

Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith /
Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee
Cymru Sero Net / Net Zero Wales
NZ08

Ymateb gan Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol / Evidence from National Trust



Ymddiriedolaeth
Genedlaethol
National Trust

Net Zero Wales

National Trust Cymru response

Response submitted by National Trust Cymru to the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee

12 November 2021

The National Trust is a charity founded in 1895 by three people who saw the importance of our nation's heritage and open spaces and wanted to preserve them for everyone to enjoy. More than 125 years later, these values are still at the heart of everything we do.

Introduction

National Trust Cymru is proud to care for 46,000 hectares of land, 157 miles of coastline and 18 of the nation's finest castles, houses, gardens and industrial sites. With the support of our staff and volunteers in Wales, more than 1.8 million visitors enjoy our places in Wales every year.

We place great importance on the conservation, management and enjoyment of the natural and historic environment both within and beyond our boundaries. We are committed to supporting the nation's green recovery, ensuring everyone feels welcome at our places and playing our part to tackle climate change, with the ambition to become carbon net zero in Wales by 2030 and restore 4,600 hectares of priority habitat by 2025 to reverse the decline in wildlife.

Net Zero Wales

National Trust Cymru welcomes the Net Zero Wales plan and the Welsh Government's commitment to working together towards a low carbon future and a greener, stronger, fairer Wales.

We know that the 2020s are the decisive decade for climate action and putting Wales on the pathway to net zero by 2050. We all have a role to play in helping Wales get there and the Net Zero Wales plan is a crucial milestone for our future, outlining the urgent action we must all take if we are to tackle the climate emergency. We will be reviewing the detail and ensuring that our path to net zero draws on the research and evidence presented.

Whilst we are still considering the detail of the plan, we note that there is no direct reference to tourism and would suggest that this is an area the Committee may wish to explore further with the Minister as it is such a crucial component of the Welsh economy, contributing around £6 billion.

It is critical that we build sustainability into the tourism sector in response to the changing climate and put in place appropriate mitigations and adaptations. We have recently undertaken research to analyse how climate change could affect domestic tourism and would be happy to share further information with the Committee.

We remain committed to playing our part and working in partnership to deliver for people and nature for generations to come.