

National Development Framework: Easy Read questionnaire

Part A – the main points of the NDF

Q1. 1. Do you think we are aiming to do the right things with our plan?

No Response

Q2. 2. We have 10 aims in the NDF. Should we think about anything else? Tell us anything we've missed out

No Response

Q3. 3. Do you think the Plan will help achieve healthy and well-planned places?

No Response

Q4. 4. Do you think the plan will help us take care of our environment?

No

Comments:

I wish to respond to the Welsh Government's draft National Development Framework for 2020-2040, with particular reference to the recommendations for Wind and Solar Priority Areas. I am opposed to those recommendations put forward by your consultant, Ove Arup & Partners Ltd, which would see large swathes of our nation's countryside put at the mercy of damaging, industrial-scale development. The report by Arup is in my opinion poorly researched and ill-conceived. Even they themselves admit that their recommendations are merely 'based on a desk study', with no 'site-specific analysis'. Therefore, their report will add nothing of value to the highly sensitive debate to be had about the future of the Welsh landscape alongside the requirement for 'green energy' generation. In fact, I believe that Arup's recommendations are so lacking in detail and general in nature that they are not worthy of serious consideration. It is as if they have merely taken a map of Wales and marked on it all the areas over 300 metres in elevation which are outside the National Parks, and deemed that these areas should be considered for further large scale wind and solar energy development. I therefore strongly suggest that the Welsh Government should disregard Arup's report. Furthermore, I wish to put forward my view that the need for any further large-scale wind farm development in upland areas of Wales over the next twenty years needs to be subject to the most stringent scrutiny and safeguards, otherwise it will be to the detriment of local communities, to the detriment of wildlife and the natural environment and to the detriment of the amenity value of our cherished landscapes. Bad for local people and bad for tourists, the latter being so important for the economy of the nation. We should surely be striving to make our country more attractive to visitors from outside, not less. I live in a part of Mid Wales which is already over-run with wind turbines. We do not want our landscape ravaged any more. The Welsh Government needs to start taking note of the views of local people on the ground, many of whom feel let down and alienated by the decisions made in Cardiff. Also, considering the ginormous carbon footprint left by these windfarms, I wonder how many turns of the turbines does it take to 'pay back' the energy consumed in their manufacture in a factory somewhere (often overseas), their transportation over sea and land, and then their erection on site - plus all of the associated concrete and tarmac infrastructure which also needs to be built of course? However, even considering the environmental and carbon footprint costs, it is acknowledged that a certain degree of wind energy production is needed in the right circumstances, and it is considered that offshore development would be less damaging than onshore in many instances. So, within this draft National Development Framework, I urge the Welsh Government to reject the idea of laying waste to vast areas of our countryside for solar and wind energy generation, and look for a more balanced and environmentally acceptable strategy, in order to meet our green energy goals of the future. Yours, Robert Taylor.

Part B – different parts of Wales

Q5. 5. Do you agree with our plans for North Wales?

No Response

Q6. 6. Do you agree with our plans for Mid and South West Wales?

No Response

Q7. 7. Do you agree with our plans for South East Wales?

No Response

Part C

Q8. 8. Do you have any other comments you would like to make about this plan?

No Response

Submit your response

Q9. You are about to submit your response. Please ensure you are satisfied with the answers you have provided before sending.

Name

██████████

Where are you from?

██████████████████

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Q10. If you want to receive a receipt of your response, please provide an email address.
Email address

██████████████████

Q11. Responses to consultations may be made public. To keep your response anonymous (including email addresses) tick the box.

Keep my response anonymous