenth century. The rule is to move the first letter of a word to its end and then add an 'a'. Thus, Tenby becomes 'Enbyta'.

Water quality

*"Agricultural river pollution, overdevelopment within park boundaries
There is a huge issue with the amount of slurry that is spread
indiscriminately in fields within (and outside) the park...this calls for much
more regulation."*

Under the Water Framework Directive 2000 classification system, water bodies in the National Park are generally in "moderate" condition, according to the most recent assessments, which were carried out in 2021. (A water body that is of "moderate" status is one that has "good" or "high" ecological status but is failing to achieve a "good" chemical status.)

Summary status of water bodies in the National Park

Status	Length (m)	Percent
Good	29,183	28.70%
Moderate	60,726	59.73%
Poor	11,761	11.57%

Data source: Natural Resources Wales

Overall status of water bodies in the National Park

Category	Number	High	Good	Moderate	Poor	Bad	Not yet assessed
River	85	0	13	69	3	0	0
Lake	4 ¹⁴	0	1	2	1	0	0
Transitional	5	0	2	3	0	0	0
Coastal	5	0	2	3	0	0	0
Ground Water	5	0	2	0	3	0	0

Data source: Natural Resources Wales (2021)

¹⁴ Bosherton Lakes are divided into three distinct sections.

Revisions to Joint Nature Conservation Committee monitoring guidance have led Natural Resources Wales to review its conservation objectives for riverine Special Areas of Conservation in Wales, notably with respect to phosphorus, where targets have been substantially tightened. In Pembrokeshire, the Afon Teifi and Cleddau Rivers systems are designated as riverine Special Areas of Conservation and are failing against the targets.

The Cleddau Rivers Special Area of Conservation is covered by 19 water bodies over two adjacent systems discharging into the Milford Haven. Much of the catchment consists of intensive dairy farming. The Eastern Cleddau is regulated by two reservoirs while the Western Cleddau has more or less natural flows. There are extensive phosphorus failures on the Cleddau Rivers Special Area of Conservation, including failures in every water body of the Western Cleddau.

Failures in the Western Cleddau constitute some of the highest sustained phosphorus concentrations in riverine Special Areas of Conservation in Wales. Unlike most other Welsh rivers, the Western Cleddau lacks an upland headwater area to provide a supply of low nutrient water that can dilute downstream nutrient inputs. This, in combination with increasingly intensive agriculture in the catchment, makes it vulnerable to nutrient enrichment.

Phosphorus pollution requires catchment level action to improve river ecosystem quality and function, and to reduce nutrient inputs. Many ecosystem-level actions can increase the resilience of river ecosystems to nutrient pollution, improve their ability to process phosphorus inputs, and have other wider benefits such as increasing the carrying capacity for juvenile salmon.

Bathing Water Quality

“These days you have to choose your swimming spots very carefully.”

Natural Resources Wales assesses bathing water quality at 29 locations around the National Park coast between May and September each year. The results are then used to project an annual rating / classification, based primarily on the concentrations of faecal coliforms present in the water. In 2022 all of the bathing water locations assessed in the National Park were classified as “Good” or “Excellent” (2 or 3 stars).

“Allow members of the public to get involved in water testing at all our beaches. Help with communication when there are pollution incidents. Help us to lobby farmers and Dŵr Cymru to protect the beaches.”

Water resources

Water availability for licensing is set out in Natural Resources Wales’ Abstraction Licensing Strategies. These provide an overview of where and how much water is available for new abstraction licences, taking into account existing abstractions and environmental requirements.

River flows change naturally throughout the year, and the objective is to protect flow variability. Resource availability is calculated at four different flows, Q95 (lowest flows), Q70, Q50 and Q30 (highest flows). This information gives a realistic picture of the current resource availability within a given water body (sub-catchment surface water unit or groundwater unit).

European law provides a very high level of protection to Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas. Ramsar sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest also carry a high level of environmental importance. All new licence applications near or within these sites are subject to assessment under the Habitats Directive for potential impacts on site features, alone and in combination with other licences. The Habitats Directive Review of Consents led to some licences being changed and the Eastern and Western Cleddau now have a status of 'No Water Available' (rather than 'Over Licensed').

Natural Resources Wales' *Cleddau and Pembrokeshire Coastal Rivers Abstraction Licensing Strategy* (May 2014) sets out resource availability for specified assessment points. The published resource availability has not been updated since 2014, but Natural Resources Wales updates the source data in order to advise on applications for new abstraction licences and changes to existing ones.

Water availability for the assessment points of the Cleddau catchments

Ref	Name	Water Resource availability at Q95
1	Western Cleddau at tidal limit	Water not available for licensing
2	Western Cleddau at Prendergast Mill gauging station	Restricted water available for licensing
3	Western Cleddau at Treffgarne	Restricted water available for licensing
4	Western Cleddau at Castlemorris	Restricted water available for licensing
5	Cartlett Brook	Water available for licensing
6	Anghof at Wolfscastle	Restricted water available for licensing
7	Eastern Cleddau at tidal limit	Water not available for licensing
8	Eastern Cleddau at Canaston Bridge gauging station	Water not available for licensing
9	Eastern Cleddau upstream of Syfynwy	Water not available for licensing
10	Syfynwy upstream of Eastern Cleddau confluence	Water not available for licensing

Water availability for the assessment points of the Pembrokeshire Coastal Rivers catchments

Assessment Point	Name	Water Resource availability at Q95
1	Nevern at tidal limit	Water available for licensing

Assessment Point	Name	Water Resource availability at Q95
2	Gwaun at tidal limit	Water available for licensing
3	Gwaun at Cilrhedyn Bridge gauging station	Water available for licensing
4	Alun at St. Davids gauging station	Water available for licensing
5	Solfach at Middle Mill gauging station	Water available for licensing
6	Gann Flats Stream	Water available for licensing
7	Westfield Pill	Water available for licensing
8	Castlemartin Corse	Water available for licensing
9	Ritec	Water available for licensing
10	Cresswell River	Water available for licensing

The Water Resources (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2017 removed most groundwater exemptions from licensing control. Relevant abstractions in Pembrokeshire are covered by the transitional licensing arrangements.

Air quality

Air quality objectives applicable to local air quality management in Wales are set out in the Air Quality (Wales) Regulations 2000 (as amended). Local authorities are statutorily required to produce air quality assessments on a three-yearly basis, with annual progress reports. The National Park area is included within Pembrokeshire County Council's Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessments. Air quality objectives apply to benzene, 1,3 butadiene, carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, particulates and sulphur dioxide.

Pembrokeshire County Council carries out monitoring at a range of locations within Pembrokeshire. In the case of an exceedance, an Air Quality Management Area is defined and a strategy to reduce the pollutant is put in place. There are no Air Quality Management Areas in the National Park.

While it is not generally possible to comment on ambient air quality away from point (industrial) sources or at roadside sources, there is a general upward trend of nitrogen dioxide concentrations associated with vehicle emissions across Pembrokeshire as a whole.

Ammonia from agricultural sources is also an issue, and air quality baseline loads are currently in exceedance at some of the most sensitive nature conservation sites. This will have a negative impact on receptors susceptible to reactive nitrogen, such as lichens.

Earth heritage

Geological Conservation Review sites

Geological Conservation Review sites are sites of national or international importance, designated under the legislation for Sites of Special Scientific Interest for the feature or features of geological significance within them.

There are 51 Geological Conservation Review sites in the National Park, covering an estimated 40% of the Park's coastline (excluding the Milford Haven Waterway, which includes one site) and a number of inland areas. Many of these Geological Conservation Review sites are of international significance. A map earlier in this Plan illustrates the distribution and size.

The table below summarises the last known condition and trend of Geological Conservation Review site features. Condition assessment for geological sites includes consideration of their accessibility, visibility and usability for research and education.

Geological Conservation Review site features: condition and trend	Number of features	Percentage of features
Favourable improved or no change	44	72%
Favourable declining	9	15%
Unfavourable	4	6.5%
Unknown	4	6.5%

Although the table above suggests good management, most of the work in maintaining geological exposure is done by natural processes (e.g. marine erosion). Some erosion is generally necessary to maintain coastal rock exposures, and is a process of interest in itself. However geological features should be recorded before they are lost and natural processes documented as they happen. This record would also help inform civil engineering schemes, such as coastal protection projects.

Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites

Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites are an advisory (i.e. non statutory) designation intended to complement Geological Conservation Review sites.

Sixty-six candidate Regionally Important Geological Sites have been identified in the National Park. Most of these are in coastal locations and are in favourable condition.

Soils

The state of soils in the National Park is not well known, but the National Park Authority believes soils to be generally under pressure from land management practices and at risk from the effects of climate change.

Soils take a long time to form and, on human timescales, may be considered as a non-renewable resource. In some cases management change is likely to be urgently required to prevent soil degradation and loss, and / or loss of soil biota. Soil conservation will protect future agricultural revenue, soil biodiversity, and functional roles such as those which soils play in the carbon cycle.

Peaty soils are of particular significance as carbon stores, although they are not extensive in the National Park, occupying about 385 hectares or about 0.6% of the National Park area.

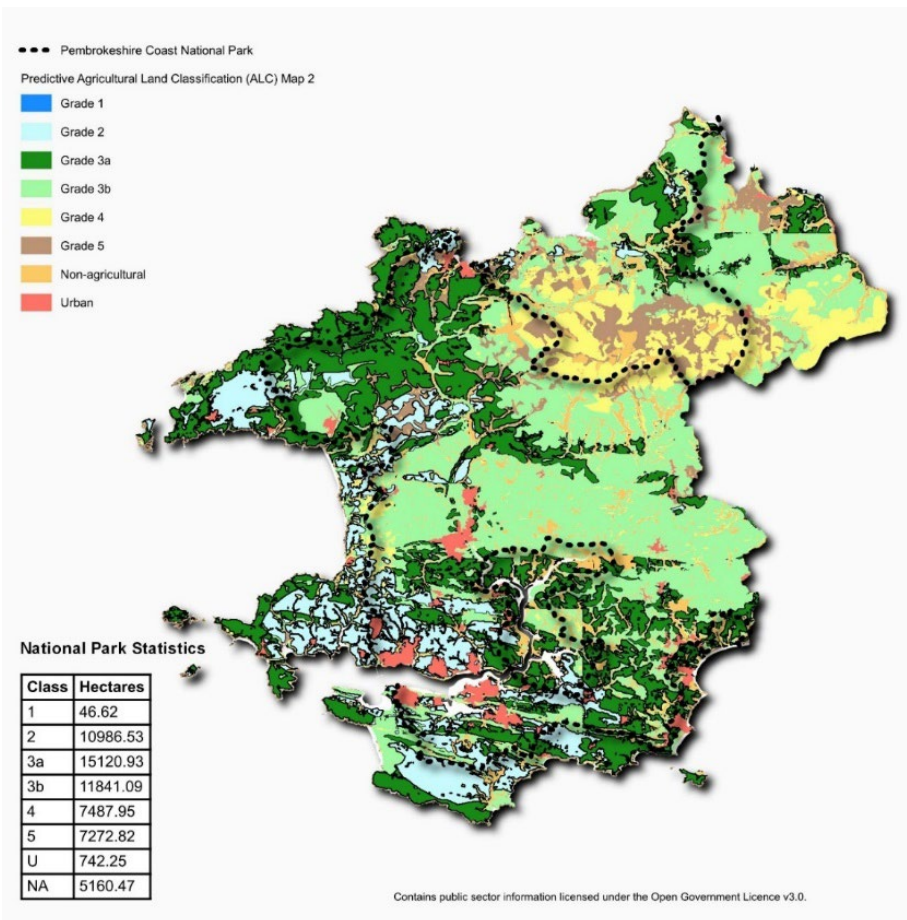
Although carbon storage (combined above and below ground) for woodlands is high, conservation grassland is a stable carbon store and meadow restoration is a more appropriate fit over larger areas of the National Park landscape than new tree-planting. A rough estimate of the carbon benefit of restoring improved grassland (at an existing value of 60 tonnes carbon per hectare) to a mixture of for example species-rich grassland, coastal grassland, scrub and boundary features is an additional 6 tonnes carbon per hectare, i.e. there is a 10% uplift to the new equilibrium.

Welsh Government Predictive Agricultural Land Classification provides indicative data as to where in Wales the Best and Most Versatile Agricultural land (defined as agricultural land classes 1, 2 and 3a) can be found.

The Best and Most Versatile Agricultural land makes up approximately 45% (44.59%) of the land in the National Park, with over a quarter (25.78%) of the land being classified as 3a; 18.73% as 2 and 0.08% as 1. The proportion of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural land in the National Park is significantly higher than it is for Wales as a whole for classes 2 and 3a.

Land Class	Area in National Park (%)	Area in Wales (%)
1	0.08	0.25
2	18.73	6.38
3a	25.78	9.58





This section has summarised the State of the Park.

The following sections identify the key outcomes sought during the lifetime of this Plan and some of the ways in which the National Park Authority and partners can work together to address the issues.

An annex identifies some of the measures which may be used to assess progress.

4 Conservation: policy and action

Conserving and enhancing natural beauty and wildlife.

Key outcomes for 2030:

- conserve and enhance landscape and seascape quality.
- preserve distant, uninterrupted views and open horizons.
- promote ecosystem recovery at scale and improve the state of wildlife on land and in the marine environment (as a milestone to clear recovery by 2050).
- achieve favourable conservation status on high nature value sites.
- maintain and enhance species for which Pembrokeshire is uniquely important.
- increase the connectivity of the landscape for wildlife.
- reduce the impact of light pollution on wildlife.
- conserve earth heritage.
- conserve and improve soil health and enhance natural carbon stores.
- address the impacts of invasive species and plant pathogens.
- reduce pollution from phosphates, nitrates and ammonia.
- reduce plastics and microplastics in the environment.

Policy L1: Conserve and enhance National Park landscapes and seascapes.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
L1/A	Protect the important visual horizons of the National Park from development, including energy generation and major development.	Business Developers Freeport partners Neighbouring local authorities Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Welsh Government
L1/B	Ensure development does not have unacceptable adverse landscape and seascape impacts and delivers high quality design.	Agents Business Developers Land managers, including farmers Neighbouring authorities Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Welsh Government
L1/C	Manage the impacts of permitted development rights for camping and caravan sites.	Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water Exempted organisations Existing operators Land managers Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council (Planning, Highways, Public Protection services) Visit Pembrokeshire Welsh Government
L1/D	Reduce the visual impact of existing infrastructure, e.g.	Business Industry

	telecommunications and power distribution networks, for example by undergrounding for cables or sharing towers.	Land managers Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority The Crown Estate Western Power Distribution / National Grid
L1/E	Manage litter, including seaborne litter, and raise awareness of its impacts.	Communities Keep Wales Tidy Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council Visitors

Policy E1: Conserve and enhance biodiversity quality, extent and connectivity at scale.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
E1/A	Deliver practical conservation land management projects to deliver biodiversity benefits.	Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust Buglife Farming Connect Plantlife Bumblebee Conservation Trust Farmers' Union of Wales Land managers National Farmers' Union of England and Wales National Trust Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Trust Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Grazing Network Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership Pembrokeshire Sustainable Agriculture Network Public Services Board Tirweddau Cymru / Landscapes Wales Welsh Government Wildlife Trust South and West Wales Woodland Trust
E1/B	Support farmers, especially the dairying sector, to reduce impacts on soil and water through regenerative practices.	Farming Connect Farmers' Union of Wales Land managers National Farmers' Union of England and Wales National Trust Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Grazing Network Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership Pembrokeshire Sustainable Agriculture Network Welsh Government
E1/C	Implement specific projects to conserve species for which Pembrokeshire is uniquely important (e.g. Southern damselfly, a feature of the Preseli Special Area of Conservation) and local places for nature.	Community groups Land managers Natur am Byth! Project partners Natural Resources Wales Plantlife Volunteers
E1/D	Manage invasive non-native and /or harmful species and pathogens.	Anglers Boatowners Communities

		Land managers National Trust Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire County Council Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Volunteers
E1/E	Manage and mitigate wildfire risks through appropriate public engagement, best practice awareness and practical support.	Commons graziers Communities Land managers Pembrokeshire Wildfire Group Visitors Wales Wildfire Charter
E1/F	Ensure planning applications deliver net benefit for biodiversity.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Planning agents and applicants
E1/G	Directly manage sites of actual or potential nature value, through purchase or lease, where this is a cost-effective conservation management option.	National Trust Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Wildlife Trust South and West Wales Woodland Trust
E1/H	Reduce wildlife crime and take appropriate action if it occurs.	Communities Dyfed-Powys Police Land managers Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Natural Resources Wales Volunteers
E1/I	Prevent and remediate damage to conservation features of designated sites.	Land managers Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
E1/J	Support locally-produced, environmentally sound and socially responsible food.	Land managers Communities Hospitality businesses Visitors
E1/K	Resist proposals which have a likely significant adverse effect (either alone or in combination with other plans and projects) on the UK National Site Network, unless it can be established through appropriate assessment that they will have no significant adverse effect on the integrity of the site(s) concerned.	Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Policy E2: Conserve and enhance marine biodiversity.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
E2/A	Deliver the management schemes for the marine UK National Site Network.	Communities Fishers Sky Ocean Rescue partners Swansea University Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Pembrokeshire College Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation: Relevant Authorities Groups World Wide Fund for Nature

E2/B	Manage bait-digging and species collection in the intertidal zone.	Anglers Businesses Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Port of Milford Haven
E2/C	Improve the environmental state of the Milford Haven Waterway e.g. with regard to water quality standards.	Businesses Land managers Milford Haven Waterway Environmental Surveillance Group Natural Resources Wales Nutrient Management Board Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation Relevant Authority Group Port of Milford Haven Volunteers
E2/D	Restore seagrass and saltmarsh habitats.	Communities Fishers Sky Ocean Rescue partners Swansea University Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation: Relevant Authorities Group World Wide Fund for Nature
E2/E	Deliver the management objectives of the Skomer Marine Conservation Zone.	Boatowners Natural Resources Wales Skomer Marine Conservation Zone Advisory Group
E2/F	Reduce lighting impacts on vulnerable species.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership Port of Milford Haven Wildlife Trust South and West Wales
E2/G	Manage recreational disturbance to wildlife e.g. through codes of conduct, restrictions, awareness-raising and legal enforcement.	Ministry of Defence National Trust Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter Group Visitors Volunteers
E2/H	Maintain and implement marine contingency planning and response procedures.	West Wales Standing Environment Group
E2/I	Reduce plastics and microplastics in the environment at source.	Communities Businesses Keep Wales Tidy Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Visitors Welsh Government
E2/J	Manage Wales' Marine Protected Area Network and wider coastal and marine environment sustainably.	Marine Protected Area Management Steering Group Wales Coastal and Seas Partnership

Policy L2: Protect and enhance dark night skies.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
L2/A	Reduce the light impacts of community, business and industrial premises.	Businesses Householders Industry Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council <i>Prosiect Nos</i> partners The National Trust
L2/B	Adopt supplementary planning guidance on lighting for Pembrokeshire.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council
L2/C	Monitor planning approvals involving lighting schemes.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council

Policy L3: Protect and enhance earth heritage.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
L3/A	Conserve and enhance Geological Conservation Review sites and Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites.	Land managers Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Policy L4: Protect and enhance natural soundscapes.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
L4/A	Contribute to the delivery of the Noise and Soundscape Plan for Wales 2023-2028.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council Ministry of Defence
L4/B	Share noise monitoring data between relevant authorities.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council

5 Connection: policy and action

Conserving and enhancing cultural heritage, including the Welsh language.

Promoting enjoyment and understanding of the National Park.

Key outcomes for 2030:

- conserve and enhance landscapes of particular historic interest, Conservation Areas, scheduled monuments, listed buildings and their settings.
- enable appropriate public access to heritage assets.
- promote the Welsh language and local dialects, and celebrate culture and creativity related to the landscape.
- provide outdoor learning opportunities, in particular for children.
- provide sustainable outdoor recreational opportunities for a full cross-section of society, and increase the frequency of people's participation.
- manage potential / actual recreational pressures such as those arising from unauthorised camping and congestion.
- improve water quality at designated bathing beaches.

Policy H1: Conserve and enhance landscapes of historic interest, Conservation Areas, monuments, buildings of interest, and their settings.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
H1/A	Enhance public awareness and enjoyment of historic landscapes, buildings and monuments.	Community groups Heneb: The Trust for Welsh Archaeology Heritage Guardians Land managers National Trust Schools Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Volunteers
H1/B	Conserve and enhance Listed Buildings e.g. using the planning pre-application service.	Business Communities Historic asset owners / managers Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
H1/C	Manage development in Conservation Areas in accordance with Conservation Management Plans, Article 4 requirements; designate new Areas as appropriate.	Business Communities Historic asset owners / managers Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
H1/D	Engage and support communities and volunteers in heritage monitoring and conservation.	Cadw (the Welsh Government's Historic Environment Service) Community groups Dyfed-Powys Police Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Heneb Heritage Guardians Land managers Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

		Volunteers
H1/E	Stabilise and enhance monuments in unfavourable condition; record sites at risk of coastal erosion.	Cadw Community groups Heneb Land managers Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments Wales Universities Volunteers
H1/F	Conserve and enhance field boundaries, with a particular emphasis on boundaries in registered historic landscapes and / or of relevance to connectivity for biodiversity.	Land managers Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership Welsh Government
H1/G	Implement Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's <i>Local Development Plan 2</i> heritage policies and associated guidance (including review of Tree Preservation Orders).	Cadw Heneb Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
H1/H	Support research and policy affecting the National Park's historic environment.	Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Welsh Government e.g. Historic Environment Working Groups.
H1/I	Reduce heritage crime and take appropriate action if it occurs.	Dyfed-Powys Police Heritage Watch partners
H1/J	Celebrate and conserve local distinctiveness in the built environment.	Building owners Community groups Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park National Trust Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council Volunteers
H1/K	Celebrate and conserve place names, e.g. field names.	Cadw Heneb Landowners / managers (e.g. Ministry of Defence, National Trust) National Library of Wales Office of the Welsh Language Commissioner University of Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments Wales Welsh Place-Name Society

Policy H2: Promote the Welsh language and local dialects, and celebrate culture and creativity related to the landscape.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
H2/A	Contribute to the target ¹⁵ for the number of people able to enjoy	Relevant public bodies Office for National Statistics

¹⁵ Link to Welsh Government's document "Cymraeg 2050: Our plan for 2021 to 2026"

	speaking and using Welsh to reach a million by 2050.	
H2/B	Share and celebrate landscape, cultural heritage, natural history and the arts.	Amgueddfa Cymru Cadw Community groups Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Heneb Land managers Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority PLANED Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments Wales Schools Volunteers
H2/C	Implement Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's <i>Local Development Plan 2</i> heritage policies, e.g. Policy 13 Development in Welsh Language-Sensitive Areas.	Cadw Communities Heneb Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
H2/D	Provide guidance on the sympathetic enjoyment of monuments considered sacred and their settings.	Cadw Heneb Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority User groups Welsh Government e.g. Historic Environment Working Groups

Policy W1: Provide and promote sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities for all.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
W1/A	Remove barriers to outdoor recreation and wellbeing opportunities and promote opportunities to more diverse audiences, e.g. people with visible or hidden disabilities, children and young families from deprived areas.	Beach Wheelchair Scheme hosts Community and support groups (e.g. MIND, St David's Care in the Community, Point Youth Centre) Destination Management Plan partners Experiences for All partners Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Future Works Get Outdoors Let's Walk Pembrokeshire Partnership National Parks UK Open to All partnership and stakeholders Outdoor Schools Pathways Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Pembrokeshire County Council Public Health Wales Roots to Recovery partners Royal National Lifeboat Institution Harbour authorities Visit Pembrokeshire Volunteers Youth Committee Youth Rangers

W1/B	Deliver an Accessible Coast strategy, offering good access for people with specific needs, e.g. access for wheelchair users, changing places and toilets at key locations.	Harbour authorities National Trust Pembrokeshire Beach Liaison Group Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Water Safety Forum User groups
W1/C	Manage recreational pressures and site and community capacity issues e.g. those arising from unauthorised camping or congestion ¹⁶ .	Harbour authorities National Trust Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Outdoor Charter Group Visitors
W1/D	Manage the Pembrokeshire Coast Path National Trail, part of the Wales Coast Path, to provide a diversity of experiences, and promote it to new audiences.	Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Land managers National Trust Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Volunteers
W1/E	Deliver the <i>Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2018-2028</i> .	Communities Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Local Access Forum User groups Volunteers
W1/F	Improve water quality at designated bathing waters achieving less than “Excellent” status.	Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water Natural Resources Wales
W1/G	Manage the Milford Haven Waterway in line with recreation management objectives and relevant byelaws.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Port of Milford Haven
W1/H	Support dog owners / walkers and dogs to enjoy the Park without risk to themselves or to other visitors, farm animals or wildlife.	Land managers National Trust Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority User groups

Policy W2: Provide and promote inspiring outdoor learning and personal development experiences for all.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
W2/A	Deliver active outdoor, environmental, heritage and arts-based recreation and learning to young people and families.	First 1000 Days project partners Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Trust Pembrokeshire College Public Services Board Schools South Hook LNG Terminal Co Ltd

¹⁶ Sites include Abereiddi, Abermawr, Barafundle and Stackpole Quay, Cwm yr Eglwys, Freshwater East, Freshwater West, Martin’s Haven, Porthgain, Pwllgwaelod, St Justinian, Strumble and Whitesands.

		Youth Committee
W2/B	Deliver nature-based health services, e.g. walking programmes, mental health initiatives, and supporting people living with dementia.	Beach Wheelchair Scheme hosts Community and support groups (e.g. MIND, St David's Care in the Community, Point Youth Centre) Experiences for All partners Future Works Get Outdoors Let's Walk Pembrokeshire Partnership National Parks UK Pathways Pembrokeshire County Council Public Health Wales Roots to Recovery partners Volunteers Youth Rangers
W2/C	Offer volunteering / citizen science and formal training opportunities.	Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park National Trust Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire College Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation partners Volunteers

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6 Climate and natural resources: policy and action

Managing natural resources sustainably

Key outcomes for 2030:

- halve carbon emissions within the National Park area (a milestone to achieving carbon-neutrality in the National Park area by 2050).
- proactively respond to climate change impacts on e.g. coastal communities, road and infrastructure, rights of way.
- conserve and improve soil health and enhance natural carbon stores (including stores in marine and coastal environments).
- reduce pollution from phosphates, nitrates and ammonia.
- improve water quality at designated bathing beaches.
- eliminate environmental harm from storm overflow sewage discharges.

Policy N1: Contribute to a carbon-neutral Wales.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
N1/A	Deliver <i>Net Zero Wales</i> : targets include a carbon-neutral public sector by 2030 and a carbon-neutral National Park by 2048, requiring continued collaboration with partners to deliver carbon-neutral or low carbon options for energy, development, travel, food, to achieve a just transition to net zero and a circular economy.	Businesses Celtic Freeport partners Communities Corporate Joint Committee for South-West Wales Industry Land managers Public Services Board Race to Zero partners UK National Parks Climate and Energy Group Visitors Welsh Government
N1/B	Deliver Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's <i>Local Development Plan 2</i> policies and guidance, in accordance with the energy hierarchy, sustainable design drainage and waste.	Corporate Joint Committee for South-West Wales Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Public Services Board
N1/C	Support farm businesses to reduce carbon through offsetting and reduction measures.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Land managers
N1/D	Continue to use the Sustainable Development Fund to support community low carbon projects.	Business Communities Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
N1/E (also SE1/G)	Deliver accessible and affordable public transport, active travel and low-carbon vehicle initiatives.	Corporate Joint Committee for South-West Wales National Trust Pembrokeshire Association of Community Transport Organisations

		Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Greenways Partnership Residents UK National Parks Partnership South Wales Industrial Cluster Visit Pembrokeshire Visitors
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Policy N2: Adapt to climate change.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
N2/A	Deliver Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's <i>Local Development Plan 2</i> policies and guidance, including flooding and coastal inundation, development in coastal change management areas, relocation of development affected by coastal change.	Corporate Joint Committee for South-West Wales Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Public Services Board
N2/B	Manage coastal adaptation within the context of the two Shoreline Management Plans and Local Development Plan 2 which cover the coast of Pembrokeshire.	Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Welsh Government
N2/C	Implement the Pembrokeshire Climate Adaptation Strategy 2022.	Public Services Board partners

Policy N3: Conserve and enhance soils and natural carbon storage.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
N3/A	Conserve and enhance soils (supporting the National Peatland Action Programme), protect wetlands, and semi-natural habitats and trees in the landscape conserved and enhanced.	Commons Resilience partners Land managers Natural Resources Wales Welsh Government
N3/B	Implement Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's <i>Local Development Plan 2</i> policies and guidance in relation to soil, water, air and earth heritage.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Policy N4: Conserve and enhance water quality and restore natural watercourses.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
N4/A	Improve the quality of water bodies in the National Park classed as poor or moderate, within the context of the <i>Western Wales River Basin Management Plan 2021 – 2027</i> .	Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water Businesses Communities Cwm Arian Renewable Energy

		Land managers Milford Haven Waterway Environmental Surveillance Group Natural Resources Wales Nutrient Management Board Nyfer am Byth Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation Relevant Authority Group Port of Milford Haven The Cleddau Project Volunteers
N4/B	Eliminate environmental harm from storm overflow sewage discharges, including working within the framework of the <i>Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan for Cleddau and Pembrokeshire Rivers</i> .	Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water Natural Resources Wales Welsh Government
N4/C	Manage flood risk, within the context of the <i>Flood Risk Management Plan (South West Wales) 2023-2029</i> .	Pembrokeshire County Council Property owners Natural Resources Wales

Policy N5: Protect air quality.

Reference	Example action	Key partners
N5/A	Reduce / intercept reactive nitrogen emissions, with a focus on potentially-affected nature conservation sites.	Land managers Natural Resources Wales
N5/B	Achieve Welsh national air quality targets proposed in The Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Bill.	Corporate Joint Committee for South-West Wales Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Welsh Government

7 Communities: policy and action

Landscapes for lives and livelihoods

Key outcomes for 2030:

- provide an appropriate range of homes to support local communities.
- support an appropriate range of employment opportunities.
- adapt to the needs of an aging population.
- become a model of regenerative tourism.
- support land managers to deliver regenerative agriculture.
- maintain and extend sustainable transport and active travel options.
- support viability and accessibility of local community services.

Policy SE1: Foster socio-economic wellbeing of National Park communities (in pursuit of National Park purposes).

Reference	Example action	Key partners
SE1/A	Deliver appropriate homes for local communities through the planning system, joint working and local lettings policies.	Agents Business Community Land Trusts Community, Town and City Councils Corporate Joint Committee for South-West Wales Developers Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Householders Housing Authorities Industry Ministry of Defence Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council Registered Social Landlords
SE1/B	Develop an evidence base on types and needs of homes (e.g. relationship with Welsh language, sharing data on second / holiday homes, considering options regarding local shared ownership).	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council
SE1/C	Apply Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's <i>Local Development Plan 2</i> policy when determining planning applications; policy covers for example major development, defence sites, lighting, amenity, employment, housing allocations, housing windfall sites and exceptional land releases for affordable housing.	Agents Business Community Land Trusts Corporate Joint Committee for South-West Wales Developers Friends of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Householders Housing Authorities Industry Ministry of Defence

		Natural Resources Wales Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council
SE1/D	Support appropriate controls and promote a regenerative tourism offer.	Business Communities Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council Visit Pembrokeshire Visitors
SE1/E	Support sustainable local supply chains.	Business Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council
SE1/F	Deliver viable and accessible community services, e.g. shops, schools, play facilities and community halls.	Business Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire County Council Voluntary groups
SE1/G (also N1/E)	Deliver accessible and affordable public transport, active travel and low-carbon vehicle initiatives.	Corporate Joint Committee for South-West Wales National Trust Pembrokeshire Association of Community Transport Organisations Pembrokeshire County Council Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Pembrokeshire Greenways Partnership Residents UK National Parks Partnership South Wales Industrial Cluster Visit Pembrokeshire Visitors

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Next steps

Following public consultation on this draft Partnership Plan, all comments will be considered and any necessary amendments proposed. These will be considered by the National Park Authority towards the close of 2024 and a final Partnership Plan approved for 2025-2029.

The National Park Authority will work with partners to implement and monitor the approved Partnership Plan. Partners will be encouraged to adopt the Plan, sign up to the impacts relevant to them, and to share and celebrate those contributions.

We will work with partners to implement recommendations of the impact assessments, for example in relation to promotion of the Welsh language and equalities.

The intention is for conversation and engagement to be ongoing throughout the Partnership Plan delivery period.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the Partnership Plan please contact:

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Annex 1 – Impact monitoring

Conservation

Policy L1: Conserve and enhance National Park landscapes and seascapes.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Report indicators 1, 2, 6, 8.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Progress with implementation of Article 4 options (ref. National Park Authority consultation paper May 2024).	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Number of undergrounding projects / prior notifications.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Policy E1: Conserve and enhance biodiversity quality, extent and connectivity at scale.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
State of Wildlife in Pembrokeshire reporting.	Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership
Conservation Land Management and Heritage annual report.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Sustainable Farm Scheme metrics.	Welsh Government
Project outputs / annual reporting.	Nutrient Management Board
<i>Four Rivers for LIFE</i> project outputs.	Natural Resources Wales
<i>Stitch in Time</i> project outputs.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Incidence of wildfires.	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Firebreak mapping.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Number of planning applications approved.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Policy E2: Conserve and enhance marine biodiversity.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation outputs and feature condition.	Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation Relevant Authorities
Management plan and feature objectives reporting.	Skomer Marine Conservation Zone Advisory Group, Natural Resources Wales
Commercial licensing.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Water Framework Directive classification.	Natural Resources Wales

Policy L2: Protect and enhance dark night skies.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Prosiect Nos and Dark Skies project outputs.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Lighting Supplementary Planning Guidance.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Enforcement action.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Policy L3: Protect and enhance earth heritage.

<i>Example measure</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Geological Conservation Review site status.	Natural Resources Wales

Policy L4: Protect and enhance natural soundscapes.

<i>Example measure</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Progress on Soundscapes Plan for Wales.	Welsh Government
Conservation Land Management and Heritage report.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Connection

Policy H1: Conserve and enhance landscapes of historic interest, Conservation Areas, monuments, buildings of interest, and their settings.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Pre-applications relating to Listed Buildings.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Conservation Areas.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Scheduled Monument survey.	Cadw Welsh Government
Conservation Land Management and Heritage report.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Policy H2: Promote the Welsh language and local dialects, and celebrate culture and creativity related to the landscape.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Report indicator 5.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Number and distribution of Welsh speakers.	Office for National Statistics

Policy W1: Provide and promote sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities for all.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Length of network open and meeting quality standards.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Bathing Water Quality.	Natural Resources Wales

Policy W2: Provide and promote inspiring outdoor learning and personal development experiences for all.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Inclusion project outputs.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Volunteering numbers.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Climate and natural resources

Policy N1: Contribute to a carbon-neutral Wales.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Net Zero monitoring.	Welsh Government and relevant public bodies
Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Report indicators e.g. 10, 12, 13, 14.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Sustainable Development Fund metrics.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Policy N2: Adapt to climate change.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Report indicator 15 and Coastal Risk Management Areas.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Collaboration project metrics.	Public Services Board

Policy N3: Conserve and enhance soils and natural carbon storage.

<i>Example measure</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Area of peaty soils.	Welsh Government

Policy N4: Conserve and enhance water quality and restore natural watercourses.

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Water body classification.	Natural Resources Wales
Sewage overflow discharges, duration.	Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water

Policy N5: Protect air quality.

<i>Example measure</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Designated sites monitoring.	Natural Resources Wales
Air quality monitoring.	Pembrokeshire County Council

Communities

Policy SE1: Foster socio-economic wellbeing of National Park communities (in pursuit of National Park purposes).

<i>Example measures</i>	<i>Manager</i>
Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Report e.g. indicators 18, 23, 24, 28, 31.	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Progress with implementation of Article 4 options for caravans and camping (ref. National Park Authority consultation paper May 2024).	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

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ANNEX 3 TO REPORT: CONSULTATION DRAFT NATIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN (“PARTNERSHIP PLAN”) 2025 – 2029

Suggested consultation questions on the draft Partnership Plan

Section 1: A living, working landscape

- Q1. What do you think about the four themes on which the Partnership Plan is based? (Conservation, Connection, Climate and natural resources, Community.)
- Q2. Do these themes suitably reflect National Park purposes and the National Park Authority’s duty?

Section 2: Special qualities of the National Park

- Q3. Have we captured all the special qualities of the National Park?

Section 3: The State of the Park – challenges and opportunities

- Q4. Have we accurately captured the State of the Park, and the main challenges and opportunities? What further evidence would add value to the assessment?

Section 4: Conservation

- Q5. Do the proposed policies and action cover the key opportunities and challenges?
- Q6. Should additional partners be involved, or new partnerships set up?

Section 5: Connection

- Q7. Do the proposed policies and action cover the key opportunities and challenges?
- Q8. Should additional partners be involved, or new partnerships set up?

Section 6: Climate and natural resources

- Q9. Do the proposed policies and action cover the key opportunities and challenges?
- Q10. Should additional partners be involved, or new partnerships set up?

Section 7: Communities

- Q11. Do the proposed policies and action cover the key opportunities and challenges?
- Q12. Should additional partners be involved, or new partnerships set up?

Next steps

- Q13. Would you like to be involved in delivery of the Partnership Plan? If so, how?

Annex – Impact monitoring

- Q14. Are the proposed measures a reasonable and sufficient basis on which to assess delivery of the Plan?
- Q15. Can you think of any alternative or additional measures? Is this information already being collected, and if so, by whom?

Impact Assessments

- Q16. We would like to know your views on the impact you think the plan will have on protected groups (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation), people experiencing socio-economic disadvantage and people’s health outcomes. Do you think it will have any positive or negative impacts?

Q17. The initial equality impact assessment identified some of the following important areas that the Plan needs to consider, including:

- Accessibility of document itself
- Range of partners included and potential gaps
- Removing barriers and widening access to support people to experience and benefit from Special Qualities in the Park
- Creating a Welcoming Park for All
- Access to toilets and changing place facilities
- Health benefits from accessing the outdoors and connecting with nature
- Responding to issues and concerns around water quality and pollution on public health
- Water safety particularly for young people
- Affordable housing and interventions to help support affordable housing provision in the Park
- Transport challenges and affordability and access to services
- Pathways to employment, particularly for young people or people facing barriers to accessing employment opportunities
- Issues around low wages, seasonality, in work poverty and access to fair work
- Representation in Arts and Heritage opportunities and protection of religious sites of importance

Is there anything linked to the above areas we could change in the Plan to improve outcomes for protected groups (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation), people experiencing socio-economic disadvantage and people's health outcomes?

Q18. Do you have any comments on the findings of the Habitats Regulations Assessment?

Q19. Do you have any comments on the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment?

Q20. The Welsh language impact assessment identified some of the following important areas that the Plan needs to consider, including:

- Greater recognition of the Welsh language dialect in Pembrokeshire and Welsh language use in communities within the north of the National Park where there is currently, and traditionally, strong Welsh language use.
- Additions to complete the policy and legislative framework linked to Welsh language.
- Additions to complete the range of partners that could support delivery of policies and results linked to Welsh Language, e.g. those linked to well-being.
- Ensuring that children accessing Welsh medium education or being supported through language centres (from within and outside Pembrokeshire) are able to access opportunities to learn about the National Park in Welsh.

- Additions to partnership working to promote and develop existing opportunities to learn Welsh in Pembrokeshire.
- Ensuring Welsh Language is integrated when developing regenerative tourism approaches, e.g. raising awareness of the significance of Welsh language and promoting it to visitors.
- Ensuring that Welsh language speakers and learners can access information in Welsh while also raising the visibility of language to non Welsh speakers / visitors.
- Additional recommendations for partnership effort to conserve historical geographical names.
- Additional recommendations for partnership effort to support an appropriate range of fair work opportunities, reflecting the importance of a strong economy as well as a sufficient supply of affordable homes in enabling vibrant communities where the Welsh language can thrive.
- Comments regarding training and job opportunities arising from conservation and climate objectives - e.g. the role regenerative farming role could play for the next generation of farmers within Welsh-speaking communities - and more generally supporting a wide range of people to participate in taking action for nature.

What do you consider to be the likely effects of the Partnership Plan on the Welsh language? We are particularly interested in any likely effects on opportunities to use the Welsh language and on not treating the Welsh language less favourably than English.

- Do you think that there are opportunities to promote any positive effects?
- Do you think that there are opportunities to mitigate any adverse effects?

Q21. Could the Partnership Plan be formulated or changed so as to:

- have positive effects or more positive effects on using the Welsh language and on not treating the Welsh language less favourably than English; or
- mitigate any negative effects on using the Welsh language and on not treating the Welsh language less favourably than English?

Q22. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please comment here.