



Ein cyf/Our ref MA/P/LG/0989/17

Diane McCrea MBE  
Chair, Natural Resources Wales  
Ty Cambria  
29 Newport Road  
Cardiff  
CF24 0TP

28 March 2017

Dear Diane

### **NATURAL RESOURCES WALES – REMIT LETTER 2017-18**

I wish to set out the Welsh Government's remit for Natural Resources Wales (NRW) in 2017-18.

I would firstly like to express my sincere thanks to your staff for their work during the past year. 2017-18 will be a significant period for Natural Resources Wales in providing a leadership role for the sustainable management of natural resources across Wales, through the implementation of the general purpose and the further development and delivery of the tools and duties in the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. The actions set out in this remit letter should be delivered in this context.

Specific actions I wish to see NRW undertake in 2017-18 are:

1. In the clear policy context set by "Taking Wales Forward", the associated Welsh Government Well Being objectives and the publication of the Welsh Government's Natural Resources Policy, NRW should publish its Corporate Plan 2017-18 / 2021-22 during late summer early Autumn of 2017, detailing the associated well being objectives. This should set out how NRW will work to deliver the new policy and legislative framework, demonstrating the ways in which the priorities and policies contained within the Natural Resources Policy are being integrated into the approach of delivery within NRW and providing a compelling and empowering vision for staff and stakeholders;

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

2. Begin to develop work locally towards the production of area statements, working closely with Welsh Government and Public Service Boards, together with local and national stakeholders to identify and deliver local opportunities and benefits in line with the priorities set by the Natural Resources Policy;
3. Work with Welsh Government to prioritise the evidence needs identified in the State of Natural Resources Report 2016 and agree approaches as to how these may be best delivered, and develop proposals for outcome indicators to measure and monitor the extent to which the sustainable management of natural resources is being achieved across Wales at the national and local level, building on the positive outputs from the scoping of options for a future natural resources monitoring framework;
4. Work closely with the Welsh Government to complete the review of the role and purpose of the Welsh Government Woodland Estate in the context of the principles and objectives of SMNR;
5. As a Category 1 Responder, continue to work closely with the Welsh Government to ensure Ministers are provided with appropriate situation reports and briefing on emergency preparation, response and recovery in relation to high category environmental incidents as specified in NRW's Incident Categorisation Guidance;
6. Improve community resilience through the priority flood risk management schemes and Flood Awareness Wales programme. Continue to build evidence on flood risk from all sources through new flood risk assessment mapping and delivering the National Flood Asset Database and a comprehensive flood forecasting and warning service;
7. Work jointly with Welsh Government to strengthen action to tackle waste crime as identified in the Waste Crime working group and Fires at Waste Sites Action Plan;
8. Develop enterprise activities within your Governance Framework with milestones for income generation, exemplifying the sustainable management of natural resources, and working with partners and communities, including tourism opportunities linked to the Welsh Government marketing approach for the Year of Legends in 2017 and Year of Sea in 2018;
9. Continue to identify opportunities to support community development and enterprise through volunteering and continuing support for the Lift programme and continue to support community energy projects and community forests on the Welsh Government Woodland Estate, where appropriate;
10. Play a key role in implementing the Marine Plan and the delivery of its general duties and functions as part of the work under the Marine Transition Programme;
11. Identify and capitalise on opportunities to work in closer partnership with Local Authority environment teams, the Agriculture Inspectorate and other regulators to discharge your and their respective regulatory duties where they interact, for example, to address statutory nuisances or local air quality, agricultural pollution, or simply where expertise residing in one regulator may provide assistance to another.
12. The following activities are additional to the activities funded through Grant in Aid. Specific funding will be provided for the following activities in 2017/18:

- Continue to support the Fly-tipping Action Wales programme by working with Local Authorities and others to enable the delivery of the Welsh Government's fly-tipping Strategy. This would include the sharing of intelligence, maintaining communications with stakeholders and continuing to tackle large-scale illegal dumping of waste, as defined in the Fly-tipping Protocol. These actions would support the Welsh Government's strategic aim of a Wales which is "free from the unacceptable social, economic and environmental harm caused by fly-tipping". Provide support and advice to Local Authorities when undertaking their duty to address contaminated land.
- Continue to support the delivery of the Glastir Sustainable Land Management Scheme in accordance with the Section 83 Agreement and Rural Development contracts NRW holds with the Welsh Government;
- Take forward as part of the Welsh Revenue Authority (WRA) Implementation Programme, the delivery of Landfill Disposals Tax (LDT) compliance and enforcement functions, in the context of Tax Collection and Management (Wales) Bill and LDT Bill provisions;
- Employ, and provide support as host, for the two members of the Wales Biodiversity Partnership Support Team;

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lesley Griffiths". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'L'.

**Lesley Griffiths AC/AM**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig  
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs

## Annex 1

### NATURAL RESOURCES WALES

#### Welsh Government's Financial Support for Natural Resources activities in Wales: 2017-2018

##### Grant in Aid

£000s

<b>Total Grant in Aid</b>	
<b>Non Flood Defence</b>	
Capital	3.6m
Revenue <sup>1</sup>	60.2m
<b>Flood Defence</b>	
Capital	16.3m
Revenue	18.2m

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<sup>1</sup> Net of Invest to Save repayments