

Pwyllgor Diwylliant, Y Gymraeg A Chwaraeon CWLS(2)-04-04(p.7)l'w nodi

Date: 10 Mawrth 2004

Time: 9.00am – 12.00pm

Venue: Ystafell Bwyllgora 2, Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Y Cynllun Datblygu Cynaliadwy Ac Ymatebion i'r Ddogfen Ymgynghori

Diben

hysbysu'r pwyllgor am hynt y gwaith o ddiwygio cynllun datblygu cynaliadwy'r cynulliad.

Crynodeb / Argymhellion

Bod y pwyllgor yn nodi'r dadansoddiad o'r ymatebion a gafwyd yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad ar ddiwygio'r cynllun.

Y Cefndir

ysgrifennodd y gweinidog dros yr amgylchedd, cynllunio a chefn gwlad at gadeiryddion yr holl bwyllgorau pwnc ym mis tachwedd, yn awgrymu bod yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad ar ddiwygio'r cynllun yn cael eu cynnwys ar agenda cyfarfodydd priodol y pwyllgorau. Dyna ddiben y papur hwn.

Mae'n ddyletswydd gyfreithiol ar y cynulliad i adolygu ac ail-lunio ei gynllun datblygu cynaliadwy ar ôl pob etholiad. Lanswyd ymgynghoriad ym mis hydref 03 ar sut y dylid adolygu'r cynllun, gan ddefnyddio'r adroddiad ar effeithiolrwydd a baratowyd ar ein rhan gan cag consultants ltd. Daeth yr ymgynghoriad hwn i ben ar 9 ionawr 04.

Mae'r dadansoddiad o'r ymatebion bron wedi'i gwblhau. Amgaeir dadansoddiad cychwynnol (atodiad 1), a bydd y dadansoddiad terfynol ar gael gyda'r cynllun drafft. Cafwyd mwy na 70 o ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad. Ar y cyfan, roedd y sylwadau ar ein newidiadau arfaethedig yn gefnogol. Fodd bynnag, codwyd sawl pwynt yn ymwneud â drafftio'r ddogfen. Yn sgil sylwadau'r rhai a ymatebodd a hefyd yr adborth o'r tri chyfarfod pwyllgor rhanbarthol lle'r oedd y cynllun yn eitem ar yr agenda, diwygiwyd y cynllun lle bo hynny'n briodol a lle cytunwyd bod angen ei newid.

Cafodd fersiwn ddrafft y cynllun diwygiedig ei ystyried gan y cabinet ar 23 chwefror a'i ystyried gan

bwyllgor yr amgylchedd, cynllunio a chefn gwlad ar 3 mawrth. Bydd yn cael ei drafod yn y cyfarfod llawn ar 16 mawrth.

Goblygiadau Ariannol

Am ein bod yn cadw'r cynllun diwygiedig ar wahân i'r cynllun gweithredu ategol, nid oes iddi lawer o oblygiadau uniongyrchol, os o gwbl, o ran cyllidebau'r rhaglenni. Eir i'r afael â goblygiadau ariannol penodol yng nghyd-destun y cynllun gweithredu drafft sy'n cael ei baratoi ar hyn o bryd.

Gweithredu

gwahoddir y pwyllgor diwylliant, y gymraeg a chwaraeon i nodi dadansoddiad o'r ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad ar y cynllun datblygu cynaliadwy.

Themâu Trawsbynciol

cyfrannodd llywodraeth leol, busnesau a'r sector gwirfoddol at yr ymgynghoriad ar y cynllun a bu nifer fawr o'u cynrychiolwyr yn cymryd rhan mewn gweithdai a gynhaliwyd ym mis ionawr. Bydd y canlyniadau'n cyfrannu at y cynllun gweithredu drafft.

Swyddog Cyswllt: Anne Rowlands, SPU, Est 3388

Atodiad 1 (Saesneg yn unig)

Analysis of responses to the consultation on the review of the sustainable development scheme 'learning to live differently'

Seventy three responses to the consultation document have been received and the main points raised are outlined below. The majority of respondents structured their replies according to the questions asked in the consultation document. Some submitted a much more complex response. These are still being analysed and will be included in the more detailed analysis, currently being prepared. All responses will be fully considered in the process to revise the scheme.

Part 1: How We Propose To Update The Sustainable Development Scheme.

Q1 is it right to build upon the principles of the existing, original scheme?

Of the 53 responses, 45 (85%) were in agreement. Five (11%) suggested that the revised scheme should set out clearly what the principles are, as it is unclear at present, with one suggesting that a statement be included 'to ensure that policy pursues each and all principles simultaneously'.

Two respondents (4%) suggested that the relationship between the scheme, action plan, spatial plan and

strategic agenda should be clarified.

Another suggested that the principles should form part of the assessment framework against which new welsh assembly government policies are tested.

Q2 is it right to maintain and extend the distinction between a statement of principles in the scheme, adopted by the assembly, and a set of actions to deliver them in an accompanying action plan for the assembly government?

Forty of the 49 responses submitted (82%) were in favour of the proposal.

Five respondents (10%) suggested that the scheme should include an updated version of learning to live differently, the action plan (comprising key policy areas for the period immediately ahead), and the set of indicators.

Four respondents (8%) suggested that the document should state that the scheme is owned by the assembly, with the action plan and its implementation the responsibility of the welsh assembly government.

Five respondents (10%) suggested that the principles, purpose and structure of the action plan should be included as part of the scheme.

Q3 is it right to retain the basic layout of the original scheme?

Thirty five of the 42 respondents (83%) favour retaining the layout of the original scheme. Six (14%) perceived that more clarity was required, particularly with regard to the key sustainability challenges and how to tackle them. One noted the omission of reference to the strategic management of water resources.

Four responses (10%) suggested that a section on 'where we are now in wales' and 'where we want to be' would be appropriate.

There were 3 suggestions for changing the layout.

Section 1: the duty

Q4 would these changes clarify the relationship between the scheme, its accompanying action plan and indicators, and other key documents?

The purpose of the amendments was to strengthen the framework of the scheme. Forty seven responses

were received.

Forty one (87%) agreed that the proposed changes did what they set out to do. Of these 24 (51%) were firmly in agreement, and a further 18 (38%) in favour with some reservations.

There was opposition from 12 respondents (26%) to the proposal to omit the sentence ‘this represents a change of culture and working practices’, perceiving that change was not yet taking place at all levels of all the relevant organisations.

There was general agreement with the proposal to publish indicators. Fourteen respondents (30%) commented on specific aspects relating to the indicators, with 3 asking how a full set of sustainable development indicators would relate to existing predominant indicators such as gross domestic product. Other suggestions included that their selection, nature and role be clarified; and that composite + headline indicators become part of scheme, with process indicators included with the action plan.

Six respondents (13%) suggested that the process by which the action plan would be developed and implemented should be included in the scheme.

Q5 would it be useful, in addition, to illustrate in what respects (in 1.3) our current way of living is unsustainable?

Of the 47 responses, 39 (83%) were in agreement; many were emphatic and included specific illustrations.

Examples were varied and included use of state of the environment data (3) or the index of multiple deprivation (a further 3). Four respondents perceived that the ecological footprint would demonstrate well the unsustainability of current lifestyles.

One respondent cited the example of traffic growth in wales, which rose by 4% in 2002, compared to 2.5% in Britain as a whole.

Section 2: The Definition Of Sustainable Development

Q6 would this change be helpful (ie we will ‘actively’ seek to influence others to do the same and to deliver change’).

Thirty seven of the 43 respondents (86%), agreed that the change was positive.

Nine respondents (21%) perceived that it was important to identify the groups and organisations that would be involved in delivering change, local authorities, aspbs and others.

Seven respondents (16%) perceived that the statement needed strengthening and expanding to identify how the assembly would 'actively seek', and what it might do, with one perceiving the change to be inadequate and that the assembly must enable others to deliver change.

Six wanted to know how the assembly would achieve change.

Q7 are any other changes or additions needed in order to clarify what is meant by sustainable development?

Of the 49 who responded 10 (20%) did not consider that clarification was necessary. The remainder favoured clarification or additional wording, with 19 (39%) suggesting that there were more meaningful definitions, making specific suggestions.

Three mentioned the importance of the global perspective, perceiving that acknowledge was needed for 'development which meets the need of all human life.'

Three supported the inclusion of a reference to 'culture',

Two advised that the welsh language translation of the bruntland definition was easier to understand.

Others suggested it would be useful to include examples of what did, or did not, constitute sustainable development.

Section 3: The Vision Of A Sustainable Wales

Q8 does this renewed vision give a clearer sense of the sort of wales we want?

Of the 54 responses received and of those who expressed an opinion, 32 (59%) agreed that the change was positive (although many sought amendments including the replacement of section 3.2). Seventeen (31%) were not in favour, perceiving that the inspirational element had been lost.

Fifteen respondents suggested additional wording in section 3,1, reflecting a wide range of topics.

Five (8%) respondents strongly believed that section 3.2 should not be omitted, perceiving that the concepts in the original text had not been adequately replaced. An additional 8 (15%) objected to the omission of specific aspects of the section.

Section 4: Supporting Uk Activity

Q9 what input should the welsh assembly government make to the review of the uk strategy in the light of our experience.

All 47 respondents agreed that the assembly government should make a substantial contribution to the uk strategy.

Fifteen (32%) suggested that the assembly should share their experience and best practice gained while developing the scheme, with two of these suggesting that such information could be usefully included in sustainable development documents prepared by other government departments. A further two proposed that local authority and as bp best practice was worthy of mention.

A further 3 respondents (6%) mentioned the sharing of constraints as well as opportunities, perceiving that it would be helpful to mention why some aspects of the scheme have been implemented more successfully than others.

Four (9%) suggested that its unique position in having a duty to implement sd made the assembly experience particularly valuable. Wales might therefore be able to contribute a valid input into how sd could work in other uk regions.

Four suggested that the uk strategy had had a positive influence on the assembly's scheme.

Q10 would it be helpful to refer here to he assembly's wish to contribute to the success of the eu's and un's strategies for sustainable development?

Forty four of the 46 respondents (96%) agreed with this proposal.

Seven commented on the relationship between united nations, european, uk and assembly policies, with suggestions from 5 respondents that a summary of their content be included in the scheme, showing clear relationships between them and local action plans and targets.

Some respondents stated that it was important not to delete the reference to the relationship between local and global activities.

Two respondents suggested that the scheme should contain an outline of some of the key sustainability issues in the major international agreements, with an indication of the action that the assembly would take.

Section 5: Fulfilling The Duty

Q11 is any important implication of translating the assembly's vision into action missing from this list?

There were 41 responses to this question and 31 (76%) proposed additions to the list.

Eight (20%) perceived that the general public should be actively involved in promoting sustainable development, and for this to happen there was a need for education and awareness raising. An additional comment was that sustainable practices should be integrated into education and training programmes. Five (12%) perceived that identifying the 'crunch' issues, through dialogue with leading stakeholders in the public, private, voluntary and community sectors, was imperative.

Four respondents (10%) called for the inclusion of reference to the global context. . . .

Section 5a: Through Decision Making

Q12 are these changes acceptable?

Q13 is any clarification necessary?

The proposed changes reflected that action to fulfil the key policy commitments is already underway, were endorsed by 93% of respondents (43 of 46). Nine (21%) sought clarification of some of the terms used in the section, including 'value for money', 'environmental standards' and 'green audit'. Six (14%) perceived that additional detail on the nature and application of appraisal mechanisms and tools, such as the policy integration tool, would be beneficial. Two respondents considered that the integration tool needed further development to ensure that it became a true sustainable development appraisal tool.

A further two respondents suggested that targets should be developed to define the proportion of procurement that should meet specified environmental standards. Another considered that the use of a specific sustainability standard, such as 'green dragon', would ensure that sustainability was reflected in work programmes. A further two commented that there was a need for a clear statement of the priorities and changes that were required to implement sustainable development in Wales

Section 5b: Through Strategic Policies...

Q14 is this all-embracing statement sufficient?

The proposal was to replace reference to the assembly's key strategies with an all embracing statement.

Of the 51 responses 14 (27%) were firmly in agreement with the statement while 10 (20%) clearly were not.. Many perceived the statement to be too vague with a few not giving a clear indication either way.

Fourteen respondents (27%) did not agree that the list of assembly's key strategies be replaced. Ten (20) suggested that they remain in the section, 3 that they be annexed to the scheme, and 5 that inclusion in the action plan would be appropriate.

Seven respondents (14%) stressed the importance of joined up policy making, perceiving that the proposed change of wording away from 'not only be underpinned by sustainable development principles but joined together' undermined the need for integration.

Section 5c: Through Specific Policy Actions

Q15 is this approach acceptable?

The proposal was that the action plan, rather than the scheme, set out the specific policy actions, but that some key priority outcomes could be highlighted.

Twenty eight of the 43 responses (65%) agreed with the proposal, with nine (21%) seeking assurance that the action plan would be sufficiently strong, containing all the actions and targets. There was also call for the action plan to be fully consulted on.

Eight respondents (19%) suggested that either the key aims or priority outcomes be specified in the scheme itself, to demonstrate the integration of the two documents; make the process more tangible; and clarifying the proposed outcomes to all stakeholders.

Section 5d: Working With Others

Q16 are these changes acceptable?

Q17 are any further changes needed?

The purpose of amending this section is to reflect progress made to date, and to clarify how the terms of the scheme apply to the assembly's partners and agents.

Working with partners, and developing all aspects of the scheme in dialogue, featured in answers throughout the consultation paper. There is a strong belief amongst respondents that stakeholders should

be involved early and fully in the development of all aspects of the scheme, with shared ownership and responsibility.

Sixteen respondents (35%) supported the suggested changes. Others proposed specific changes to clarify how the terms of the scheme apply to partners and agents, and to reflect progress.

Six respondents (13%) wanted to see greater emphasis on the role of the general public and awareness raising. One suggested that the assembly should recognise differences between the voluntary sector and communities, and that policies needed to be integrated at the local level to engage local people in their implementation.

Specific amendments were proposed. To reflect progress and to strengthen individual sections – 7 (15%) favoured changes in the ‘with business’ text, with 4 (9%) seeking change in the text ‘with local government’. . There were also calls not to weaken the wording, keeping ‘require’ rather than changing it to ‘encourage’; and to ‘direct’ local government and aspbs, not ‘guide’.

Section 5e: Leading By Example

Q18 will these commitments give an appropriate lead?

It was proposed that the assembly’s commitments be maintained with amendments to reflect progress; and for related actions to feature in the action plan.

There were 43 responses. They focused on particular areas, including:

- Having a clear commitment to drive forward local and green procurement by assembly and public bodies (7);
- Have a meaningful target for each commitment (4);
- Training all staff not just decision makers (3) and the provision of training for all partners (an additional 3);
- Explaining the term ‘green dragon’ (4), with consideration to using an integrated sustainability management system (e.g. Iso14001) rather than ‘green dragon’ (2 r); and
- Making the general public aware of what sustainability gains are being made in the assembly’s operations.

Section 5f Indicators & Targets

Q19 will these arrangements be clearer in terms of action and direction?

The proposal sought to clarify that an action plan and a full set of indicators would accompany the scheme when presented to plenary, and that the scheme would refer to both and indicate that both would be kept under review.

There were 46 responses and 13 (29%) had no major comments.

Eleven respondents (24%) commented specifically on issues relating to the proposed indicator set. Seven (15%) suggested that some key composite headline indicators be included in the scheme itself; with 11 (24%) commenting that process indicators and specific targets be included in the action plan. Three were keen to see indicators, developed in partnership with stakeholders and 2 others suggested that the indicator set and the action plan should be subject to consultation. One respondent questioned the validity of using indicators, suggesting that indicators were not an appropriate tool to identify if improvements were taking place at the local level..

Three responses (7%) pointed to a requirement for a comprehensive monitoring and reporting programme, as indicated by the cag report.

Section 5g: Monitoring, Review, Evaluation, Reporting And Feedback

Q20 will these arrangements make the reporting process a driver for change?

Proposals that the assembly will consult partners, and use uk and international experience, to compile reports; and will improve mechanisms for monitoring implementation.

Of the 43 responses, 6 (14%) gave an unqualified 'yes' to the question; one perceived that improving monitoring mechanisms was inadequate, with the remainder in agreement, with qualifications.

Two respondents asked how citizens and community groups would take part in processes of monitoring, review and evaluation; as it was important that the system be explicit and widely inclusive.

Other suggestions were that:

- The assembly and public bodies should report back its achievements against a common framework of principles, objectives, targets and indicators, and this framework should be confirmed in the scheme (2);
- Clarification of reporting arrangements (1);
- Dialogue with partners when compiling progress report (2)
- Independent reviews by third parties to verify progress (1) and
- Use a range of media and techniques for reporting on progress (2)

Organisations that responded to the consultation:

Arena network; blakesly, john; caerphilly cbc; care council for wales; carmarthenshire county council; centre for alternative technology;

Council for education in world citizenship – cymru; ceredigion county council; chanay, john; childrens commissioner; citizens advice bureau; cnd cymru; community development cymru; council for national parks;

Countryside council for wales; cprw; croft c; cyberium cyfellion y ddaear;

Cynnal cymru, wwf cymru & welsh consumer council; disabled persons transport committee; energy saving trust; environment agency wales; enviros consulting ltd; estyn; evangelical alliance; fforwm tirlun; friends of the earth; gweini; groundwork;

Gwynedd council; hefcw; house builders federation; hunt margaret;

Jmu access partnership; kingston phil; leslie phillippa; menter a busnes;

national botanic garden of wales; national fed of women's institutes; national trust; neath port talbot cbc; new opportunities fund; north wales economic forum; organic centre wales; our world foundation; oxfam cymru; pembrokeshire access group; pembrokeshire cc; planed; powys cc; rethinking construction centre;

Rspb cymru; spikes john; sustainable development co-ordinators cymru; sustainable gwynedd gynladwy; sustrans; swansea cc ;tearfund; university of wales bangor; uwic; wales centre for health; wales environment link;

Wales tourist board; wales council for voluntary action; welsh anti nuclear alliance; welsh association of national park authorities; welsh consumer council;

Welsh development agency; welsh language board; welsh local government association; woodland trust; wwf cymru.