

Draft National Development Framework

1. NDF Outcomes (chapter 3)

Q1. The NDF has proposed 11 Outcomes as an ambition of where we want to be in 20 years' time. Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree the 11 Outcomes are a realistic vision for the NDF?

Strongly disagree

Q2. To what extent do you agree with the 11 Outcomes as ambitions for the NDF?

Agree with most of them

If you disagree with any of the 11 Outcomes, please tell us why:

Most of the Outcomes are undeniable aspirations for a sustainable and possibly better future but no.8 demonstrates an absurd allegiance to a technological future which does not exist. The idea that Wales needs or wants to be Globally Competitive while at the same time coping with climate change and the imminent collapse of our ecosystem is ridiculous and demonstrates a frightening disconnect with immediate and local challenges.

2. Spatial Strategy (policies 1 - 4)

Q3. The NDF spatial strategy is a guiding framework for where large-scale change and nationally important developments will be focused over the next 20 years. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the spatial strategy and key principles for development in...

No Response

Q4. If you have any comments on the spatial strategy or key principles for development in urban and rural areas, please tell us:

Welsh Government has consistently supported big business over sustainable local initiatives and either fails to understand that affordable housing underpins rural enterprises or deliberately works to prevent people in low waged rural industries, horticulture, forestry and agriculture from living locally and supporting those industries. Planning restrictions on Rural Enterprise Dwellings means that many of our workers live in huts, vans, in scarcely affordable rented properties or with parents. It could be said that

Planning has a long established role in preventing delivery of affordable housing and we have no confidence in any serious progress towards delivering a real rural planning policy.

There is no valid reason why sensible and appropriate housing should not take place outside settlement boundaries .

3. Affordable Housing (policy 5)

Q5. The NDF sets out the approach for providing affordable housing, encouraging local authorities, social landlords, and small and medium-sized construction and building enterprises to build more homes. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the approach to increasing affordable housing?

Disagree

Q6. If you disagree, in what other ways can the NDF approach the delivery of affordable housing?

NDF needs to recognise that no sustainable development, or 'green' economy can take place without young people,
Working locally with natural resources to provide for the energy ,food and fibre requirements of our rural and urban communities requires that we have the staff living on,or near site to efficiently deliver goods and services. At present,planning is the enemy of sustainable development through it's mistrust of rural initiatives and it's restrictive conditions on Rural Enterprise Dwellings. It should be recognised that tradition has given us small hamlets,settlements between villages and rather than continually expanding existing villages to the detriment of their character and sense of community appropriately sited dwellings in the countryside for rural workers would be beneficial.

4. Mobile Action Zones (policy 6)

Q7. To what extent do you agree or disagree the identification of mobile action zones will be effective in encouraging better mobile coverage?

No Response

Q8. If you disagree, in what other ways can the NDF improve mobile phone coverage in the areas which currently have limited access?

No Response

5. Low Emission Vehicles (policy 7)

Q9. To what extent do you agree or disagree that policy 7 will enable and encourage the roll-out of charging infrastructure for ultra-low emission vehicles?

Strongly disagree

Q10. If you disagree, in what other ways can the NDF enable and encourage the roll-out of charging infrastructure for ultra-low emission vehicles?

Typically NDF concentrates on symptoms rather than causes and rather than finding obvious and easy ways to reduce consumption of fuel through encouraging,even subsidising local industry with resultant decrease in transport and emissions it concentrates on increasing dependence on electricity ,even though electricity prices are set to double in the next 5 years (industries own forecast) and is still heavily dependent on fossil fuels.

6. Green Infrastructure (policies 8 & 9)

Q11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the approach to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecological networks?

Disagree

7. Renewable Energy and District Heat Networks (policies 10-15)

Q12. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the NDF's policies to lower carbon emissions in Wales using...

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No opinion
Large scale wind and solar developments				X			
District heat networks							

Q13. If you disagree with the NDF's approaches to green infrastructure, renewable energy or district heat networks, what alternative approaches should we consider to help Wales to enhance its biodiversity and transition to a low carbon economy?

Green infrastructure has to consider the renewal or revival of the rural economy. The activities and lifestyles of communities has to be considered rather than the futile aspiration to provide an increasingly dependant and ageing population with unlimited energy. Rather than the ever increasing automation of rural industries it should be understood that a sustainable future is dependent more upon an active and creative population engaged in all those industries essential to survival, agriculture forestry ,horticulture craft etc on a local scale,resulting in better physical and mental health, shorter supply chains,shorter journeys to work, than the mere provision of energy.

8. The Regions (policy 16)

Q14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the principle of developing Strategic Development Plans prepared at a regional scale?The NDF identifies three overall regions of Wales, each with their own distinct opportunities and challenges. These are North Wales, Mid and South West Wales, and South East Wales.

Strongly agree

9. North Wales (policies 17-22)

Q15. We have identified Wrexham and Deeside as the main focus of development in North Wales. A new green belt will be created to manage the form of growth. A number of coastal towns are identified as having key regional roles, while we support growth and development at Holyhead Port. We will support improved transport infrastructure in the region, including a North Wales Metro, and support better connectivity with England. North West Wales is recognised as having potential to supply low-carbon energy on a strategic scale.To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed policies and approach for the North Region?

Neither agree nor disagree

10. Mid and South West Wales (policies 23-26)

Q16. Swansea Bay and Llanelli is the main urban area within the region and is our preferred location for growth. We also identify a number of rural and market towns, and the four Haven Towns in Pembrokeshire, as being regionally important. The haven Waterway is nationally important and its development is supported. We support proposals for a Swansea Bay Metro. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed policies and approach for the Mid and South West Region?

Neither agree nor disagree

11. South East Wales (policies 27-33)

Q17. In South East Wales we are proposing to enhance Cardiff's role as the capital and secure more sustainable growth in Newport and the Valleys. A green belt around Newport and eastern parts of the region will support the spatial strategy and focus development on existing cities and towns. Transport Orientated Development, using locations benefitting from mainline railway and Metro stations, will shape the approach to development across the region. There is support for the growth and development of Cardiff Airport. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed policies and approach for the South East Region?

Neither agree nor disagree

Q18. If you have any comments about the NDF's approach or policies to the three regions, please tell us. If you have any alternatives, please explain them and tell us why you think they would be better.

No Response

12. Integrated Sustainability Appraisal

Q19. As part of the consultation process, an Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) was conducted to assess the social, economic and environmental impacts of a plan. The report identified a number of monitoring indicators, including health, equalities, Welsh language, the impact on rural communities, children's rights, climate change and economic development. Do you have any comments on the findings of the Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Report? Please outline any further alternative monitoring indicators you consider would strengthen the ISA.

No Response

13. Habitats Regulations Assessment

Q20. As part of the development of the NDF, a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) was undertaken. The purpose of the HRA process is to identify, assess and address any 'significant effects' of the plan on sites such as Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas for birds. Do you have any comments on the Habitats Regulations Assessment report?

No Response

14. Welsh Language

Q21. We would like to know your views on the effects that the NDF would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English. What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

To focus on the Welsh language without considering the health and vitality of the community is typical of the NDF.

It has been often said that when the young people leave a community they take their language with them yet no serious initiatives address the lack of creative and fulfilling work in the community. Agriculture and Forestry continue to industrialise and automate at the expense of biodiversity, community wellbeing and local employment, ultimately to the detriment of everything and everybody but the influence of such powerful bodies such as the NFU means that nobody challenges or seeks alternatives to this terrible status quo.

Q22. Please also explain how you believe the proposed NDF could be formulated or changed so as to have: positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, and no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

No Response

15. Further comments

Q23. Are there any further comments that you would like to make on the NDF, or any alternative proposals you feel we should consider?

While we welcome the chance to contribute to the NDF, we do so with mounting apprehension and frustration that though many of its 'outcomes' are laudable, there is a disconnect between those who decide policy and those who have to live with it. There are many achievable and simple solutions to the imminent challenges of climate change but they are almost always ignored in favour of the technological and symptomatic: Reforming agriculture to favour more labour intensive systems producing higher quality food with less dependence on imported protein and supplying local markets. Restructuring forestry to favour more naturally durable timbers with greater value to communities and growing multi use forests for increased biodiversity and amenity value. Ending the production of low value low quality timber dependent on chemical treatments, long supply chains and heavy reliance on huge and expensive machinery. Subsidising organic horticulture and orchards.

16. Are you...?

Q24. Are you:

Submitting a response on behalf of an organisation

Submit your response

Q25. You are about to submit your response. Please ensure you are satisfied with the answers you have provided before sending.

Name	Adrian Farey
Organisation (if applicable)	Elwy Working Woods
Preferred contact details (email/phone/post)	██████████

Q26. If you want to receive a receipt of your response, please provide an email address.
Email address

██████████

Q27. Responses to consultations may be made public. To keep your response anonymous (including email addresses) tick the box.

No Response