



Alun Ffred Jones AM  
Chair, Environment and Sustainability Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

22 April 2014

Dear Sir,

### **Refreshing the Climate Change Strategy**

I attach for your consideration a recent letter to the Minister for Natural Resources and Food, from Wales Environment Link's Climate Change Working Group. It outlines some suggestions of what WEL considers should be incorporated into a Refresh of the Climate Change Strategy.

WEL is concerned that there is little evidence that the actions in the Strategy have made a significant contribution to Welsh emission reductions. In order to explore this further, especially in light of the recent UN report on climate change, we were wondering if the Committee was thinking of holding an inquiry into the Strategy. This could provide significant input into the proposed Refresh.

WEL plans to further evaluate actions against the Strategy and would be glad to share this information once developed. As stated in the letter, WEL welcomes the proposed Refresh and reiterates its support for an effective and resilient Strategy. We would be happy to discuss this further with you, if you would find that helpful.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome you in your new role as Chair of the E&S Committee. WEL has been fortunate in enjoying a fruitful relationship with the Committee and we look forward to working with you in the future.

WEL's Advocacy Officer Raoul Bhambra is on hand to liaise between your office and the network and can be contacted on [Raoul@waleslink.org](mailto:Raoul@waleslink.org). If there is any more assistance we can provide, or more information you would like, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Jones  
Chair, Climate Change Working Group



Alun Davies AM  
Minister for Natural Resources and Food  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

11 April 2014

Dear Alun,

### **Refreshing the Climate Change Strategy**

WEL would like to thank you again for meeting with us earlier in February, where you told us more about your intentions to refresh the Government's Climate Change Strategy. We also welcome your agreement for stakeholder engagement with WEL on this issue.

As you may know, WEL has [33 member organisations](#), representing 241,000 subscribing members in Wales. As the official intermediary body between Welsh Government and the environmental NGO sector, WEL is suitably positioned to engage the broad spectrum of climate change experts within the network to help contribute towards this refresh, together with your ambition for a strategy that delivers emissions reductions that meet, or better yet exceed, Wales' domestic and international targets.

Network discussions within WEL began when you announced the refresh and have intensified since the recent UN Climate Panel's report. The report's grim conclusions only serve to highlight how important it is for Wales to have a resilient and comprehensive strategy.

As part of the refresh, our experts would expect to see an evaluation of current progress with the actions in the Strategy, and their contribution to emissions reductions. No doubt this would identify not only where new measures not currently included in the Strategy are needed to reduce emissions, but also areas where planned action should be accelerated. This includes both technological actions such as retrofitting home insulation but also ecological solutions such as blanket bog restoration.

We recommend that a more structured delivery plan for each sector is required, with a clear indication of how the actions identified will contribute to emission reductions. Critically, this should also include timescales for action (as in WEL's original response to the Climate Change Strategy consultation).

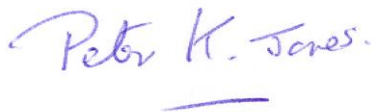
We would welcome more information on your thoughts on the scope and timescale of the refresh as soon as they become available. This will help to ensure that our own talks within the network proceed in a timely way that would provide the most effective input to the Government's considerations.

We also await the publication of the Government's research into measuring Wales' ecological footprint and our consumption related emissions. This research will be crucial and we would welcome being part of a discussion on how best to take this research forward.

WEL's Advocacy Officer Raoul Bhambral is on hand to liaise between your office and the network and can be contacted on [Raoul@waleslink.org](mailto:Raoul@waleslink.org). If there is any more assistance we can provide, or more information you would like, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Jones  
Chair, Climate Change Working Group