

Our Ref: CX24-182
Your Ref: P-06-1449

Carolyn Thomas MS
Chair, Petitions Committee
Welsh Parliament

By email only: petitions@senedd.wales

31 January 2025

Dear Carolyn

Petition P-06-1449 Designate the Tywi Valley as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Further our correspondence regarding the above petition, I'm pleased to confirm that as requested by your Committee, NRW met with the Tywi Valley petitioners on 19 December 2024.

In the meeting, we provided details of the statutory designation process for landscape designations in Wales and outlined our and Welsh Government's respective roles. We explained that our current designation work is focused on undertaking the Programme for Government commitment to examine the case for a new National Park in Wales, and that due to the complexity and legal requirements of the process, our limited resources and expertise are being concentrated on this significant piece of work.

The petitioners' proposal was discussed in greater detail and we clarified that landscape designation does not prevent lawful development from taking place. We advised that understanding the level of support from relevant local authorities, establishing the views of democratic representatives and local communities would be beneficial before consideration of any future proposals. We also discussed how the current NRW project to map natural beauty across Wales will provide an evidence base to inform initial assessments of any proposals for new landscape designations in the future.

We understand that the petitioners found our discussion useful and we have provided them with further information on our guidance on the landscape designation process.

Yours sincerely



Ceri Davies
Prif Swyddog Gweithredol Dros Do
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.
Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.