

Easy Read



Noddir gan
Lywodraeth Cymru
Sponsored by
Welsh Government



**Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru**
**Natural
Resources
Wales**

Nature and Us

What future do we want for our nature?



Natur a Ni
Nature and Us



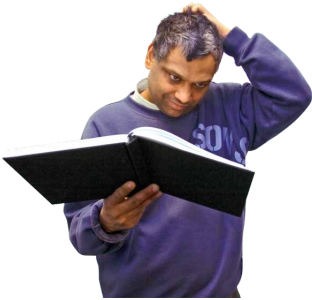
This document has been created for **Natural Resources Wales** as an easy read version of 'The Nature and Us Vision for Wales 2050: Society and nature thriving together'.

January 2024

How to use this document



This is an easy read document. But you may still need support to read it. Ask someone you know to help you.



Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. You can check what the words in blue mean on **page 27**.



Where the document says **we**, this means the **Nature and Us project team**. For more information contact:

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E-mail: natureandus@naturalresources.wales



Hawdd ei Ddeall Cymru
Easy Read Wales

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About Nature and Us



Nature and Us was a project set up by Natural Resources Wales.



Natural Resources Wales is funded by Welsh Government. Their job is to make sure our natural resources are cared for properly.



Natural resources are our air, land, water, wildlife, plants, and soil.



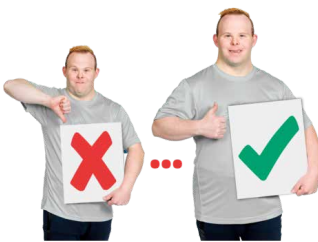
The aim of the **Nature and Us** project was to listen to people to:



- Create a shared **vision** for nature in Wales. This means a description of what we all want nature to be like.



Vision means to look to the future and plan based on what we know and coming up with good ideas.



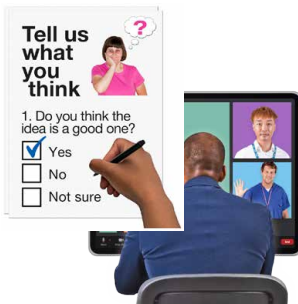
- Make it clear what needs to change to get nature how we all want by 2050.



We wanted to find out what was important to people about nature now and in the future.



In 2022 we started asking people their views.



People told us their views in surveys, focus groups, workshops and webinars.



Over 3000 people shared their views, stories, and hopes.



We found out that people across Wales care about the future of nature in Wales.



A Citizens' Assembly was set up to talk more about what we learned and to agree the **vision**.



A Citizens' Assembly is a group of people brought together who are just like all of us in Wales.



They learn and talk about different issues. And decide what they think should happen.



The Citizens' Assembly helped us to all think about the views of people from across Wales.

What the Citizens' Assembly did



40 people took part. The Citizens' Assembly spent 13 hours talking about issues over 3 weekends.

Aims of the Citizens' Assembly



- To think about the **climate and nature emergencies** and what people have said as part of **Nature and Us**. This means how the things people do, buy and how they live are badly impacting nature.



- To agree a shared **vision** for nature in Wales. This means agreeing how we all want nature to be.



- To suggest what we can all do to care for nature and how organisations can help with this.



The **climate and nature emergencies** are about how the things people do, buy and how people live are causing **climate change** and badly impacting nature.



Climate change is changes in weather patterns. The way we all use energy is causing our planet to heat up.



This causes things like floods, storms, and wildfires. And damages nature.

What the Citizens' Assembly talked about



The Citizens' Assembly looked at 4 main questions:

1. What does the future look like when nature and society do well together?
2. What needs to be different from today?
3. What good results would we all see if this happened?
4. What steps do we all need to take in Wales to reach our **vision**?

What the Citizens' Assembly achieved

6

The Citizens' Assembly came up with 6 key themes.

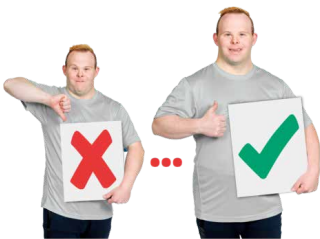


For each of those 6 themes they wrote a short sentence called a **vision statement**.

The **vision statements** describe:



- the **vision** for each theme



- and the things that need to happen to achieve the **Nature and Us vision**.

Vision statements

Here are the 6 **vision** statements.



In 2050, nature and society will do well together if:



1. People and the Government protect nature together.

This idea is at the heart of the **vision**. To make this happen Welsh Government needs to share their plan to protect and rebuild nature. This will explain how we can all help and restore nature.



2. Welsh Government helps people to be more involved in decisions about nature.

All levels of government need to involve people in decisions. They must make decisions based on clear information.



All levels of government means UK Government, Welsh Government, and local government - like your local councils.



This will give people in Wales more control over things that affect them. It will help make sure government use the best ideas to protect nature.



3. We all share knowledge so people understand how nature impacts their lives. And how they can help protect and rebuild nature.

People need clear information that is easy to find, read and understand. This will help everyone to know what to do.



4. Everyone can **access** nature. Nature helps people live happy, healthy lives.

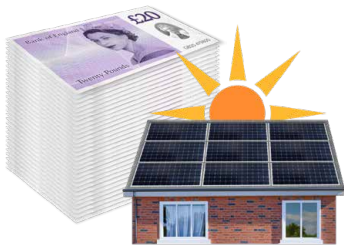
Access means you are allowed to go somewhere and are able to.



Everyone should be able to **access** nature. Like parks, woods, beaches, and gardens.



People should have equal chances to be in nature. This will help people to be healthy and happy.



5. We all have transport and energy that is better for the environment.

All levels of government need to put money into better public transport, energy and reducing waste.



People need to be able to choose better travel and energy options.



6. We all manage our land well, so people can buy local food and feel connected to Welsh land.

Welsh Government should support farming that is better for nature and makes local food easier to buy.

What needs to be different from today?



The Citizens' Assembly agreed that the most important points for achieving the **Nature and Us vision** for nature are:

Nature



In the future everyone believes that nature should be protected and we all should work together to protect and rebuild nature.

Policy and decision making



Policies are written documents. They set out ideas, plans and ways of working. Decisions are made based on **policies**.



Welsh Government should share a clear plan for nature that is based on facts.



People should be more involved in planning and making decisions.



Governments and businesses should take responsibility for the impact they have on nature.

Information and action



People should know more about nature and how it affects our lives.



People should know what they can do to help nature.

Health



Everyone should have better **access** to nature.

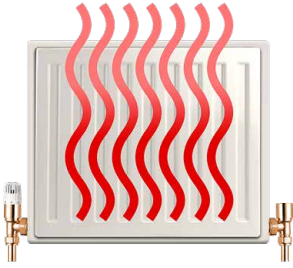


Everyone should think about how they can do more to lower **pollution**.



Pollution is when harmful things are put into the air, on land or in the water. For example, car fumes, litter or sewers being emptied into rivers or the sea.

Roads, buildings and power supplies



Things like energy for heating our homes and fuelling our transport should be better for nature.



Everyone should reuse more and throw away less.

Managing our land



Farmers should use farming methods that are better for nature.



Everyone should be able to get healthy food.

What good results would there be if the vision becomes real?



Nature

We would all save animals and plants. The places they live would be protected and grow.

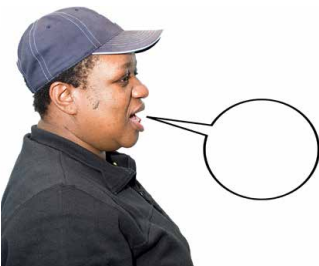


Everyone's health would improve. More places like woods, gardens and parks would be created. Everyone could use these places and enjoy nature.

Policy and decision making



People would be more involved in plans.



People would know more about how they can influence government and question their actions.

Information and action



People would know more and feel able to take action.



More people would become involved in taking action. For example, they would be involved in their local community. Or buy nature friendly things.



Health

People would feel better in their bodies and minds.



Roads, buildings and power supplies

The air would be better for everyone to breathe.



The places where people live and work would not use as much energy.



Everyone would have the chance to live in ways that are better for nature.

Managing our land



More people would grow their own food. Or buy food that is better for nature.



People would be able to make use of land near their homes.



They would be able to buy local food they can afford.

Next steps



Nature

Welsh Government needs to make their plans for nature clearer and show who does what for nature.



Their plans should say what role people can play.



Making the effort to protect nature will lead to new jobs.

Policy and decision making



Political parties should share more plans and ideas with each other.



People need more chances and help to get involved.

Information and action



The Government should take the lead on a plan that gets everyone involved. The plan should teach everyone about nature.



People need clear information about what we can all do in our daily lives.



Health

Everyone should have equal **access** to nature.



We should all focus on community projects so communities can:

- help themselves
- use their resources better
- and lead on making changes.



There should be less traffic on roads near homes.



Wales should stop using fuel like coal, oil and natural gas which is more harmful to nature.

Roads, buildings and power supplies



Welsh Government needs to spend money on transport that is better for nature.



Buildings should use technology that reduces energy use.



Everyone should reuse and repair more things.

Managing our land



Welsh Government needs to set targets that help land to be used in a way that looks after nature.



New farming technology can be used to change how we all grow food and what food we all eat.



ILLUSTRATION BY:
LAURA SORVALA

Hard words

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Climate and nature emergencies

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Vision means to look to the future and plan based on what we know and coming up with good ideas.