

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 some of them

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

The language and proposals for the use of on-shore wind turbine and solar-powered large scale developments are completely unrealistic and refuse to even consider the industrial infrastructure which would need to be imposed on the rural landscape for them to exist. Nowhere does the NDF even mention off-shore turbine potential developments (which is the obvious solution for harvesting wind power). With the high rainfall which Wales experiences why is there no consideration or provision either for harvesting this natural bounty of water-power in an environmentally sensitive way?

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...

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No opinion
Urban areas (Policies 1, 2 & 3)		X					
Rural areas (Policy 4)					X		
					X		

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

1 in 4 people in rural areas work in the tourist industry - how can their jobs be safeguarded when the NDF rural 'priority areas' for wind and solar large scale developments will inflict industrial ugliness on stunning historical rural farming areas. The NDF states "In areas designated for their landscape or ecological importance, protection against inappropriate development remains in place." What hypocrisy! Again, it seems the fate of the rural countryside in Wales will be decided by faceless urban bureaucrats who intend to sell the birthright of Welsh people to the highest bidder because there is no official protection for areas outside National Parks or 'Areas of outstanding natural beauty'.

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?

Where is the detailed approach to the delivery of affordable housing in the NDF - there appears to be no clear plan? Existing housing stock should be improved and sensitive development carried out on brown-field sites, which are self-evidently best placed for urban developments.

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?

Neither agree nor disagree

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?

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?

The NDF could start by separating the fiction of aspiration from the reality that technology to correct industry standards is currently not available.

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?

Strongly 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				X			
				X			

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?

Where are the figures to say how long it will take to offset the carbon footprint created by the monster wind and solar developments? Will offset ever be achievable in the lifetime of these turbines / solar panels? Where are the scientific calculations to prove that these developments will be in the slightest way "green"? As regards the lofty statements about district heat networks, again there appears to be no science or actual practical plan of approach to the issue.

If the NDF plan gave any indication that it was science based rather than a submission to green fashion profiteering it might give some credibility to this flabby document.

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.

Disagree

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?

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?

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?

Strongly 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.

Why (as usual) are all the economic positives as regards 'sustainable growth' restricted to the towns and cities? The biggest wealth for the rural economies come from tourism and agriculture - where is the development opportunities in these areas to come from in the wake of the negative impact of industrial scale wind and solar developments and the effects of Brexit?

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.

What sort of general public promotion did the ISA and the NDF actually have? - Because this is the first we have heard of it, we didn't even know this survey was being carried out until they told us it was closing. It finally made it onto national television, but only due to the disquiet everyone felt about the Welsh landscape being sold-off to build wind farms and the ugly spectre of industrial pylons being raised yet again in mid-Wales.

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?

Is there any point holding an HRA when you state that "There is a presumption in favour of large scale on-shore wind and solar energy development in these areas, an acceptance of landscape change and a focus on maximising benefits and minimising impacts"? In other words no matter what the habitat is the industrialisation will go ahead, especially in areas not protected by a label?

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?

No Response

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?

Put the wind turbines off-shore. Find a way to utilise water power so that locals can benefit - who benefits from the electricity generated by the Llyn Celyn dam turbines? Do a proper analysis of energy vs costs vs carbon footprint for on-shore wind turbines and solar panel developments and put it up against installing more wind-turbines in existing off-shore developments. Put these results up for discussion by people who know what they are talking about and not politicians trying to gain an advantage from peddling green jingoism.

16. Are you...?

Q24. Are you:

Providing your own personal response

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

[REDACTED]

Organisation (if applicable)

-

Preferred contact details (email/phone/post)

[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

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

Keep my response anonymous