



Complete Agenda

Democratic Service
Council Offices
CAERNARFON
Gwynedd
LL55 1SH



Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.

This document is also available in Welsh.

Meeting

LLŶN A.O.N.B JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date and Time

4.00 pm, WEDNESDAY, 18TH MARCH, 2026

Location

Virtual Meeting

For public access to the meeting, please contact us

Contact Point

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LLŶN A.O.N.B JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

Gwynedd Councillors

**Dafydd Davies
Gareth Tudor Jones
John Brynmor Hughes
Gruffydd Williams
Gareth Williams**

Others

Aberdaron, Buan, Botwnnog, Clynnog, Llanbedrog, Trefor a Llanaelhaearn, Llanengan, Nefyn, Pistyll and Tudweiliog Community Council nominees.

Gwynedd Council's Countryside Champion

Nominees of the following agencies/institutions:

**National Trust,
Natural Resources Wales,
Arfon and Dwyfor Access Forum,
Cyfeillion Llŷn,
National Farmers Union,
Farmers Union of Wales,
Abersoch and Llŷn Tourism Partnership,
Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales,
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust,
Llŷn Fishermen's Association.**

A G E N D A

1. APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

To receive any declaration of personal interest.

3. URGENT ITEMS

To note any items that are a matter of urgency in the view of the Chairman for consideration.

4. MINUTES

4 - 10

The Chair shall propose that the minutes of this committee, held on 02 July 2025, be signed as a true record.

5. UPDATE ON LLŶN AONB CAPITAL PROJECTS

11 - 13

To provide an update on the Llŷn AONB capital projects.

6. TIRLUN BYW

14 - 33

To inform and update members on the progress of the Tirlun Byw project.

7. THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND

34 - 45

To update members on the Sustainable Development Fund for the current financial year (2025-26) and inform members of changes to the Fund's administration as a result of amendments to the Framework document published by the Welsh Government, and to select new members for the Sustainable Development Fund Panel.

8. STATE OF THE AONB REPORT

46 - 183

To inform members on the State of the Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Report.

LLŶN AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE 02/07/2025

Present:

Members: Councillors **Gareth Williams**, **Gareth Tudor Jones**, **Gruffydd Williams** along with **Sian Parri** (Tudweiliog Community Council), **Noel Davey** (Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales), **Linda Ashton** (Natural Resources Wales), **Eirian Allport** (Clynnog Fawr Community Council), **Dewi Evans** (Aberdaron Community Council), **Andrew Parry** (Llanbedrog Community Council), **Jenny Emmett** (Gwynedd Archaeology), **Euros Jones** (FWAG Cymru), **Robert Parkinson** (National Trust), and **Morgan Jones-Parry** (Arfon and Dwyfor Access Forum)

Officers: **Bleddyn P. Jones** (Llŷn AONB Officer), **Heledd Fflur Jones** (Planning Policy Team Leader), **Morus Llwyd Dafydd** (AONB Project Officer), **Kevin Roberts** (Countryside Warden - Llŷn AONB) and **Rhodri Jones** (Democracy Services Officer).

Present for item 7: Iwan Ifan (Ffermio Bro)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

It was resolved to elect **Sian Parri (Tudweiliog Community Council)** as Chair for the 2025/26 period.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

It was resolved to elect Councillor **Gareth Williams** as Vice-chair for the year 2025/26.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

- **Einir Wyn** (Llanengan Community Council)
- **Councillor Angela Russell** (Cyngor Gwynedd Countryside Champion)
- **Hughie Williams** (Buan Community Council)
- **Gillian Walker** (Cyfeillion Llŷn)
- **Hedd Rhys** (NFU)
- **Sianelen Fleming** (Pistyll Community Council)

Andrew Parry was welcomed to his first meeting of this Joint Advisory Committee, upon being elected to represent Llanbedrog Community Council following the retirement of T Victor Jones (former Chair of the Committee). T Victor Jones was thanked for his vast contribution to the AONB Joint Committee over the years, wishing him a happy retirement.

Gillian Walker (Cyfeillion Llŷn) was thanked for her contribution to this Joint Committee, and it was noted that Cyfeillion Llŷn would be electing a new replacement representative in future.

4. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

5. URGENT ITEMS

None to note.

6. MINUTES

The Chair signed the minutes of the previous meeting of this Joint Committee, held on 26 November 2024, as a true record.

7. FFERMIO BRO

The report was presented by the Llŷn AONB Officer and Ffermio Bro representative.

It was explained that Ffermio Bro was a new environmental grant scheme aimed at helping farmers to protect nature and the environment whilst also supporting businesses and rural communities. It was noted that it had been developed by the Welsh Government, in partnership with the National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), ensuring that only the areas of these designated landscapes would be eligible for this grant. It was noted that this scheme had been scheduled for the next three years.

It was noted that these designated landscapes received funding to enable farmers to apply directly to the relevant authorities for grant support, adding that £104,000 had been allocated to the Llŷn AONB for this financial year. Attention was drawn to the fact that the funding would be allocated to projects that would benefit both nature and biodiversity such as building and restoration of stone walls, inland restoration, creating ponds and hedgerows and supporting natural flood defences, amongst other projects. It was explained that the emphasis was being placed on a clustering and collaborative element, highlighting that it was a precursor to the Sustainable Farming Scheme.

It was noted that officers had been appointed to administer this grant in the Llŷn AONB areas and Eryri National Park, reporting that small and straightforward applications would be determined by the officers independently. It was emphasised that large applications would be considered by a Panel. The members were asked to elect a representative from this Joint Committee to attend a Ffermio Bro Grants Panel which would meet approximately twice a year in Penrhyndeudraeth, noting that the representative would be required to undertake some background work into the applications received before attending the meeting.

A reminder was given of the plans that are in place to raise awareness of this grant scheme in various different ways through the Agricultural Unions, Llygad Llŷn, Sioe Nefyn and the social media, with much interest having been declared thus far. Attention was drawn to the fact that 23 applications for funding had been received in the area so far, with the deadline for submitting applications for this financial year having now ended as it was likely that the budget would be spent in light of these applications. It was reported that the majority of applications within the AONB related to building hedgerows and creating sheltered areas to protect stock, with some applications detailing water quality projects. It was noted that any project funded within this financial year needed to be completed by 1 March 2026.

During the discussion, the following observations were noted:

Pride was expressed that so many applications for funding had been received, asking whether applicants from different areas within the Llŷn AONB had declared interest. It was also asked how the number of applicants compared with other areas eligible for the grant. In response, the Ffermio Bro representative confirmed that applicants within the Llŷn AONB came from different areas in the AONB, with some areas having several applicants. It was also reported that the Llŷn AONB had received more applications for grant money than the other areas.

In response to concerns, the Ffermio Bro representative assured that the plan would neither tackle re-wilding nor intend to modify farming methods in any way. It was noted that the intention was to support farmers as they were taking the lead, emphasising that there was no focus on doing anything to their land that they did not want. It was elaborated that the grant could support farmers to develop what is already on the land and did not intend to make any new access routes. It was explained that discussions would take place with AONB and Cyngor Gwynedd officers if such matters arose to ensure that there was no double funding of projects.

DECISION

- **To accept the report, noting the observations made during the discussion.**
- **To elect Councillor Gruffydd Williams to represent the Joint Committee on the Ffermio Bro Grant Panel.**

8. UPDATE ON LLŷN AONB CAPITAL PROJECTS

The report was presented by the Llŷn AONB Officer.

It was reported that these capital projects were being funded through a Welsh Government Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places grant scheme (SLSP), noting that SLSP was only available for designated landscapes in Wales (Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks). It was explained that the projects mentioned in the report had now ended as the SLSP only ran between 2022-2025. However, assurance was given that the scheme would continue for 2025-2027.

Details were given of the capital projects for 2022-2025 noting that the Welsh Government's themes for projects within this timeframe were: 'Biodiversity and nature recovery', 'Decarbonisation', 'Resilient and green communities' and 'Sustainable Tourism'. A reminder was given that the Llŷn AONB had projects that were eligible for all of these themes, as mentioned in previous meetings and more recently in the Llygad Llŷn newsletter. It was elaborated that these projects included:

- **Common Land** - improvements to common land such as Foel Gron, Horeb and Rhos Botwnnog.
- **Native Trees** - planting 5,000 trees on well-known sites.
- **Invasive alien species** - tackling alien species such as Himalayan balsam, rhododendron, and Japanese knotweed in several areas within the AONB, focusing specifically on the area of Trefor.
- **Y Ganolfan, Llithfaen** - renovating the centre in partnership with a significant budget from the UK Government's Shared Prosperity fund. Pride was expressed that the Centre had now been reopened to the public.
- **Car Park at Llanbedrog Quarry** - tidying the area including resurfacing the car park, installing picnic benches and cutting growth and planting trees.

It was explained that cooperative work had been completed with other designated landscapes such as the 'Traditional Boundaries' in the area of Cilan and Edern, 'Dark Sky' and 'Landscape Education Pack' projects in cooperation with Pembrokeshire Council.

It was confirmed that the SLSP scheme had been funded by the Welsh Government for an additional two years. It was noted that no amendments had been made to the themes of the projects being supported however that a specific focus was being placed on 'nature recovery' and 'decarbonisation' during this period.

An update was given that the Llŷn AONB capital projects for the next two years would include: Planting native trees in the AONB, Eradicating invasive alien species, Site of Special Scientific Interest at Abergeirch and Decarbonisation of village halls/centres.

During the discussion, the following observations were noted:

There was agreement with the viewpoint that invasive alien species affected plants in the AONB and pride was expressed in the fact that there were plans in place to continue to address these challenges.

In response to an enquiry about preventing invasive alien species, the Llŷn AONB Officer confirmed that the aim of the AONB was to deal with growth on public land or land bordering with public land. The need to contact Cyngor Gwynedd with any issues arising on public land was noted.

In response to an enquiry about the budget available for these capital projects, the Llŷn AONB Officer confirmed that approximately £200,000 was available and assured that more detailed information would be circulated to the Joint Committee members.

DECISION

To accept the report, noting the observations made during the discussion.

9. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND

The report was presented by the AONB Project Officer.

It was explained that £100,000 had been allocated to the Fund for the 2024/25 financial year and that the budget had been claimed in full by supporting the following projects:

- RSPB Morfa Dinlle
- 1st Mate Maritime Museum
- Cydio yn awen Enlli (Writing on Enlli)
- Llanbedrog Playing Field
- Melin Daron
- Antur Aelhaearn
- Menter Rabar
- Menter y Tŵr
- Tudweiliog noticeboard
- RSPB Porth Ceiriad

An update was given that £95,000 had been allocated to the Fund for 2025/26. It was stated that this money was very likely to be claimed in full as a number of projects had already been supported, with the Panel's next meeting having been scheduled for July.

Details were given of the projects that have been supported by the Panel so far this year, namely:

- Llŷn Flexi Bus
- Llanbedrog Playing Field
- Nefyn multi-use paths
- 1st Mate Maritime Museum
- Enlli solar power
- Porthdinllaen Rowing Club
- Decarbonisation of Rhiw Hall
- Antur Aelhaearn Garden

Pride was expressed that an allocation of £95,000 had already been confirmed for 2026/27. It was elaborated that the new Welsh Government requirements noted the need for 60% of the applications supported to be earmarked for projects that align with the Nature Recovery and Decarbonisation themes. It was foreseen that reaching this target in Llŷn would prove difficult considering the projects that have been funded in the past, however attention was drawn to the fact that projects such as installing double glazing, insulation and solar panels contributed towards the decarbonisation targets - it was assured that this information would be shared with the public.

It was noted that new guidance for the Panel would become operational in April 2026, which would affect the Panel's membership. Assurance was given that officers would present further information on this matter at the next meeting of the Joint Committee.

During the discussion, the following observations were noted:

It was agreed that the target presented by Welsh Government was very high. In response, the AONB Project Officer confirmed that a number of projects approved this year, such as the Llŷn Flexi Bus and Llanbedrog playing field, were projects similar to those that could contribute to this target. Attention was also drawn to a new scoring system that would be presented to assess whether or not projects met the statutory requirements.

It was asked whether Welsh Government could be contacted to modify this target, as it did not align with the Llŷn AONB's vision in producing a new plan. However, the AONB Project Officer confirmed that this target could not be modified as it affected all AONBs and National Parks, with all being asked to comply.

A request was made to receive information about the projects supported over a 5-year period in future reports so that Members could compare the projects that have been submitted.

DECISION

To accept the report, noting the observations made during the discussion.

10. **REVIEWING THE AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The report was presented by the Llŷn AONB Officer.

A reminder was given that an initial discussion on the Management Plan had taken place at the last meeting of the Joint Committee, held on 26 November 2024. An update was given that a Guide had been updated and published by Land Use Consultants on behalf

of Natural Resources Wales on how to prepare and review Management Plans. It was emphasised that consultation with AONB residents and stakeholders was crucial. It was noted that this was a lengthy guide and that Welsh and English summaries were in hand but had not yet been published. Attention was drawn to the fact that the main steps to be taken in creating and producing a management plan included:

- Assessing the latest information about the area's features
- Taking into account and incorporating information from relevant plans and strategies
- Reviewing the Aims/Objectives and Policies of the Plan
- Creating a new action plan for the Management Plan period
- Reviewing the Strategic Environmental Assessment / Habitats Regulations.

It was noted that a Report on State of the Llŷn AONB has been commissioned by the AONB Unit in 2021, with copies having recently been circulated to Joint Committee members. Attention was drawn to some observations received in light of this, such as:

- Why the report was English only
- A lack of information on some matters such as climate change, landscape, welfare, pollution and biodiversity.
- No reference to the Shoreline Management Plan.
- That more recent information was now available on some matters such as agriculture.
- It would be useful to see how other plans tied in as part of the content of the revised Management Plan such as the Local Development Plan, Gwynedd and Môn Welfare Assessment and the North-West Area Statement.
- That the State Report needed to align with the new guide commissioned by NRW

It was explained that the intention was to amend and update the State Report to obtain an accurate picture of the area and pressure on the environment. Assurance was given that both a Welsh and English version were being prepared. It was noted that the intention was for this revised report to be published by November 2025.

A reminder was given that no amendments had been made to the Special Features for the AONB but that members had formed a new vision at the last meeting of this Joint Committee, namely:

A beautiful landscape and coastal area with native wildlife and their habitat flourishing, a low level of environmental pollution and a variety of access and public opportunities. Historic buildings and features in a good state, local businesses succeeding and Llŷn AONB communities maintaining and strengthening the Welsh language and its culture.

An update was given that officers had sought members' opinions regarding what the controversial matters were in relation to the AONB's features, for these to be incorporated into the Management Plan and present a summary of these observations and officers' response to them.

It was reported that officers would amend the objectives and policies of the current Management Plan to ensure that they were up to date. It was explained that it was likely that new policies would need to be introduced in light of observations and also to respond effectively to new and emerging challenges. Attention was also drawn to an Action Programme over a 5-year period which is part of the current Management Plan, confirming that most items within this had now been completed. It was noted that this

document could possibly be amended for the next period with new activities whilst ensuring that anything already on the list was also noted for this period.

During the discussion, the following observations were noted:

A sense of pride was noted that this Joint Committee had a role to play in the development of the Plan. Officers were asked to ensure that the Joint Committee was central to decisions, and whether Joint Committee members would agree to share e-mail addresses so that wider considerations could take place beyond this meeting. In response, the AONB Officer confirmed that officers would seek guidance on this matter to ensure that everybody's e-mail addresses could be shared in accordance with data protection regulations.

Several ideas of partners that could enrich the plan were shared such as Menter Iaith Gwynedd, GwyrddNi and Cylch yr Iaith along with some matters that require a response within the plan such as Housing Assessments and Article 4 Direction within planning. Consideration was also given to asking for the opinion of the local Community Councils for the State Report to which the AONB Officer replied that the Report would be produced based merely on facts about the AONB features confirming that there would be an opportunity to discuss with councils and individuals at a later stage in the development process.

Responding to an enquiry, the AONB Officer gave reassurance that the Welsh language and its culture were central considerations when dealing with all aspects of the Plan.

In response to the query, the AONB Officer explained the need to establish two documents, as the State of the AONB Plan included vital information obtained from censuses or from partners such as Dŵr Cymru (Welsh Water) or Natural Resources Wales, whilst the Management Plan responded to any emerging challenges, with the community having the opportunity to make observations once the draft plan had been produced.

DECISION

- **To accept the report, noting the observations made during the discussion.**
- **To support the intention to update the State of the AONB Report and continue with the work of reviewing the Management Plan.**

The meeting commenced at 4.00pm and concluded at 5.30pm

CHAIR

COMMITTEE	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
DATE	March 18 th 2026
TITLE	Update on Llŷn AONB capital projects
PURPOSE	Inform members
AUTHOR	AONB Officer
RECOMMENDATION	To accept the information

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report contains an update on the Llŷn AONB capital projects. These projects are financed through the Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places (SLSP) programme by Welsh Government. It is only the Designated Landscapes, i.e National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty that are able to apply for this funding.

2.0 CAPITAL PROJECT THEMES

2.1 Themes for the Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places scheme (2025-27) were set by Welsh Government and were as follows:

- Promoting biodiversity and nature recovery
- Accelerating decarbonisation
- General improvements relating to access, infrastructure and visitor pressures

2.2 The Llŷn AONB Unit had submitted an application which included a number of projects for each theme. A brief summary of each project is now provided. Information on the projects will also be included in the Llygad Llŷn newsletter which will be published soon.

3.0 PLANTING NATIVE TREES

3.1 Following on previous work by the AONB Unit one project over the past year has been the planting of native trees. Planting trees of this type offers significant environmental benefits including:

- Creating habitats for wildlife
- Carbon sequestration
- Water purification and management
- Providing a sustainable resource for the future

3.2 A number of sites were considered for planting but in the end the focus was on the following sites:

- Tŷ'n Parc, Y Rhiw
- Plas yn Rhiw, Y Rhiw,
- Land near the Cemetery, Nefyn

3.3 Native trees from local suppliers were used for planting, including oak, birch, holly, rowan, hazel and blackthorn/ hawthorn trees. Our partners on this project were the National Trust and Nefyn Town Council.

4.0 NON-NATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES

4.1 This project is again a follow-up to previous work with non-native species in and around the AONB. Non-native species are harmful to the area's native wildlife and are identified as a threat. We were therefore keen to try to get rid of these species in certain locations.

4.2 During 2025 work to dispose of the himalayam balsam was carried out on two sites – at Pistyll and Penllech. Although other sites had been identified, the plant seemed to be so strongly established in some of those area that it would not be possible to get the non-native species under control.

4.3 Japanese knotweed is generally easier to handle than balsam because it does not spread as quickly. Therefore, during 2025, a lot of effort was put into spraying the knotweed at various public sites, and in particular in the village of Trefor. We will revisit these sites in 2026 and re-treat if necessary.

4.4 Also as part of the work on invasive non-natives rhododendron trees were cut down at the lower levels of Garn Boduan and near the beach at Llanbedrog.

5.0 DECARBONISATION OF VILLAGE HALLS/ CENTRES

5.1 The aim of this project is to assist village halls/community centres to decarbonise through measures such as insulation, switching to low energy LED lighting, zero carbon heating systems and the creation and/or storage of renewable energy. The measures will also contribute towards financial sustainability as they save costs.

5.2 During 2025-26 the AONB Unit worked with three village halls/ community centres to create the following improvements:

- Edern Community Hall - a simple project to upgrade all the lights to LED ones
- Sarn Memorial Hall – a battery system to store renewable energy (solar panels already in place) and reduce reliance on the electricity grid.
- Y Ganolfan Centre, Trefor – lighting upgrades to LED, installation of roof mounted solar panels, battery storage system, insulation.

6. ABERGEIRCH

- 6.1 An area of land, approximately 18 hectares, between the village of Edern and the coast has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The river Geirch runs through the site and comes into the sea at Abergeirch. The site has been designated as one of special scientific interest due to its special marshy wetland vegetation.
- 6.2 As part of this project Ecoscope was commissioned to carry out an ecological assessment of the site and the features that make it unique. The report also includes recommendations on how parts of the site can be sustained and restored. During 2026-7 it is hoped that work can be done to realise some of these actions as well as improving on-site access and signage.

7.0 GENERAL PROJECTS - ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- 7.1 In addition to the nature and decarbonisation projects, the AONB Unit put forward a number of infrastructure/access improvement projects as part of TCLC in 2025-26. Very briefly these projects were:
- Porthor – restoration of multi-use path along the coast and installation of picnic benches
 - Aberdaron - Bodwrdda – reopening and improving an important local route
 - Clynnog – improving two key routes in the area
 - Trefor Quay – renewing rusty railings on the quay and installation of new benches

8.0 JOINT PROJECTS

- 8.1 In addition to specific projects to the Llŷn AONB the area has benefited from joint projects with other Designated Landscapes. There will be an update on these projects at the meeting, they are :
- Dark Skies
 - Tirlun 2 - Landscape Education Pack

9.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 Accept the information.

COMMITTEE	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
DATE	March 18th 2026
TITLE	Tirlun Byw
PURPOSE	Share Information and Provide Update
AUTHOR	Llŷn AONB Events Officer (EWH)
RECOMMENDATIONS	Accept the information.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Tirlun Byw is a three-year project (2024 – 27) – funded by Natural Resources Wales and Gwynedd Council. This project recognises the AONB as a living landscape where people visit, live and work. There is an emphasis therefore on providing and opportunity for people to enjoy the AONB and to directly contribute to the preservation of the area’s special qualities.
- 1.2 The project compliments many local targets – such as the AONB’s Management Plan, the aims of Natural Resources Wales, the Welsh Governments’ wellbeing targets and Gwynedd Council’s priority areas (Gwynedd Council Plan 2023-28).

2.0 2025/26 ACTIVITIES

- 2.1 **Attachment A** gives a summary of all events held during this financial year. Information is given on each event and how many people attended.
- 2.2 **Attachment B** shares photographs of a few events.
- 2.3 **Attachment C** showcases the success of one set of events in particular. We held poetry workshops in local school as part of the Wales Dark Sky Week 2026 celebrations. We have been promoting the dark skies and raising awareness of the harmful effects of light pollution. Meirion MacIntyre Huws was commissioned to lead the workshops, and they have been a great success. The project has worked well, with great feedback from school staff. It is a pleasure to share some of the completed poetry with you.

3.0 UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3.1 We have already began preparing for events in the spring. We can confirm two events in particular and would appreciate if you can share the information: -

- **30/04/2026** – Information Session on Invasive Species with Gethin Davies from Eryri National Park Authority. We will be looking at various invasive species and how they can be treated effectively. We will also be having an update in relation to the LIFE Project – the Eryri Celtic Rainforests project.
- **14/05/2026** – Information Session about Planning Successful Guided Walks. A session with Elin Hughes and Carys Evans (Canolfan Fenter Congl Meinciau). We will be sharing good practice and helping to improve confidence for those who wish to arrange such events in the area.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The events held have reached most targets set as part of the funding agreements. Many people have been given the opportunity to enjoy the AONB and learn more about the special qualities.
- 4.2 We are very grateful to the funders for enabling us to continue with the project – and we look forward to continuing with events from April onwards. We are currently preparing the 2026/27 schedule of events.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 We ask the committee members to accept the information. We welcome any suggestions and feedback also.

APPENDIX A

Date	Event Title	Further Details	Numbers
11.04.25	Aberdaron Volunteering Session	Works on Public Footpath No 16	4
17.04.25	Llandegwning Volunteering Session	Improvements with Y Rhiw YFC Members	11
14.05.25	Ysgol Crud y Werin Nature Walk	Public Footpath No 16	36
29.05.25	Hayflower Meadow Workshop	Session with Jo Porter	20
06.07.25	Working with Willow	Creating features for the garden with Jo Porter	9
22.08.25	Dry Stone Walling Training	Session in Rhiw with Dilwyn Williams	7
29.08.25	Dry Stone Walling Training	Session in Rhiw with Dilwyn Williams	9
13.09.25	The History of Llandegwning Church	With John Dilwyn Williams	12
30.09.25	Nanhoron Volunteering Sessions	Improvements to Capel Newydd	2
10.01.26	Porth Neigwl Volunteering Session	With ACA Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau	30+
30.01.26	Poetry Workshop - Ysgol Crud y Werin	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	34
06.02.26	Poetry Workshop - Ysgol Pentreuchaf	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	32
15.02.26	Straeon y Sêr - Story Session	Stories with Mair Tomos Ifans	38
25.02.26	Poetry Workshop - Ysgol Ederm	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	28
27.02.26	Poetry Workshop - Ysgol Tudweiliog	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	21
27.02.26	Poetry Workshop - Ysgol Foel Gron	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	9
04.03.26	Poetry Workshop - Ysgol Brynaerau	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	28
05.03.26	Gweithy Barddoni - Ysgol Botwnnog	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	42
06.03.26	Gweithy Barddoni - Ysgol Botwnnog	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	48
07.03.26	Dani Robertson - Dark Sky Events	Session with Dani - Dark Sky Officer	12
18.03.26	Straeon y Sêr - Story Session	Stories with Mair Tomos Ifans	To Come
25.03.26	Poetry Workshop - Ysgol Nefyn	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	To Come
To Come	Poetry Workshop - Ysgol yr Eifl	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	To Come
To Come	Poetry Workshop - Ysgol Pont y Gof	Celebrating the Dark Skies - with Mei Mac	To Come
Total			402
Volunteering Sessions			
Information / Training Events			
General Events			

APPENDIX B







Plast Off! Porth Neigwl

Glanhau'r traeth - Beach clean

Dydd Sadwrn Ionawr 10fed
Saturday January 10th

9.30am-1.30pm

Cyfarfod - maes parcio Porth Neigwl
Meet - Porth Neigwl Car Park



Ymwirwch gyda ni i gydwrn sbectolwyrddyn newydd trwy wella'r amgylchedd. Bydd hwyfod cyfle i ddyfogu am yr Iffifa Mlyn Hafn a bywyd gwylt morol.

Darperir offer casglu sbectol. Dewch i'ch menyf eich hun os oes gennych rai, dilled cymys a gwrth-ddŵr, a beth am dŵl a cwpan y gallir ei aildefnyddio gyda diod poeth.

Join us to start your new year with some positive action for the planet. There will also be an opportunity to learn about the Great Eggcase Hunt and marine wildlife.

Litter picking equipment provided. Just bring your own gloves if you have some, warm and waterproof clothing and how about bringing a reusable cup with a hot drink.





Dathlu'r Awyr Dywyll

Noson o Chwedlau

Yn Nghwmni Mair Tomos Ifans

Plas Carmel - Aberdaron

Nos Sul, Chwefror 15fed 2026
6:30 yr hwyr

Mynediad a Phaned am Ddim
Mae angen cadw lle os gwelwch yn dda!
ahne@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

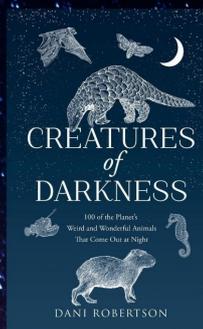
This is an advert for an evening of stories and folk tales through the medium of Welsh. Suitable for Welsh speakers of all levels.

E-Mail for enquiries - ahne@gwynedd.llyw.cymru



Dani Robertson

Neuadd Dwyfor
Mawrth 7 March
10.30am



APPENDIX C

BYWYD YR YSTLUM

"Sut oedd bywyd i ystlum ers talwm Nain?"
Roedd yr awyr cyn ddued ag adenydd brain!
A phryfaid yn dew hyd a lled y fro,
Pryfaid ym mhobman ac i rownd bob tro;
Gwyfynnod tew, blasus o bob llun a lliw
A ninnau'n eu hela bob nos yn un criw!

"Dan ni'n llwgu bellach! Be' ddigwyddodd Nain?
Does dim byd i'w hela ond mymryn o chwain!"
Daeth y golau. Y golau - a chwalu ein byd,
Yn dallu a drysu a difetha o hyd:
Golau'r cae rygbi, y siop jips a'r sied,
A'r golau sy'n fflachio ar do mawr tŷ Ned.

"Mae hyn yn drychineb! O! be wnawn ni Nain?"
Meddai'r ystlum fach ofnus ac ar brigau'r drain.
Mi chwiliwn am gartref sydd yn llawer iawn gwell,
Lle mae'r tw'llwch yn agos a'r llygredd yn bell;
Mi awn i fro Carnguwch, down o hyd i dŷ
Lle mae'r awyr yn dywyll a'r nos yn ddu.

Ysgol Pentreuchaf
6 Mawrth 2026

GADWCH LONYDD

Gadewch i'r llwynog hela
I'w g'nafon bach gael bwyd
Ac i'r dylluan lwglyd
Gael pryd o lygod llwyd.

Gadewch i'r mochyn daear
Wneud llanast yn y coed
Ac i'r pathew del a phitw
Gael sleifio'n ysgafn droed.

Gadewch i'r awyr dywyll
Gael bod fel bol buwch fawr,
Gadewch i'r harddwch aros
Nes bod hi'n doriad gwawr.

Gadewch i'r creaduriaid,
Y pry' a'r gwdi-hŵ.
Pwy ydan ni i ddiffodd
Eu t'wllwch prydferth nhw?

*Bl 7, Ysgol Uwchradd Botwnnog
5 Mawrth 2026*

COLLI ENW, COLLI ENAID

Roedd pentref Rhosdylluan
Yn ddistaw fel y bedd,
Y sêr o bell yn gwenu,
Yr oriau man mewn heddd,
Ac ar ei thaith o'r goedwig ddofn
Dôl gwddi-hw i godi ofn.

Mae Rhosdylluan bellach
Yn llachar fel rhyw ffair,
A goleuadau'n dallu
Pob clawdd, pob blewyn gwair;
Pob cysgod wedi ei 'sbydu'n llwyr,
Fel canol p'nawn yw oriau'r hwyr.

Gadawodd y dylluan
'Run pryd â'r ser di-ri
I chwilio am awyr dywyll,
Aeth âi henw efo hi;
A does dim enaid pluog, gwyn
Yn Rhosdylluan erbyn hyn.

*Bl 8, Ysgol Uwchradd Botwnnog
5 Mawrth 2026*

GOLAU'R TYWYLLWCH

Mewn distawrwydd mae prydferthwch
Ar hyd y nos,
Ac mae cyfoeth mewn tywyllwch
Ar hyd y nos:
Blewyn coch ac adain denau,
Ysgafn draed, busneslyd ffroenau,
Blas ar waed a miniog glustiau
Ar hyd y nos.

Llygaid craff ar helpa sydyn,
Dan seren dlos,
Pelen bigog ar ôl mwydyn,
Rhwngh clawdd a ffos,
Swil a llwyd â bol bach barus,
Llithren araf ac anghennus,
Mochyn gwyn a du truenus,
Yng nghanol rhos.

Hydref, gwanwyn haf a gaeaf,
Ar hyd y nos,
Dan yr awyr dywyll eithaf,
Ar hyd y nos,
Hyd eu llwybrau llawn dirgelwch,
Yn eu lliwiau a'u holl harddwch
Gadewch iddynt gael llonyddwch
Ar hyd y nos.

*Bl 7, Ysgol Uwchradd Botwnnog
5 Mawrth 2026*

SÊR

Dros yr Eglwys a Maen Dylan
Bachwen a Phont y Cim
Da fyddai awyr dywyll
I mi gael gweld pob dim:

Y seren fawr tua'r Gogledd
A Gwener lachar, wen,
A'r seren losg sy'n gwibio
Ar daith drwy d'wllwch nen.

Y sêr sy'n wincio arnaf,
Yn berffaith, yno o hyd,
A'r *un* a aeth â'r doethion
At y baban yn ei grud.

Y Llwybr i Gaer Gwydion
A'r garreg fawr ar dân
A gwreichion iddi'n gynffon
Fel lluwch o eira mân.

Y blaned goch a dirgel,
Y sosban fach a'r fawr
A welaf efo'r heliwr
Rhwng machlud haul a gwawr.

Ond heb fod awyr dywyll
Ni fyddai'n gweld 'run dim
Dros yr Eglwys na Maen Dylan,
Bachwen na Phont y Cim.

Ysgol Brynaerau
4 Mawrth 2026

HARDDWCH Y NOS

"Rhwng y Garn a'r tonnau, rhwng y gwrych a'r ffos
Oes 'na rhywbeth yn digwydd yn nh'wllwch nos?"
Wel, oes! Mae 'na fwrlwm, tra'n bod ni'n ei gwllâu
Daw 'na bethau allan o nyth, twll a ffau!

Bryd hynny daw'r llwynog gan ddilyn ei drwyn
I chwilio am damaid o lech i lwyn,
Ac allan o'r duwch daw'r dylluan wen
Yn slei ei hadenydd ac yn ddoeth ei phen.

O siediau'r bythynnod ac o stablau'r Plas
I hela gwyfynnod daw'r ystlum ar ras,
Ac i dyllu am fwydyn mi ddaw'r broch i'r coed
Dan sleifio i bobman yn ysgafn ei droed.

Ond heb awyr dywyll, heb y fagddu fawr
Bydd dim oll yn digwydd rhwng machlud a gwawr.

Ysgol Gynradd Edern
25 Chwefror 2026

GANOL NOS

*"Ganol nos rhwng môr a mynydd
Does 'na fawr o ddim yn digwydd.
Ganol nos does dim ond t'wllwch!"*

Ond i mi mae bwrlwm. Gwrandwch!

Dacw lwynog slei'n y goedwig,
Dacw wlithen araf, lithrig,
Dacw ystlum ysgafn, lwglyd,
Dacw lygod bach busneslyd.

Dacw genau bach yn chwara',
Dacw'r gwdi-hw yn hela,
Dacw belen bigog brysur,
Dacw neidr werdd ar antur.

Dod y maen nhw i sglaffio pryfaid,
Mentro allan am rhyw damaid,
Dod ar adain chwim a choesau
Fel y gwnaeth eu hen, hen deidiau.

Ganol nos dan awyr dywyll
Creaduriaid sy'n ymgynnull;
Ganol nos rhwng môr a mynydd
Mae 'na ryfeddodau'n digwydd!

*Ysgol Mynytho
27 Chwefror 2026*

MAE'N RHY OLAU!

Mae'r bysus yn eu hunfan,
Mae drws y Post ar gau
Ac yfwrs clên y Leion
Yn chwynu yn eu gwllâu;
Ond does dim sôn am dylluan frech
Yn hela'n slei o lwyn i lech.

Mae'r ysgol fach yn dawel
A Siop y Crydd dan glo,
Y Gweithdy a'r Cwt Tatws
A noswyliodd yn ei tro;
Ond rhyfedd nad oes blewyn coch
Yn sleifio draw o Abersoch.

Distawrwydd sydd ym Mhenllech,
'Sdim smic yn dod o'r coed,
Mae fel y bedd yn 'Dweiliog,
Dim sibrawd na sŵn troed;
Ond dal, mae'r ystlum, i swatio'n dynn -
Rhy olau ydyw erbyn hyn.

Bu unwaith awyr dywyll,
Bywyd gwyllt yn llenwi'r nos,
Yn syrcais o brysurdeb
Yng nghwmni seren dlos;
Ond o ben Garn i Borthdinllaen
Dan ni'n mynnu cadw'r golau 'mlaen!

Ysgol Tudweiliog
27 Chwefror 2026

NOSON DDU-DDIWEDD

Mae'n llonydd ar gaeau Anelog
A phobman fel y bedd,
Dim smic ond sibwrwd y llygod
Sy'n mentro dod allan am wledd;
Y gwrychoedd fel clogyn Afagddu i gyd
Fel bol y fuwch d'wylla hyd bedwar ban byd.

Mae Siôn Blewyn Coch ar ei helfa
Yn slei ac ar flaenau ei draed,
Ac mae Tomi Broch yntau ar lwgu
A'r draenog yn synhwyro gwaed;
Fel pluen o ysgafn dros eu pennau nhw
Yn gwibio fel seren mae'r gwdi-hw.

Fry, ger yr aradr a'r sosban,
Mae'r heliwr yn gwylio'r tir
A hynny drwy'r t'wllwch du-ddiwedd
Am bod yr holl wybren yn glir
Fel y bu ers y cychwyn ac y bydd cyhyd
Â bod awyr dywyll dros Ben Draw'r Byd.

Ysgol Crud Y Werin
30 Ionawr 2026

MEETING	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
DATE	March 18 th 2026
TITLE	The Sustainable Development Fund
PURPOSE	Inform members, review Panel membership
AUTHOR	AONB Officer
RECOMMENDATION	Accept the information, select new members

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides information on the Sustainable Development Fund for the current financial year (2025-26).
- 1.2 The report also contains information on some changes that need to be introduced to the Fund's administration as a result of amendments to the Framework document published by the Welsh Government.

2.0 2025/26 SPEND

- 2.1 A total of **£95,000** was available for the Sustainable Development Fund for the current financial year. Almost all of this money was earmarked for local projects in Llŷn.
- 2.2 The list below contains information on the projects on a one by one basis, with a reference number:

• CDC 25.2	1st mate Maritime Museum	£4,506.00
• CDC 25.3	Bws Fflecsi Llŷn	£25,000.00
• CDC 25.4	Nefyn multi use paths	£11,450.00
• CDC 25.5	Enlli Solar power	£9,572.00
• CDC 25.6	Llanbedrog playing field	£22,145.00
• CDC 25.7	Porthdinllaen rowing club	£750.00
• CDC 25.8	Decarbonisation of Rhiw village hall	£2,250.00
• CDC 25.9	Menter Rabar	£4,995.37
• CDC 25.10	Aelhaern nature garden	£1,000.00
• CDC 25.13	Website for Tafarn y Fic, Llithfaen	£2,439.00

Total: **£84,107.37**

- 2.3 Also in accordance with the rules of the Fund the AONB Unit was able to claim 10% for the administration of the grant (£9,500). Total expenditure therefore (if all projects claim in full) will be: £93,607.37.

3.0 THE FUND IN 2026/27

- 3.1 There is also **£95,000** available for the Sustainable Development Fund in the next financial year (2026/27).
- 3.2 A meeting of the Grants Panel will need to be held shortly to consider new applications.

4.0 CHANGES TO THE FUND'S ADMINISTRATION FOR 2026-27

- 4.1 The Welsh Government, which provides the funding for the Fund, has recently published a revised Framework Document (copy in Annex).
- 4.2 There are a number of significant changes to the Framework Document. Below is a summary of the most significant ones:
- Due to the need to respond to the nature and climate emergencies **60% of funding is required** to be earmarked for projects that address, or respond to, climate change and biodiversity losses.
 - **Increased emphasis on collaborating** with other landscapes, the voluntary/community sector and other partners.
 - **The need to include information about the Fund** on a continually updated website, with details of how to apply, application form etc.
 - **Panel Membership** – the Panel must consist of at least 3 members and a maximum of 5. Members should serve a minimum of 2 years but cannot serve for longer than 4 consecutive years. Membership must be reviewed biennially. Members are required to be aware of the Welsh Government's priorities and attend any training that is arranged.
 - **The Panel will be accountable for all decisions** made and will need to be able to provide justification. Decisions will need to be advertised on the website.

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 Accept the above information.
- 5.2 Review the membership of the Grants Panel to comply with the revised regulations.

GUIDANCE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL LANDSCAPE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FUND

Established in 2001, the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) supports innovative, sustainable projects, including prototyping and piloting, in Wales's five National Landscapes¹ (NLs), and is open to reasonable managed risk by applicant and the NL body administering. The Fund is divided equally between the five NLs.

The SDF should support projects that aim to enhance and conserve natural beauty, wildlife, culture, landscape, land use and community within the context of the goals and sustainable development principles of the Well-being of Future Generations Act, and Welsh Government and international priorities.

This document provides guidance on how the Welsh Government co-ordinates the Fund and how it is to be administered by Local Authorities and NL Officers in Wales's NLs.

1. The Purposes

When administering the Fund, NL SDF Officers and governing bodies should ensure that all projects deliver on the following purposes:

- i. To explore **innovative** ways of contributing to the opportunities and challenges set out in the Welsh Government's current agenda for the environment and sustainability, including, specifically, the **Well-Being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015** and the **Environment (Wales) Act 2016**
- ii. To assist in tackling the **Biodiversity loss and Climate Change Emergencies**. To give precedence to these twin emergencies, 60% of programme funding² must be ringfenced for projects whose primary aim is to address and mitigate against biodiversity loss and climate change
- iii. To build capacity in local communities, and to develop and support community-based projects promoting sustainable development objectives.
- iv. To generate greater awareness and understanding of sustainability amongst residents and visitors, and facilitate positive behaviour change through communication and promotion of the projects and fund
- v. To deliver and promote the purposes of the NL and the objectives as set out in the NL Management Plan.

2. Eligibility

Local Authorities, voluntary, community, and partnership groups are eligible to apply for funds as long as the proposed project meets the above purposes. Projects should be located within or should directly benefit one or more of the Welsh NLs. For organisations to receive funds they must have a formal constitution and a bank account.

Private businesses or individuals may also apply on the same basis provided they are able to demonstrate a clear benefit to the wider community and NL(s). All applications should be subject to the same rigorous assessment procedure. The applicant will be entirely responsible for identifying and obtaining any required permissions and licences, for example, planning permission and environmental consents.

From time to time SDF can be used to support an aspect of a wider project. In this circumstance

¹ Following a rebranding exercise by National Landscapes Association 4 of the 5 Welsh as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) rebranded as National Landscapes for marketing purposes. The bodies remain as AONBs in legislative terms, but for brevity will be referred to throughout this document as National Landscapes (NLs).

² This will be phased in from FY 26-27 to allow pipeline projects from earlier FYs to be completed

the Welsh Government would expect associated risks to be managed. Should the wider project not complete and the funding allocated has not delivered its purpose, it would be expected that the Local Authority/NL meets the costs of the project or for the funding to be returned.

Projects must be new and funding cannot support projects that have already commenced, unless the application is for a new phase or specific element

Funding is not intended to sustain ongoing services or projects; e.g. events, infrastructure and amenities.

It is the responsibility of the NL officer to inform Welsh Government officials if a wider project does not complete, in line with the Grant Offer Letter.

3. Welsh Government Priorities

3.1 Applicants must ensure that projects reference the following priorities were relevant, and should provide weighting on the specific outputs and outcomes at time of reporting.

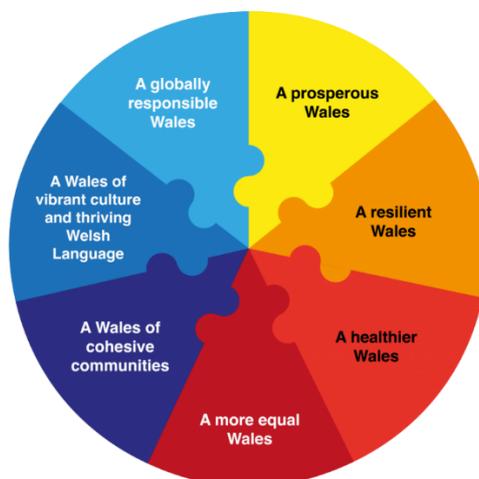
It is essential that all projects meet one or more priorities set out in *Valued and Resilient: the Welsh Government's Priorities for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks*, (2018). It sets out four key themes for the designated landscapes and the bodies that manage them.

- **Valued Places**
- **Resilient Environments**
- **Resilient Communities**
- **Resilient Ways of Working**

Implicit within all themes, and mindful of the Climate and Nature Emergencies declared by the First Minister, is that the designated landscapes must strive to identify, safeguard, and realise the benefits from the public goods they protect for all the people of Wales.

3.2 Well-being Goals

The seven Well-being Goals show the kind of Wales we want to see. Together they provide a shared vision for the public bodies listed in the Act to work towards. They are a set of goals and the Act makes it clear the listed public bodies must work to achieve all of the goals, not just one or two. The projects supported will need to demonstrate how they contribute to the Goals.



3.3 The **Natural Resources Policy** facilitates the implementation of the **Environment (Wales) Act 2016** and should also be considered in developing and assessing SDF projects. It sets out three overall national priorities for the management of natural resources:

- Delivering nature-based solutions

- Increasing renewable energy and resource efficiency; and
- Taking a place-based approach

Embracing these priorities will enable us to tackle our main challenges:

- Improving ecosystem resilience
- Climate change and the decline in biological diversity

3.4 The **30x30 target** refers to protecting and effectively managing at least 30% of our land freshwater and sea for nature by 2030. It is one of a number of targets which form part of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), and signed up to by UK and Welsh Government, which has carried out a Biodiversity Deep Dive to recommend how to meet this target in Wales. Central to the GBF is the concept of ecosystems with high integrity, connectivity and resilience.

3.5 The delivery of the SDF through **partnership working** is crucial to ensuring effectiveness. Projects that encompass joint working with other NLs/National Parks, the voluntary/community sector, or other partners, should be prioritised. This is a key priority for the Welsh Government, which has established Tirweddau Cymru, the national partnership for Designated Landscapes, to facilitate and promote collaboration.

3.6 Innovation is at the core of this Fund and should guide all applications. For the purposes of the Fund, innovation can be viewed as something that:

- involves the creation of new ideas, products or services.
- involves transforming creative concepts into tangible outcomes that improve efficiency, effectiveness, or address unmet needs.
- uses new or novel ideas and approaches to solve existing problems

While, projects may not always succeed in their primary outcome, the knowledge gained from failure is equally valuable. Applicants/Officers should outline both their innovative vision and how they will capture and share lessons learned, ensuring that even unsuccessful outcomes contribute to the broader advancement of knowledge and future success.

4. Promotion of the Fund

Every NL unit must proactively promote the Fund to a wide range of stakeholders and groups within the NL.

It must maintain a web-page including but not limited to the below containing the following details and updated regularly.

- Guidance for applicants including criteria for assessment and application timescales
- Guidance on how to apply/application form examples
- Details of successful and unsuccessful projects considered by the Panel (this could be in the form of minutes/record of decisions)
- Previous SDF Annual Reports within a rolling 3 year timeframe
- Examples of good projects / case studies

5. Application Process

Guidance and application forms must be available on an NL webpage and promoted through other means such as email contact, leaflets, posted hard copy.

Having first discussed the proposed project with the NL SDF Officer, the applicant will submit an application. Before the project is discussed by the Assessment Panel, the NL SDF Officer (in their advisory role) will initially check the application to ensure that:

- i. the application form is complete;
- ii. the individual, group or organisation is eligible to apply;
- iii. Eligible and/or suitable source of match funding has been identified and confirmed
- iv. the application meets Welsh Government priorities, NL purposes and criteria of the Fund.
- v. The application has clear and measurable outputs and outcomes identified for each project,

which will be reported upon at end of year.

Successful applications will be given a unique reference number consisting of the initial(s) of the NL(s), followed by chronological numbering, followed by year number of the Fund eg WV12YR1 (Wye Valley, twelfth application received in Year 1).

Once these validation checks are complete, the application form will be discussed at the next meeting of the Assessment Panel if the proposal is over £3,000, with a recommendation from the nominated officer as to whether the application should be accepted or rejected.

Applications of less than £3,000 will not need to go to the Panel but can be decided through delegated authority from the Assessment Panel to the NL Officer in discussion with the NRW Officer. At least 60% of the awarded funding should be considered by the Assessment Panel regardless of the level of funding provided. Officer's decisions on applications will be reported back to the Assessment Panel who should be made aware and asked to formally note all supported projects.

6. Application Assessment

6.1 Assessment Panels

Assessment Panels have been set up for each NL as subgroups of Joint Advisory Committees (JAC) or Partnerships. Panels should comprise public, private and voluntary representatives, and ensure a balance of interests across social, community, economic and environmental sectors and be representative of the communities they serve.

The members of the Panel will elect a Chair. The nominated Local Authority Officer will act in an advisory capacity. A Natural Resources Wales Officer will also sit on each Panel in an advisory and non-voting role. These two advisory officers will normally be in addition to the usual members of the Panel. Members should declare a conflict of interest if they have any direct and significant involvement with the proposed project, or a financial connection to the applicant, and remove themselves from any engagement with the decision making process.

Panels will meet as necessary throughout the year. The dates of meetings of the Assessment Panels will be available from the NL Officer; this will give the applicant an idea of the best time to apply for funding.

Fund

6.2 Constitution of SDF Panels

- a) Panels must contain at least three members and a maximum of five.
- b) The panel must consist of a diverse demographic of members, with representation from the NL's Partnership and/or Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) where required if member numbers are needed.
- c) Panel members should serve for a minimum of 2 years but cannot serve for longer than 4 consecutive years.
- d) Membership must be reviewed biennially for the purpose of succession planning.
- e) Panel members must keep themselves abreast of the aims and purposes of Welsh Government priorities, the SDF and the NL and attend any training provided by the NL Partnership or Welsh Government. Examples are Carbon Literacy, Climate and Nature Emergencies training.
- f) Panels should keep a record of decisions made

6.3 Assessment Criteria

Assessment criteria must include the extent to which the Fund priorities are met, value for money considerations, and criteria agreed by the management team based on local priorities linked to the NL Management Plan. These criteria will be provided to the applicant as an indication of how their

application will be assessed prior to submission. Any application will be potentially subject to a panel decision.

The final decision of whether to accept or reject a project is at the discretion of the Assessment Panels within the framework of the agreed objectives and criteria. The Assessment Panel must however ensure there is transparency in their decision making process. They must be accountable for decisions made and will need to be able to provide full justification for all decisions reached, with all decisions for successful and unsuccessful applications being listed on the web-page within 3 months of decision.

Applicants must be given clear reasons for why their project has been unsuccessful; this can be communicated in person if necessary. Officers can work with applicants to consider the comments made by the Panel in order to amend rejected projects for resubmission. If an applicant is concerned about an Assessment Panel decision, this can be addressed through existing Local Authority appeal procedures, or an SDF Appeals panel which may be convened within some NLs for this purpose.

7. Grants

7.1 Type of Grant

The Fund can provide project grants, management grants to support staff costs, and development grants to provide a catalyst for new action or partnerships. The five NLs will submit claims in line with the timetable set out in the offer letter and section 7.5 *Timetable for Claims* of this document to the Welsh Government Designated Landscapes Team before payment to the Local Authority/NL unit is made. Claim forms and guidance are also provided by the Designated Landscapes Team.

In exceptional circumstances applicants can apply for a one-off advance payment to meet set up costs at the beginning of the project. This would only be granted provided they can satisfy the Assessment Panel that the project would not proceed without advance payment.

7.2 Rates of Grant Aid

The level of grant support will not usually exceed 75%. The funding requested by the applicant can include an element for appropriate overheads of up to 12% for the applicant to deliver the project. As example these may be project management, phone and internet costs. The applicant is normally expected to provide at least 25% of the total budget costs, from their own budget or from any match-funding.

Up to 10% of the Fund can be used by Local Authorities to cover costs associated in administering the Fund (e.g. staff costs, postage, administration, servicing Assessment Panels).

In general, the Fund will not provide 100% funding, although, this could be considered by the Assessment Panel in exceptional circumstances. Such circumstances would be, for example, when there was a consensus by the members of the Panel that a project fully met the agreed objectives and criteria but the applicant had no other means of securing resources for the project, therefore, without 100% funding from SDF, the project would not proceed.

As part of the decision process for a project requiring 100% funding, the Assessment Panel will need to present their decision-in-principle to Welsh Government officials for final clearance.

While there is no set limitation on the minimum that applicants can apply for, it is anticipated that no single project will take up more than £25,000 from the whole Fund in any year.

Applicants may put forward projects spanning more than one year and up to three years but no longer. Panels and applicants should be aware that Welsh Government funding commitments may

not cover future years. Any project aiming to continue would do so 'at risk' and should be clarified by the LA/NL SDF officer.

7.3 Match Funding

One of the key objectives of the Fund is to lever in funds from other non-Welsh Government sources. SDF grants can be match funded with a range of sources, but care should be taken to avoid duplication of funding for the same activity within a single project. The source of any match funding must be clearly identified to avoid the possibility of double funding. Sources could include:

- i. Private sector
- ii. Lottery Funding (which is not counted as Exchequer funds)
- iii. Landfill Tax
- iv. Natural Resources Wales
- v. In kind - this could be officer or volunteer time and donations or loan of equipment, buildings, materials etc. Any officer time used as match funding must be recorded on timesheets, which will be provided by the NL Officer. Applicants should be aware that match funding may have a bearing on panel decisions depending on project value.
- vi. Projects must NOT use any other Welsh Government funding as match.

The volunteer rate for any grants offered will be outlined³ within the most recent Wales Council for Voluntary Action "Using Volunteer Time as Match Funding" document.

7.4 Transfer of Funds

Welsh Government must be notified of any likely underspend in line with claim dates as set out below and at Schedule 4 of the Grant Offer Letter. Failure to do so may affect future settlements. If there is underspend in one NL's Local Authority, unspent funds may be available for other NLs for use within the SDF programme framework. Funding should not be carried over into the next financial year.

7.5 Timetable for Claims – relevant to National Landscape body only

Nominated officers must submit claims to Welsh Government in advance of the following dates to cover the associated periods and in line with section 6 *How to claim the Funding* of the offer letter:

- (a) The Funding will be paid by Welsh Government to NL units during the third week of December and the third week in March in arrears based on Costs Incurred in the delivery of the Purposes.
- (b) NL units must claim the Funding a week in advance of the above payment dates. We reserve the right to withdraw any part of the Funding that you do not claim promptly.

- Officers may also submit claims on a quarterly period.

Officers must provide Welsh Government with a summary of confirmed projects for the year. A half a page summary for each project should be submitted alongside claim 1.

8. **Monitoring and Promotion**

Local Authority auditors will examine the Fund as part of their usual audit processes. All NL Officers should satisfy themselves that projects have been carried out in accordance with the Fund guidance as set out in this document. A sample of the projects will be monitored during the funding period by Welsh Government officials.

³ In line with the Wales Council for Voluntary Action recommendation and the living wage, the following rates will apply-

- Unskilled / admin / minimum amount £12.60 per hour
- Supervisor / technically skilled £25.20 per hour
- Professional / legal scrutiny £75.60 per hour

8.1 Post Payment Monitoring

Post payment monitoring should cover capital items and physical work on the ground. Local Authorities must monitor projects and ensure that the funding has been spent in accordance with the Fund framework and as set out in the applicant's proposal. The NL Officer must record and report the extent to which projects have met the objectives, outputs and outcomes as set out in the Fund guidance and how the funding awarded has been utilised. This information will be submitted to Welsh Government in the form of an annual report as outlined below. Post payment monitoring by the Local Authority should be ongoing and continue until well after the end of the Fund.

8.2 Promotion

NL Units should, as well as taking appropriate steps to promote the Fund, also promote the successes of the Fund to a local and national audience. This could include local publications and events and contribution to wider national information and celebration of the Fund. Project applicants should also make use of suitable channels for promotion of the fund within their project. Both groups should share project promotion materials within the wider Wales NL group.

8.3 Acknowledgement of Funding

Acknowledging the Welsh Government is an integral part of the contract and conditions of a grant. Information on the SDF Fund and the source of the funding of SDF-supported projects should be included on the appropriate Local Authority or NL webpage, and in any publicity about the scheme including leaflets and banners or similar promotional media.

The following guidance provides a good understanding of how Welsh Government would like to be acknowledged: <https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2024-03/wg-logo-guide-2024.pdf>. Requests for the Welsh Government logo and artwork approval should be made to BrandingQueries@gov.wales

9. Reporting and Evaluation by Welsh Government

Annual reports must be sent to Welsh Government from the five NLs by no later than 31 August following each financial year. Following approval by Welsh Government officials, bilingual reports must be published online within three months. This end of year report will outline progress against the agreed set of objectives and criteria. The report will also advise on contentious applications dealt with, as well as providing justification for any projects funded exceptionally on a 100% basis. Interim reports may also be submitted and Welsh Government Officials are happy to provide feedback on these.

Welsh Government is happy to receive reports in Welsh or English.

Reporting is the mechanism by which Welsh Government Officials provide evidence to Ministers on the success or failure of the Fund. It is not for Welsh Government Officials to argue the case for continued funding. Poorly articulated reports will be returned and could put future support of the Fund at risk.

As part of the reporting system, Local Authorities will be expected to set out what level of support they propose for future years - the level of which will also impact on future funding considerations of the Fund.

An outline structure of the information required for the annual report is attached at Annex C.

Welsh Government officials may from time to time request additional information, to assess the effectiveness of the Fund or commission evaluation of the Fund. National Landscape officials should provide any information requested in a timely manner. Grant recipients should provide contact details and information on project activities for up to 3 years post-project, subject to GDPR

regulations.

Further Information

Valued and Resilient - The Welsh Government's Priorities for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks

<https://gov.wales/areas-outstanding-natural-beauty-and-national-parks-2018-report>

The Natural Resource Policy

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-06/natural-resources-policy.pdf>

The State of Natural Resources Report (SoNaRR) 2020

<https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/research-and-reports/state-of-natural-resources-report-sonarr-for-wales-2020/?lang=en>

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)

[Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework \(cbd.int\)](https://www.cbd.int/kunming)

Wellbeing of Future Generations Act

<https://www.futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/>

Biodiversity Deep Dive recommendations

<https://www.gov.wales/biodiversity-deep-dive-recommendations-html>

Net Zero Strategic Plan

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-12/welsh-government-net-zero-strategic-plan.pdf>

Strategic Term of Government letter to National Park Authorities

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-08/national-park-authorities-term-government-remit-letter.pdf>

Annex A: The Well-Being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The **Well-Being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015** puts in place Sustainable Development Principles to guide organisations how to go about meeting their duty under the Act. There are five ways of working that will need to be considered when demonstrating the Sustainable Development Principles have been applied in administering the Fund. Following these ways of working will encourage collaborative working, avoid repeating past mistakes and tackle some of the long-term challenges we are facing:

- **Long Term** - The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.
- **Prevention** - How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.
- **Integration** - Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.
- **Collaboration** - Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.
- **Involvement** - The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area.

Annex B: Summary of Principles of Good Governance for Designated Landscapes

Legitimacy, participation and voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptance in society • Representation and participation • Active dialogue and consensus • Subsidiarity
Developing and implementing a strategic vision for the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspiring and consistent vision • Consistent with national outcomes • Reflect obligations • Adaptive management and innovation
Effective performance management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management effectiveness • Learning culture, skills and knowledge • Advocacy and outreach • Acknowledging and addressing weakness or poor performance • Efficient use of financial resources
Accountability and transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrity and commitment • Decision making and reporting • Allocation of resources • Communication
Fairness and rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethical and fair decision making • Impartial and without discrimination • Respectful of language and culture • Respect rights • Active engagement

Annex C: Suggested Reporting Structure for the NL Sustainable Development Fund

1. Introduction

- Year report covers
- Total funding awarded
- Total projects supported Number of individuals engaged with
- Types and number of environments improved
- Promotion undertaken
- Themes of projects; e.g. Nature Recovery, Biodiversity, Decarbonisation, Community Support

2. Publicity

- How the Fund was advertised by the NL/Local Authority

3. Assessment Panel

- Details of how many members & meeting dates
- Appendix listing members to show balance of private, public and voluntary interests

4. Application Process

- How applications were considered and dealt with by the Assessment Panel/Officer, including the assessment criteria and any issues arising/contentious applications

5. Financial Summary

- Funding from Welsh Government, match funding and administration costs
- Any projects funded at 100%

6. Breakdown of individual projects, to include;

- Title and description of project noting if physical or theoretical (ie. Feasibility study) (including photographs)
- Total funding from SDF
- Match funding amount and source(s)
- How it met the set criteria and its own aims
- How it delivered on the Welsh Government Priorities (priority given to Valued and Resilient and the four themes within the priority statement. The Well-being Goals and Sustainable Development Principles contained within the Well-being of Future Generations Act, The Environment Act and Natural Resources Policy)
- Outputs and outcomes (hours of volunteering and jobs created etc.) these should include contact details for project lead.

7. Level of Support

- Outline the level of support required for future years

8. Additional Information (including delivery against NL Management Plan)

MEETING	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
DATE	March 18 th 2026
TITLE	State of the AONB Report
PURPOSE	Inform members
AUTHOR	AONB Officer
RECOMMENDATION	Accept the information

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report contains information on the State of the Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Report.
- 1.2 The purpose of the State of the AONB Report is to provide a full and clear picture of the state of the area – which includes information about the landscape, nature, people, work, the historic environment, language and culture etc. The Report forms the basis for the review of the Management Plan.
- 1.3 The first State of the AONB Report was prepared in 2014 by LUC. This document formed the basis for the review of the current Management Plan – 2015-2020.

2.0 STATE OF AONB REPORT 2021

- 2.1 As part of the process to revise the Management Plan once again an update of the State of the AONB was commissioned in 2021, again by LUC. This report contains information on the condition of the various features of the Llŷn AONB and the pressures on them.
- 2.2 Following the providing a copy of the 2021 State of the AONB Report to the members of the Joint Committee a number of comments were received, a summary of those comments is set out below:
 - 1. Why is the report in English only?
 - 2. There is a lack of information on some issues – specifically relating to climate change, landscape, well-being, pollution and biodiversity.
 - 3. There is no reference to the Shoreline Management Plan.
 - 4. More up-to-date information is now available on some issues.
 - 5. It would be useful to see how other plans intertwine with the AONB Management Plan.
 - 6. The State of Report needs to comply with the new guidance commissioned by Natural Resources Wales.
- 2.3 The 2021 Report and comments mentioned above were discussed at the Joint Committee meeting held in July 2025. A decision was made for the AONB Unit to proceed to update the State of Report to get a more accurate picture of

the area and the pressures on the environment. Also to ensure that the report is in line with the latest Natural Resources Wales guidance and is available in both Welsh and English.

3.0 STATE OF THE AONB REPORT 2025

- 3.1 A brief was prepared and a tender process was undertaken for the preparation of a more up-to-date State of the AONB Report. Consultants Craggatack was chosen to undertake the new report – a company with extensive experience of making such reports and their proposal showed good value for money.
- 3.2 The Report has now been completed. The Report contains a wide range of information about the landscape, environment, society, archaeological remains, historic environment and language and culture. It is also in line with Natural Resources Wales guidance.
- 3.3 A copy of the State of the AONB Report 2025 can be seen in the appendix.

4.0 NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 Following the completion of the State of Report the intention is to resume the process of reviewing the Management Plan. Some issues have already been discussed in the Joint Committee.
- 4.2 Due to the work involved in the preparation/review of the Management Plan, further consideration will need to be given to the process of carrying out this work. This may include the possibility of commissioning the work, subject to securing an appropriate source of funding.

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 Accept the information.



State of the Llŷn AONB Report 2025

Craggatak Consulting

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Acknowledgements

Craggatak Consulting acknowledges the support given by the AONB team; they have supplied materials and given access to research and survey resources. We set out the sources of data with each of our maps and tables.

Photographs © Liŷn AONB/ AHNE Liŷn unless otherwise stated.

Summary

Baseline findings

Key to trend symbols:



New baseline



Informative data



Condition improving



Condition declining



Not clear

Topic	Notes	Baseline	Trend
Place			
Land-use	Pasture and grassland are the dominant land uses within the AONB. There is little change between 2006 and 2018 though coniferous woodland has been reduced; some areas converted to broadleaved woodland and some to moors and heathland.	2006	
Agricultural land-use	In 2024, 14,575 ha was under agriculture, down from 14,697 ha in 2019 (a fall of 0.8%). 63% of the agricultural land use was as permanent grass.	2014	
Agricultural holdings	In 2024, there were 362 farms in the AONB, of which 43% were each less than 10 ha in area.	2014	
Livestock numbers	Sheep is the largest group of livestock. There were 43,237 breeding ewes in 2024, down from 46,704 in 2014 (a fall of 7%).	2014	
Land in agri-environment schemes	In 2021, Glastir covered just over 40% of the AONB, increasing from 4,705.5 ha in 2013 to 6,452.4 ha (an increase of just over 37%). In 2021, uptake of the Entry element in the AONB decreased by 1,057.9 ha (-29.2%) since 2013. By 2021 the uptake of Glastir Advanced had increased by 2,804.7 ha (+259.2%) since 2013.	2013	2024 data absent
Development monitoring	There were 614 valid development applications between 2020 and 2024, 81% were approved and 19% were refused. The approvals include 13 new homes. Of these, 9 are classed as affordable.	2024	

Number of development plans with Spatial Strategy and allocations	1 - The Joint Anglesey and Gwynedd Local Development Plan 2011 – 2026 The new plan currently in preparation	2017		
Light pollution	Annual satellite images. There is little change over the years; the area retains its dark night skies. Llŷn AONB was ranked as the darkest AONB in Wales and is the only AONB to have a larger percentage of their area within the darkest category compared to the Wales average.	2019		Little change over time
Noise pollution	Very little traffic noise in the AONB. Most roads presented an average sound level of only 40-50 dB.	2022		Trend data not available as metrics have changed
Air quality	Particulate matter (PM2.5) levels are very low but with hotspots around Abersoch, Aberdaron, Llanbedrog, Nanhoron (quarry), Groesffordd/Edern, Lithfaen, Trefor (quarry) and Clynnog-fawr.	2022		
	Sulphur dioxide (SO2) levels are very low in the area but there are hotspots around Trefor and Llanbedrog. These are both sections of the A499 showing the highest traffic movements.			
	Ammonia (NH3) levels are very low in the western half of the AONB. Levels are high in a band stretching coast to coast through the centre of the area with moderate levels in the eastern section.			
Change in weather patterns	There is a rise of 0.6°C in annual mean temperature and a 92.7mm increase in annual rainfall over the last 60 years. The number of annual days of rainfall rose over the period by 6 days to 147 days. In contrast, the number of annual days of air frost fell by 4.8 days to 6 days.	1961		
Greenhouse gases	There has been a 21.5% reduction in total greenhouse gas emissions between 2005 and 2023. Except for agriculture, all sectors show significant decreases in emissions. Agriculture increased by 7% since 2005 but there had been a fall by 2013. The increase since then is 25%.	2005		
	Carbon dioxide (CO2) levels in 2024. Agriculture produced 52% of emissions (related to transport and machinery), transport produced 22% and domestic 21%. The highest concentrations (100-1995 kt CO2e) are along the A499 and around Abersoch, Aberdaron, Llanbedrog and Nanhoron.	2024		

	<p>Methane (CH₄) levels in 2024. 96% of emissions are associated with agriculture (primarily from livestock). Waste management contributes the remaining 4% of emissions. The highest levels are found around Graianog, perhaps associated with the waste management service in the area (100+ kt CO₂e) and Llanengan (50-100 kt CO₂e).</p> <p>Nitrous oxide (N₂O) levels in 2024 is very low. 99% of emissions are associated with agriculture and soils (fertilizers) alone emit 61%.</p>			
Renewable energy sites	No large renewable energy generation sites running within the AONB	2025		
Area at risk of flooding	There are two areas at high risk of flooding from rivers, surface water and small watercourses. They are around Clynnog Fawr and along the River Soch. The large majority of the AONB is at very low or no risk of flooding.	2018		
Area at risk of flooding from the sea	There is an extensive area of high-risk flooding from the sea around Abersoch that extends as low-risk flooding along the lower reaches of the River Soch. There is a high risk of localised flooding from the sea along the whole coastline.	2018		
Area at risk of coastal erosion	There is some risk of erosion along most of the coastline, but the greatest risk is in the Porthor Beach area.	2018		
Natural heritage				
Number of designated sites	22 designated SSSIs occupying 2,182.9 ha (14%) of AONB. No public data on condition.	2024		No trend data
Seabird count	Between 2000 and 2021, there has been a 17% increase overall in birds counted.	2000		Increasing
Location of subtidal seagrass	There is a decline in the seagrass beds, damage may be from recreational activities (anchoring).	2008		Decreasing
Condition of Special Areas of Conservation	4 SACs in the AONB occupying 1,324.8 ha (8.5%) of AONB. 4 features in an unfavourable condition	2025		No trend data
Condition of Special Protection Areas	2 SPAs in the AONB occupying 881 ha (5.7%) of the AONB. Manx shearwater in favourable condition, Chough in unfavourable condition.	2025		
National Nature Reserves	There are two NNRs occupying 219.9 ha (1.4%) of the area.			

Local Wildlife Sites	In 2025, there were 30 'Wildlife Sites' covering 421.6 ha (2.7%) of the area.	2017		
Quality of coastal waters	Two blocks of coastal waters had good ecological and chemical status; one had a moderate chemical status.	2024		
Ecological status of rivers	38% of rivers in a good ecological state (up from 24% in 2020); 50% were in a poor state (0% in 2020).	2024		Some improvement
Area of habitats of principal importance	3,602 ha of habitats of principal importance, covering 23% of the AONB. No public data on condition.	2025		
Area of woodland	604 ha of woodland covering 4% of the AONB	2025		
Ancient woodland	255 ha of woodland covering 1.6% of the AONB.	2025		
Cultural heritage				
Extent of Welsh Language skills	73% of the population aged 3 years and over had some Welsh language skills (2021 and 2011 the same)	census		
Change in Welsh Language use	Since 2011, there has been a very minor decrease in Welsh use. In 2011, 57.3% could speak, read and write Welsh; this rose to 57.8% in 2021. In both years, 6.1% of the population aged 3 years and over could understand spoken Welsh but could not speak, read or write it.	census		Minor decline
Condition of historic landscapes	Most of the historic landscape in the AONB is in a high or outstanding condition	2014		No trend data
Number of heritage assets	There are 257 Listed Buildings, 55 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (covering 156.6 ha), 1 Registered Park and Garden and 1 Historic Landscape. There is no public record on the current condition of these assets.	2025		
Number and condition of conservation areas	9 Conservation Areas covering 245 ha (1.6%) of the AONB. All were either well-maintained or fairly well maintained.	2015		
People				
Population density	The population density in 2021 was 36 residents per km2 (down 7.7% from 39 residents per km2 in 2011).	census		

Number of residents	3,734 (down 12.4% from 4,262 in 2011).	census		
Population age profile	There is a slow ageing of the population with a 1.9% increase in the number of people over the age of 70 between 2011 and 2021. For the same period, there now 30.6% fewer people aged 40-49, 21% fewer aged 15-29, and 40% fewer aged 4 years and under. In 2011, the largest band was the 65-69 age group (7.74% of the population). Ten years later, the largest band is the 55-59 age group (9.2% of the population).	census		
Ethnicity of resident population (%)	98.7% of the resident population class as 'white'.	census		
Gender of resident population (%)	50.5% of the resident population is female.	census		
General health of the resident population (%)	50% of the resident population enjoy very good health; only 1.4% suffer very bad health.	census		
Disability status of resident population (%)	81.2% of the resident population suffered no long-term health conditions.	census		
House-price affordability	In 2023, the Gwynedd house-price affordability ratio was 6, as it was for Wales as a whole. It is estimated that the AONB house-price affordability ratio was between 13 and 14.	2023		Only partial data is available
Household deprivation dimensions	In 2021, 50.7% were not deprived in any dimension (up from 38.5% in 2011).	census		
Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation	In 2019, the majority of the AONB lay in the 30% and 50% of the most deprived Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in Wales. There was a central band running from north to south in the 50% least deprived LSOAs. By 2025, those parts of the AONB in the Clynnog, Llanaelhaearn and Pistyll Community Council areas have fallen into the 20% and 30% of the most deprived LSOAs.	2019		Local variations may be hidden
	Considering just the housing domain; in 2019, a large part of the AONB lay in the 10% most deprived LSOAs in Wales. There were two small pockets in the north and south that lay in 30% and 50% of the most deprived LSOAs. And there was one small pocket between Nefyn and Mynydd Nefyn that lay in the 50% least deprived LSOAs.	2019		

Second homes	In 2024, 1,150 residential units are either holiday accommodation or second homes (33.4% of the AONB housing stock).	2024		
Employment status	Between 2011 & 2021: there has been a 6% reduction in the level of registered employment and a 7% swing from those residents wanting to work to those not seeking work; perhaps reflecting the increasing retired population (29.4% in 2021, up from 19.6% in 2011).	census		
Employment profile by occupation	Between 2011 & 2021: the spread of occupations has shifted slightly from the skilled trades towards professional roles with the biggest change in the elementary occupations (a 2% reduction).	census		
Employment profile by industry	Between 2011 & 2021: There has been an increase in public administration, land-based industries, construction and hospitality sectors. There has been a decrease in manufacturing, transport, educational, health and retail sectors; but retail and health services are still dominant.	census		
Means of travel to work	In 2021, 30% of employed residents worked from home, up from 14% in 2011. In 2011, 69% of employed residents drove to work; this reduced to 56% in 2021.	census		Car commuting declining
Distance travelled to work	35.9% of employed residents travelled less than 2km to work; 4% travelled over 60km to work (long distance commuters); and 19.5% worked in no fixed place, offshore or overseas.	census		
Access to a car or van	In 2021, 90% of the resident population had access to at least one car or van, up from 86% in 2011. 14.2% of households had no access to a car or van in 2011, this reduced to 9.8% by 2021.	census		
Traffic counts	In 2024, the number of vehicles that travelled past the count points (in both directions) was 19,299. The most common vehicles on all roads were cars (77%) and light goods vehicles (19%).	2000		
Open access land	There are 2,069 ha of open country (13% of the AONB) and 835 ha of registered common (5% of the AONB).	2023		
Access network	In both 2020 and 2025, 300 km of public rights of way were reported; there is no comprehensive assessment of condition.	2020		No condition or trend data
Condition of designated bathing waters	There are 4 designated bathing waters within the AONB. In 2025, all were rated 'excellent'.	2025		Improving

Tourism and the visitor economy

In 2024, the AONB welcomed 277,000 visitors (a fall of 1.1% since 2019) with 863,000 visitor days (a rise of 0.7% since 2019). The economic impact was £63,900,000 (a rise of 32% since 2019). The impact of COVID shows clearly with a fall of 54% in visitor numbers between 2019 and 2020.

In 2024, the Llŷn Peninsula welcomed 2,280,000 visitors (a fall of 1.6% since 2019) with 7,814,000 visitor days (a rise of 0.3% since 2019). The economic impact was £544,800,000 (a rise of 30.8% since 2019).

2019



Forces for change

A force for change is defined as an influence that either directly or indirectly leads to change in the special qualities of the AONB. There are many drivers for the forces for change. These include legislation and policy, market and economy, social and climate influences. Llŷn AONB's forces for change were gleaned from a variety of sources, including national policy and guidance¹. They fall under five broad headings:

- **Climate change:** Climate change will significantly affect the Special Qualities of the AONB; and it will affect other forces for change. Impacts are likely to be broad and far reaching. For example, there may be an increase in extreme weather events such as flooding and wildfires, a loss of agricultural crops and native species to invasive diseases, and damage to important cultural and historic assets.
- **Nature loss:** Wildlife will decline, mainly because of some agricultural land management practices, the effects of climate change, pollution, over exploitation and invasive species. This loss of nature threatens ecosystem resilience and nature's ability to support society and well-being, and nature's capacity to adapt to and mitigate against climate change.
- **People and communities:** The population will slowly increase driven by an increase in the number of people aged 65 and over. This will affect the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the area. Llŷn is a stronghold of the Welsh language but there is a very slow but steady decline in its use, perhaps due to inward migration. Ensuring that everyone has opportunities to live, work, learn and play in Welsh will be essential to expanding its use for future generations.
- **Economic viability:** Local land managers and entrepreneurs will lose the confidence to invest in the area. Land management and the natural environment underpin the natural heritage of the AONB. Farming is fundamental to the rural community and its economy, and the current uncertainty in how new subsidy schemes will work is a cause for concern. Tourism is a significant economic driver. Regenerative tourism will connect visitors with the natural and cultural environment so that they have a positive impact on the area, leaving it in a better condition than how they found it.
- **Access, recreation and well-being:** Demands will increase for fair access to green and blue spaces for people of all ages and abilities. Recreation and access related issues are influenced by a variety of factors and bring a range of impacts. A key challenge is to ensure the critical health benefits of being able to access the area can be realised without any detrimental impact on the communities, livelihoods and natural environment of the AONB.

¹References: This State of the AONB Report; NRW (2020): The Second State of Natural Resources Report; LUC (2021): State of the AONB Report for the Llŷn AONB; Welsh Government (2021): Future Trends Report Wales 2021; Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Service Board (2022): Gwynedd Well-being Assessment; NRW (2023): North West Wales Area Statement; LUC (2024): Forces for Change for North East Wales National Park Area of Search; LANDMAP.

Relationship of the Forces for Change to the Special Qualities

The special qualities	Positive forces	Negative forces
Landscape and coast	<p>Adoption of a landscape-led approach that creates vibrant, resilient places where people, nature and communities thrive.</p> <p>Land managers adopting nature-based solutions.</p> <p>Development of coastal enhancement measures using nature-based solutions to improve coastline resilience, biodiversity, and flood protection against climate change impacts like sea-level rise.</p>	<p>The impacts of extreme weather events, including storms and coastal erosion.</p> <p>Pollution of seas and watercourses.</p> <p>Poorly sited or designed developments (large agricultural buildings, renewable energy infrastructure, leisure developments (such as caravan parks), and new housing.</p>
Tranquillity and a clean environment	<p>The relative absence of human noise and influence, emphasising natural sounds (birdsong), starlight, and a sense of wildness.</p> <p>Growing awareness of the benefits of a dark night sky - improved outcomes for energy and carbon saving, attractive and safe spaces, leading to higher quality residential amenity, health and wellbeing, improved enjoyment of dark sky culture and heritage, and protection of biodiversity.</p>	<p>Release of polluted air and water.</p> <p>Introduction of floodlit and noisy activities.</p> <p>Urban development outside the AONB increasing light spillage and noise.</p>
A wealth of wildlife	<p>Increasing the variety of life through diverse planting and habitat creation.</p> <p>Actions that reduce carbon emissions enhancing biodiversity, like planting trees.</p> <p>Growth of community-led projects to create and enhance local green spaces.</p> <p>Ffermio Bro and the Sustainable Farming Scheme facilitating the improvement of habitats and connectivity benefitting local wildlife.</p>	<p>Climate change affecting habitats and species through changing weather patterns, periods of drought and waterlogging, damage from storms and flooding and erosion.</p> <p>Climate change increasing the risk from pests and diseases, and the spread of invasive non-native species on land and in the sea.</p> <p>Land managers opting out of nature-based solutions.</p>
The Historic environment	<p>Encouragement for local pride and understanding through projects promoting exploration of local historical assets.</p> <p>Projects to sustain and restore local historical assets e.g., Melin Daron mill.</p> <p>Supporting investment in cultural institutions like museums and arts venues.</p>	<p>Land management changes driven by both policy and climate adaptation changing historic features in the landscape.</p> <p>Lack of condition reporting delaying opportunities for remedial actions.</p>
The Welsh Language and Culture	<p>Cymraeg 2050 – a million Welsh speakers</p> <p>Report by the Commission of Welsh Communities and the measures being recommended.</p>	<p>Population changes from migration and age structure affecting community involvement and participation in local events and traditions, knowledge and use of the Welsh language.</p>

	<p>Digital programmes and aps to help learners and businesses. Welsh language courses for learners and the more advanced. Nant Gwrtheyrn Welsh Language and Culture centre located in the AONB. Menter Iaith Gwynedd – supporting and promoting the language in Gwynedd.</p>	<p>Decline in employment in land-based industries leading to a loss of local knowledge, vernacular skills and Welsh language.</p>
<p>People and close-knit communities</p>	<p>Digital links will support social network building and reduce isolation. Local community events help create a feeling of belonging and a means to raise awareness of history and culture Grants by Perthyn, the Sustainable Development Fund other funds supporting community projects</p>	<p>There may be increased poverty, health inequalities, lack of affordable housing, potential reduction in employment and growth, and an eroding of cohesive communities. The actions needed for climate change adaptation and mitigation may bring unwelcome changes to the local way of life. The cumulative effects of built development degrading the ‘sense of place’.</p>
<p>Local produce and rural businesses</p>	<p>There is a need for innovation within the rural economy and routes to employment for local people of all ages. This can be supported through the production of local sustainable goods and services and local procurement policies. The revival of traditional crafts and development of new products can rejuvenate the local economy. The delivery of the Sustainable Farming Scheme should deliver significant environmental gains and farming systems that are less dependent on inputs and as such are more economically secure.</p>	<p>Changes in agricultural policy, funding and viability can influence the management of features within the landscape. A tradition of knowledge passed down through generations of farming may be lost if farming families choose another vocation. Economic downturns or booms that cause budget adjustments and strategic shifts in policy – tariffs and trade wars, supply chain, other external factors.</p>
<p>Rights of way and access</p>	<p>People have been visiting the area for generations for tourism and recreation. As summers get warmer and the environmental cost of travel increases, local destinations may grow in popularity. Changes in people’s tastes or expectations will lead to new forms of recreation, such as sailboarding, jet skis, electric bikes and scooters. Digital connectivity will change how information is delivered; there may be a reduction in signage but a greater awareness of local features and opportunities. People will expect to be involved in planning and developing the right access opportunities to blue and green spaces that meets their needs and contributes to health and social benefits for communities now and in the future.</p>	<p>Pressures on honeypot sites, trails and routes may grow. There is no strategic monitoring of the condition of rights of way, which weakens strategic planning. New forms of recreation may increase pressures on local communities, wildlife and the landscape, it may affect tranquillity. There may be more people in the area, and they may demand new infrastructure that effects the landscape, such as charging points for vehicles, cycles and phones. Accessible route networks, parks, beaches and sea fronts, and the wider countryside, are not always located near to where people live or are not managed in a way that people of all ages and abilities can access them.</p>

Introduction

The Llŷn AONB

An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is an area that is so precious that it is safeguarded for the nation. Designation of the Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was in 1957.

The Llŷn Peninsula is renowned for its diverse and interesting coastline and beautiful landscape, which formed the basis for the AONB designation. The AONB covers around one quarter of the peninsula, a total of 15,500 hectares, mostly along the coast.

Llŷn, whose complex geology includes ancient pre-Cambrian rock formations, is a natural extension of the Snowdonia massif. The geology is typified by the wide variation of coastal landscapes, ranging from the steep cliffs of Aberdaron Bay and promontories to the sand dune systems in the Abersoch area. The highest point in Llŷn is the Eifl (564m) mountain range, which levels out to a plateau that extends towards the sea and the black rocks of Mynydd Mawr, at the tip of the Peninsula. The area is typified by narrow and winding roads, farms and whitewashed cottages. It also includes open areas of ancient common land.

Ynys Enlli is a very special island. Its links with Christianity date back to a very early period and pilgrims from near and far have flocked there over the ages. It occupies a prominent place in Welsh folklore and, according to legend, 20,000 saints are said to be buried here. The island has a wealth of historic remains and buildings and is home to a rich variety of wildlife.

The peninsula itself also boasts a rich heritage, with important archaeological sites of all periods. These include flint scatters

discarded by our earliest prehistoric ancestors about 10,000 years ago to twentieth century military sites.

In general, agriculture in Llŷn comprises small traditional units and this has helped to protect the landscape and the environment. However, the agriculture industry has witnessed many changes over the years that have resulted in a sharp fall in the number of people who make a living out of farming. There has also been a decline in the fishing industry.

Due to the lack of job opportunities, many local young people and people of working age move away. They are replaced by people from other parts of Wales and the UK. Many incomers are retired but some families are moving in. Most incomers have no knowledge of the language or culture, and this has had an impact on the cultural character of the area, and the use of the Welsh language. However, the percentage of Welsh speakers is still among the highest in Wales.

Tourism is vital to the local economy but puts seasonal pressure on local services, infrastructure and the environment. Many of the coastal villages, such as Abersoch, Aberdaron and Morfa Nefyn, are popular tourist destinations. As a result, the area is under pressure, especially along the southern coastline, due to the level of activity on the beaches, roads, car parks, boat launching areas; and on the sea itself.

Purpose of document

This report provides the basis for measuring the condition of the Llŷn AONB's designated Landscape, its special qualities, and the factors essential to the survival of these special qualities. It will help to inform the statutory review of the current AONB Management Plan (2015-20) and support the preparation of a new plan. The report pulls together the data and information gathered

by the AONB team, with its partners including Natural Resources Wales, for the Llŷn AONB; and from other sources as indicated. It presents data collated in 2025 alongside comparable data from annual reviews and reports, where such exists, or to alternative baselines against which there are comparisons and trends.

The special qualities for the Llŷn AONB are:

- Landscape and coast
- Tranquillity and a clean environment
- A wealth of wildlife
- The historic environment
- The Welsh language and culture
- People and close-knit communities
- Local produce and rural businesses
- Rights of way and access

Data considerations

There were difficulties in securing some trend data for this report. Natural Resources Wales did share data sets that they give to the protected landscapes. These present 25 topics for 2020 and 2025. Some topic data sets for 2025 are out of date as there have been new releases since publication. There is no public reporting on the condition of the heritage assets or the Sites of Special Scientific Interest by the agency. In addition, some data presented in the earlier State of the AONB Report (2021) could not be found.

The statistical service of the Welsh Government did cut agricultural data to the AONB boundary for three separate years. But due to the small area and the nature of the data sampling, it could not present data on agricultural employment or farm tenure.

No new studies were commissioned for this report, and not all existing data sets can be disaggregated to the AONB boundary.

For some topics, the data relates to either a part of the AONB or a section of the Peninsula. In such cases, the findings are indicative. Furthermore, it is recognised that many partners take actions that secure the Management Plan's objectives but do not necessarily report these to the AONB.

Census statistics help paint a picture of the nation and how we live. They provide a detailed snapshot of the population and its characteristics. Output Areas (OAs) are the lowest level of geographical area for census statistics. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has allocated Output Areas to the AONB on a 'best fit' basis, and they are to be the baseline for the AONB. Being a 'best fit' model means that the census presentations are estimates of the likely position. To show the changes between the 2011 and 2021 Census, we use the same (or equivalent) OAs.

The 2021 Census took place during a period of rapid change. The ONS gave extra guidance to help people on furlough answer the census questions about work. However, it is unable to decide how furloughed people followed the guidance. Interpreting this data needs to take note of this.

The ONS also warn that where there are small sample sizes (as is the case of the Llŷn data), it swaps records between different geographic areas, and adjusts counts by small amounts, to protect against disclosure of personal information. The official Census figures are also estimates because there is not a 100% response (Maximising the quality of Census 2021 population estimates - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)). For all these reasons, we do not show the numeric values recorded in the census, rather, we use the percentage scores for each topic.

Location of the Llŷn AONB



Figure 1: AONB and location: Source GIS data obtained from OS Open data and www.data.gov.uk – October 2025.

Place

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The special qualities

Landscape and coast

Llŷn is an area of beautiful coastal and rural landscape. The landscape varies from fertile lowlands to igneous hills. From the hilltops, excellent views are to be had to every direction, and the coastal nature of the area is obvious. The coast varies greatly – parts of the northern coastline are rocky with occasional but sandy beaches. Larger beaches are to be found on the southern coastline and sand dunes are to be found in the Abersoch area. Because of the lack of other developments, there is a strong feeling of an unspoilt, natural landscape. Small, dispersed villages are characteristic of the area. Because of their compact nature and the traditional building materials, they usually blend naturally into the landscape.

The sea gave subsistence to generations of Llŷn people, and a tradition of seafarers developed in the area. The sea has played a prominent part in the area's culture. Several shipwrecks have occurred along the shores and there are many stories collecting bounty off the beaches and even about attracting ships to difficulties. There are also tales of smuggling and pirates associated with Llŷn. In the present day, the sea is a valuable economic resource in terms of pleasure boats, jet-skis, fishing etc., and the beaches attract thousands of locals and tourists in the summer.

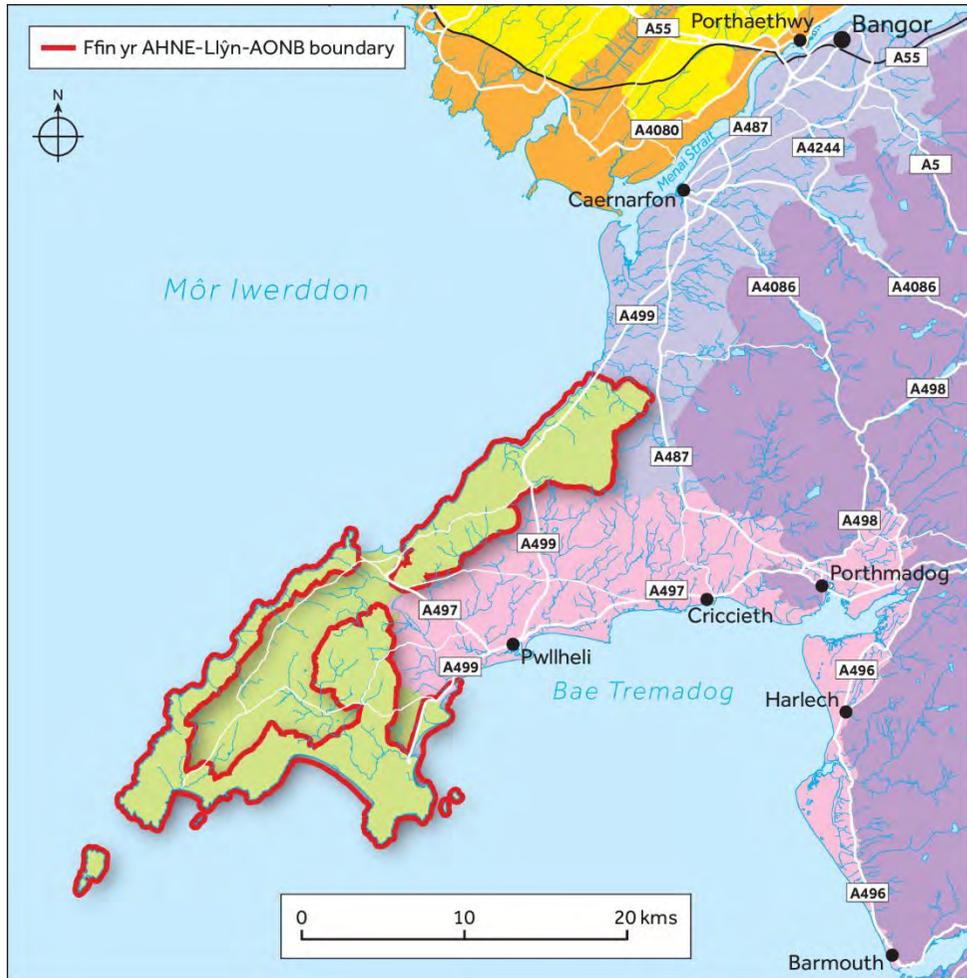
Tranquillity and a clean environment

The Llŷn Peninsula, particularly at its western point, is one of the few areas where peace and tranquillity can be found. Despite the changes that have occurred over time, parts of Llŷn continue to be very rural and peaceful in their nature. There are few large-scale developments (houses or industry), few motorists and traffic, very few things moving and little light to disturb the darkness of night. Levels of pollution are low here in Llŷn. The quality of the soil, air, water and seawater continues to be very high here.



Landscape Character

National landscape character areas



Allwedd/Legend

- Arfon / Arfon
- Arfordir Môn / Anglesey Coast
- Canolbarth Môn / Central Anglesey
- Eryri / Snowdonia
- Llŷn / Llyn Peninsula
- Bae Tremadog / Tremadoc Bay

The Llŷn AONB lies within three National landscape character areas.

NLCA name	% of AONB in the NLCA
Llŷn	99.6%
Tremadoc Bay	0.3%
Arfon	0.1%

Source: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved.

Extent of the Llŷn Heritage Coast

Most of the AONB's coastline is defined as Heritage Coast. The Llŷn Heritage Coast extends from Aberdesach in the north to Abersoch in the south.



Heritage coasts are 'defined' rather than designated; their status carries no legal protection. But planning authorities must take the designation into account when making decisions on development.

Heritage coasts are established to:

- conserve, protect and enhance the natural beauty of the coastline
- their terrestrial, coastal and marine flora and fauna
- their heritage features
- encourage and help the public to enjoy, understand and appreciate these areas
- maintain and improve the health of inshore waters affecting heritage coasts and their beaches through appropriate environmental management measures
- take account of the needs of agriculture, forestry and fishing and the economic and social needs of the small communities on these coasts

Reference: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. See https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/inspire-nrw:NRW_HERITAGE_COAST

Visual and sensory landscape classification



Allwedd/Legend

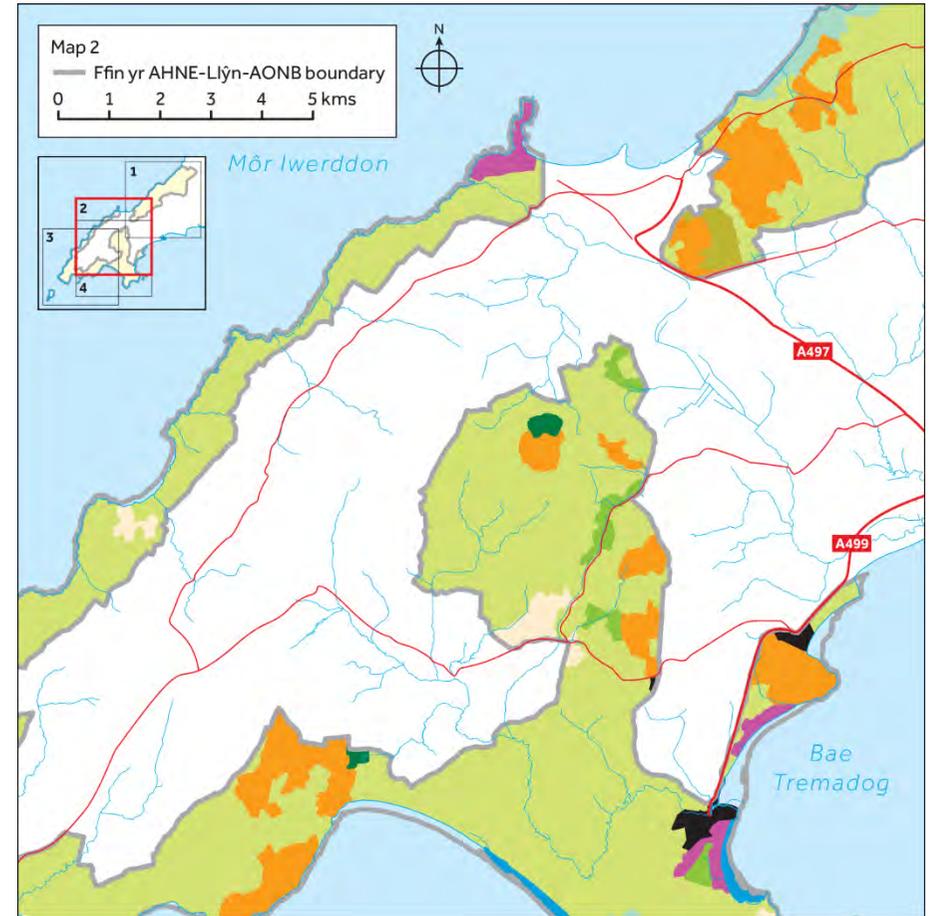
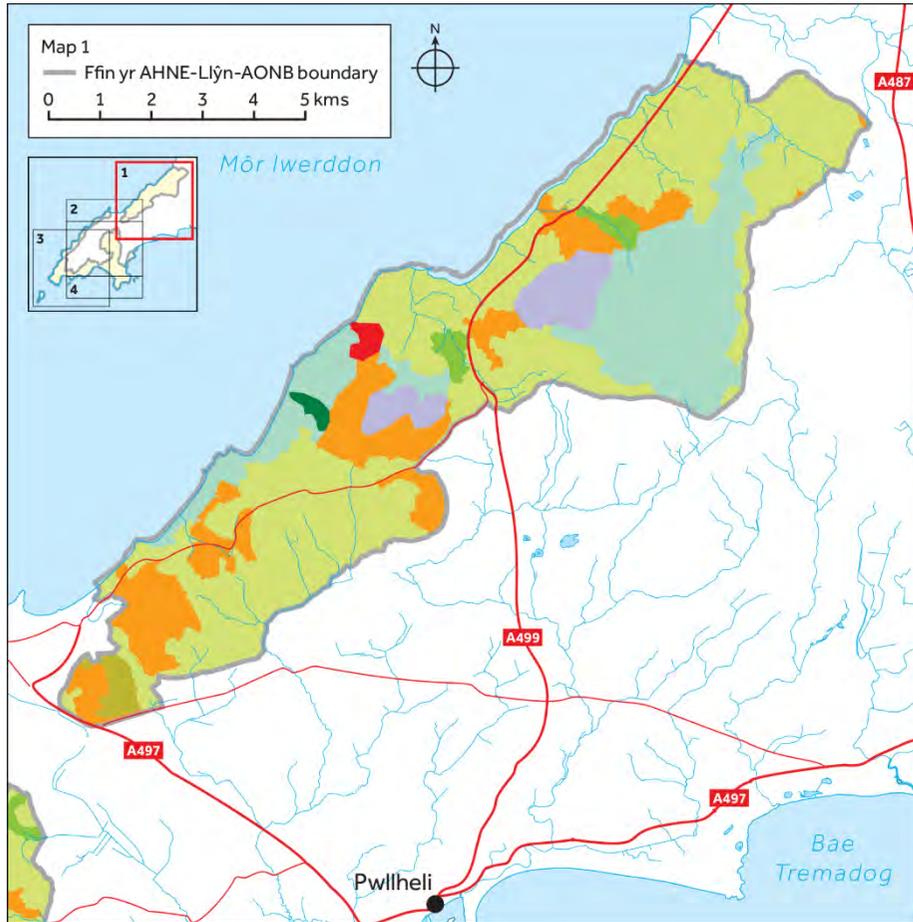
- Tir adeiledig/
Built land
- Arfordirol/
Coastal
- Chwareli/
Quarries
- Llwyfandir ucheldir agored/
Exposed upland plateau
- Iseldir gwastad/
Flat lowland
- Bryniau, llwyfandir isaf a llethrau sgarp/
Hills, lower plateau and scarp slopes
- Dyffrynnoedd iseldir/
Lowland valleys
- Iseldir tonnog/
Rolling lowland

Map showing visual and sensory landscape classification. This dataset maps the landscape as perceived through our senses based on the physical attributes of landform and land cover. The perceived characteristics of the landscape are primarily determined visually, but the senses of hearing, smell and touch are also considered.

Reference: visual and sensory Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved.
https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/inspire-nrw:NRW_LANDMAP_Visual_Sensory

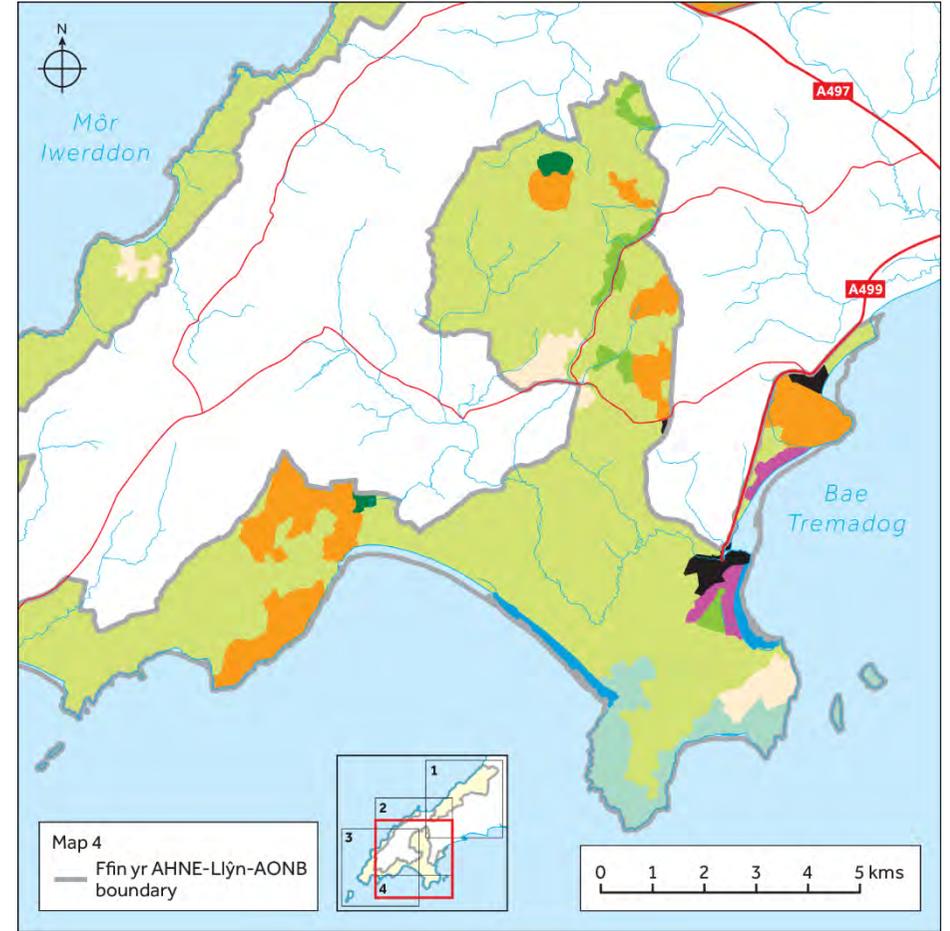
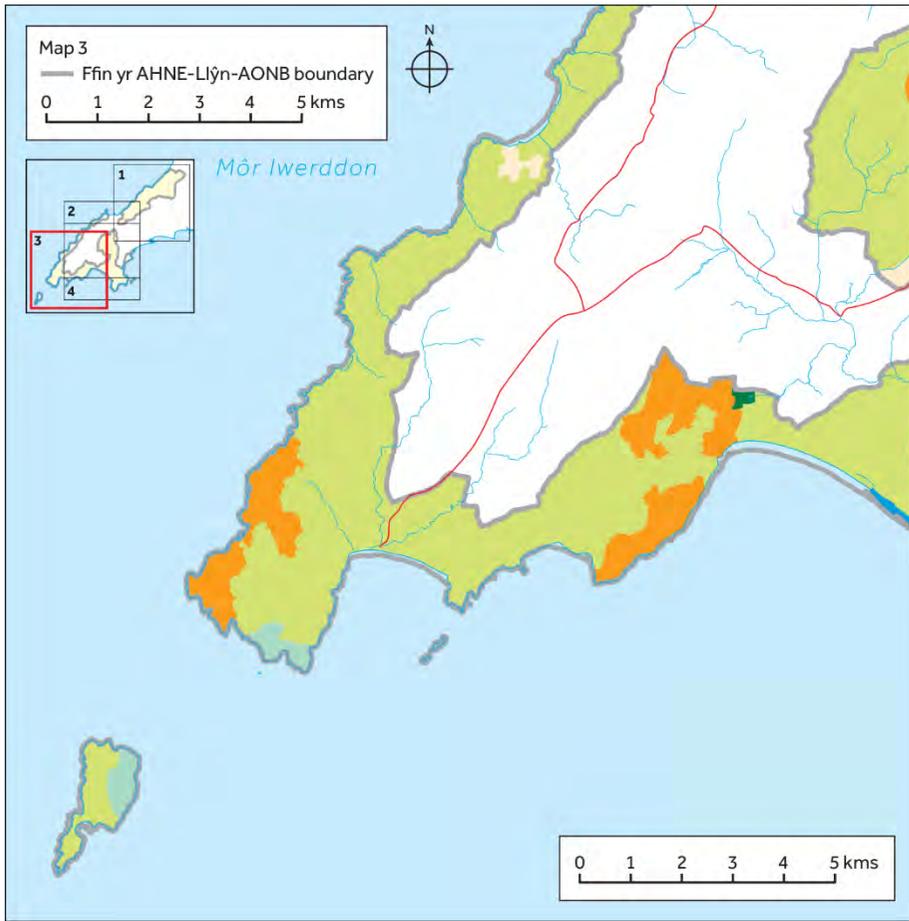
Land-cover

Pasture and grassland are the dominant land uses within the AONB. There is little change between 2006 and 2018 though coniferous woodland has been reduced; some areas converted to broadleaved woodland and some to moors and heathland.



Allwedd/Legend

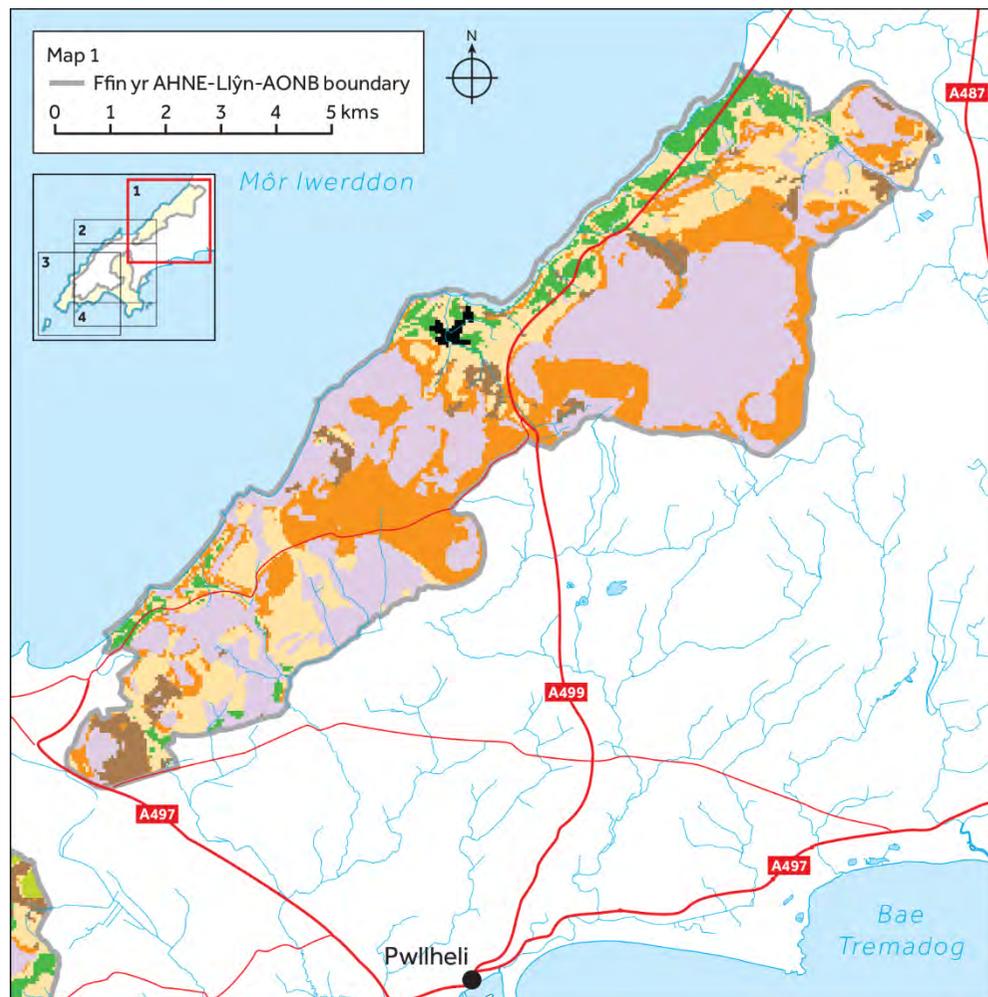
- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Ardal â llystyfiant prin/
Sparsely vegetated area | Coetir llydanddail a chymysg/
Broadleaf and mixed woodland | Glaswelltir/
Grassland | Llwyn coetir/
Woodland shrub | Rhosydd a rhostiroedd/
Moors and heathland | Tir fferm âr/
Arable farmland |
| Coedwig gonifferaidd/
Coniferous forest | Cyfleusterau chwaraeon a hamdden/
Sport and leisure facilities | Gwastadeddau rhynglanwol/
Intertidal flats | Porfeydd/
Pastures | Safle echdynnu mwynau/
Mineral extraction site | Trefol/
Urban |



Source: © European Union, Copernicus Land Monitoring Service 2021, European Environment Agency (EEA). <https://land.copernicus.eu/pan-european/corine-land-cover> - CORINE Land Cover uses a Minimum Mapping Unit (MMU) of 25 hectares (ha) for areal phenomena and a minimum width of 100 m for linear phenomena.

Agricultural land classification

In 2024, there is grade 2 agricultural land in the Llanengan Community Council area, with scattered pockets elsewhere. There are pockets of Grade 3a land throughout the area, but most land is either poor, very poor or non-agricultural.



Allwedd/Legend

- Tir amaethyddol o ansawdd da iawn/
Very good quality agricultural land
- Tir amaethyddol o ansawdd da/
Good quality agricultural land
- Tir amaethyddol o ansawdd cymedrol/
Moderate quality agricultural land
- Tir amaethyddol o ansawdd gwael/
Poor quality agricultural land
- Tir amaethyddol o ansawdd gwael iawn/
Very poor quality agricultural land
- Tir anamaethyddol/
Non-agricultural land
- Tir trefol/
Urban land

Grade 1 (Excellent Quality Agricultural Land): **Not present**

Grade 2 (Very Good Quality Agricultural Land): Slightly more limitations than Grade 1 but still highly productive, capable of sustaining diverse cropping options.

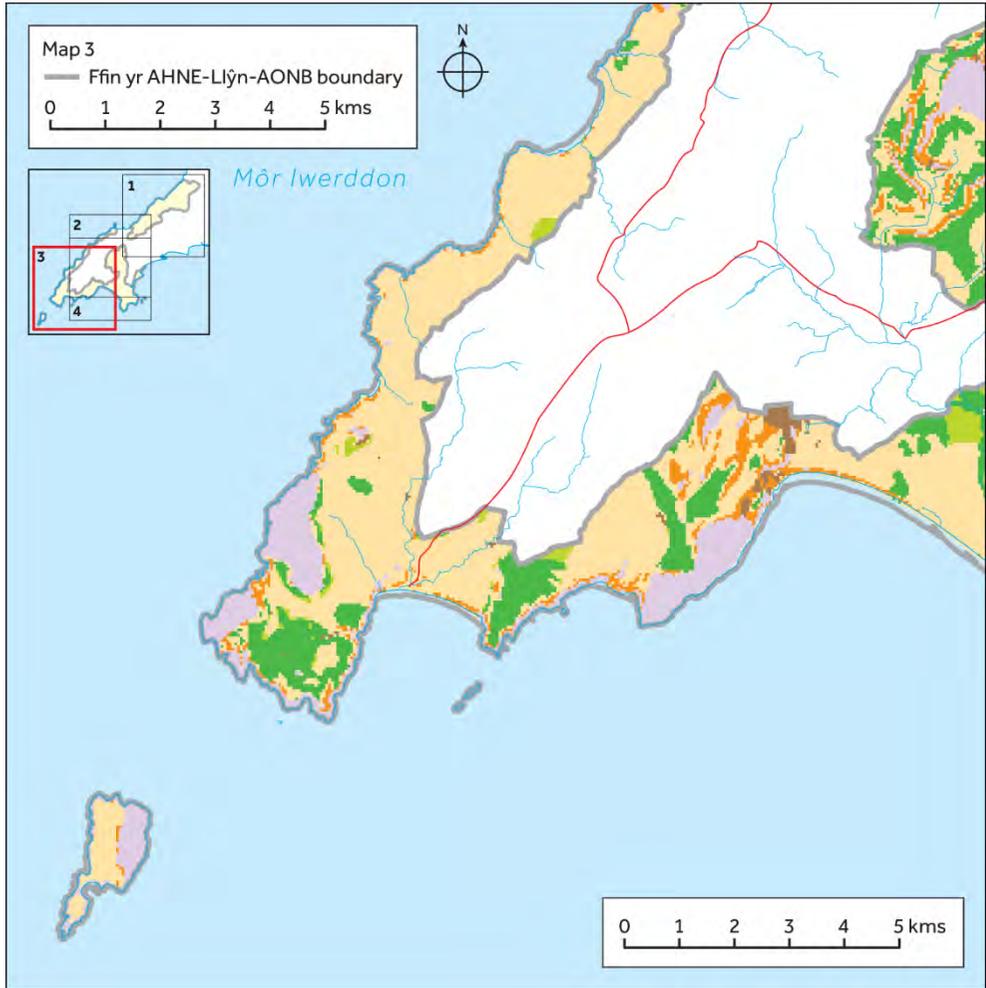
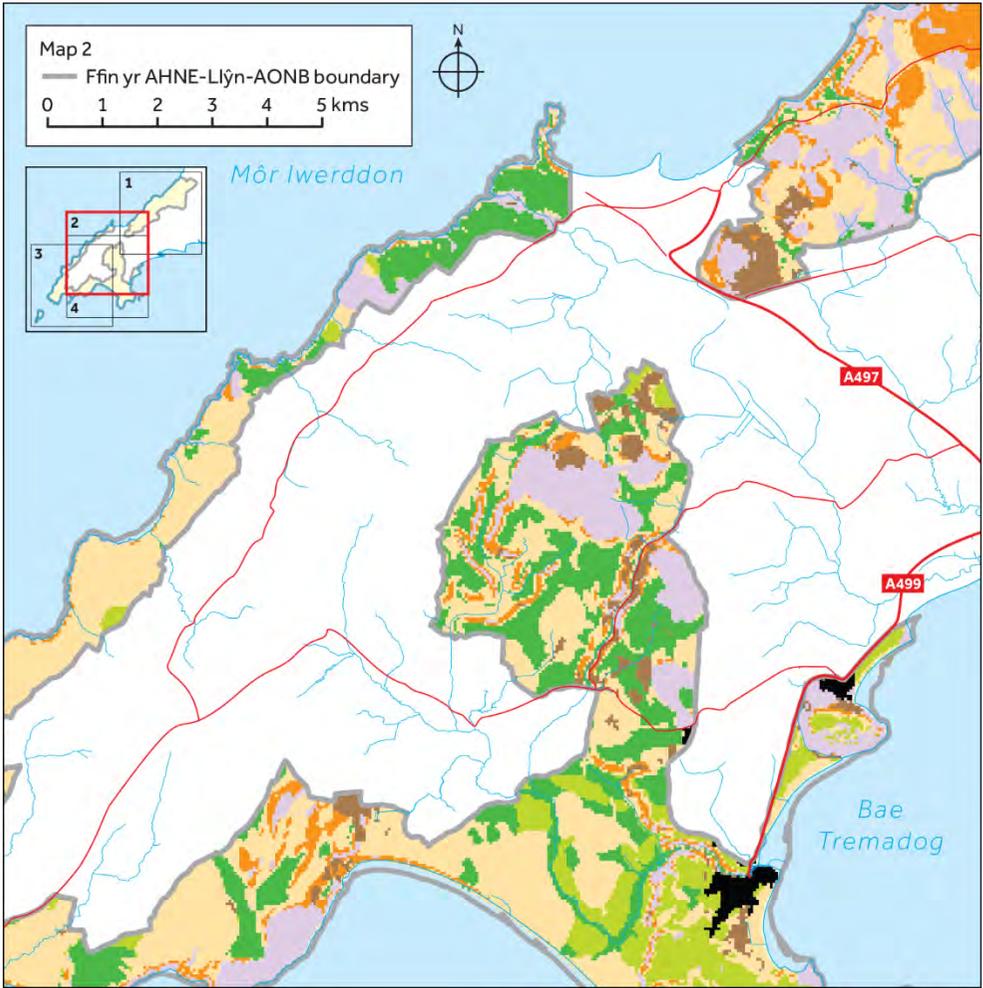
Grade 3 (Good to Moderate Quality Agricultural Land): This category is divided into two subgrades:

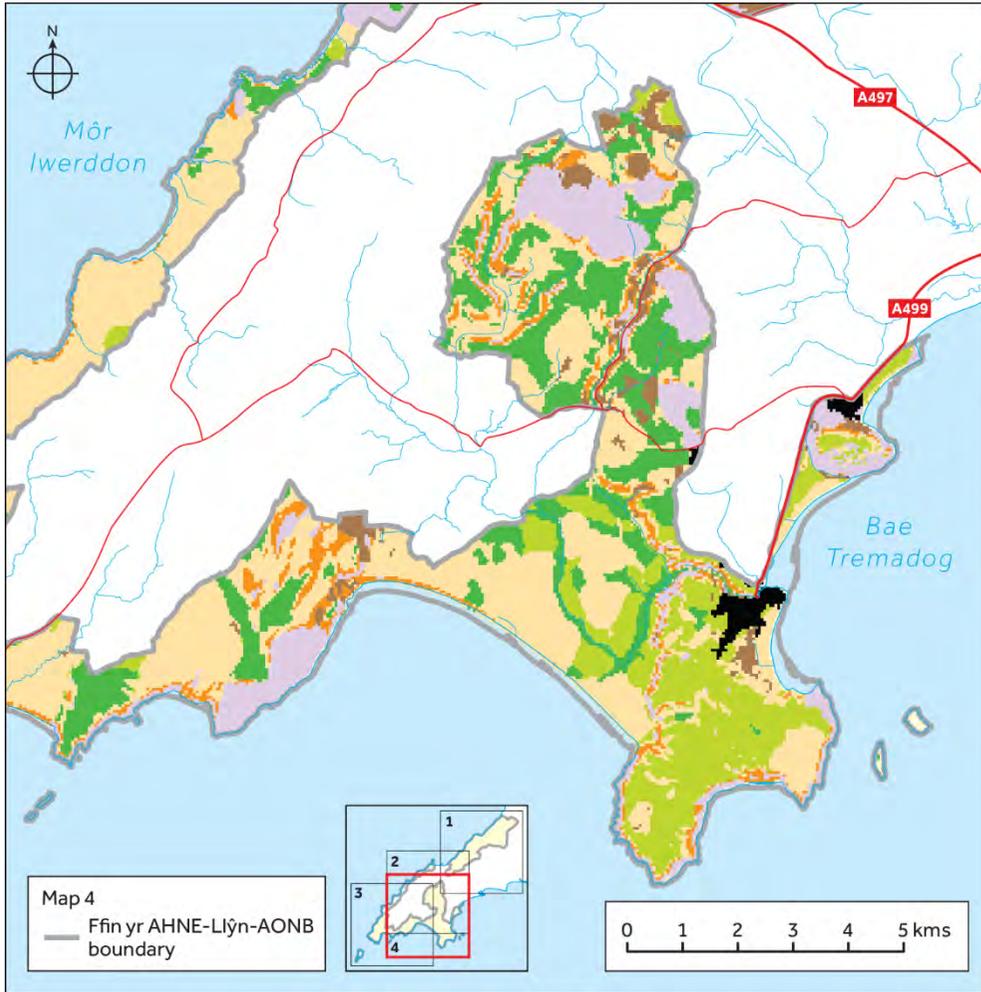
Grade 3a: Considered good quality, suitable for growing a variety of crops with some limitations.

Grade 3b: Moderate quality land, more limited in its agricultural use due to factors such as soil depth, drainage, or climate.

Grade 4 (Poor Quality Agricultural Land): Land with significant limitations, restricting it to lower-yield crops or permanent pasture.

Grade 5 (Very Poor Quality Agricultural Land): Only suitable for rough grazing due to severe limitations such as steep slopes or poor soil quality.





Source: Predictive Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Map 2. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.
https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/inspire-wg:wg_predictive_alc2

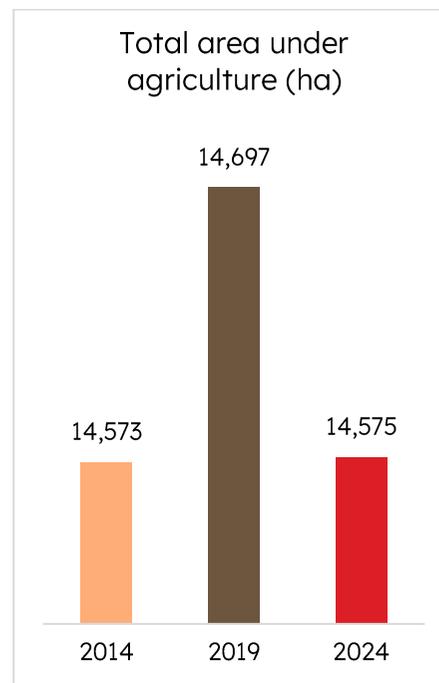
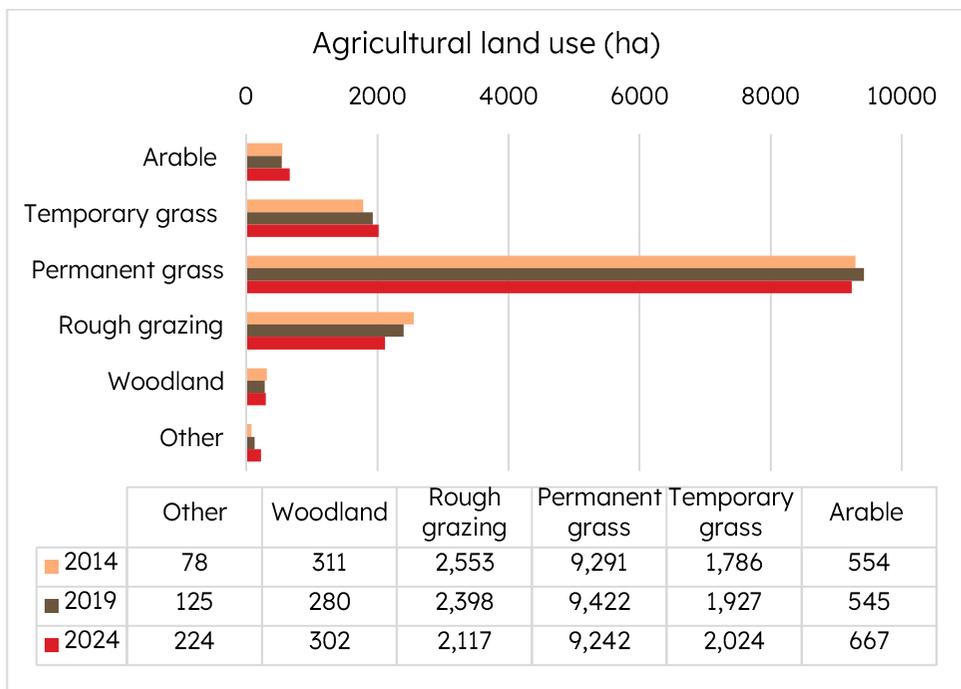
June survey of agriculture and horticulture

The June survey of agriculture is an annual report that includes information on agriculture land, livestock and farm labour. It is a large sample survey sent to a representative sample of holdings across Wales. As the results are based on a sample survey, they are subject to a degree of sampling error and do not consider other sources of survey errors, such as non-response bias or administrative data errors. Figures are not directly comparable, as each year the cohort of farms may vary slightly within the AONB.

Note: Land tenure and employment figures are not available below a Wales level, due to quality of responses and issues imputing at an individual farm level.

Agricultural land-use

In 2024, 14,575 ha was under agriculture, down from 14,697 ha in 2019 (a fall of 0.8%). 63% of the agricultural land use was as permanent grass.



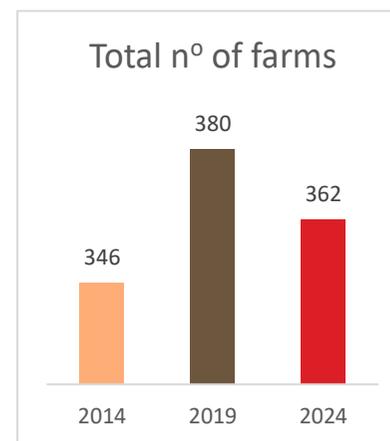
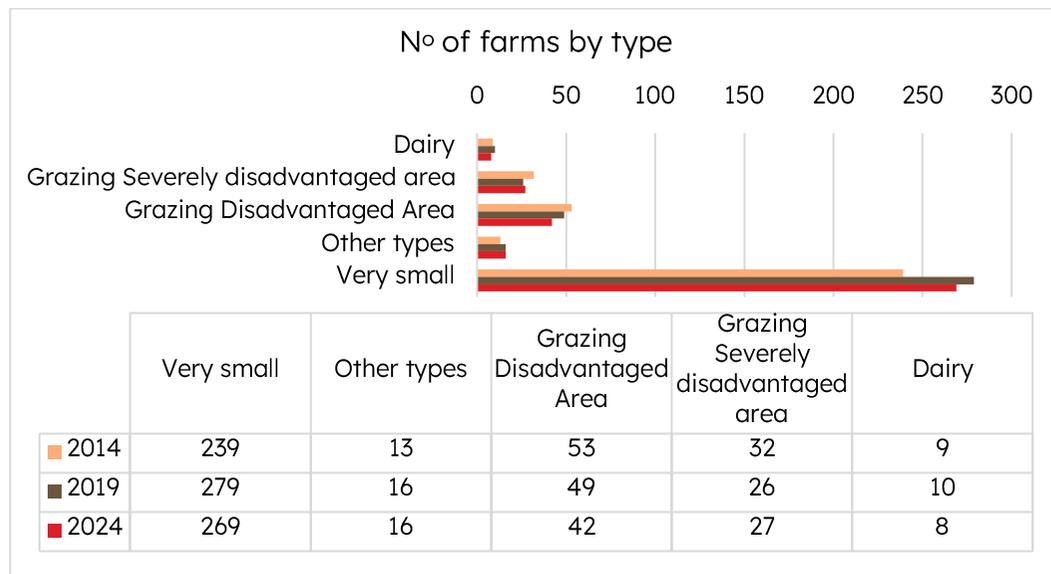
There has been a fall of 122 ha in agricultural land use between 2019 and 2024; but 2014 and 2024 are similar.

The dominant land use is grassland and grazing. Arable contains crops and bare fallow as well as horticulture.

Source: June agricultural & horticultural survey; <https://www.gov.wales/survey-agriculture-and-horticulture> - bespoke data set <https://www.gov.wales/ad-hoc-statistical-requests>

Agricultural holdings

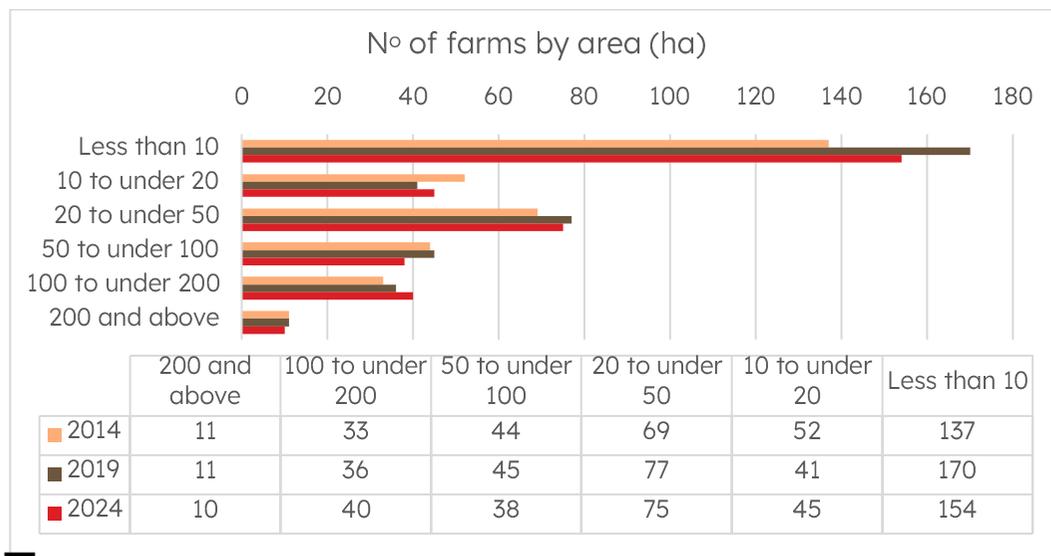
In 2024, there were 362 farms in the AONB, of which 43% were each less than 10 ha in area.



There has been a 5% increase in the number of farms between 2014 and 2024. There were 7% more farms in 2019 than recorded in 2024. This correlates with the size of farms. In 2019 there were 170 farms of less than 10 has, this fell by 9% to 154 farms in 2024.

It is possible that the changes in farm numbers are due to the subdivision of farms into smaller units rather than the creation of new farms.

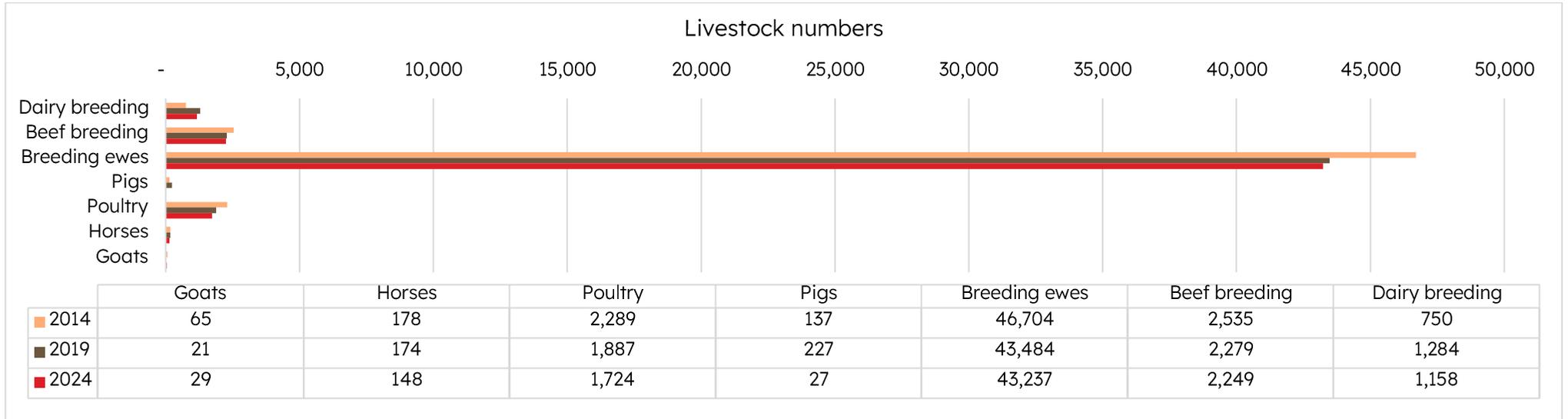
'Very small' includes farms below a 25,000 Euros standard output.



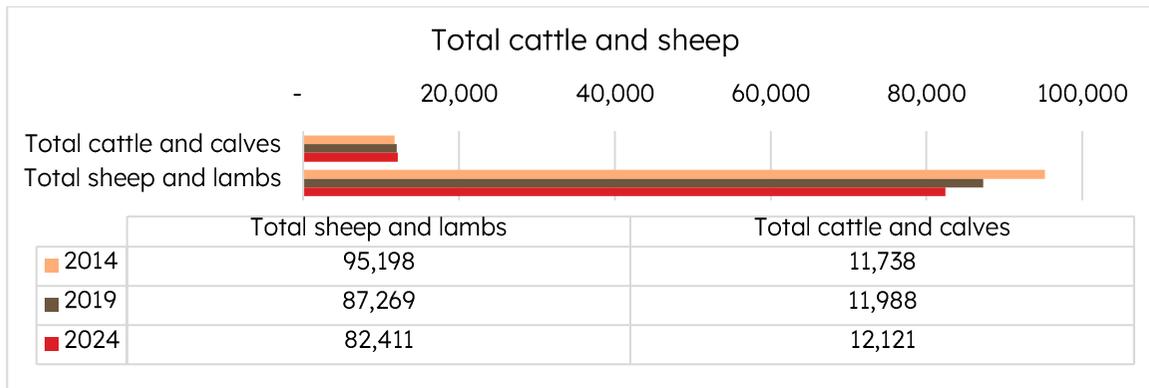
Source: June agricultural & horticultural survey;
<https://www.gov.wales/survey-agriculture-and-horticulture> - bespoke data set
<https://www.gov.wales/ad-hoc-statistical-requests>

Livestock numbers

Sheep is the largest group of livestock. There were 43,237 breeding ewes in 2024, down from 46,704 in 2014 (a fall of 7%).



Dairy breeding, beef breeding and total cattle are sourced from the cattle tracing system. Breeding cattle are defined as female cattle aged 2+ that have calved.



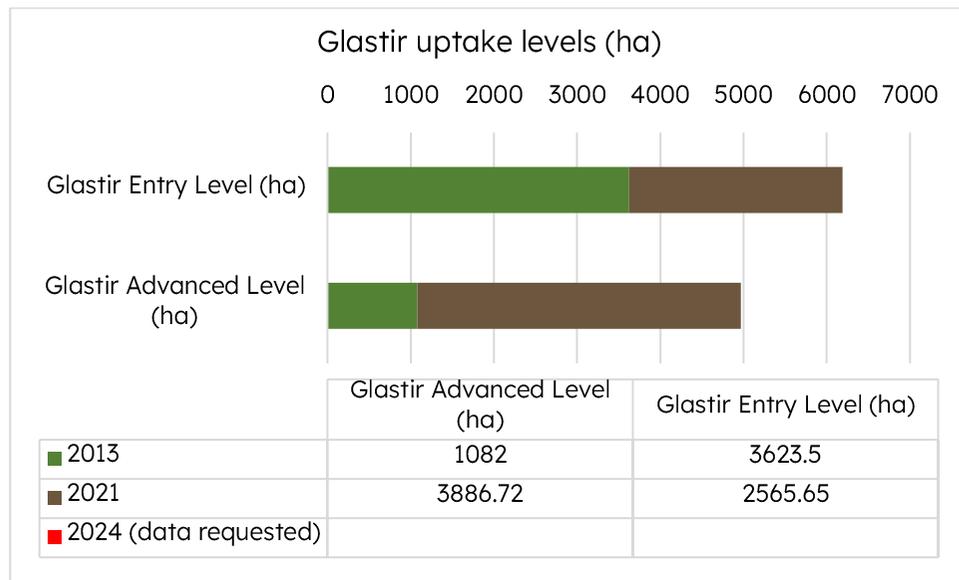
Changes in stock levels between 2014 and 2024:

- goats down 55%
- horses down 17%
- poultry down 25%
- pigs down 80%
- breeding ewes down 7%
- breeding beef down 11%
- breeding dairy up 54%

Source: June agricultural & horticultural survey; <https://www.gov.wales/survey-agriculture-and-horticulture> - bespoke data set <https://www.gov.wales/ad-hoc-statistical-requests>

Land in agri-environment schemes (*using partial data*)

The total coverage of Glastir in 2021 covered just over 40% of the AONB, increasing from 4,705.5 ha in 2013 to 6,452.4 ha (an increase of just over 37%). In 2021, uptake of the Entry element in the AONB decreased by 1,057.9 ha (-29.2%) since 2013. The increase in Glastir uptake across the AONB was therefore due to the coverage of Advanced uptake in 2021. This increased by 2,804.7 ha (+259.2%) since 2013.



Wales's agri-environment schemes have transitioned from the comprehensive Glastir scheme to an interim Habitat Wales Scheme (2024-2025), which is designed to bridge the gap until the new Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) is fully introduced in 2026.

Glastir, introduced in 2012, was composed of an Entry element and an Advanced element. The Entry element was open to all farmers and land managers in Wales, whereas the Advanced tier was targeted to locations where significant improvements to the environmental status of a range of habitats, species, soils and water are desired, including through changes to land management practices. Glastir contracts ended in 2023 and were succeeded by the Habitat Wales Scheme.

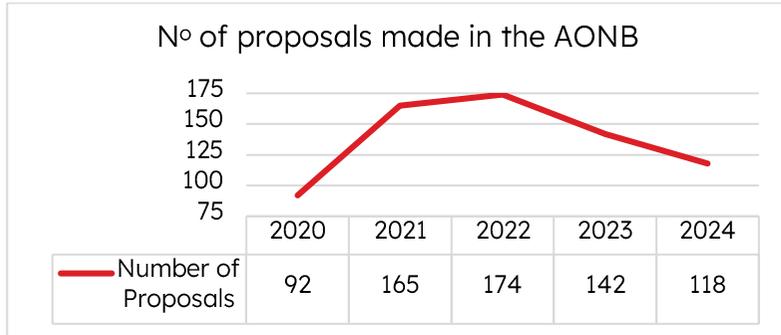
Habitat Wales Scheme is an interim scheme that began in January 2024 and will continue until the SFS is implemented. It supports habitat protection on agricultural land, particularly for those who were previously in Glastir Advanced.

The new SFS will offer a "Universal Layer" of support and optional "Collaborative" and "Optional" layers, aiming to support sustainable farming practices, food production, and environmental objectives like climate change mitigation and biodiversity enhancement.

Source: Welsh Government and LUC (2021): State of the AONB Report for the Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Development monitoring

Between 2020 and 2024, Cyngor Gwynedd considered 691 development proposals within the AONB of which 614 were valid development applications. Of the valid development applications, 81% were approved and 19% were refused. The approved the new domestic building proposals are for 13 new homes. Of these, 9 are classed as affordable.



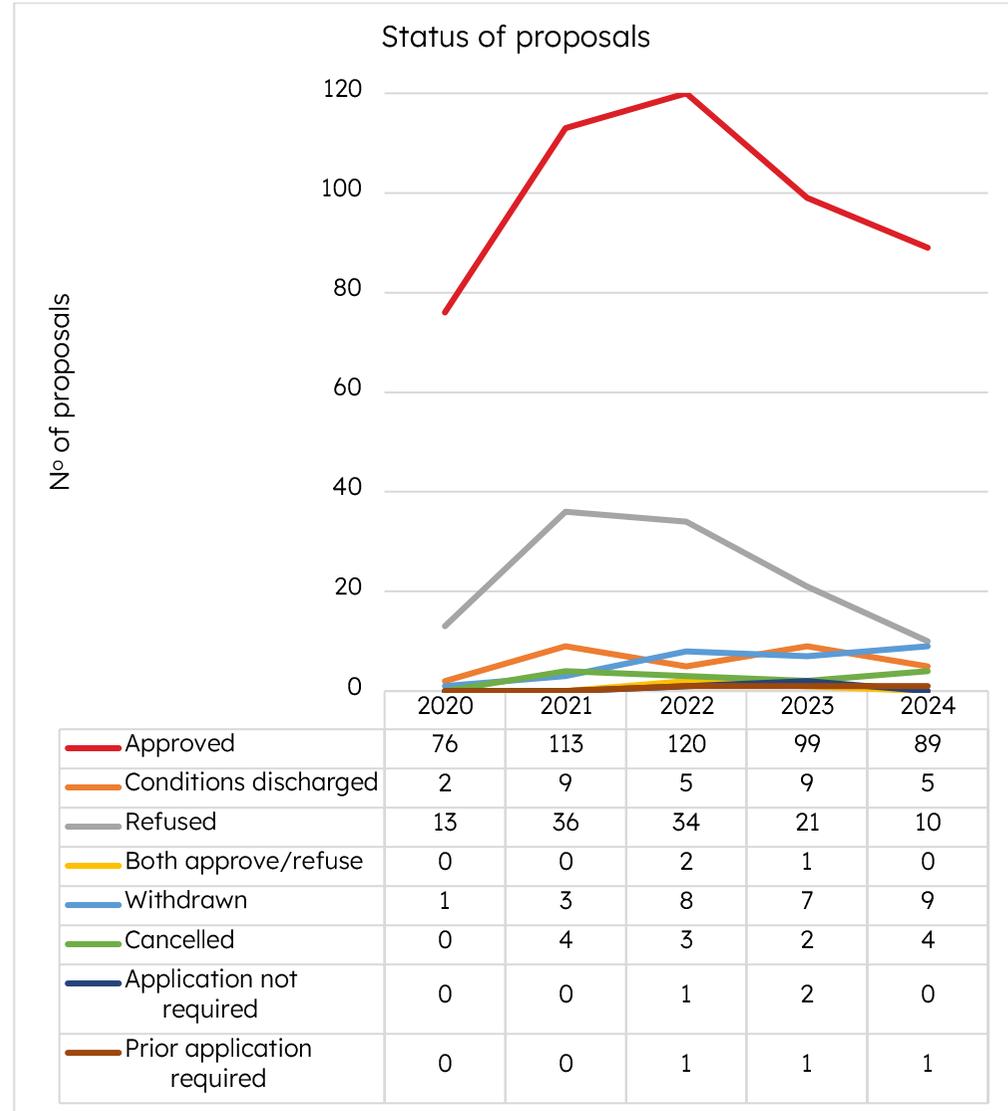
Between 2020 and 2024, Cyngor Gwynedd considered 691 development proposals within the AONB. Of these:

- 500 were approved (including 3 that were both approved and refused in part)
- 30 confirmed the discharge of conditions
- 114 were refused
- 28 were withdrawn or cancelled.

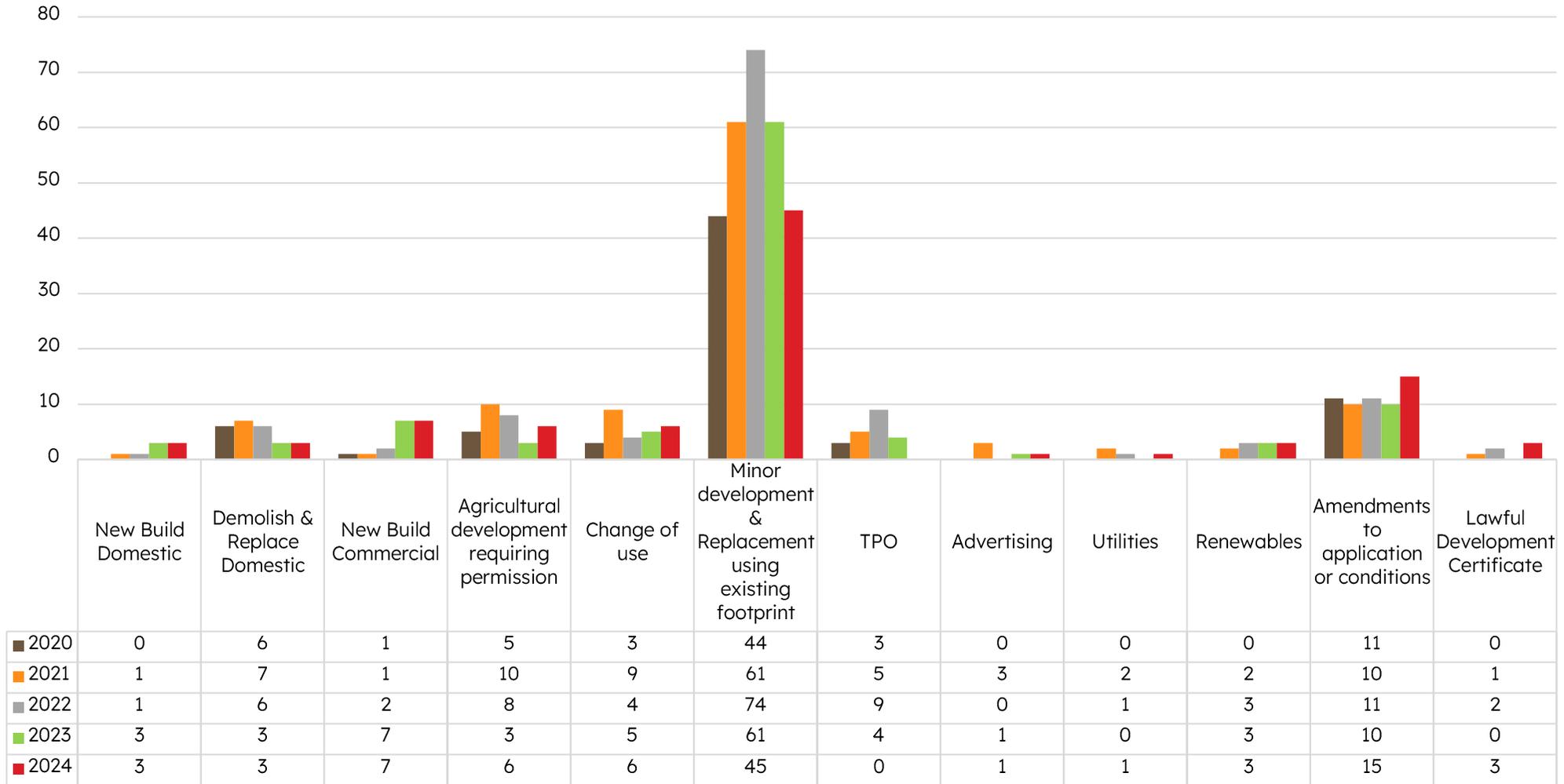
LL53 7TT
LL53 7BT LL53 7LH
LL53 7EF LL53 7EU
LL53 7DZ LL53 8BE
LL53 7LG
LL53 8PA
LL53 8TG

Gwynedd logs the proposals by Postcode and there are applications from across the whole of the AONB. Only a few have more than 10 applications (all are shown in the infographic).

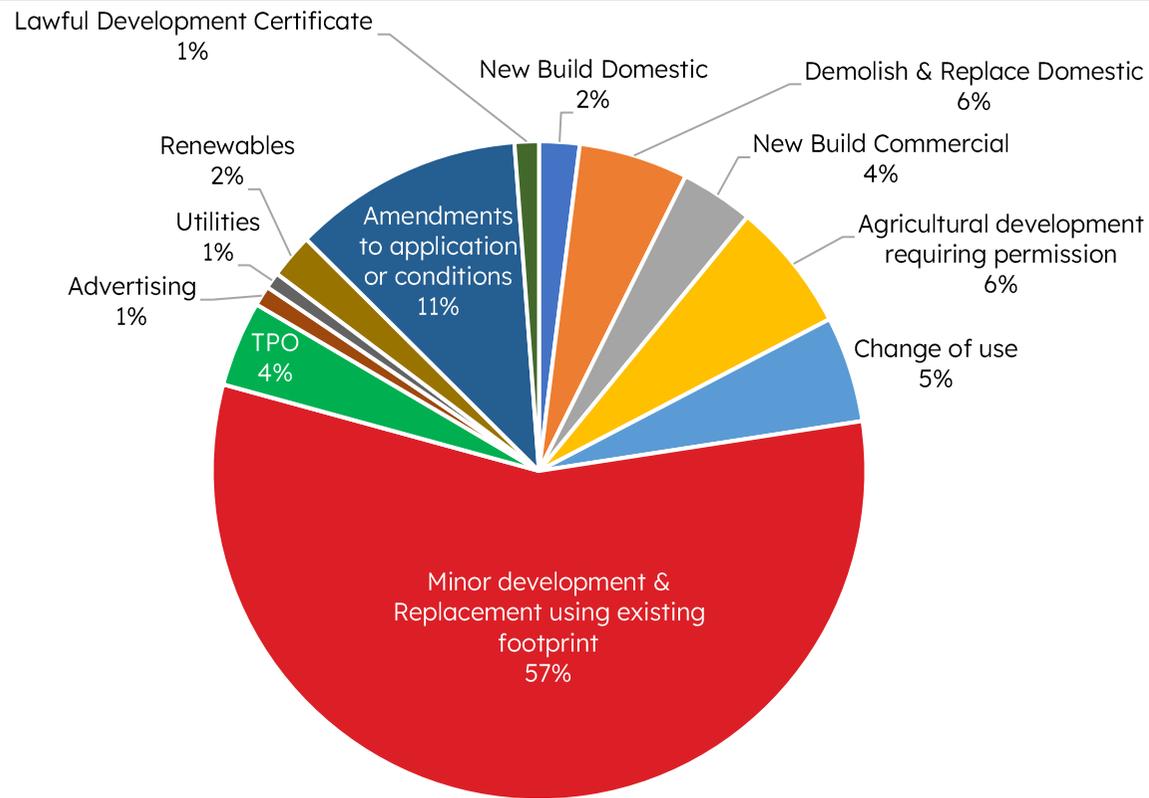
The most common post code for applications is **LL53 7TT**, which is on the edge of Llanbedrog. The other codes that stand out are, in descending order: Llanengan, Machroes and the southern edge of Abersoch. This implies that the greatest demand for development is in the southwest section of the AONB.



Number of consents by type



The eight new domestic building proposals are for 13 new homes. Of these, 9 are classed as affordable.



Percentage of consents by type

Of the approved applications:

- 57% were for minor developments using the existing built footprint
- 6% were for demolishing a residence and rebuilding
- 6% were for agricultural development
- 4% were for new build (commercial)
- 2% were for new build (domestic)

Source: Cyngor Gwynedd 2025

Future development pressure

Working to ensure that local planning policy fully recognises the AONB's purpose and objectives.

Local Plans

Planning Authority & status of plan	Date adopted	Spatial Strategy and allocations
<p>The Joint Anglesey and Gwynedd Local Development Plan 2011 – 2026</p>	<p>July 2017</p>	<p>STRATEGIC POLICY PS 19: CONSERVING AND WHERE APPROPRIATE ENHANCING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>The Councils will manage development so as to conserve and where appropriate enhance the Plan area's distinctive natural environment, countryside and coastline, and proposals that have a significant adverse effect on them will be refused unless the need for and benefits of the development in that location clearly outweighs the value of the site or area and national policy protection for that site and area in question. When determining a planning application, consideration will need to be given to the following:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safeguard the Plan area's habitats and species, geology, history, the coastline and landscapes; 2. Protect or where appropriate enhance sites of international, national, regional and local importance and, where appropriate, their settings in line with National Policy; 3. Have appropriate regard to the relative significance of international, national or local designations in considering the weight to be attached to acknowledged interests, ensuring that any international or national responsibilities and obligations are fully met in accordance with National Policy; 4. Protect or enhance biodiversity within the Plan area and enhance and/or restore networks of natural habitats in accordance with the Local Biodiversity Action Plans and Policy AMG 5; 5. Protect or enhance biodiversity through networks of green/ blue infrastructure; 6. Safeguard internationally, nationally and locally protected species; 7. Protect, retain or enhance the local character and distinctiveness of the individual Landscape Character Areas (in line with Policy AMG 2) and Seascape Character Areas (in line with Policy AMG 4); 8. Protect, retain or enhance trees, hedgerows or woodland of visual, ecological, historic cultural or amenity value.
		<p>POLICY AMG1: AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY MANAGEMENT PLANS</p> <p>Proposals within or affecting the setting and/ or significant views into and out of the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty must, where appropriate, have regard to the relevant Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan.</p>

STRATEGIC POLICY PS 20: PRESERVING AND WHERE APPROPRIATE ENHANCING HERITAGE ASSETS

In seeking to support the wider economic and social needs of the Plan area, the Local Planning Authorities will preserve and where appropriate, enhance its unique heritage assets.

Proposals that will preserve and where appropriate enhance the following heritage assets, their setting and significant views into and out of the building/area will be granted:

1. Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other areas of archaeological importance (in line with Policy AT 4).
2. Listed Buildings and their curtilages.
3. Conservation Areas (in line with Policy AT 1).
4. Beaumaris Castle and Caernarfon Castle and Town Walls World Heritage Sites (in line with Policy AT 1).
5. Candidate World Heritage Sites.
6. Registered Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens (in line with Policy AT 1).
7. Buildings of architectural/ historic/ cultural merit that are not designated or protected (in line with Policy AT 3).

POLICY AT 1: CONSERVATION AREAS, WORLD HERITAGE SITES AND REGISTERED HISTORIC LANDSCAPES, PARKS AND GARDENS

Proposals within or affecting the setting and/ or significant views into and out of Conservation Areas, World Heritage Sites and Registered Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens shown on the Constraints Map must, where appropriate, have regard to:

1. Adopted Conservation Area Character Appraisals, Conservation Area Plans and Delivery Strategies.
2. World Heritage Site Management Plans.
3. The Register of Landscape, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales.

Proposals should be supported by a Heritage Impact Assessment, where appropriate.

Housing allocations

Local Service Centre – Abersoch – indicative provision for local market housing – 65

Local village - Trefor - 13

Coastal/Rural Villages - Clynog-fawr – 10; Llithfaen – 9; Llanaelhaearn – 15 (development may not be in the AONB)

Aberdaron – indicative provision for local market housing – 13

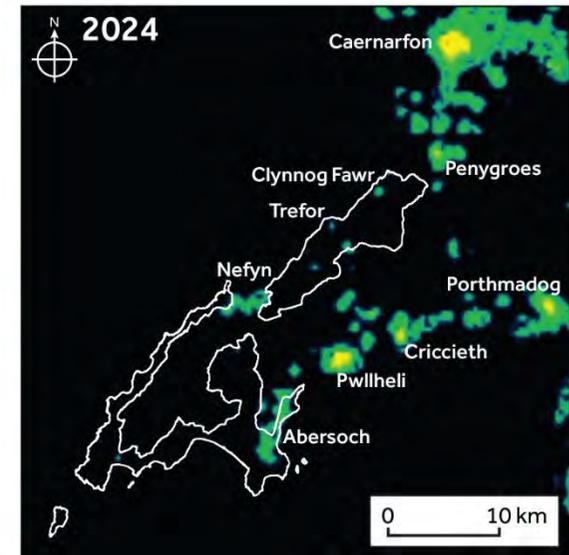
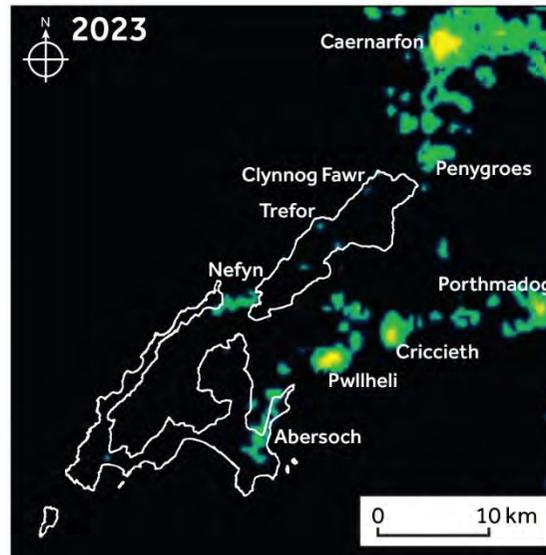
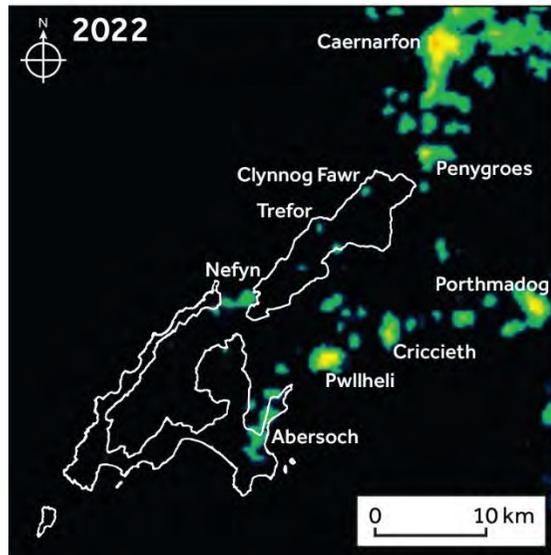
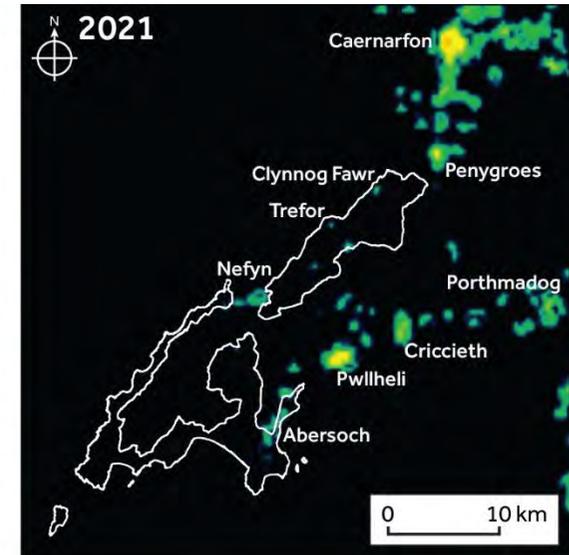
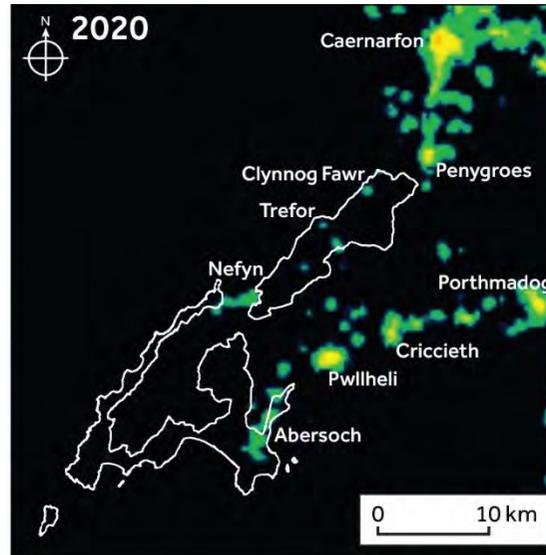
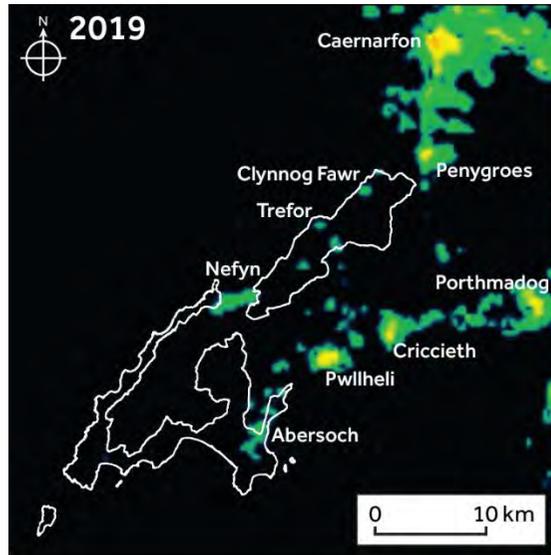
Llanbedrog – indicative provision for local market housing – 16

Llangian - indicative provision for local market housing – 4

	<p>Mynytho – indicative provision for local market housing – 13 (development may not be in the AONB)</p> <p>Sarn Bach - indicative provision for local market housing – 4</p>
<p>Gwynedd Local Development Plan</p> <p>The new plan currently in preparation</p>	<p>Following a decision by Cyngor Gwynedd and the Isle of Anglesey County Council to cease the joint working agreement on Planning Policy matters on 31 March 2023, the Gwynedd Planning Policy Service has been established.</p> <p>The process of preparing a new Local Development Plan (LDP) for the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area only (which is the area of Gwynedd located outside the Eryri National Park) has commenced. The new LDP will cover a period between 2024 and 2039. The Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan continues to provide the local policy framework for decisions on planning applications, until the Gwynedd Local Development Plan is adopted.</p>

Light pollution across Llŷn

Six satellite images showing light radiance since 2019. There is little change over the years; the area retains its dark night skies.



We present 'tranquillity' reporting with data for light and noise pollution.

Radiance (nWcm ⁻² sr ⁻¹)	2024	2019	
Abersoch	0.81	0.55	↑
Aberdaron	0.63	0.52	↑
Clynnog-fawr	0.65	0.74	↓
Trefor	0.70	0.83	↓
Nefyn	0.84	0.97	↓
Pwllheli	7.74	11.28	↓
Caernarfon	18.66	21.06	↓
Bangor	20.14	28.61	↓
Swansea Copper Quarter	200.48	171.93	↑
Swansea City Centre	38.79	66.82	↓
Cardiff City Centre	281.61	203.21	↑
No light	0.00		

Comparing energy radiating from the surface (watts/steradian/cm²)



The Llŷn AONB has very dark night skies, there are only very low levels of light radiated. Abersoch and its environs, Trefor and Clynnog-fawr are the main sources of light. There is less light pollution during 2020 and 2021. This is most likely due to the lockdowns during the Covid pandemic.

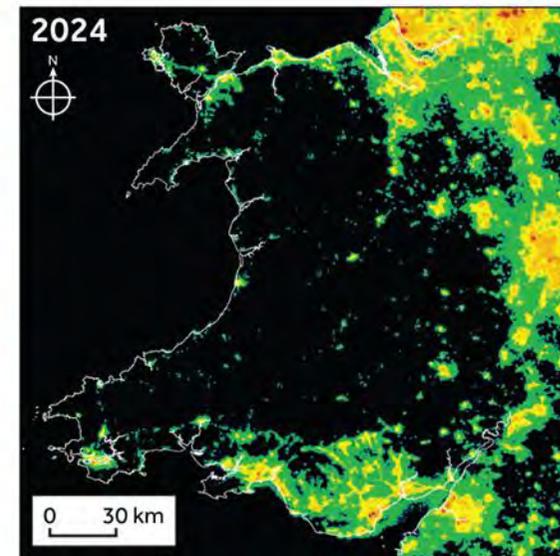
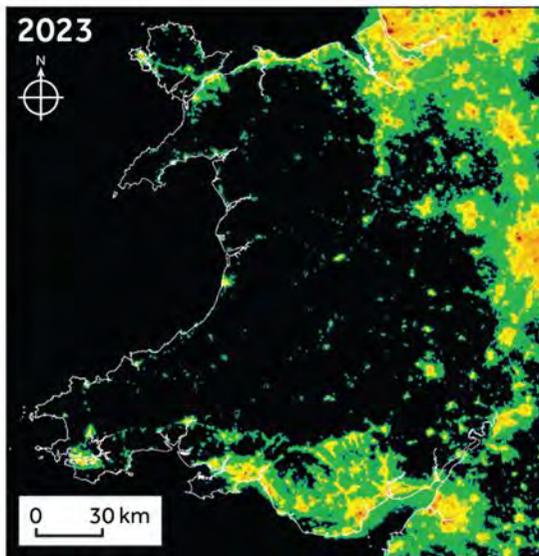
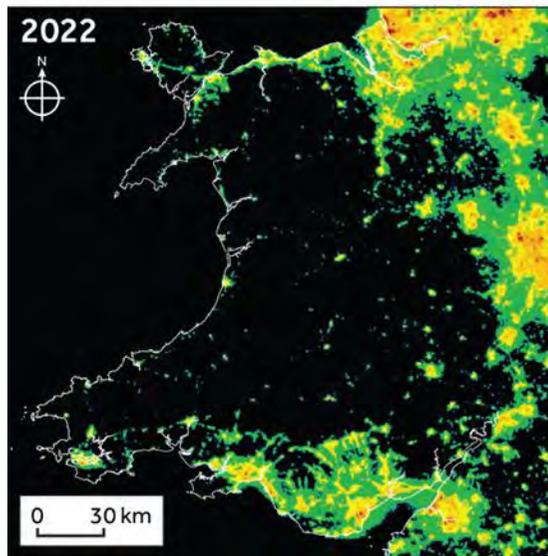
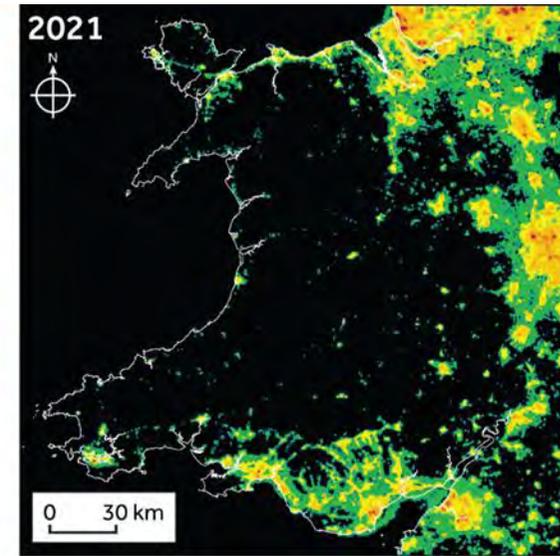
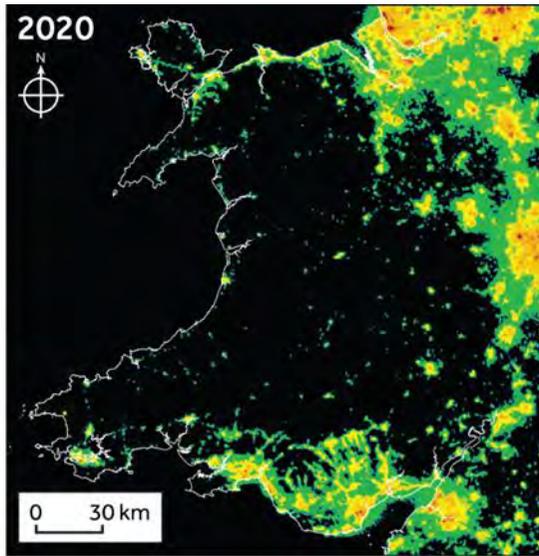
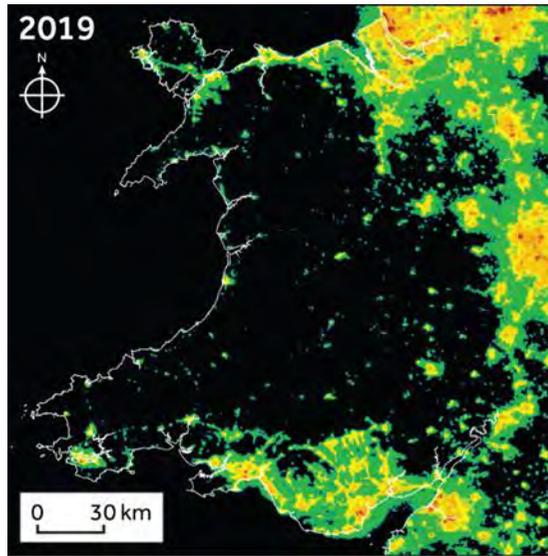
Source: The maps come from www.lightpollutionmap.info and the data is NASA Earth Data shown is VNP46A4 - VIIRS/NPP Lunar BRDF-Adjusted Nighttime Lights Yearly L3 Global 15 arc second Linear Lat Lon Grid - for the years 2019 -2024

Citation - Román, M.O., Wang, Z., Sun, Q., Kalb, V., Miller, S.D., Molthan, A., Schultz, L., Bell, J., Stokes, E.C., Pandey, B. and Seto, K.C., et al. (2018). NASA's Black Marble nighttime lights product suite. Remote Sensing of Environment 210, 113-143. doi:10.1016/j.rse.2018.03.017.

Dark Skies Map for Natural Resources Wales (2021) <https://www.landuse.co.uk/projects/dark-skies-map-natural-resources-wales/>

Light pollution across Wales

Six satellite images showing light radiance since 2019. The areas around Bangor, northeast Wales and the south coast show the greatest light pollution. But much of Wales retains dark night skies.



The Dark Skies and Light Pollution in Wales project 2021, undertaken by LUC for Natural Resources Wales, showed that the Llŷn AONB was ranked as the darkest AONB in Wales and is the only AONB to have a larger percentage of their area within the darkest category compared to the Wales average.

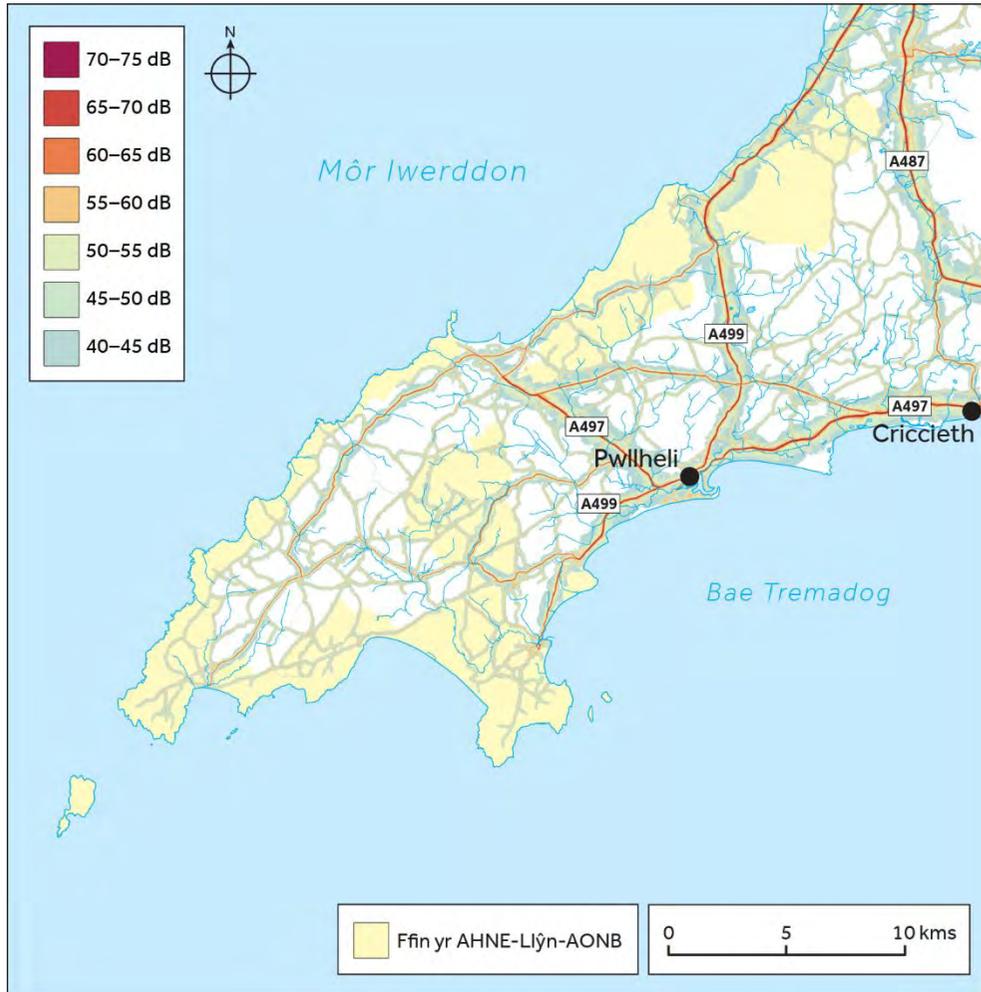
Source: The maps come from www.lightpollutionmap.info and the data is NASA Earth Data shown is VNP46A4 - VIIRS/NPP Lunar BRDF-Adjusted Nighttime Lights Yearly L3 Global 15 arc second Linear Lat Lon Grid - for the years 2019 -2024

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Dark Skies Map for Natural Resources Wales (2021) <https://www.landuse.co.uk/projects/dark-skies-map-natural-resources-wales/>

Noise pollution

In 2022, there was little traffic noise in the AONB. Most roads presented an average sound level of only 40-50 dB.



A new baseline set by the Welsh Government.

- The highest average noise levels were recorded along the A499 and around Abersoch (levels between 60-75 dB). And the data shows that noise spillage along the A499 is quite wide with bands of 40-55 dB either side of the road. Where the A499 passes through the AONB, it is intrusive.
- Average road noise in Aberdaron is between 55-60 dB.

Environmental noise mainly consists of noise from transport sources such as road, rail and aviation. One of the ways the Welsh Government manages this noise is by implementing the Environmental Noise (Wales) Regulations 2006 to make strategic noise maps for major roads, major railways and large urban areas (“agglomerations”) every five years, starting in 2007. To make the 2022 noise maps more useful, it went beyond the requirements of the legislation on this occasion and mapped noise consistently from all roads and railways across Wales.

The outputs of the 2022 noise mapping exercise are not comparable to any noise maps generated previously, because new noise mapping methods were introduced that calculate noise emissions and residential population exposure differently from the methods used in previous rounds. But because the Welsh Government has now adopted Defra’s new Noise Modelling System, the 2022 noise maps for Wales are considered broadly comparable to and consistent with the 2022 noise maps being generated for England.

Note: **Lden** indicates the average sound level around the clock with extra weighting given to the evening and night periods

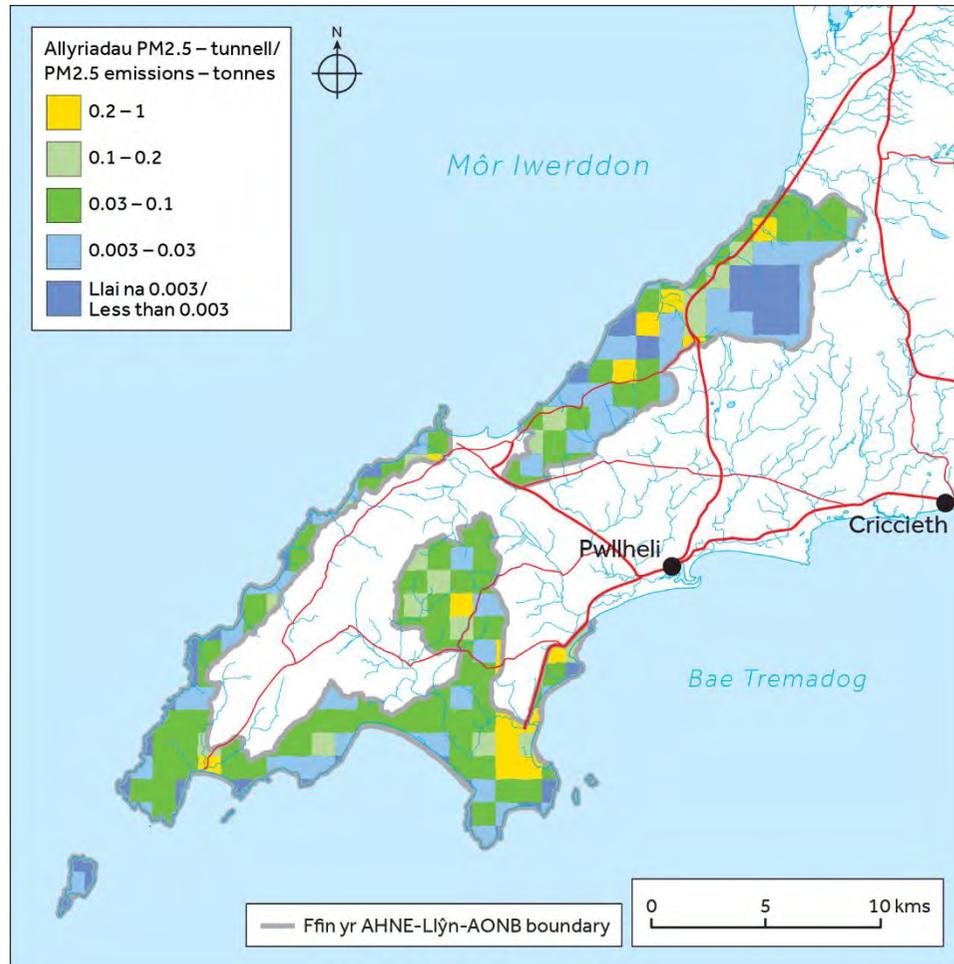
Source: Welsh Government 2023 - Environmental Noise Mapping 2022 - Road traffic noise (dB) - all roads (Lden)

https://datamap.gov.wales/layergroups/geonode:Environmental_Noise_Mapping_2022

Air quality

Particulate matter in the AONB

Showing PM2.5 levels in 2022. Levels are very low in the area but with hotspots around Abersoch, Aberdaron, Llanbedrog, Nanhoron (quarry), Groesffordd/Edern, Llithfaen, Trefor (quarry) and Clynnog-fawr.

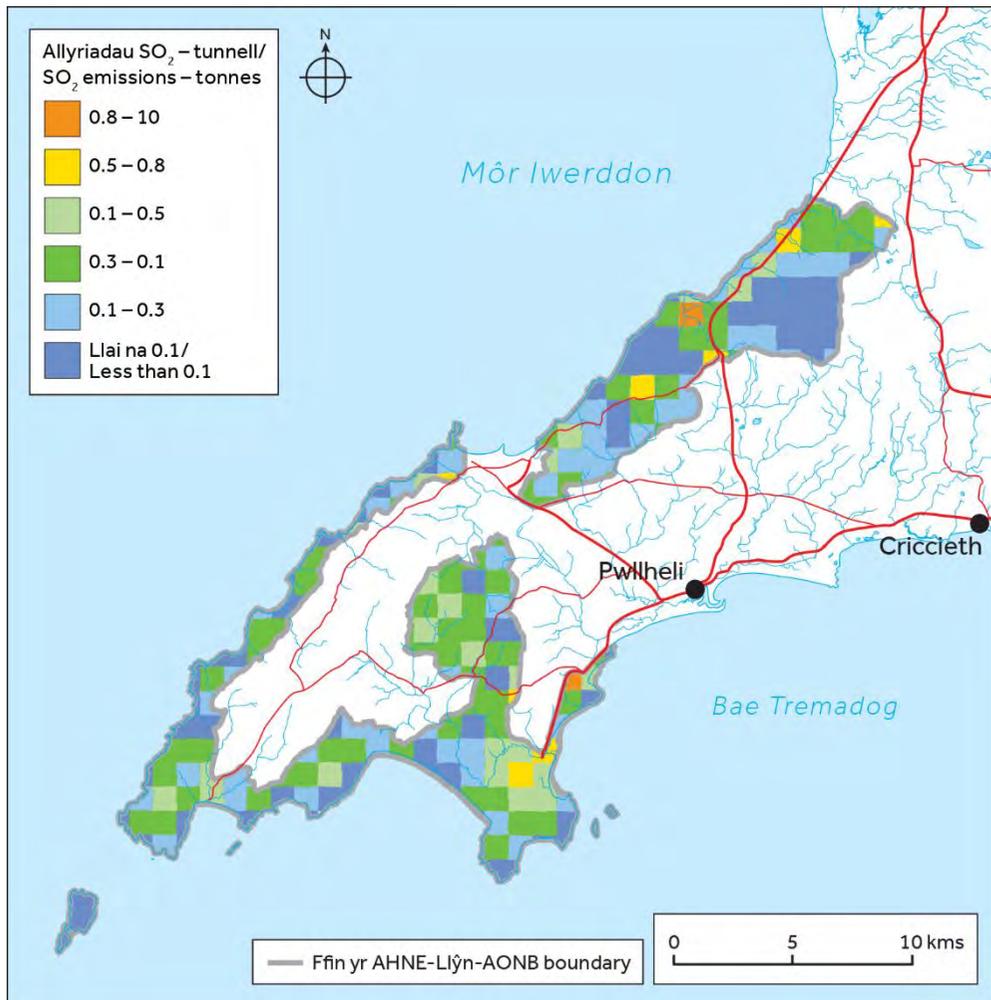


Fine particulate matter (PM2.5) can travel large distances in the atmosphere. A proportion of the concentrations of PM that people in the UK are exposed to come from naturally occurring sources such as pollen and sea spray. However, around half of the concentrations of PM comes from sources such as domestic wood burning and tyre and brake wear from vehicles. As such, it is in the interest of the UK to measure concentrations of PM in a range of locations that are both typical of population exposure and that have a greater influence from sources originating from human activity. PM2.5 is matter that is less than 2.5 micro gram in diameter. Due to the small size, some of these toxins may enter the bloodstream and be transported around the body, lodging in the heart, brain and other organs.

Source: National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI) 2022 (<https://naei.beis.gov.uk/data/mapping>). The NAEI receives detailed data on individual point sources regulated by the Environment Agency and Local Authority Pollution Control. Emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 from agricultural sources are distributed using agricultural census data 2014.

Sulphur dioxide in the AONB

Showing sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in 2022. Levels are very low in the area but there are hotspots around Trefor and Llanbedrog. These are both sections of the A499 showing the highest traffic movements.



The principal man-made source of sulphur dioxide is the combustion of fossil fuels.

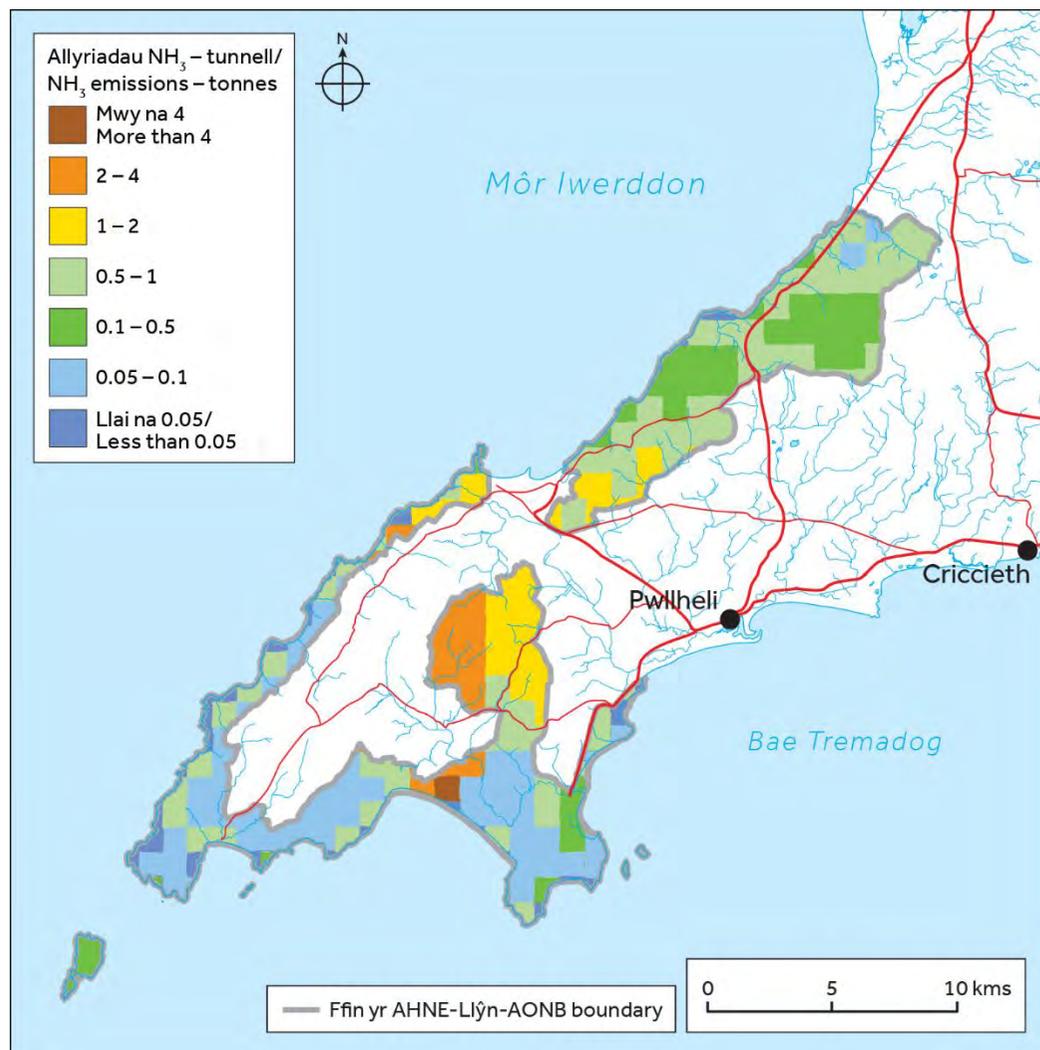
Sulphur dioxide contributes to aerosol formation which can either warm (through absorption of solar radiation on dark particles) or cool (from forming cloud droplets and reflecting radiation) the atmosphere.

UK-wide, emissions of sulphur dioxide have decreased by 97% since 1990, to 95 thousand tonnes in 2023.

Source: National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI) 2022 (<https://naei.beis.gov.uk/data/mapping>). The NAEI receives detailed data on individual point sources regulated by the Environment Agency and Local Authority Pollution Control.

Ammonia in the AONB

Showing ammonia (NH_3) in 2022. Levels are very low in the western half of the AONB. Levels are high in a band stretching coast to coast through the centre of the area with moderate levels in the eastern section. Rural ammonia usually comes from farming activities or large bird nesting areas.



Ammonia (NH_3) is a highly reactive and soluble alkaline gas. It originates from both natural and anthropogenic sources, with the main source being agriculture (manures, slurries and fertiliser application). Other agriculture-related emissions include biomass burning or fertiliser manufacture. Non-agricultural sources, such as catalytic converters in internal combustion engines, landfill sites, sewage works, composting of organic materials, combustion, industry and wild mammals and birds can also emit ammonia. UK-wide emissions of ammonia have decreased by 14 per cent since 1990, to 265 thousand tonnes in 2023.

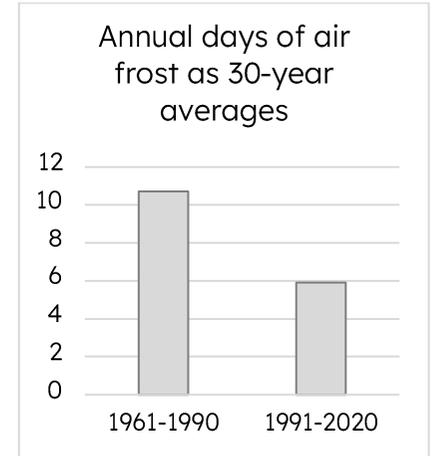
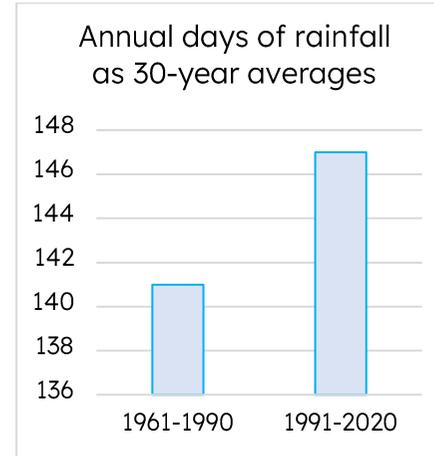
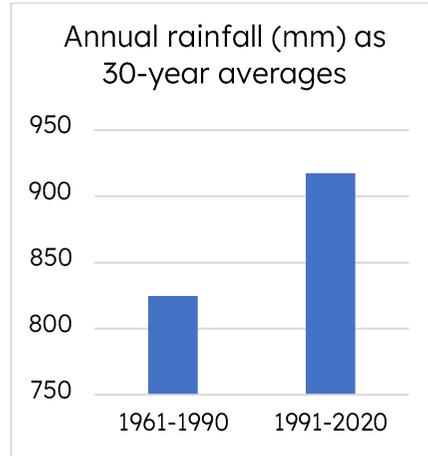
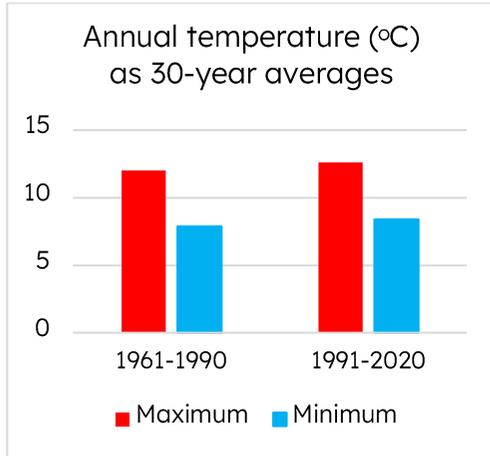
As well as impacting air quality, high ammonia concentrations can disturb the natural balance of ecosystems and endanger native flora, fauna and water sources:

- Eutrophication
- Shift in dominance from mosses, lichens and ericoids towards grasses like *Deschampsia flexuosa*, *Molinia caerulea* and ruderal species.
- Increased risk of frost damage in spring
- Increased winter desiccation levels in *Calluna* and summer drought stress
- Increased incidence of pest and pathogen attack, e.g. heather beetle outbreaks.
- Direct damage and death of sensitive species, e.g. lichens and mosses.
- Reduced root growth and mycorrhizal infection
- Increase in soil pH follows acidification

Source: National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI) 2022 (<https://naei.beis.gov.uk/data/mapping>). The NAEI receives detailed data on individual point sources regulated by the Environment Agency and Local Authority Pollution Control.

Changes in weather patterns

Charts showing a series of 30-year climate averages between 1961 and 2020 based on Metrological Office data for Aberdaron. There is a rise of 0.6°C in annual mean temperature and a 92.7mm increase in annual rainfall over the last 60 years. The number of annual days of rainfall rose over the period by 6 days to 147 days. In contrast, the number of annual days of air frost fell by 4.8 days to 6 days.

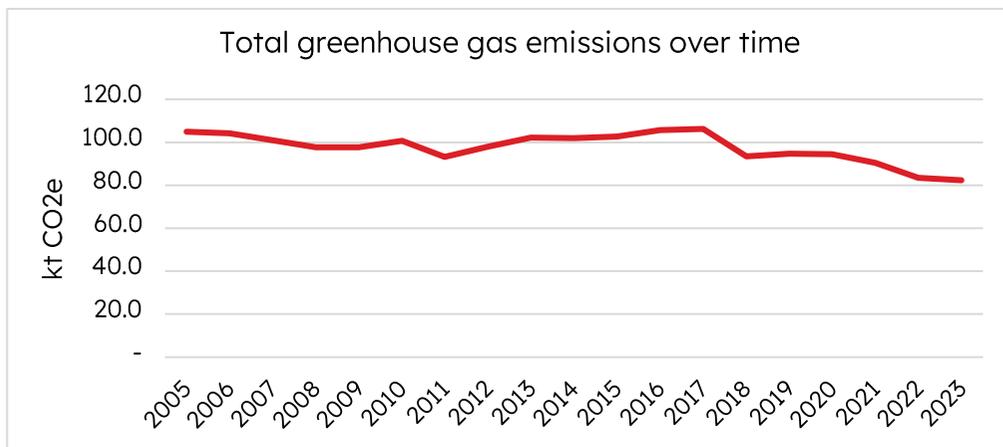


Source: Information provided by the National Meteorological Office, UK climate averages (MIDAS Open data 2025)
<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/maps-and-data/location-specific-long-term-averages/gcksk1uqj>

Greenhouse gases

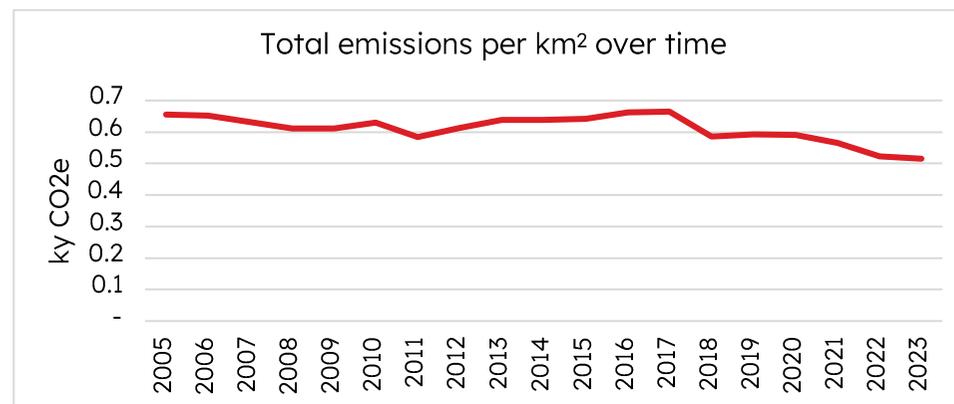
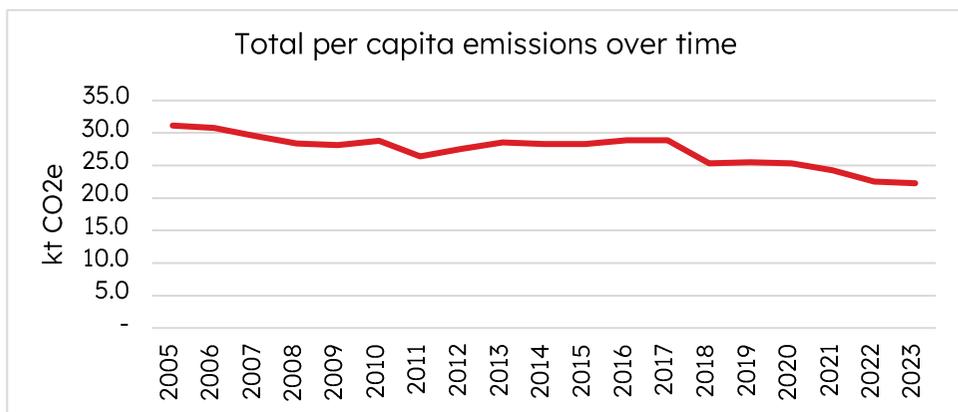
Trend data for the LIÿn AONB

A series of charts showing levels of greenhouse gas emissions from the LIÿn AONB land mass. There has been a **21.5%** reduction in total greenhouse gas emissions between 2005 and 2023. Except for agriculture, all sectors show significant decreases in emissions. Agriculture increased by 7% since 2005 but there had been a fall by 2013. The increase since then is 25%.

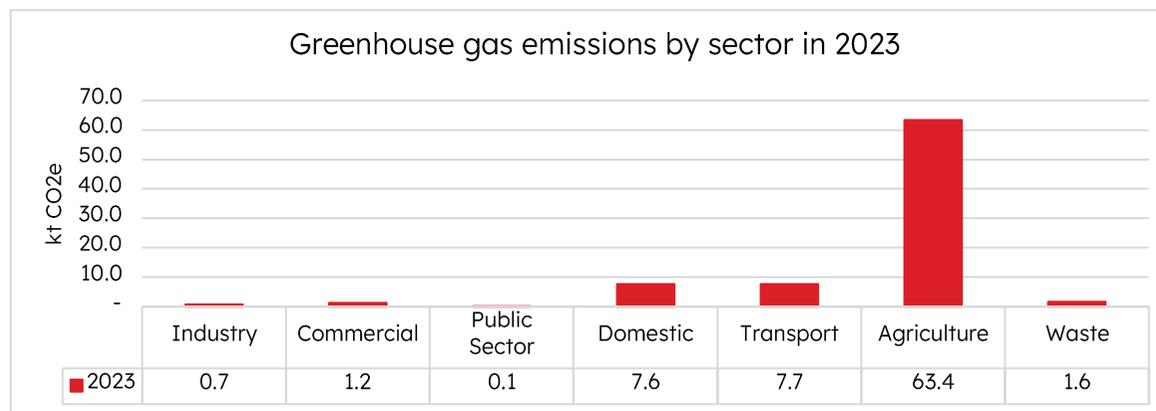
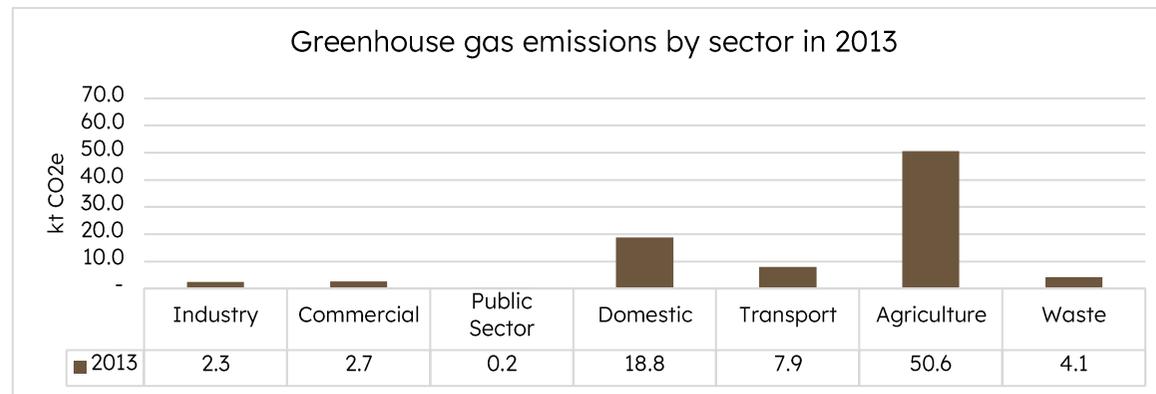
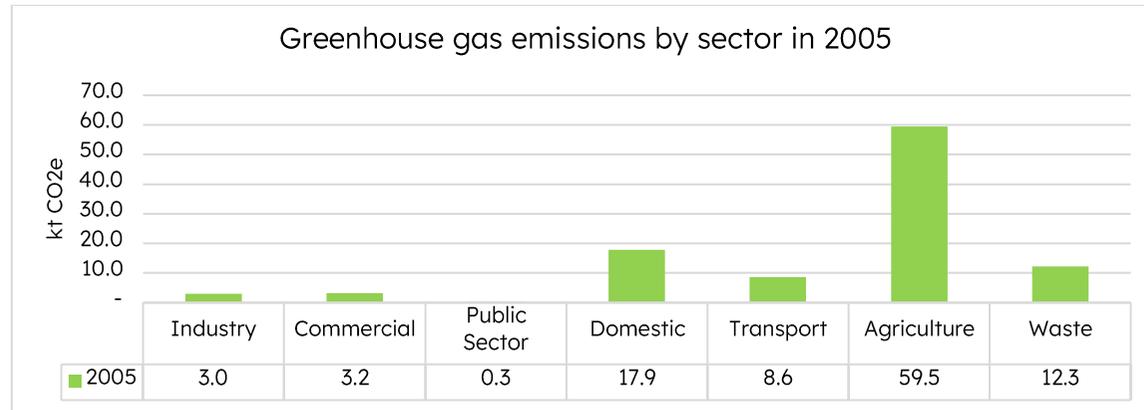


The greenhouse gases covered in this data are carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. Each of these gases is weighted by its global warming potential (GWP), so that total greenhouse gas emissions can be reported on a consistent basis. The GWP for each gas is defined as its warming influence relative to that of carbon dioxide. Reporting is in kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (kt CO₂e) unless otherwise stated.

It is usual to also report the LULUCF net emissions (Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry). In the case of the LIÿn AONB, no data is recorded for LULUCF.



Comparison of greenhouse gas emissions by sector in 2005, 2013 and 2023



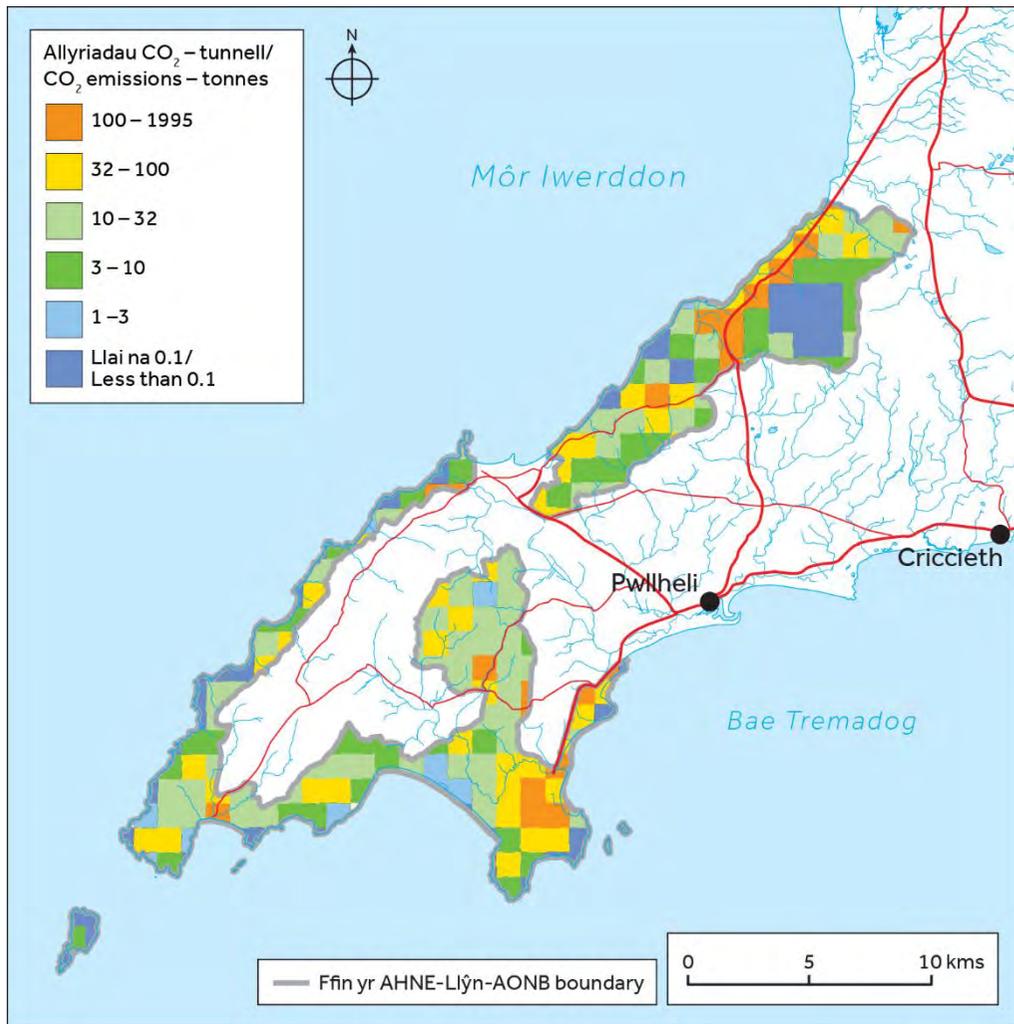
- Agriculture is the only producer of greenhouse gases that has increased. It produced 59.5 kt CO₂e in 2005, 50.6 kt CO₂e in 2013 and 63.4 kt CO₂e in 2023 (+25% since 2013).
- Domestic was the next highest producer of greenhouse gases up until 2013. It rose from 17.9 kt CO₂e in 2005 to 18.8 kt CO₂e in 2013. This then fell to 7.6 kt CO₂e in 2023 (-60% since 2013).
- Transport overtook domestic in 2023. In 2005, emissions were 8.6 kt CO₂e, this fell to 7.9 kt CO₂e in 2013 and 7.7 kt CO₂e in 2023 (-3% since 2013).
- Waste management was at 12.3 kt CO₂e in 2005, 4.1 kt CO₂e in 2013 and 1.6 kt CO₂e in 2023 (-61% since 2013).
- The other sectors record very low emission levels throughout the period. Nonetheless, the sectors do record large decreases; industry (-70% since 2013), commercial (-56% since 2013), public sector (-50% since 2013).

Note: we compare 2013 and 2023 to show the changes during the last management plan period.

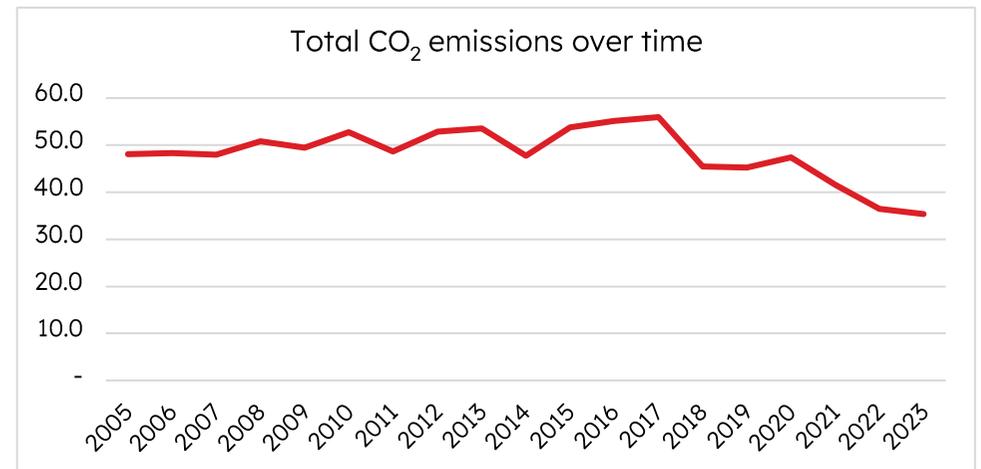
Source: Department for Energy Security & Net Zero; UK Protected Landscapes greenhouse gas emissions statistics: 2005-2023, published 3rd July 2025.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions-statistics-2005-to-2023>

Carbon dioxide in the AONB

Showing carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels in 2024. Agriculture produced 52% of emissions (related to transport and machinery), transport produced 22% and domestic 21%. The highest concentrations (100-1995 kt CO₂e) are along the A499 and around Abersoch, Aberdaron, Llanbedrog and Nanhoron.



Carbon dioxide (CO₂) enters the atmosphere through burning fossil fuels (coal, natural gas, and oil), solid waste, trees and other biological materials, and as a result of certain chemical reactions (e.g., cement production). Carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere (or "sequestered") when it is absorbed by plants as part of the biological carbon cycle.

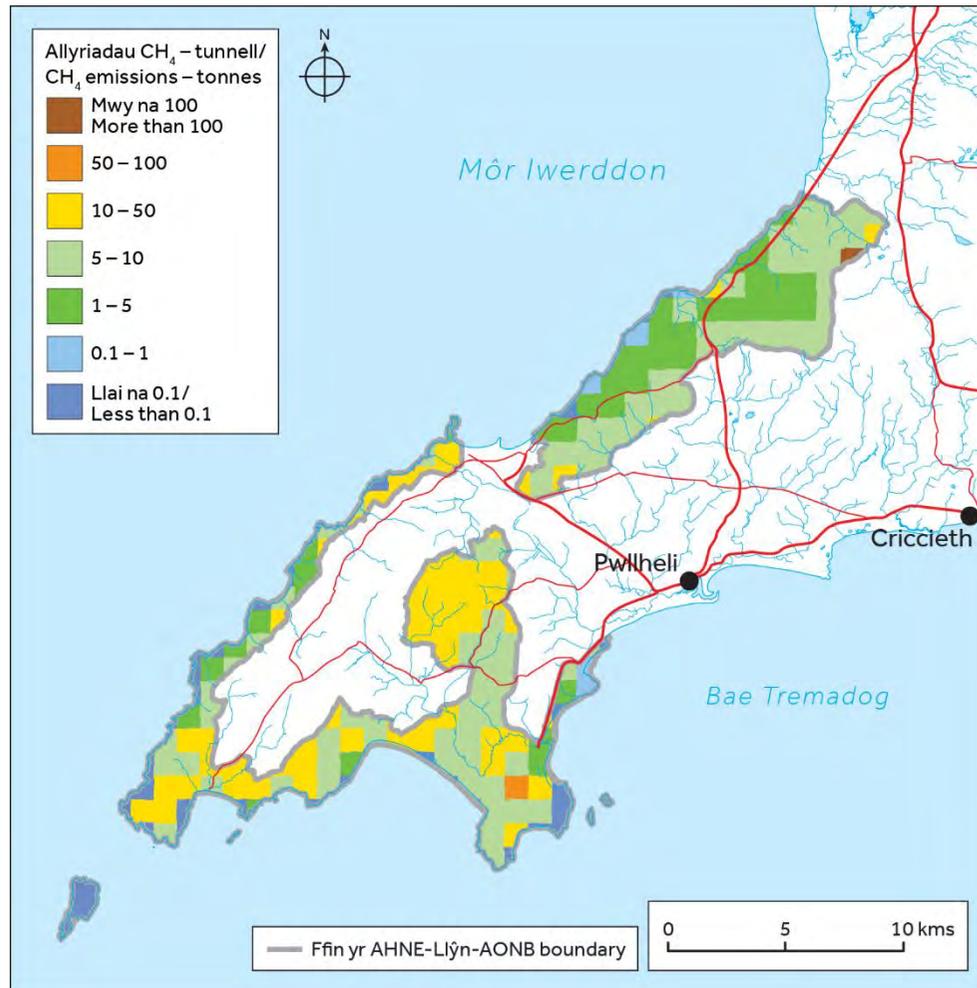


The main human activity that emits CO₂ is the combustion of fossil fuels (coal, natural gas, and oil) for energy and transportation. Certain industrial processes and land-use changes also emit CO₂.

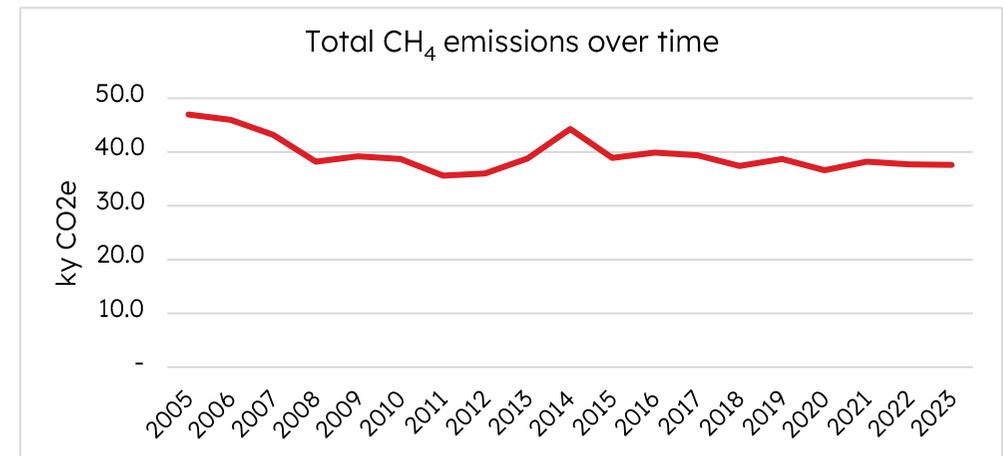
Source: National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI) 2022 (<https://naei.beis.gov.uk/data/mapping>). The NAEI receives detailed data on individual point sources regulated by the Environment Agency and Local Authority Pollution Control.

Methane in the AONB

Showing methane (CH₄) levels in 2024. 96% of emissions are associated with agriculture (primarily from livestock). Waste management contributes the remaining 4% of emissions. The highest levels are found around Graianog, perhaps associated with the waste management service in the area (100+ kt CO₂e) and Llanengan (50-100 kt CO₂e).



Methane (CH₄) is emitted during the production and transport of coal, natural gas, and oil. Methane emissions also result from livestock and other agricultural practices, land use, and by the decay of organic waste in municipal solid waste landfills.

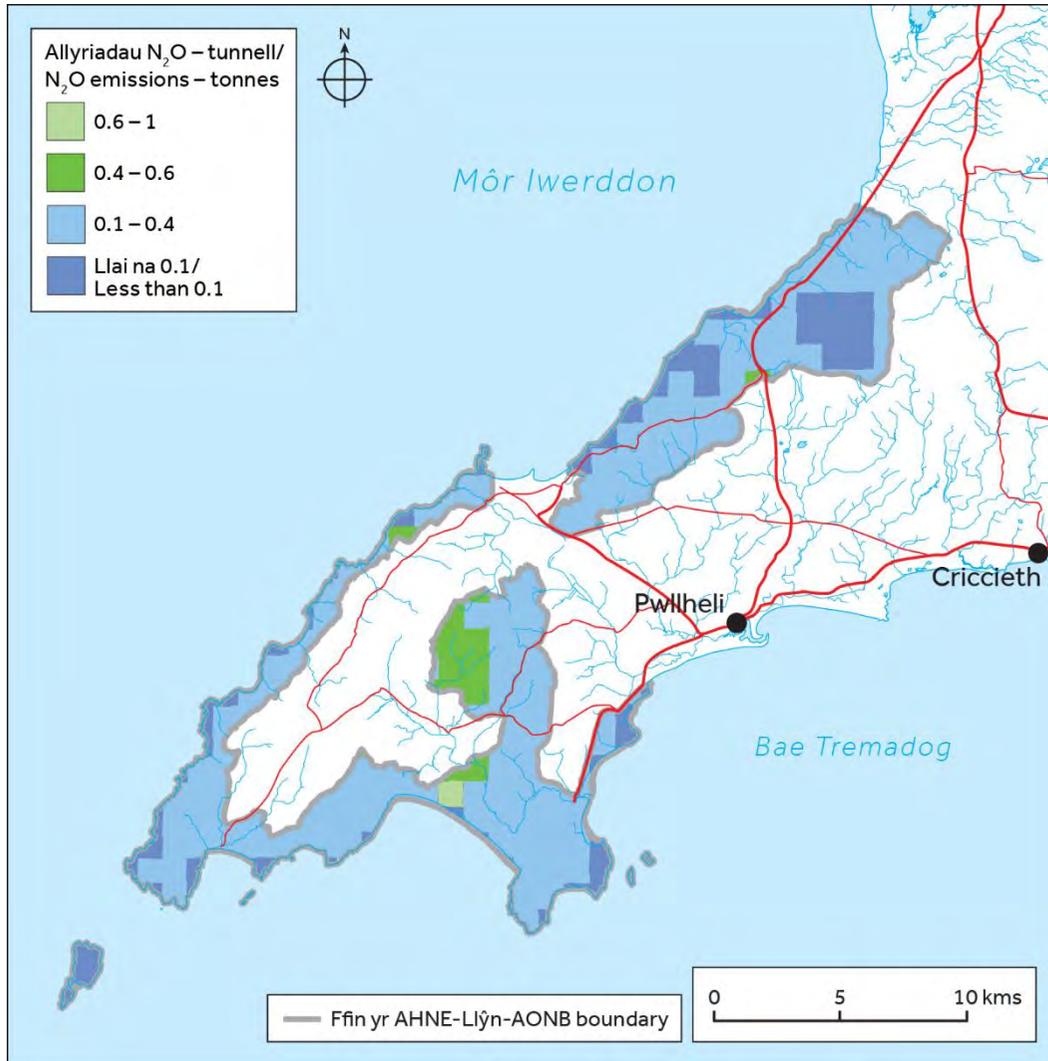


Reference to the **Land-cover** (click) shows that the areas showing greater than 10 kt CO₂e of methane are generally within the pasture lands.

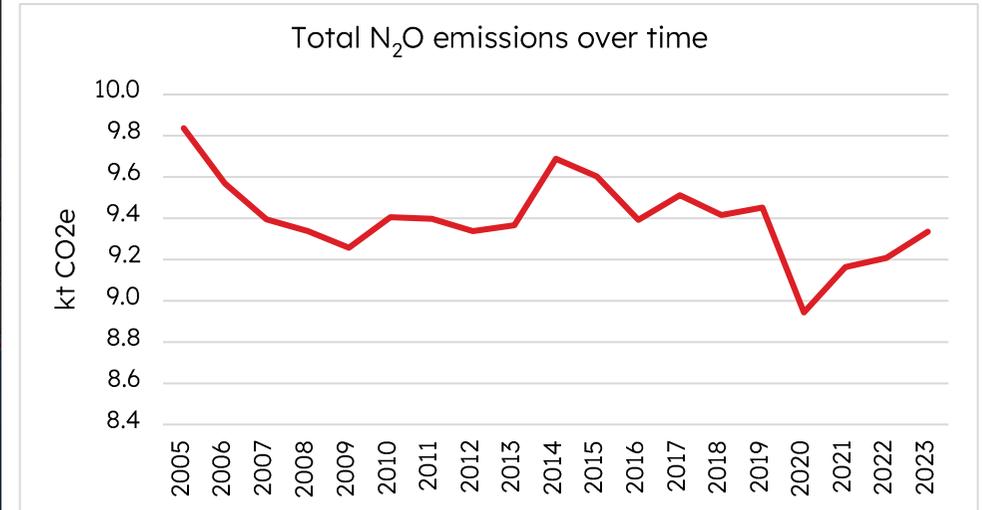
Source: National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI) 2022 (<https://naei.beis.gov.uk/data/mapping>). The NAEI receives detailed data on individual point sources regulated by the Environment Agency and Local Authority Pollution Control.

Nitrous oxide in the AONB

Showing nitrous oxide (N₂O) levels in 2024, which is very low. 99% of emissions are associated with agriculture and soils (fertilizers) alone emit 61%.



Nitrous oxide (N₂O) is emitted during agricultural land use and industrial activities; combustion of fossil fuels and solid waste; as well as during treatment of wastewater. It is associated with vehicle engines.



Reference to the [Land-cover](#) (click) shows that the highest rates are in the pasture lands in Botwnnog and Tudweiliog Community Council areas. This may relate to improved grasslands.

Source: National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI) 2022 (<https://naei.beis.gov.uk/data/mapping>). The NAEI receives detailed data on individual point sources regulated by the Environment Agency and Local Authority Pollution Control.

Renewable energy

There are no large renewable energy generation sites running within the AONB but there are three not far from the boundary.



The Renewable Energy Planning Database tracks the progress of renewable electricity over 150kW through the planning system. There are three sites close to the boundary.

Operational:

1. Tyddyn Cae (Boduan) – solar photovoltaics (4.9MW)
2. Llwyndyrys Farm - solar photovoltaics (5MW)

Awaiting construction:

3. Nanhoron Home Farm, Nanhoron – solar photovoltaics (0.25MW)

Application submitted:

4. Ty Du Uchaf, Pentreuchaf - solar photovoltaics (4.83MW)

And two sites considered but not proceeding

Application refused:

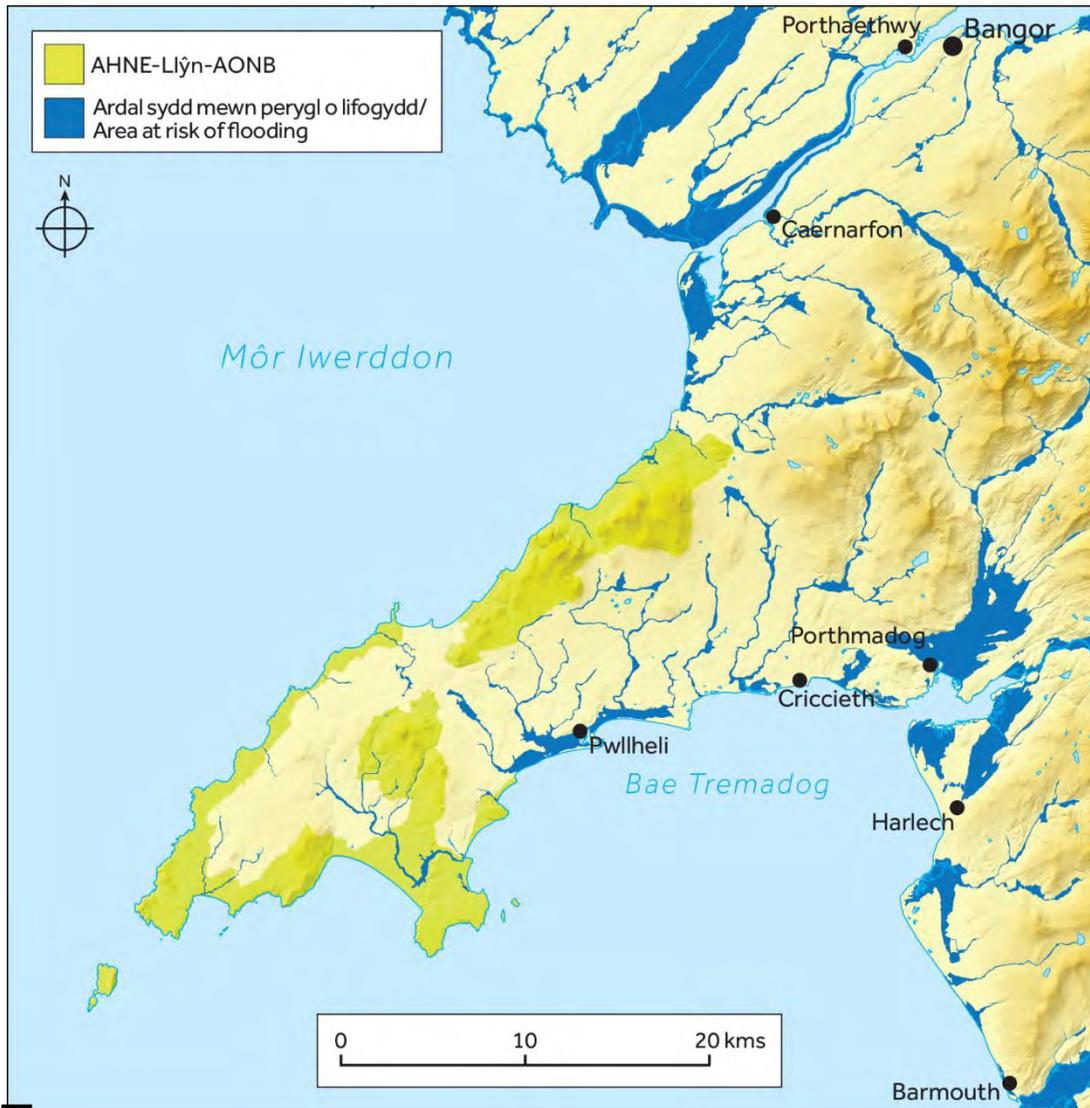
5. Land on Parc Farm, near Cilgwyn - solar photovoltaics (2.4MW)
6. Llanbedrog, Near Cae Pin - solar photovoltaics (4.9MW)

In addition, there are many small installations within the AONB.

Source: <https://www.mygridgb.co.uk/map/> See also Department for Energy Security & Net Zero <https://data.barbour-abi.com/smart-map/repd/desz/?type=repd>

Areas at risk of flooding - overview

Due to topography, the majority of the AONB is not at risk from flooding though there is a high risk of localised flooding along the lower reaches of the River Soch.

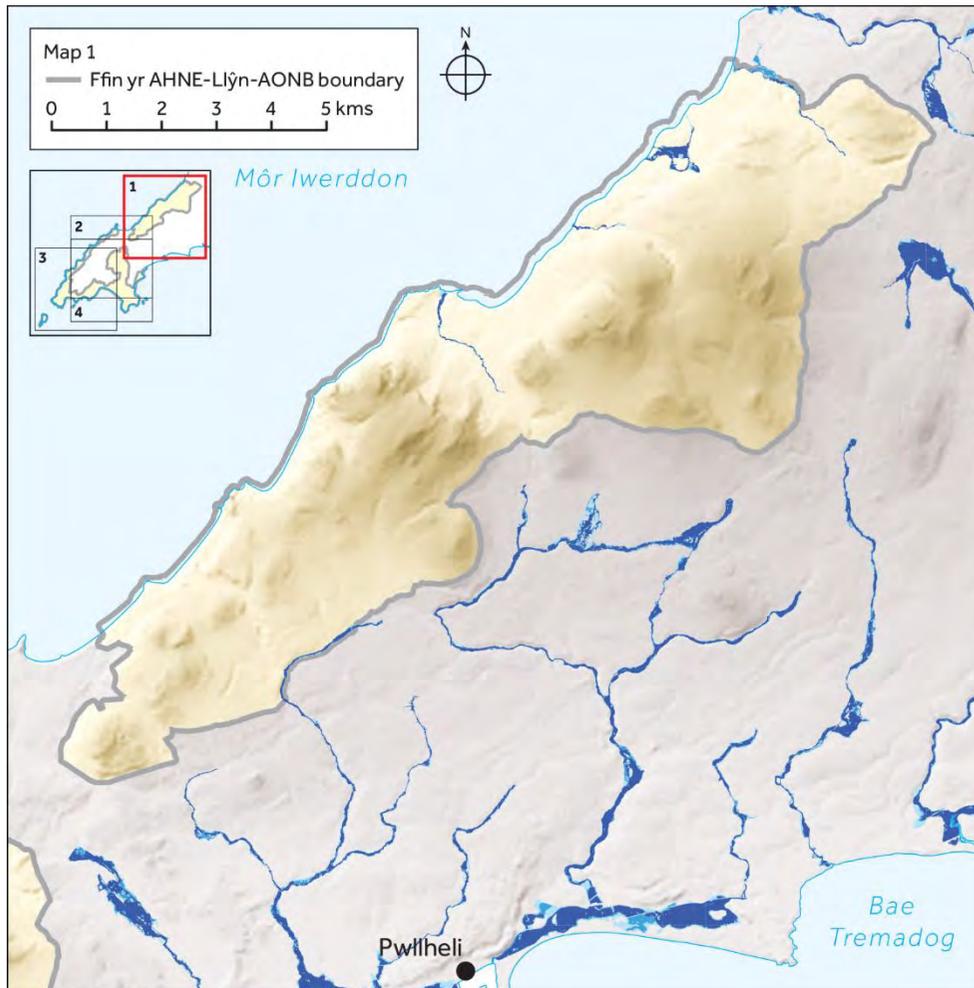


Showing high risk - this means that this area has a chance of flooding of greater than 3.3% each year. This considers the effect of any flood defences in the area. These defences reduce but do not completely stop the chance of flooding as they can be overtopped or fail.

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Areas at risk of flooding from rivers, surface water and small watercourses

There are two areas at high risk of flooding from rivers, surface water and small watercourses. They are around Clynnog Fawr and along the River Soch. The large majority of the AONB is at very low or no risk of flooding.



Allwedd/Legend

Risg lifogydd o afonydd/
Risk of flooding from rivers

Risg uchel – siawns llifogydd o fwy nag 1 mewn 30 (3.3%) /
High risk – chance of flooding of greater than 1 in 30 (3.3%)

Risg ganolog – siawns o lifogydd rhwng 1 mewn 100 (1%) ac 1 mewn 30 (3.3%) /
Medium risk – chance of flooding of between 1 in 100 (1%) and 1 in 30 (3.3%)

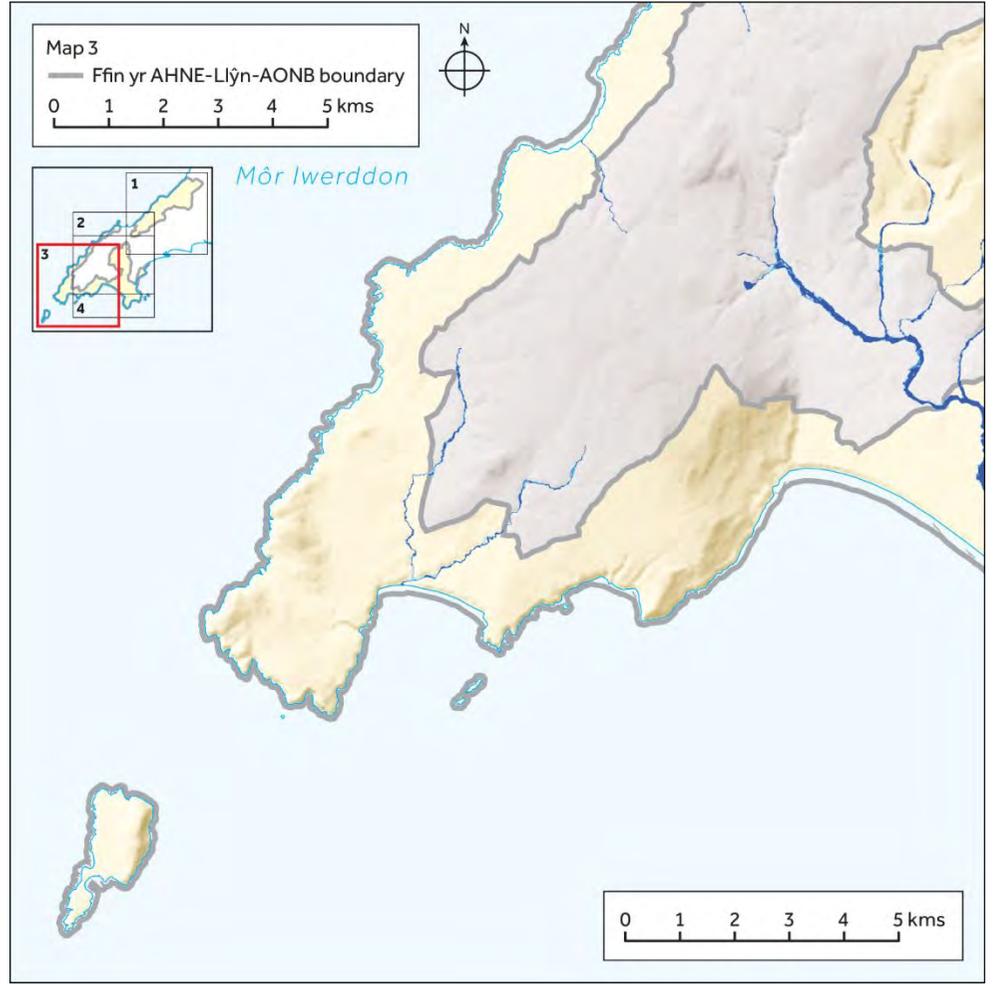
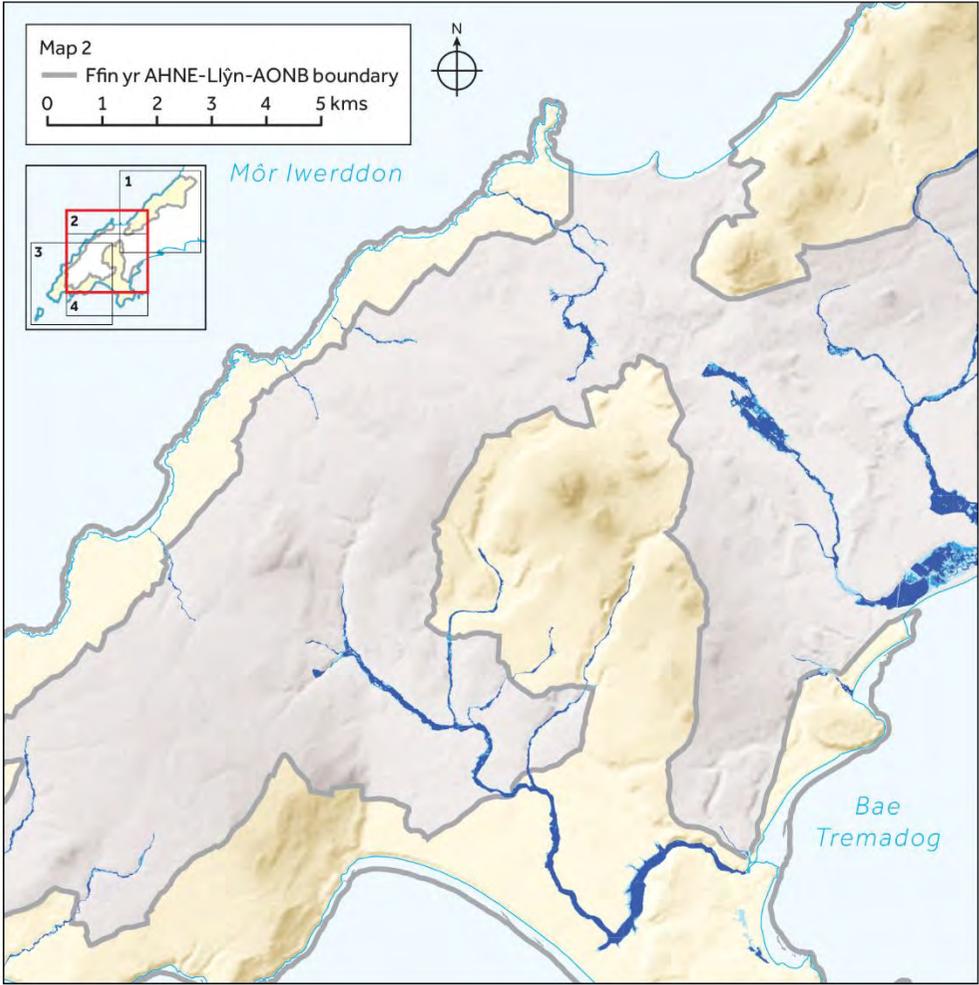
Risg isel – siawns o lifogydd rhwng 1 mewn 1000 (0.1%) ac 1 mewn 200 (0.5%) /
Low risk – chance of flooding of between 1 in 1000 (0.1%) and 1 in 100 (1%)

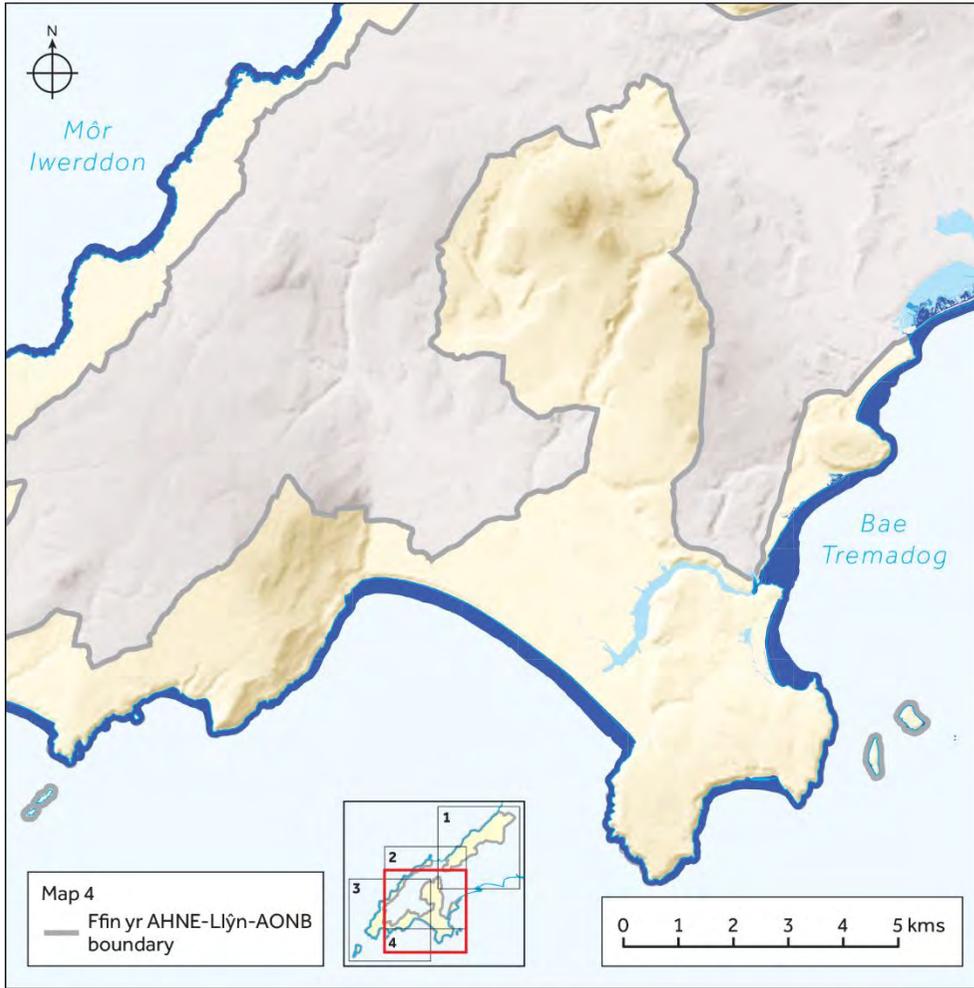
Flood Risk Assessment Wales provides a national assessment of risk flooding from Rivers, the Sea and Surface Water and Small Watercourses.

The assessment takes into account flood defences and combines national-scale modelling with detailed local-scale models to categories risk into 3 bands, labelled 'High', 'Medium' and 'Low' risk.

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<https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/new?layergroup=inspire-nrw:FloodRiskAssessmentWales#/>



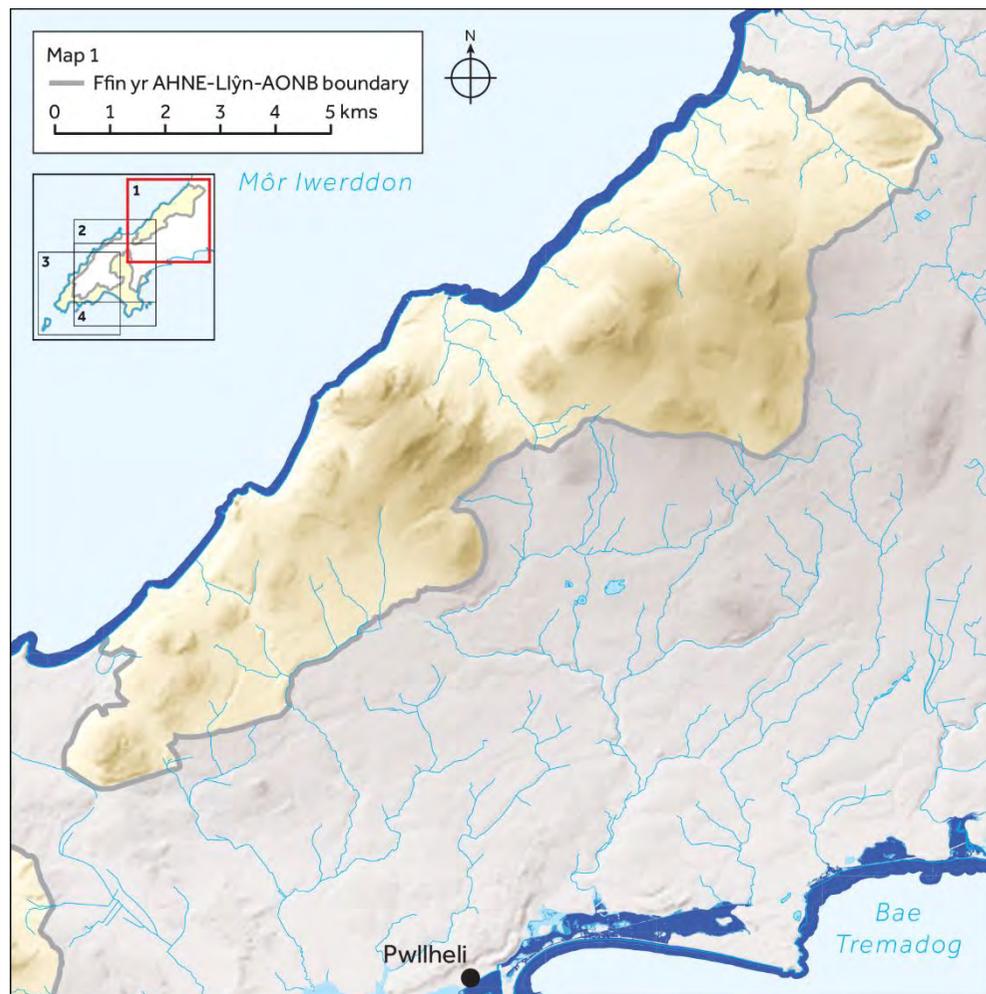


Within the AONB, there is only a high risk of flooding in two areas. The most extensive is along the River Soch from Pont Saithbont down to Llanengan and across to Abersoch. The other is centred around Clynog Fawr and Bach Wen.

Note: Flooding from surface water is difficult to predict as rainfall location and volume are difficult to forecast.

Areas at risk of flooding from the Sea

There is an extensive area of high-risk flooding from the sea around Abersoch that extends as low-risk flooding along the lower reaches of the River Soch. There is a high risk of localised flooding from the sea along the whole coastline.



Allwedd/Legend

Risg llifogydd o'r môr/
Risk of flooding from sea

Risg uchel – siawns llifogydd o fwy nag 1 mewn 30 (3.3%) /
High risk – chance of flooding of greater than 1 in 30 (3.3%)

Risg ganolog – siawns o lifogydd rhwng 1 mewn 30 (3.3%) ac 1 mewn 200 (0.5%) /
Medium risk – chance of flooding of between 1 in 200 (0.5%) and 1 in 30 (3.3%)

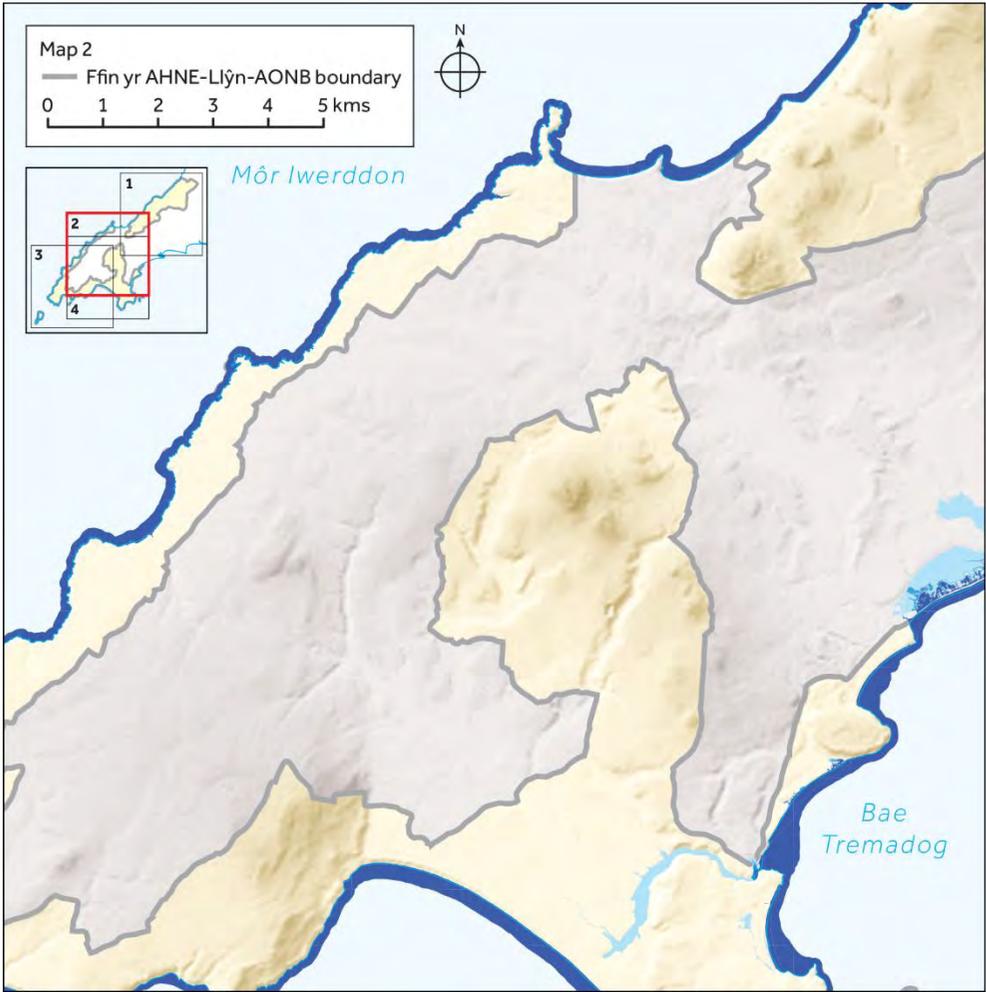
Risg isel – siawns o lifogydd rhwng 1 mewn 1000 (0.1%) ac 1 mewn 200 (0.5%) /
Low risk – chance of flooding of between 1 in 1000 (0.1%) and 1 in 200 (0.5%)

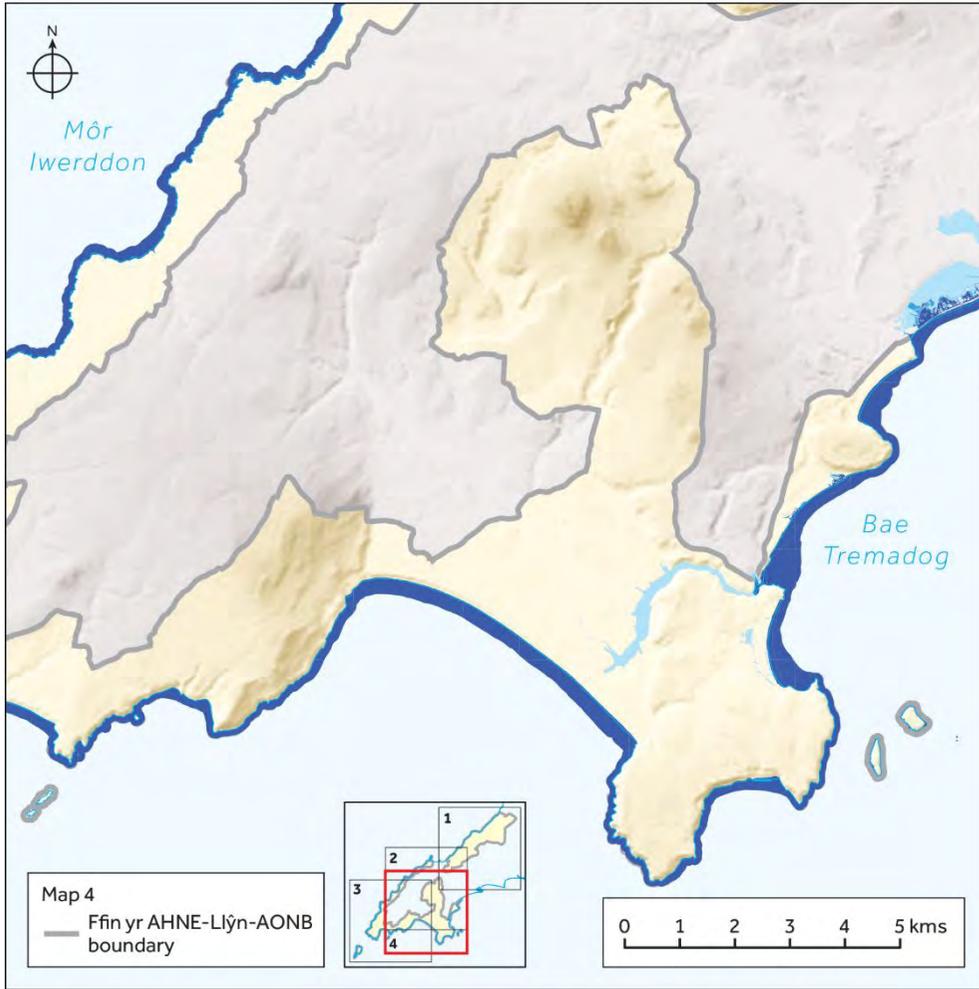
Flood Risk Assessment Wales provides a national assessment of risk flooding from Rivers, the Sea and Surface Water and Small Watercourses.

The assessment takes into account flood defences and combines national-scale modelling with detailed local-scale models to categories risk into 3 bands, labelled 'High', 'Medium' and 'Low' risk.

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<https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/new?layergroup=inspire-nrw:FloodRiskAssessmentWales#/>

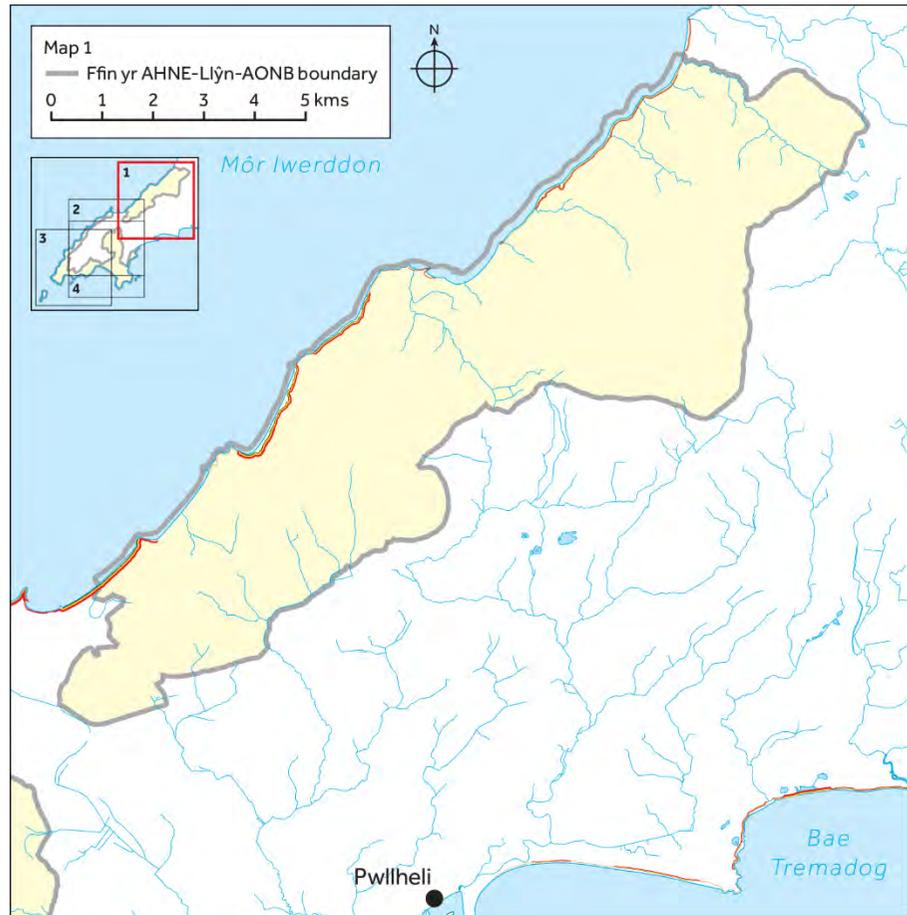




There is an extensive area of high-risk flooding from the sea around Abersoch that extends as low-risk flooding along the lower reaches of the River Soch. There is a high risk of localised flooding from the sea along the whole coastline. Generally, flood water could invade 150 – 200m inland along the whole coastline. This increases to 300m in Porth Neigwl.

Areas at risk of coastal erosion

Maps showing erosion risk extents for the Short Term (up to 2025), Medium Term (up to 2055) and Long Term (up to 2105). There is some risk of erosion along most of the coastline, but the greatest risk is in the Porthor Beach area (famous for its 'whistling sands').



Allwedd/Legend

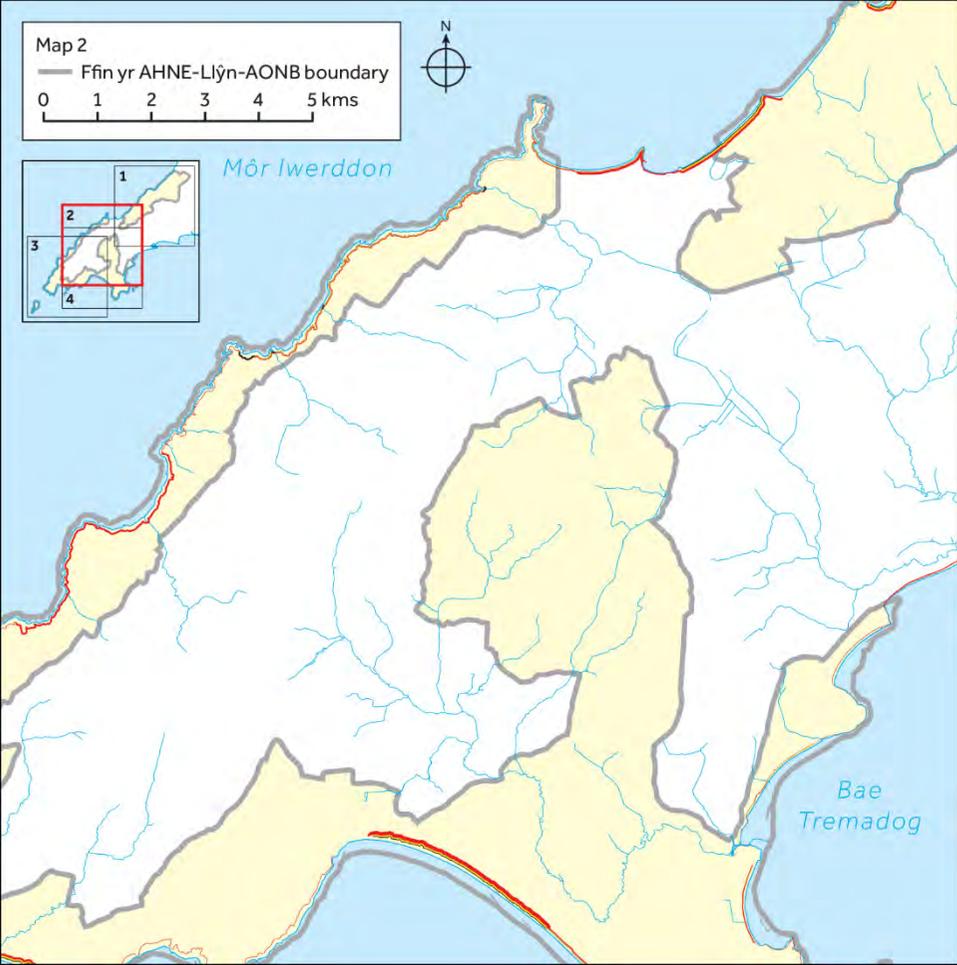
Rheoli Risg Erydiad Arfordirol Cenedlaethol (NCERM)
Graddfa gyfnodol erydiad arfordirol/
National Coastal Erosion Risk Management (NCERM)
Periodic extent of coastal erosion

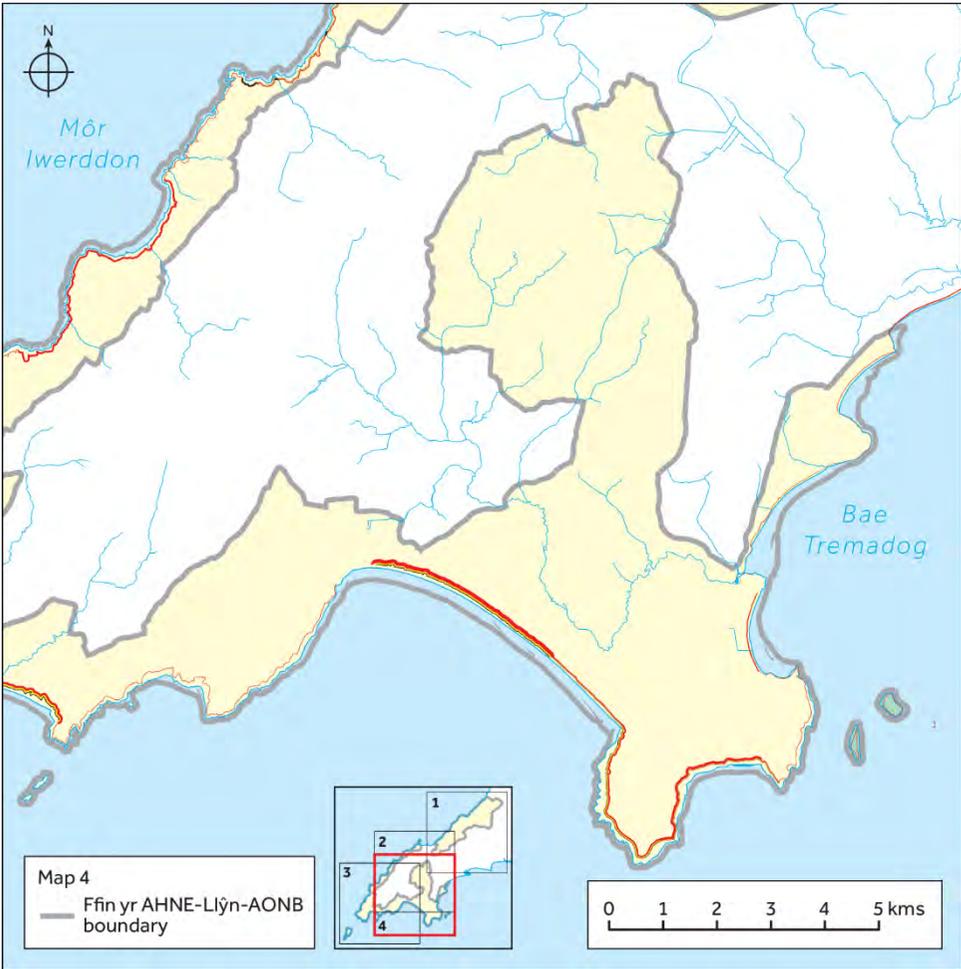
- Tymor Byr (0 – 20 mlynedd h.y. 2005 i 2025)/
Short Term (0 – 20yr i.e. 2005 to 2025)
- Tymor Canolig (20 – 50 mlynedd h.y. 2025 i 2055)/
Medium Term (20 – 50yr i.e. 2025 to 2055)
- Hirdymor (50 – 100 mlynedd h.y. 2055 i 2105)/
Long Term (50 – 100yr i.e. 2055 to 2105)

The National Coastal Erosion Risk Management Map shows projected areas at risk from erosion. The erosion risk zones are created by splitting the coastline into 'frontages'. These frontages are defined as lengths of coast with consistent characteristics based on location, the cliff behaviour characteristics and the defence characteristics. The data describes the upper and lower estimates of erosion risk at a particular location, within which the actual location of the coastline is expected to lie (the data does not estimate the absolute location of the future coastline).

Much of the AONB's coastline is natural and erodible, though there are short sections where Shoreline Management Plan interventions are in place.

[Note: The coloured line is the top of an erodible feature. The map's standard blue coastline is the high-water mark].





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https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/new?layergroup=geonode:nrw_ncerm#/

Natural heritage

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The special quality

A wealth of wildlife

Over time, the rural and agricultural character of the area, as well as the calm and non-polluted nature of the area, has contributed to the continuation of several species that are now considered rare in the British Isles. Heaths are a prominent and important feature in LIŷn. They contribute not only as a habitat and a landscape feature, but also on a historical and cultural level and as a leisure resource.

The cliffs and slopes support a variety of vegetation that is slowly developing into coastal pastures and heaths, and they are also home to a variety of sea birds as well as a habitat for hornets and some rare invertebrate creatures. The reefs support a wide variety of flora and fauna communities including a variety of seaweed forests, sponges and sea squirts.

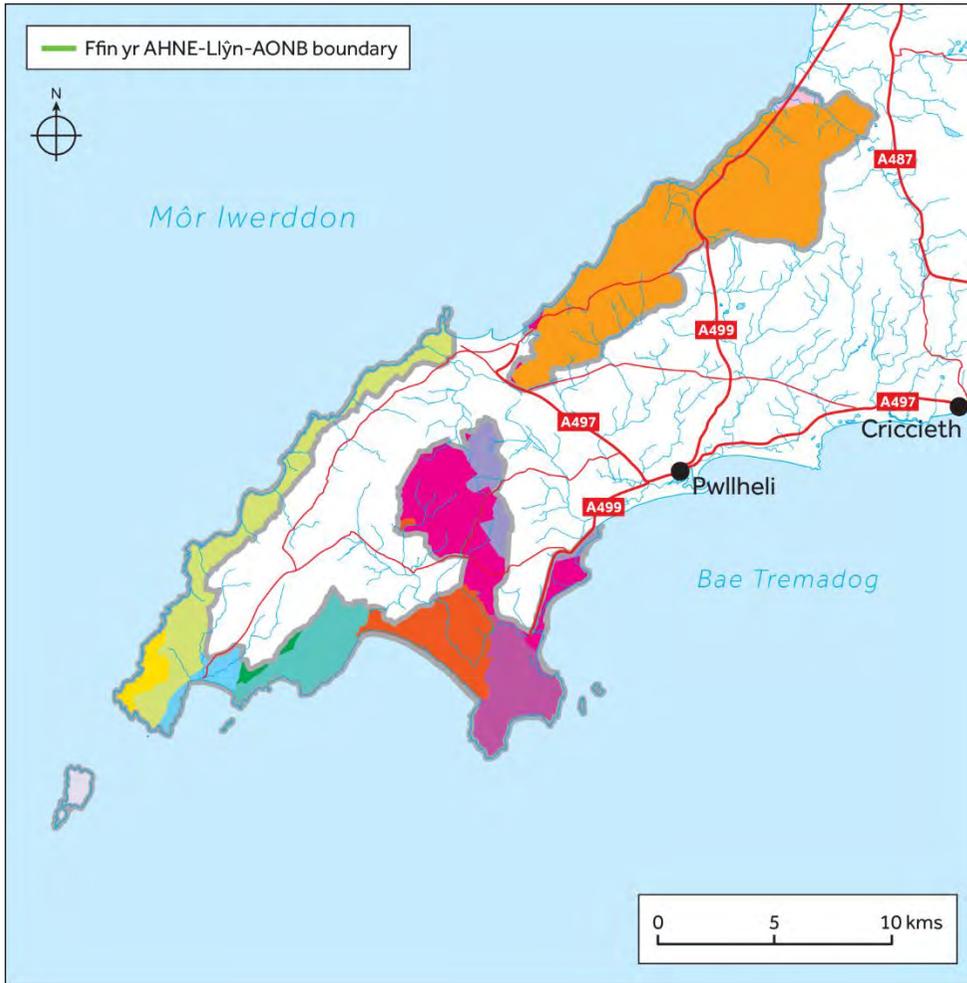
The grey seal is common to the area, along with otters, harbour porpoises and bottlenose dolphins that can be seen in the seas on the southern coast. LIŷn is a habitat for a large variety of land birds and sea birds. Among the rare birds is the chough that is used as the AONB's logo. Other bird species of European importance are to be found here also, including the Puffin, the Guillemot and the Manx Shearwater.



Geology and soils

Geology - the stratigraphic period is primarily the early Palaeozoic (Cambrian & Ordovician) with some Neoproterozoic.

Soils - very low to low fertility, low carbon retention, and generally suited to grazing.



Allwedd/Legend

- Cambriaidd – basalt, clystrau a thywodfeini, i gerrig mwd/
Cambrian – basalt, conglomerates and sandstones, to mudstones
- Cambro-Ordofigaidd (Porth Neigwl – Ffurfiannau Nant Ffrancon) – tywodfeini, siltfeini a cherrig mwd/
Cambro-Ordovician (Hell's Mouth – Nant Ffrancon Formations) – sandstones, siltstones and mudstones
- Cambro-Ordofigaidd (Dol-cyn-Afon - Ffurfiannau Nant Ffrancon) – cerrig llaid a cherrig silt/
Cambro-Ordovician (Dol-cyn-Afon - Nant Ffrancon Formations) – mudstones and siltstones
- Cyn-Gambriaidd – siltfeini a thywodfeini ceirch, cerrig mwd coch/
Precambrian – cherty siltstones and sandstones, red mudstones
Igneaidd metamorffig
- Cyn-Gambriaidd-Gambriaidd (Cymhleth Sarn a pharth hollt Llŷn) – gwenithfaen, gabbros, granodioritau a gneisau/
Precambrian-Cambrian metamorphic igneous (Sarn Complex and Llŷn shear zone) – granites, gabbros, granodiorites and gneisses
- Cyn-Gambriaidd Hwyr – carreg laid, carreg silt, tywodfaen a chonglomerad, basalt a lafa gobennydd/
Late Precambrian – mudstone, siltstone, sandstone and conglomerate, basalt and pillow lavas
- Ordofigaidd (Ffurfiant Nant Ffrancon) – cerrig llaid a cherrig silt/
Ordovician (Nant Ffrancon Formation) – mudstones and siltstones
- Ordofigaidd (Grŵp Folcanig Llanbedrog) – lafa canolradd a sylfaenol, tyffau asidig, siltfeini, tywodfeini a cherrig mwd duon/
Ordovician (Llanbedrog Volcanic Group) – intermediate and basic lavas, acid tuffs, siltstones, sandstones and black mudstones
- Ordofigaidd Isaf (Grŵp Bae Aberdaron i Ffurfiant Nant Ffrancon) – cerrig llaid, cerrig silt a thwffau asid/
Lower Ordovician (Aberdaron Bay Group to Nant Ffrancon Formation) – mudstones, siltstones and acid tuffs
- Grŵp Bae Aberdaron Ordofigaidd, cerrig mwd a cherrig silt, gyda thywodfeini tenau a thwffau asidig, a sil dolerit trwchus/
Ordovician Aberdaron Bay Group mudstones & siltstones, with thin sandstones and acid tuffs, and thick dolerite sill
- Cymysgedd Gwna o gerrig silt, cerrig mwd, tywodfeini a chonglomerat wedi'u tarfu/
Gwna Melange of disturbed siltstones, mudstones, sandstones and conglomerate
- Diamictionau rhewlifol a thywod a graean wedi'u didoli'n wael/
Glacial diamictons and poorly sorted sand and gravel

The Cambrian and Ordovician systems originated from study of rock successions in Wales. British Cambrian and Ordovician rocks are mostly of marine origin, ranging from sandstones and limestones from the shore and shallow shelves to mudrock facies that accumulated in deep basins or the continental slopes.

Soil heavily influences our whole ecosystem and is a fragile resource that needs to be understood and protected. 'Soilscapes' is a 1:250,000 scale, simplified soils dataset covering England and Wales. It was created to communicate a general understanding of the variations that occur between soil types, and how soils affect the environment.

- Soilscape 4: Sand dune soils- Lime rich, low in carbon, not normally cropped.
- Soilscape 6: Freely draining slightly acid loamy soils – Low fertility, low in carbon, suitable for range of spring and autumn sown crops; under grass the soils have a long grazing season.
- Soilscape 10: Freely draining slightly acid sandy soils - Low fertility, low in carbon, suitable for wide range of spring and autumn sown crops including irrigated roots, potatoes and field vegetables.
- Soilscape 13: Freely draining acid loamy soils over rock - Low fertility, medium carbon retention, suited to grassland with potential for year-round grazing.
- Soilscape 15: Naturally wet very acid sandy and loamy soils - Very low fertility, medium carbon retention, highly productive, where not stony, and suitable for cereals, roots, potatoes and vegetables.
- Soilscape 16: Very acid loamy upland soils with a wet peaty surface -Very low fertility, high carbon retention, most only support rough grazing of low or moderate grazing value.
- Soilscape 17: Slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils – Impeded drainage, low fertility, medium carbon retention, mostly suited to grass production for dairying or beef; some cereal production often for feed.

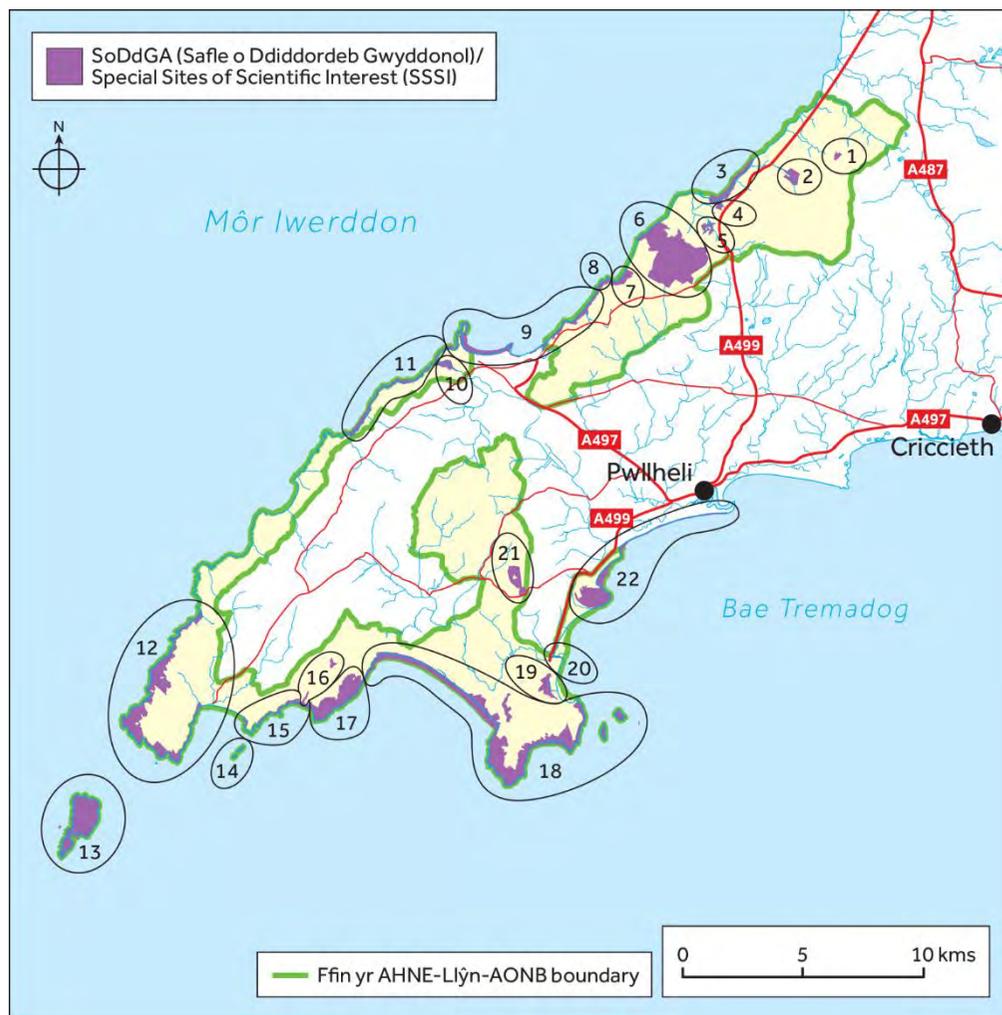
Reference: Brenchley, P.J., Rushton, A.W.A., Howells, M. & Cave, R. (2006). Cambrian and Ordovician: the early Palaeozoic tectonostratigraphic evolution of the Welsh basin, Midland and Monian Terranes of Eastern Avalonia. In: Brenchley & Rawson, P.F. (eds), The Geology of England and Wales, 2nd Edn, p 25-74, The Geological Society, London.

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British Geological Survey https://osdatahub.os.uk/downloads/open/BGS_Geology_625k and https://osdatahub.os.uk/downloads/open/Soil_Parent_Material_Model_1km Contains British Geological Survey materials © 2025 LandIS, the “Land Information System”, is an environmental information system operated by Cranfield University, <https://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/>

SSSI coverage in the AONB

In 2024, there are 22 designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in the AONB, occupying 2,182.9 ha (14%) of its area.



Map ref	SSSI Name	SSSI Type	Area within the AONB (ha)	% of area within the AONB
1	Caeau Tan y Bwlch	Biological	6.4	100
2	Coed Cwmgwared	Biological	28.9	100
3	Gwydir Bay	Geological	54.8	100
4	Cappas Lwyd	Biological	7	100
5	Coed Elernion	Biological	17	100
6	Yr Eifl	Mixed	425	100
7	Gallt y Bwlch	Biological	23.3	100
8	Carreg y Llam	Biological	13.6	100
9	Porth Dinlaen I Borth Pistyll	Mixed	69.7	54
10	Aber Geirch	Biological	18.4	100
11	Porth Towyn I Borth Wen	Biological	62.1	84
12	Glannau Aberdaron	Mixed	304.1	100
13	Ynys Enlli	Biological	199.3	96.6
14	Ynysoedd y Gwylanod, Gwylan Islands	Biological	4.9	100
15	Wig Bach a'r Glannau I Borth Alwm	Mixed	43.6	100
16	Benallt Mine and Nant y Gadwen	Geological	12	100
17	Mynydd Penarfynnydd	Mixed	161.2	100
18	Porth Ceiriad, Porth Neigwl ac Ynysoedd Sant Tudwal	Mixed	520.7	93.2
19	Cors Llyferin	Biological	32.8	100
20	Pen Benar	Geological	0.8	99.6
21	Foel Gron a Thir Comin Mynytho	Mixed	47.3	100
22	Mynydd Tir y Cwmwd a'r Glannau At Garreg yr Imbill	Mixed	130	79

There is no data on the overall condition of each site or on the condition of individual features within in each site.

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Seabirds Count

Between 2000 and 2021, there has been a 17% increase overall in birds counted.

Site	Seabirds Count (adjusted)	Count years	Count in 2000	Change
Carreg y Llam	12,164	2018-21	9,389	+30%
Porth Gwylan	6	2016	8	-25%
Porth Lago	15	2016	21	-29%
Braich Anellog	38	2016	19	+100%
Maen Du	81	2016	96	-16%
Ynys Plod	29	2016	6	+383%
Ynys Enlli	3,830	2018	2,798	+37%
Ynsoedd Gwylan	339	2015-18	789	-57%
Trwyn Penrhyn	28	2016	8	+250%
Ebolion	7	2016	8	-13%
Maen Gwenonwy	3	2016	4	-25%
Penarfynydd	16	2016	44	-64%
Trwyn Cilan	1,801	2016	3,300	-45%
Murian	58	2016	39	+49%
Porth Ceiriad	13	2016	59	-78%
Ynsoedd Sant Tudwal	2,776	2016-21	1,608	+73%
Total birds	21,204		18,196	+17%

The results from Seabirds Count, the fourth census of Britain and Ireland’s internationally important populations of breeding seabirds, were published on 16 November 2023.

Source: Burnell, D., Perkins, A.J., Newton, S.F., Bolton, M., Tierney, T.D. & Dunn, T.E., 2023. Seabirds Count: a census of breeding seabirds in Britain and Ireland (2015–2021). Lynx Nature Books, Barcelona. <https://hub.jncc.gov.uk/assets/63f0ea40-485d-46dd-b967-150df90a7b2b>

Location of subtidal seagrass

There is a decline in the seagrass beds, damage may be from recreational activities (anchoring).



Seagrass beds develop in intertidal and shallow subtidal areas on sands and muds. They may be found in marine inlets and bays but also in other areas, such as lagoons and channels, which are sheltered from significant wave action. Three species of *Zostera* occur in the UK, and all are considered to be scarce.

- Dwarf eelgrass *Zostera noltii* is found highest on the shore, often adjacent to lower saltmarsh communities.
- Narrow-leaved eelgrass *Zostera angustifolia* on the mid to lower shore, and
- Eelgrass *Zostera marina* predominantly in the sublittoral.

The plants stabilise the substratum, are an important source of organic matter, and provide shelter and a surface for attachment by other species. Where this habitat is well developed, the leaves may be colonised by diatoms and algae such as *Enteromorpha* spp, *Cladophora rectangularis*, *Rhodophysemma georgii*, *Ceramium rubrum*, stalked jellyfish and anemones.

Vulnerability:

The seagrass beds of the Llŷn are some of the best in the UK, it is possible that recent decline is linked to recreational activity (Liley, D. & Saunders, P. (2024): Recreation and the environment on the Llŷn. Report by Footprint Ecology)

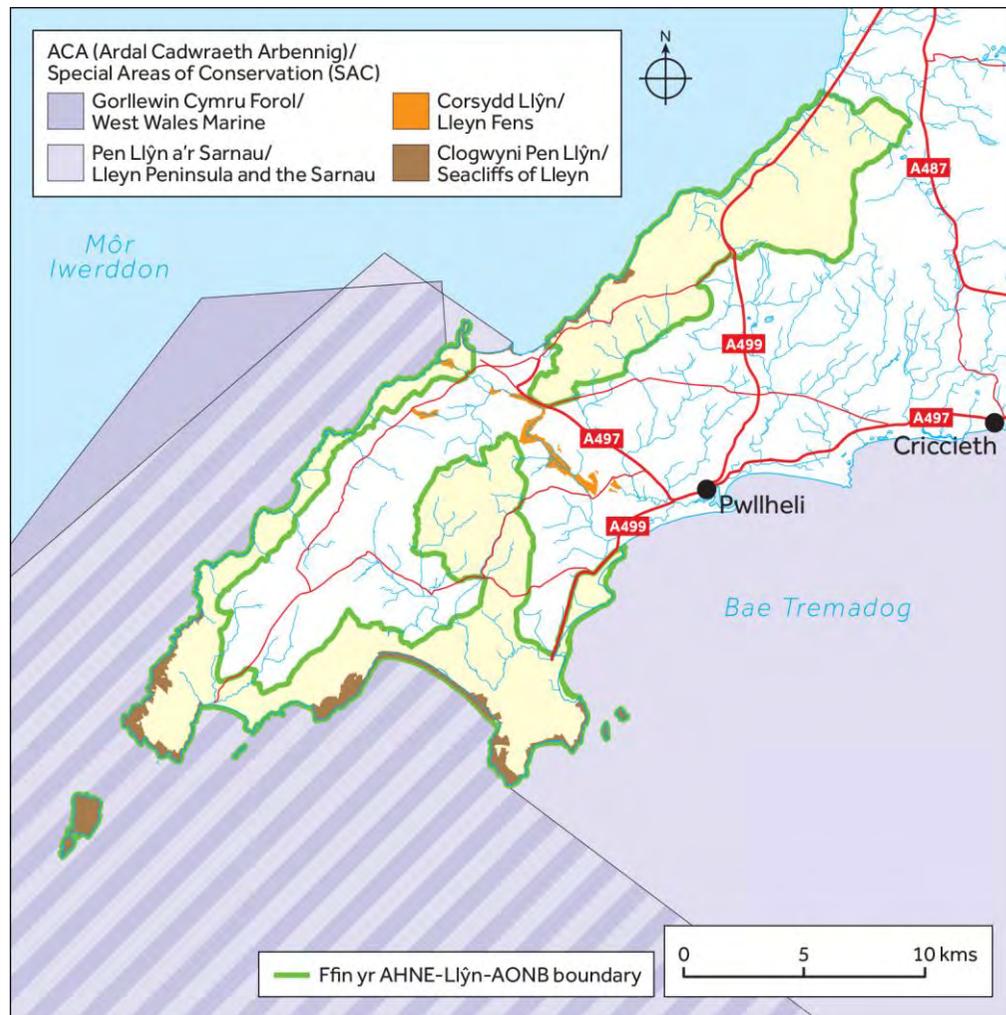
Seagrass Ocean Rescue

The UK has lost up to 90% of its seagrass meadows in the past century. In 2019, Swansea University, the charity Project Seagrass and WWF-UK formed a collaboration to begin to restore sites through re seeding. In North Wales, Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau and the North Wales Wildlife Trust have joined the partnership.

Source: UK Biodiversity Action Plan; Priority Habitat Descriptions. BRIG (ed. Ant Maddock) 2008. <https://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/6e4e3ed1-117d-423c-a57d-785c8855f28c/UKBAP-BAPHabitats-49-SeagrassBeds.pdf> see <https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/marine-habitat-data-product-habitat-suitability-models/#zostera-marina-beds> Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2024.

Special Areas of Conservation in the AONB

There are 4 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) in the AONB occupying 1,324.8 ha (8.5%) of the AONB.



Clogwyni Pen Llŷn / Seacliffs of Llyn SAC

Area in AONB (ha) 1,030.9 | % of SAC in AONB 98.3

Relevant SSSIs in AONB (fully or partially)

Gallt Y Bwlch
Glannau Aberdaron
Mynydd Penarfynnydd
Porth Ceiriad, Porth Neigwl ac Ynysoedd Sant Tudwal
Porth Dinllaen I Borth Pistyll
Ynys Enlli

Corsydd Llŷn / Llyn Fens SAC

Area in AONB (ha) 18.4 | % of SAC in AONB 6.5

Relevant SSSIs in AONB (fully or partially)

Aber Geirch

Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau / Llyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC

Area in AONB (ha) 275.5 | % of SAC in AONB 0.2

Relevant SSSIs in AONB (fully or partially)

Glannau Aberdaron
Mynydd Tir y Cwmwd a'r Glannau hyd at Garreg Yr Imbill
Porth Ceiriad, Porth Neigwl ac Ynysoedd Sant Tudwal
Porth Dinllaen I Borth Pistyll
Porth Towyn I Borth Wen
Wig Bach a'r Glannau i Borth Alwm
Ynys Enlli

West Wales Marine / Gorllewin Cymru Forol SAC

Adjoins the AONB coastline

Relevant SSSIs in AONB (fully or partially)

Ynysoedd y Gwylanod, Gwylan Islands

Condition of designated features 2025

Feature	Condition assessment	
Reefs	Unfavourable	Red
Large shallow inlets and bays	Favourable	Green
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	Favourable	Green
Estuaries	Favourable	Green
Coastal lagoons	Unfavourable	Red
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	Favourable	Green
Atlantic salt meadows <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>	Unfavourable	Red
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand	Favourable	Green
Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	Unknown	Yellow
Grey seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	Favourable	Green
Bottlenose dolphin <i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Favourable	Green
Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	Unfavourable	Red

SACs are protected areas in the UK to conserve important natural habitats and rare, endangered, or characteristic wild fauna and flora.

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Hatton-Ellis, M., Wynter, E., Jackson-Bué, M. and Cuthbertson, S. (2025): Condition Assessments for the Designated Features of Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau / Llyn Peninsula and the Sarnau Special Area of Conservation. NRW Evidence Report No. 908, 232pp, Natural Resources Wales, Cardiff.

Special Protection Areas in the AONB

There are two Special Protection Areas (SPAs) in the AONB occupying 881 ha (5.7%) of the AONB.



Glannau Aberdaron ac Ynys Enlli / Aberdaron Coast and Bardsey Island SPA

Area in AONB (ha) / % of SPA in AONB	508.2	1.5%
Relevant SSSIs in AONB (fully or partially)	Glannau Aberdaron Ynys Enlli Ynysoedd y Gwylanod, Gwylan Islands Wig Bach a'r Glannau I Borth Alwm	
Condition of designated features	Manx shearwater <i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	Favourable

Mynydd Cilan, Trwyn y Wylfa ac Ynysoedd Sant Tudwal SPA / Mynydd Cilan, Trwyn y Wylfa and the St Tudwal Islands SPA

Area in AONB (ha) / % of SPA in AONB	372.8	100%
Relevant SSSIs in AONB (fully or partially)	Porth Ceiriad, Porth Neigwl ac Ynysoedd Sant Tudwal	
Condition of designated features	Chough <i>Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	Threat from biocenotic evolution (succession), grazing and problematic native species

SPAs are protected areas for birds in the UK to conserve populations of rare, vulnerable, and regularly occurring migratory wild birds and their essential habitats, both on land and at sea.

Source: Hatton-Ellis, M., Murphy, M. Cuthbertson, S., Jackson-Bué, M. and Wynter, E. 2025. Condition assessment for the designated feature of Ardal Gwarchodaeth Arbennig Glannau Aberdaron and Ynys Enlli / Aberdaron Coast and Bardsey Island. NRW Evidence Report No: 914, 17pp, Natural Resources Wales, Cardiff. Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Ordnance Survey Licence number AC0000849444. Crown Copyright and Database Right

RAMSAR site just outside the AONB

There are no RAMSAR sites within the AONB but one is adjacent to the AONB



Corsydd Môn a Llŷn / Anglesey and Llŷn Fens

An internationally important suite of base-rich fens comprised of six component sites, supporting a range of associated floral and faunal rarities. The six wetlands occupy valley heads and former lake basins which have mostly infilled with marl and peat deposits, with open water persisting at two of the sites. Calcareous springs from limestone and calcareous drift aquifers irrigate the fens and result in a distinctive vegetation. These fens are notable as the best sites in Wales for stoneworts.

The sites are at risk from vegetation succession, drainage, eutrophication and pollution (from agricultural fertilisers).

A Ramsar Site is a wetland of international importance, designated under the global Ramsar Convention (Convention on Wetlands) for its ecological value, aiming for its "wise use" and conservation through local, national, and international efforts, protecting crucial habitats for waterbirds, biodiversity, and sustainable development.

Source: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Ordnance Survey Licence number AC0000849444. Crown Copyright and Database Right <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/RIS/UK14005.pdf>

National Nature Reserves in the AONB

There are two NNRs in the AONB occupying 219.9 ha (1.4%) of the area.



NNR Name	Area within AONB (ha)	% of area within the AONB
Ynys Enlli	178.6	100
Yr Eifl	39.3	100

National Nature Reserves are set up to conserve and to allow people to study their wildlife, habitats or geological features of special interest.

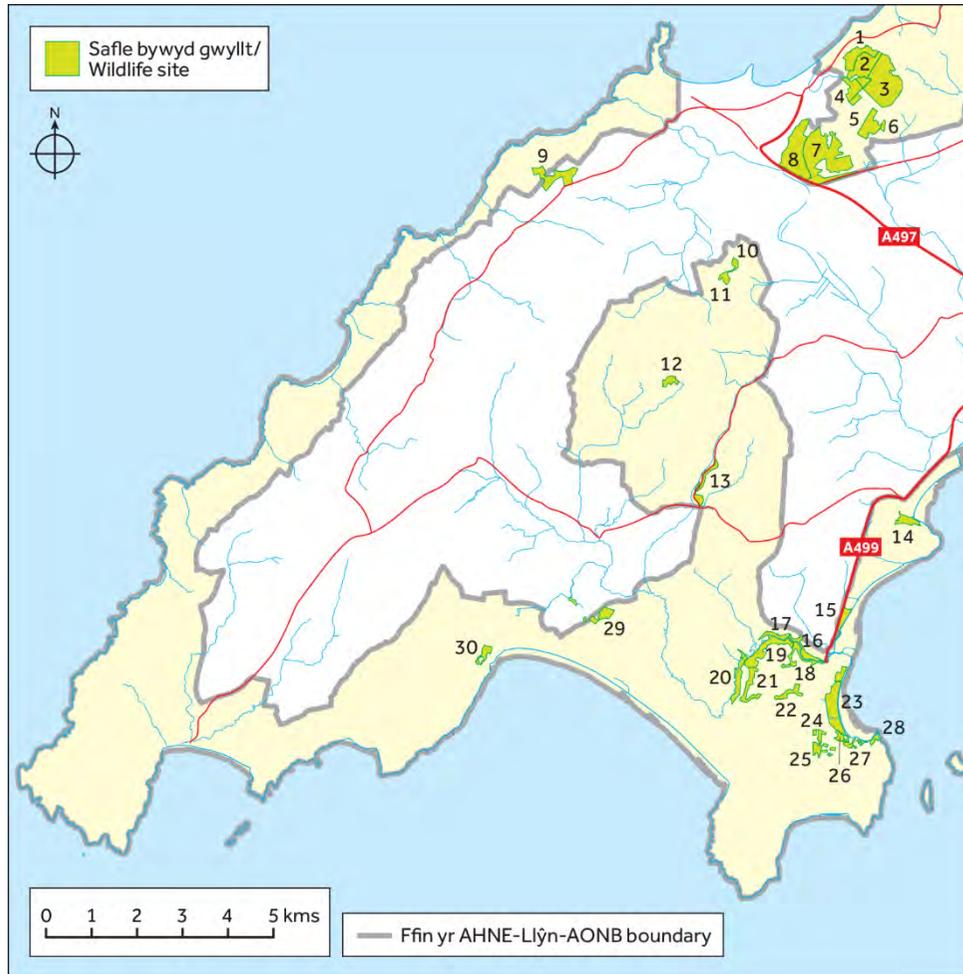
Ynys Enlli lies 3km from the tip of the peninsula. Mynydd Enlli – the ‘mountain’ – stands at 167m high, covered in bright pink thrift, purple heather, and rare golden lichens. Enlli is home to a working farm, thriving lobster and crab fishery, a Bird Observatory and spectacular wildlife, including over 200 Atlantic grey seals, a growing population of Manx shearwaters and the Chough. In 2023, Ynys Enlli (Bardsey Island) received International Dark Sky Sanctuary certification by the International Dark Skies Association. This makes Enlli the first site in Europe to achieve this status.

Yr Eifl was designated as a National Nature Reserve due to its heathland; there is also a population of breeding Choughs. “Yr Eifl” (The Rivals) are the highest mountains on the Llŷn Peninsula with three peaks - Tre'r Ceiri (485m), Garn Ganol (564m), and Garn Fôr (444m).

Source: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Ordnance Survey Licence number AC0000849444. Crown Copyright and Database Right. The Bardsey Island Trust website accessed September 2025 <https://enlli.org/>

Local wildlife sites

In 2025, there were 30 'Wildlife Sites' covering 421.6 ha (2.7%) of the area.

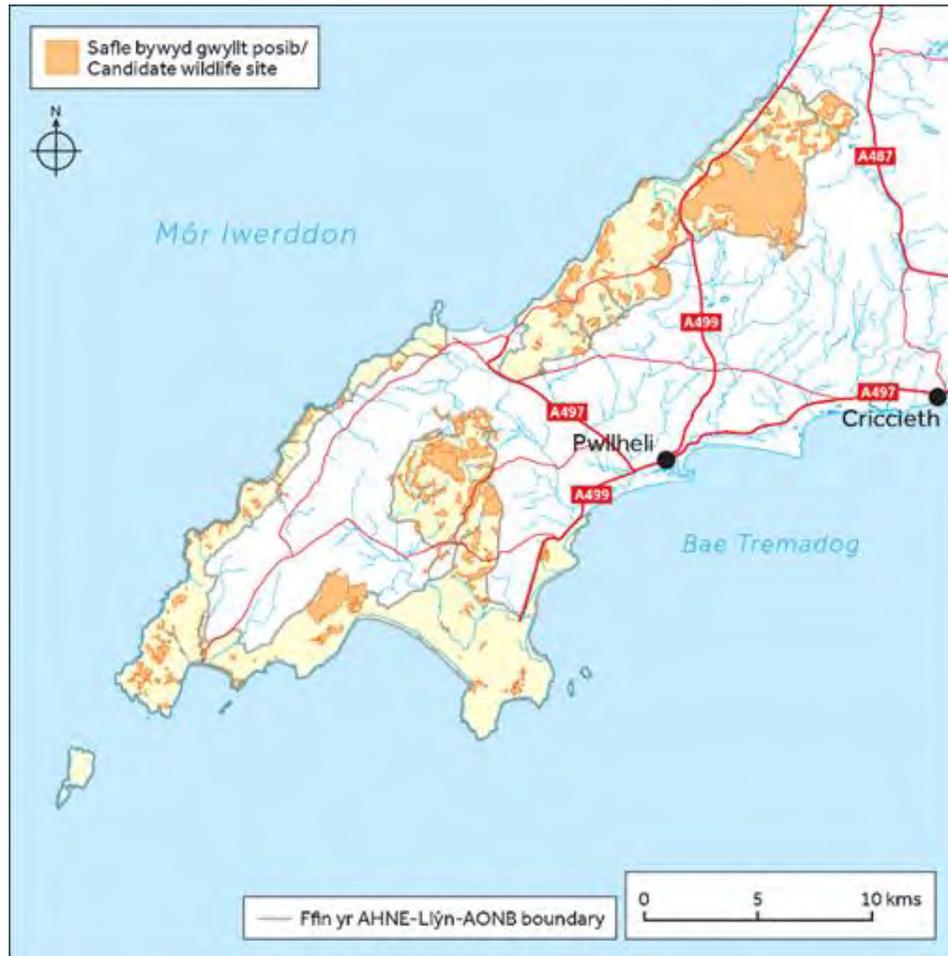


Allwedd/Legend

- 1 Chwarel Bodeilias
- 2 Mynydd Nefyn 4
- 3 Mynydd Nefyn 1
- 4 Mynydd Nefyn 2
- 5 Mynydd Nefyn 3
- 6 Cerniog Bach & Isaf
- 7 Garn Boduan
- 8 Fflat orllewinol Garn Boduan
- 9 Min y Rhos
- 10 Coed Dinam
- 11 Coed Creigiau-cathod
- 12 Wierglodd Garn / Rhos
- 13 Bodlondeb
- 14 Coed Bachellyn
- 15 Trwyn-y-Fach
- 16 Afon Soch (Gogledd Ddwyrain)
- 17 Afon Soch (Gogledd Orllewin)
- 18 Afon Soch (De-ddwyrain)
- 19 Afon Soch (De Orllewin)
- 20 Dwyfan Bellaf / Dwyfan
- 21 Craigfryn
- 22 Creigir Goch
- 23 Abersoch, Borth Fawr
- 24 Pant Gwyn
- 25 Bwlchtocyn
- 26 Macroes Mosaic (Gorllewin)
- 27 Macroes Mosaic (Dwyrain)
- 28 Penrhyn Du
- 29 Tyn Lon
- 30 Plas yn Rhiw

In the emerging Gwynedd Local Development Plan, the Constraints Maps include '**Wildlife Sites**'. The map shows 30 'Wildlife Sites' covering an area of 421.6 ha within the AONB.

'Wildlife Sites' is the term used to cover those sites referred to in Planning Policy Wales as Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINCs). They hold habitats and species of high nature conservation value but without a statutory designation, therefore being of local importance. They have been ratified following a detailed site survey and assessment against a set of criteria.



In the Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan (Adopted 2017), the Constraints Maps included ‘**Candidate Wildlife Sites**’ (those that are potentially worthy of consideration). Those maps show 250 ‘Wildlife Sites’ and ‘Candidate Wildlife Sites’ fully or partially within the AONB, covering 3,972.9 ha.

Further research is needed to confirm the status of the ‘Candidate Wildlife Sites’ identified in 2017.

Source: Cyngor Gwynedd 2026 (OS Public Sector End User Licence); Gwynedd Local Development Plan (the new Plan) <https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Council/Strategies-and-policies/Environment-and-planning/Planning-policy/Joint-Local-Development-Plan/Cynllun-Datblygu-Lleol-ar-y-Cyd-diwygiedig/Gwynedd-Local-Development-Plan-the-new-Plan.aspx>; LUC (2021): State of the AONB Report 2021 For the Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Quality of coastal waters

In 2024, two blocks of coastal waters had good ecological and chemical status; one had a moderate chemical status.



The UK Water Framework Directive are an important mechanism for monitoring waterbodies for a range of issues, including pollution from chemicals and excess nutrients, as well as the health of wildlife communities such as plants and fish. Waterbodies are rated as high, good, moderate, poor or bad status. Only the waterbodies that are described as 'good' or 'high' are in a sustainable and healthy condition; the rest all need a greater level of protection and management if they are to improve to a good level of health.

	Status	
Caernarfon Bay South	Good ¹	Ecological status is good, chemical status is high.
Cardigan Bay North	Moderate ²	Ecological status is good but chemical status is moderate
Tremadog Bay	Good ¹	Ecological status is good, chemical status is high.

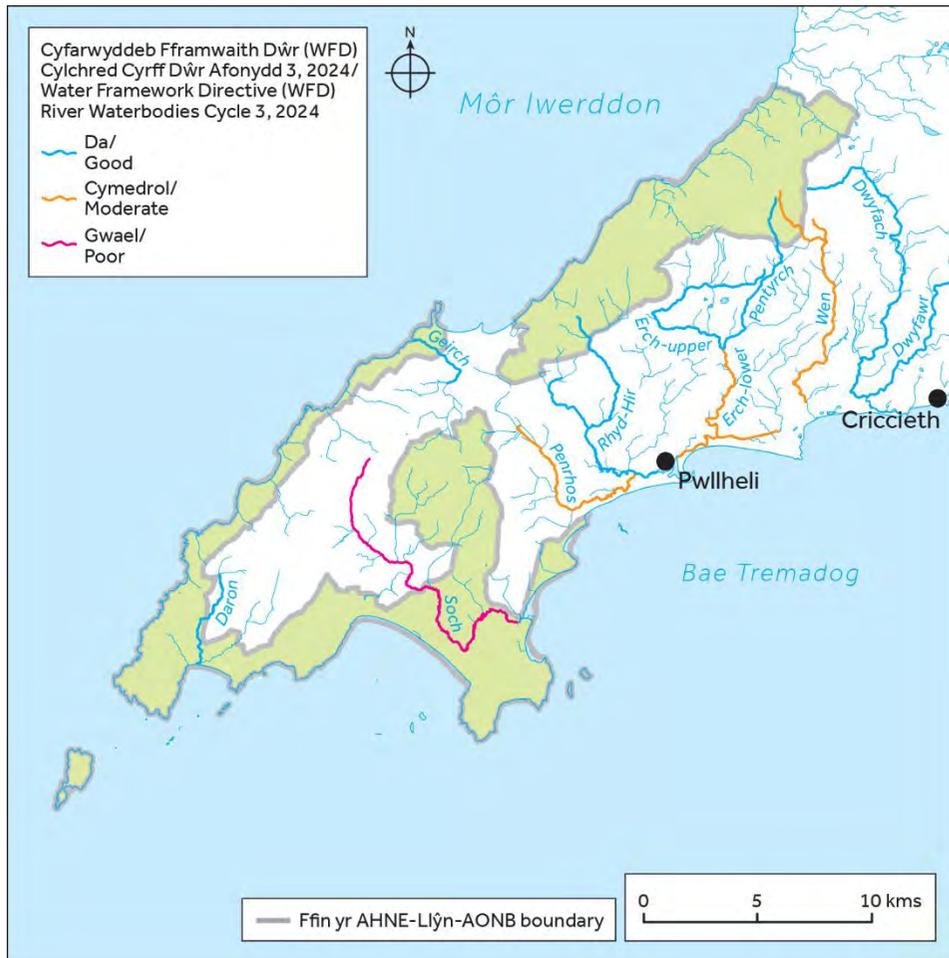
1 = Slight change from natural state because of human impact.

2 = Moderate change from natural state because of human impact.

Source: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Ordnance Survey Licence number AC0000849444. Crown Copyright and Database Right. Wales Environmental Information Portal - WFD Coastal Cycle 3 2024 Interim. <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/research-and-reports/water-reports/water-quality/assessment-of-water-quality-in-wales-2024/?lang=en>

Ecological status of rivers

In 2024, 38% of rivers in the AONB were in a good ecological state (up from 24% in 2020); 50% were in a poor state (0% in 2020). The River Geirch has risen from a moderate to good status while the River Soch has fallen from a moderate to poor status.



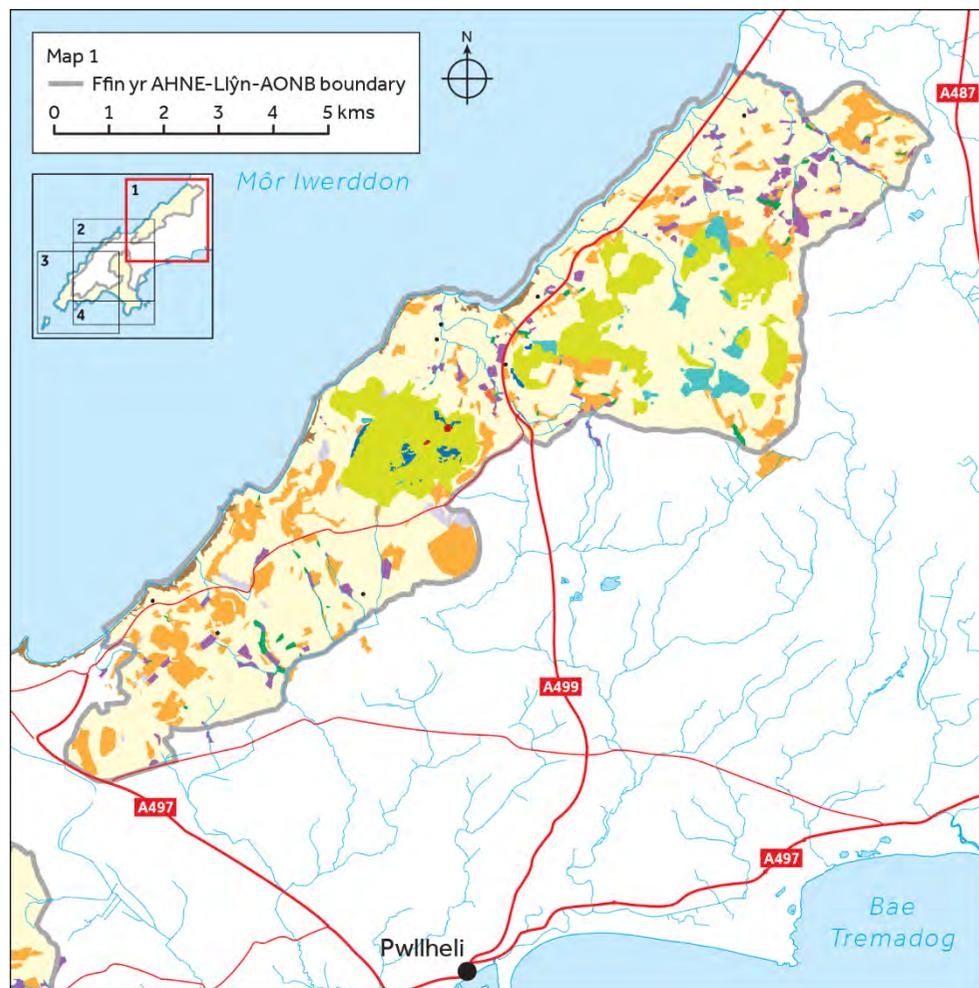
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Description	Status	Length of river water bodies (km)	
		2024	2020
Natural or almost natural state with no, or only minor evidence of distortion	High	0	0
Slight change from natural state because of human impact.	Good	7.61	4.78
Moderate change from natural state because of human impact.	Moderate	2.42	15.32
Major change from natural state because of human activity.	Poor	10.08	0
Severe change from natural state because of human activity.	Bad	0	0
	No status	0	0
	TOTAL	20.11	20.11
	% with High or Good status	38%	24%

Source: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Ordnance Survey Licence number AC0000849444. Crown Copyright and Database Right. Wales Environmental Information Portal - WFD River Waterbodies Cycle 3 2024 interim. <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/research-and-reports/water-reports/water-quality/assessment-of-water-quality-in-wales-2024/?lang=en>

Area of habitats of principal importance

In 2025, there are 3,602 ha of habitats of principal importance, covering 23% of the AONB.



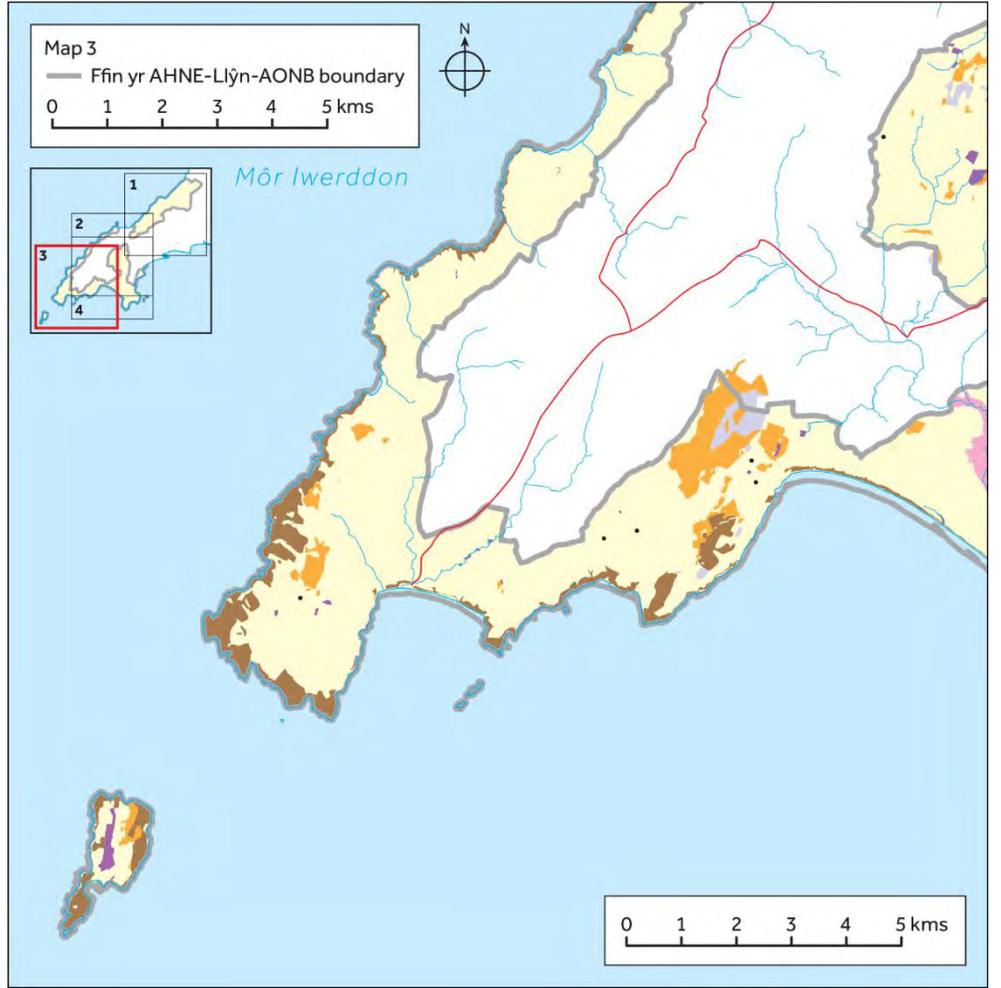
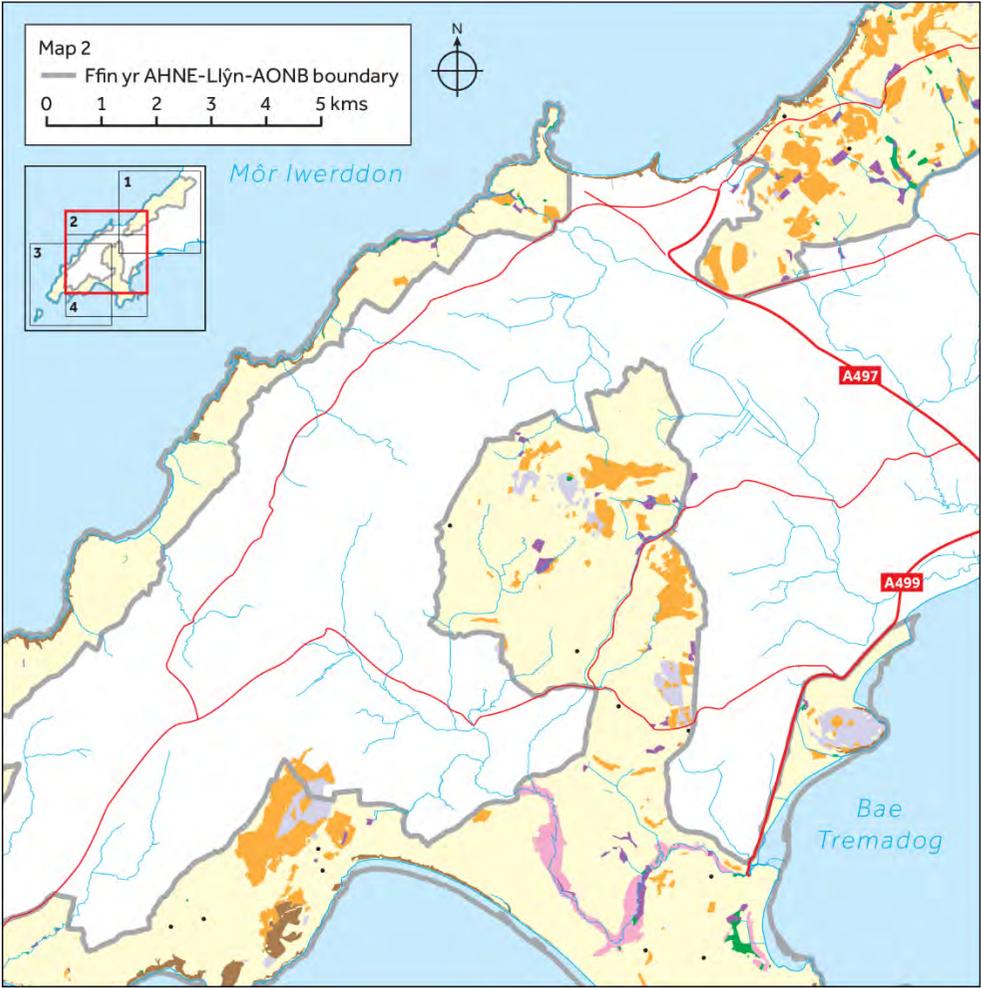
Allwedd/Legend

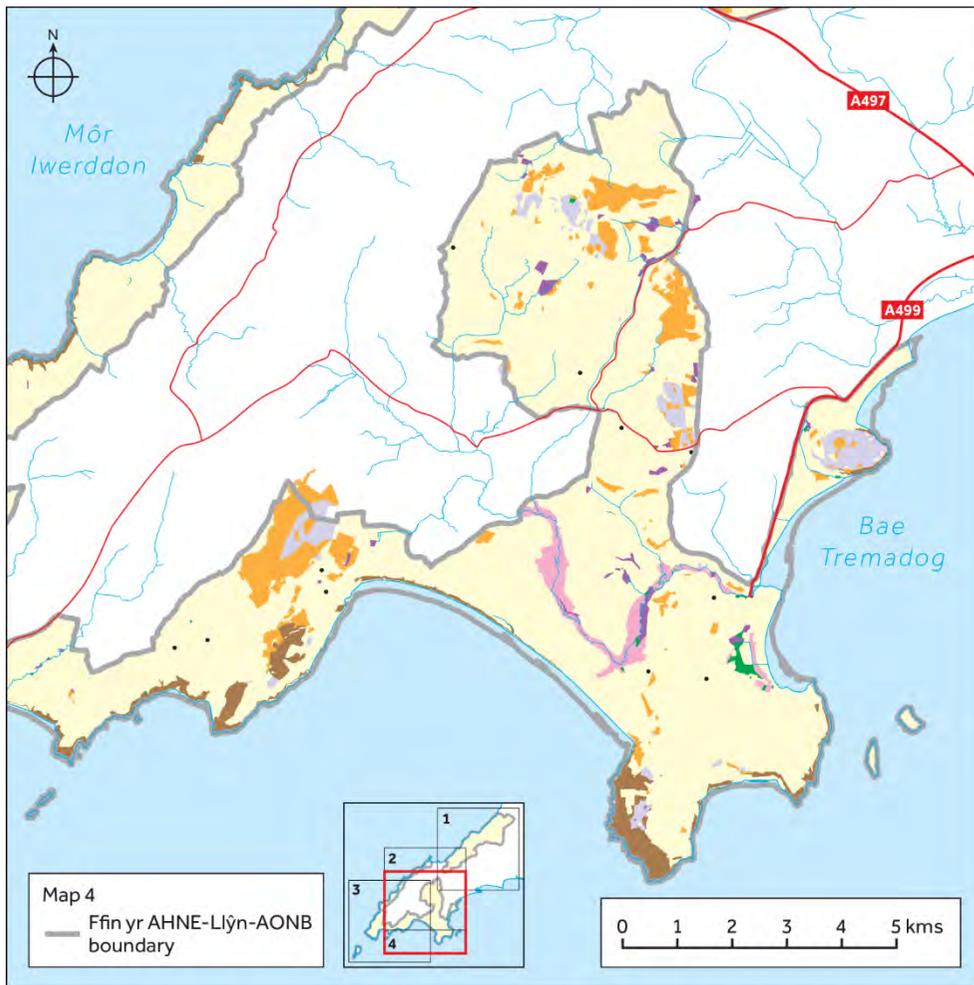
- Brigiad creigiog a sgri/
Rock outcrop and scree
- Clogwyn a llethr morwrol/
Maritime cliff and slope
- Corgors/
Blanket bog
- Cors pori arfordirol a glaswelltir gorlifdir/
Coast grazing marsh and floodplain grassland
- Cors a gwely cyrs iseldir/
Lowland fen and reedbed
- Dôl iseldir/
Lowland meadow
- Glaswelltir asid sych iseldir/
Lowland dry acid grassland
- Glaswellt y gweunydd a phorfa brwyn/
Purple moor grass and rush pasture
- Mae ucheldir yn llifo i mewn i ffen a chors/
Upland flushes fen and swamp
- Perllan draddodiadol/
Traditional orchard
- Rhostir iseldir/
Lowland heathland
- Rhostir ucheldirol/
Upland heathland

Under the Environment (Wales) Act (2016), Section 7 requires biodiversity lists to be produced. These lists include types of habitats that are of "Principal Importance" for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales.

This dataset was created using Priority Habitats of Wales Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) and Broad Habitats, both of which are derived from Phase 1 Terrestrial habitat and species surveys conducted across Wales.

Habitats of principal importance in ha	2025 ha
Inland rock outcrops and scree	22.1
Maritime cliff and slopes	684.8
Blanket bog	2.2
Coast grazing marsh and floodplain grassland	165.6
Lowland fens and reed beds	62.6
Lowland meadows	4.5
Lowland dry acid grassland	1,144.4
Upland flushes, fens and swamps	80.6
Traditional orchards	0.8
Purple moor grass and rush pastures	249.3
Lowland heathland	474.8
Upland heathland	710.7
Total	3,602.4





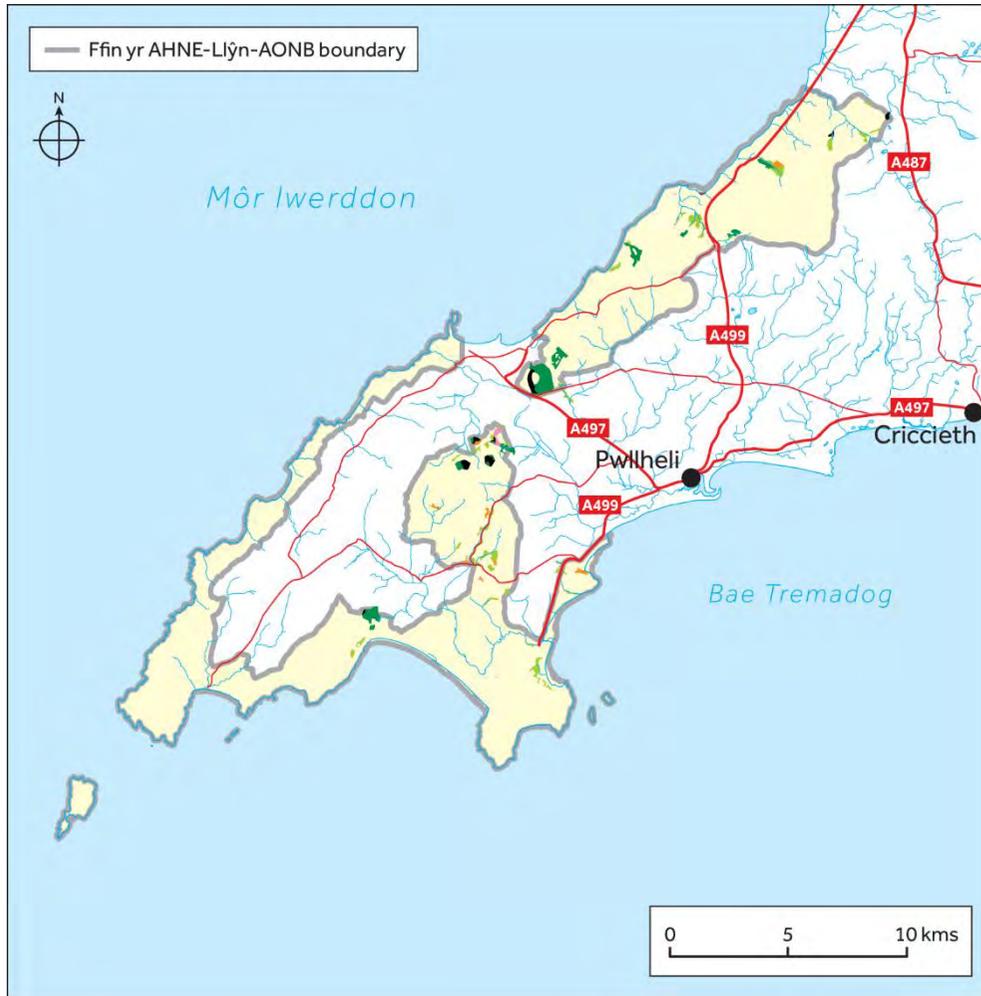
Of the 26 orchards found in the AONB:

- 2 are classed as 'Definitely is Traditional Orchard priority habitat' (Gilfach – Excellent condition (0.08 ha), and Plas yn Rhiw – Good condition (0.79 ha)),
- 4 are classed as 'Priority traditional orchard habitat may be present, but evidence is insufficient to determine presence confidently',
- 6 are classed as 'Probably traditional orchard priority habitat but some uncertainty',
- 14 are classed as 'Site does not meet priority habitat criteria'.

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https://datamap.gov.wales/layergroups/geonode%3Anrw_terrestrial_sections_7_habitats

Area of woodland (by National Forest Inventory types)

In 2025, there are 604 ha of woodland covering 4% of the AONB with the distribution of National Forest Inventory* types



Allwedd/Legend	Inventory type	2019	2025
Llydanddail/Broadleaved	Broadleaved	321	257
Conwydd/Coniferous	Conifer	132	230
Wedi'u torri i lawr/Felled	Felled	78	61
Cymysg/Mixed	Mixed	23	36
Llwyn/Shrub	Shrub	8	3
Coed ifanc/Young trees	Young trees	63	17
	Totals	625	604

* **Note:** There is an under-count for the Llŷn. The NFI covers any forest or woodland of at least 0.5 hectares in area with a minimum width of 20 m, and that have at least 20% tree canopy cover (or the potential to achieve this) (this ensures that the NFI outputs are compatible with outputs from other European forest inventories). Consequently, many small parcels of woodland on the peninsula are missed.

Source: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Ordnance Survey Licence number AC0000849444. Crown Copyright and Database Right. https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/inspire-nrw:NRW_NIWT

Ancient woodland

In 2025, there are 255 ha of woodland covering 1.6% of the AONB.



Inventory categories	2021	2025
Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland	24.5	24.6
Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites	88.2	88.1
Restored Ancient Woodland Sites	98.93	98.6
Ancient Woodland Site of Unknown Category	43.47	43.5
	255.1	254.8

The Ancient Woodland Inventory places woodland into one of four categories:

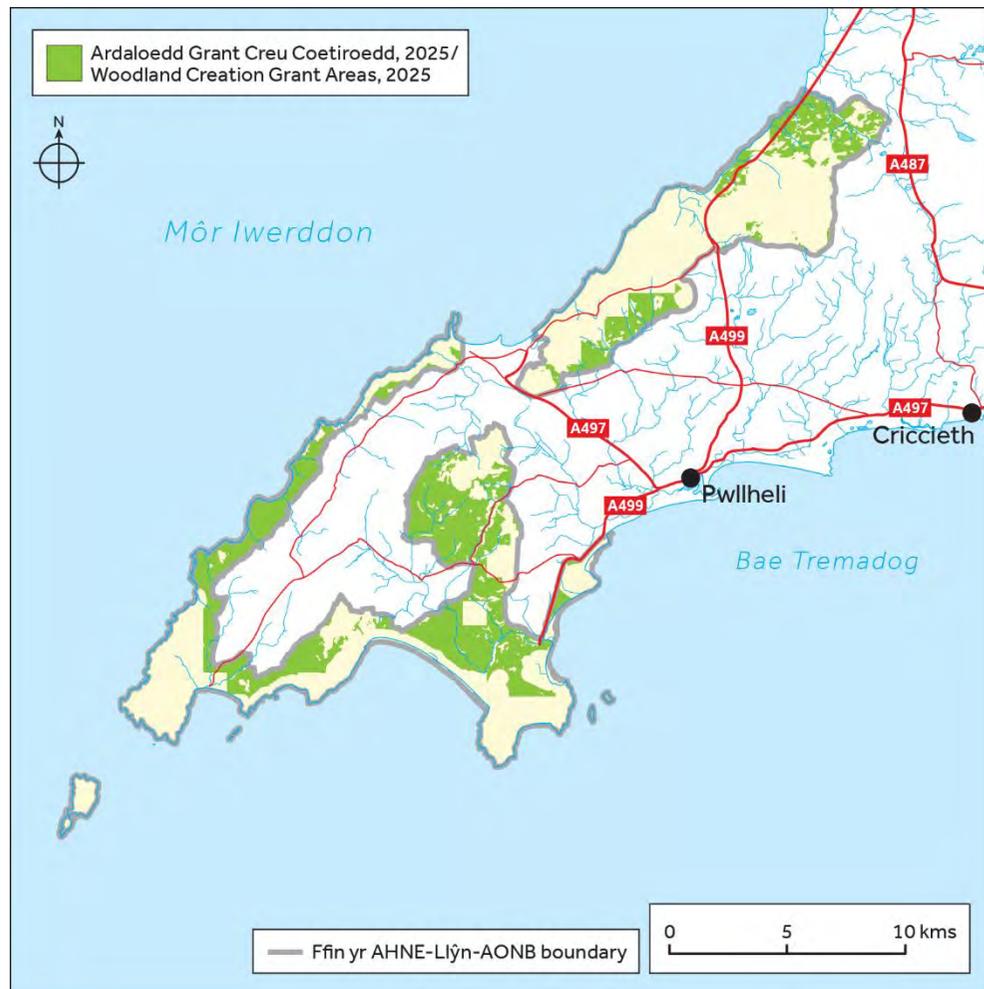
- Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland - Broadleaf woodlands with mainly native tree and shrub species which are believed to have been in existence for over 400 years.
- Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites - Sites which are believed to have been continuously wooded for over 400 years and currently have a canopy cover of more than 50 percent non-native conifer tree species.
- Restored Ancient Woodland Sites* - Woodlands which are believed to have been continually wooded for over 400 years. These woodlands will have gone through a phase when canopy cover was more than 50% non-native conifer tree species and now have a canopy cover of more than 50 percent broadleaf.
- Ancient Woodland Site of Unknown Category - Woodlands which may be any of the three categories above. These areas are mainly in transition and existing tree cover is described as 'shrubs', 'young trees', 'felled' or 'ground prepared for planting'

* The phrase 'restored ancient woodland' describes woodland which appears, with the use of remote sensing techniques, to have returned to a more natural condition. The inventory designation does not mean that the woodland is fully restored or that it is in good ecological condition.

Source: Natural Resources Wales <https://naturalresources.wales/evidence-and-data/maps/browse-map-of-data-about-the-natural-environment/?lang=en>

Extent of woodland creation grant scheme areas

This scheme provides financial support for small areas of tree planting on land between 0.1 hectare and 2 hectares.



Under this scheme, the application process provides a quick and simple way of ensuring proposals meet the UK Forestry Standard (UKFS) requirements without needing to send a woodland creation plan for verification to NRW.

Planting can be:

- shelterwoods
- alongside watercourses,
- in field corners/small fields
- stock shelter
- biodiversity
- wood-fuel

Trees must be planted on land that is:

- agriculturally improved, or
- of low environmental value

Source: Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/small-grants-woodland-creation-2025/> Contains Ordnance Survey Data © Crown Copyright 2025.

Cultural heritage

In this section:

Welsh language and culture	74
Registered historic landscapes	77
Number and type of heritage assets	79
Location and condition of conservation areas.....	85

The special qualities

The Welsh language and culture

Llŷn is one of the heartlands of the Welsh language, it is part of the special culture of the area. Here, the Welsh language is a live language and is used daily in the home, chapels and churches, in school, shops, the workplace and on the street. Religion continues to play an important part in the culture of the people of Llŷn. In times gone by, the saints were very prominent, and regular pilgrimages were made to Bardsey Island. Many local churches were dedicated to the early saints. Later, chapels were set up by different denominations across Llŷn. Linked to the chapels came the Eisteddfod tradition that continues to this day. There is a great wealth of stories, tales, folklore and legends associated with the Llŷn Peninsula. Information can be found from a variety of written and recorded sources such as Llên Gwerin Sir Gaernarfon by John Jones (Myrddin Fardd) 1908. Welsh placenames can be seen throughout the area and are an important part of the area's cultural character.

The historic environment

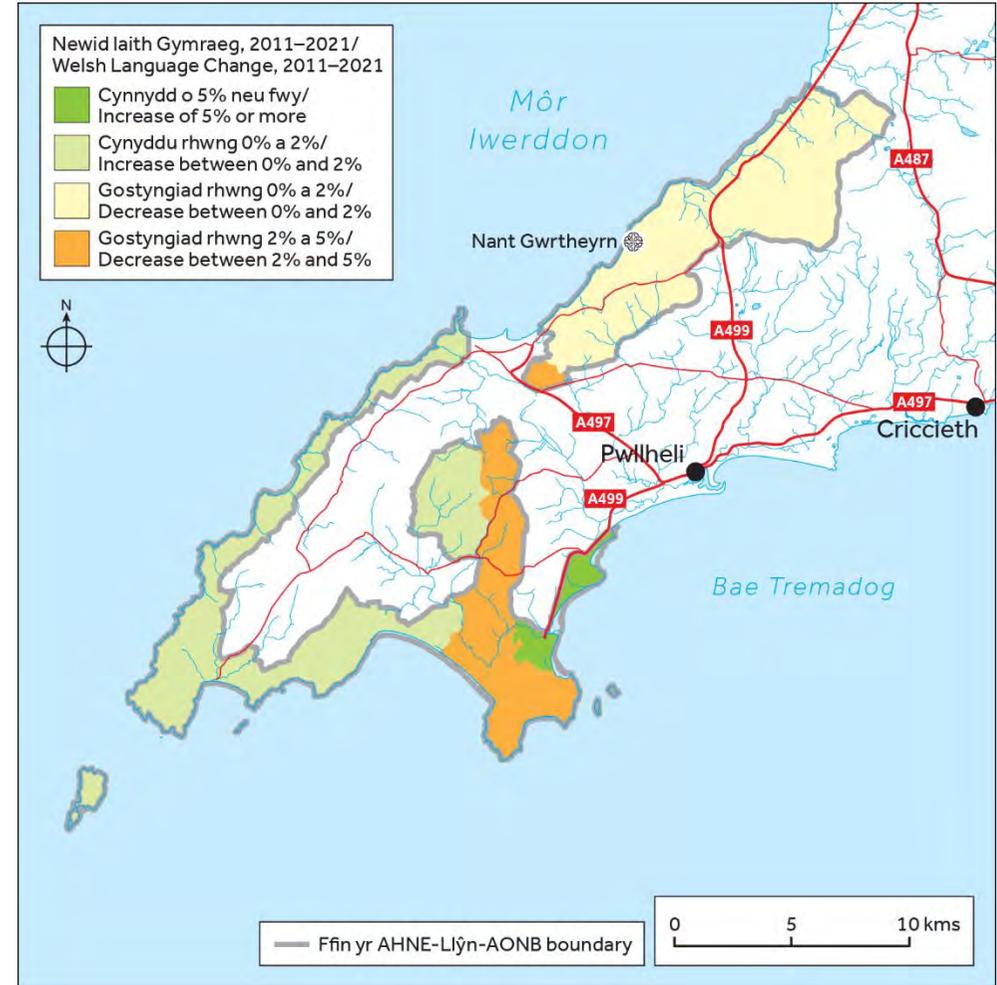
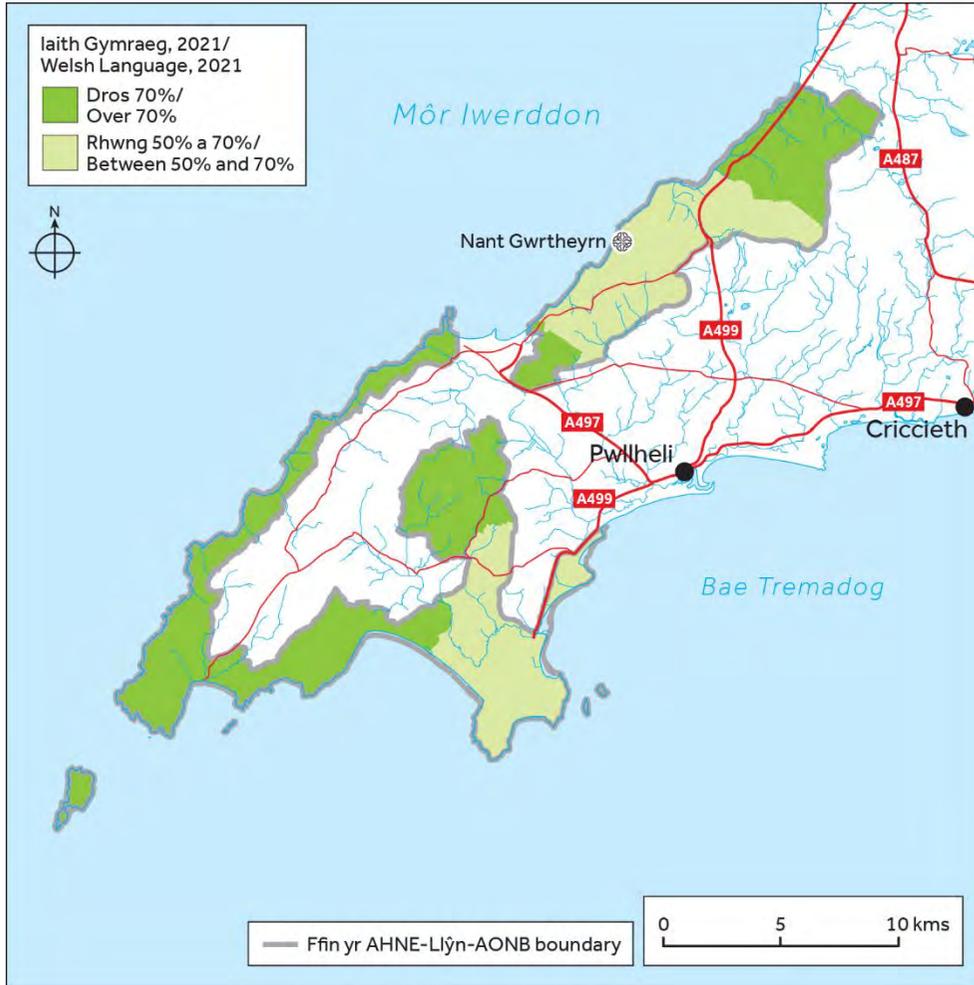
People have lived in Llŷn for thousands of years. Archaeological remains and distinctive field and settlement patterns link today with the distant past. The most striking remains from early civilisation in the area are the Iron Age hill forts found on many hills in the area. Religion has left its mark on Llŷn – in terms of the landscape, its history, the society and the culture. From a more recent era, remains of former industries of Llŷn such as the granite quarries and mineral mining, survive. The ordinary people of Llŷn lived in cottages – and usually, these were built in a simple way and in very little time. Those that have survived have been re-roofed with slate and the best examples have been listed by Cadw. There are a significant number of interesting farmhouses and agricultural buildings. Many historical religious buildings are to be seen in Llŷn as religion has played an important part in the development and culture of the area from the Christian period onwards. Chapels were built on a wide scale in Llŷn because of the development of Nonconformity from the mid seventeenth century onwards.



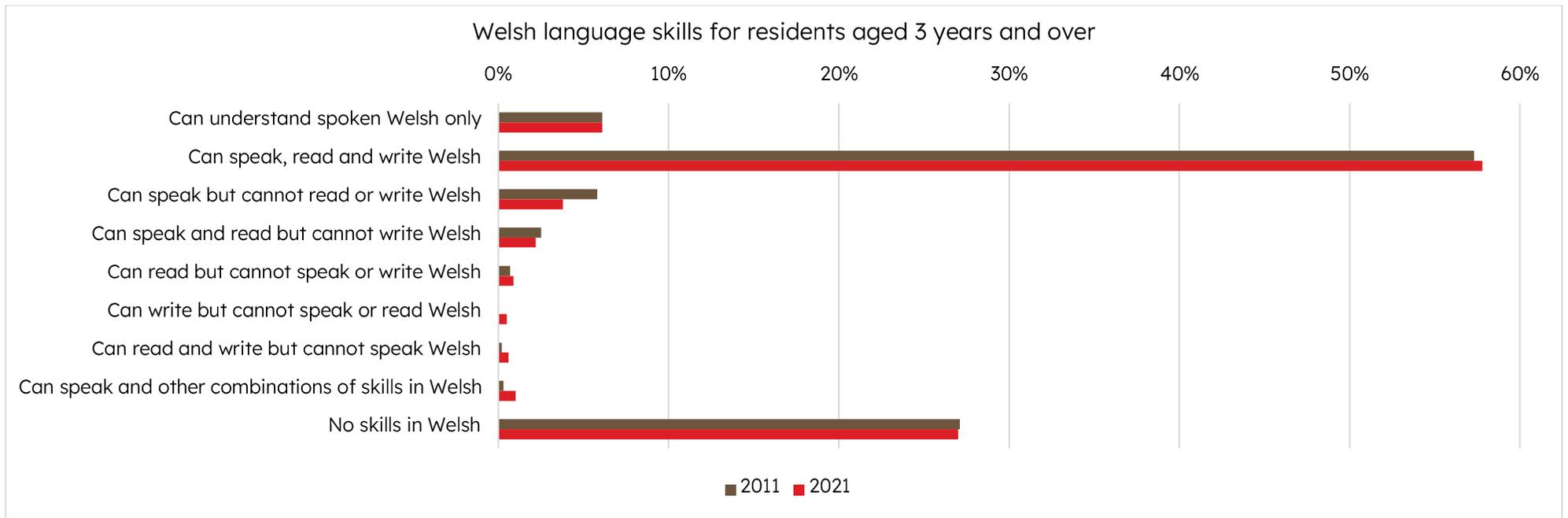
Welsh language and culture

Language skills

In both 2011 & 2021, 73% of the population aged 3 years and over had some Welsh language skills.



Source: Welsh Language Change in the percentage of people aged three years or older able to speak Welsh by LSOA 2011 to 2021
https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/geonode:welsh_by_lsoa



In 2011, 57.3% could speak, read and write Welsh; this rose to 57.8% in 2021. In both years, 6.1% of the population aged 3 years and over could understand spoken Welsh but could not speak, read or write it.

Since 2011, there has been a very minor decrease in Welsh use in the northeastern section of the AONB (down by 2% of the population or less). There has been a greater decrease in a band from Nefyn to Abersoch (down between 2% and 5%). However, in a band between Abersoch and Llanbedrog, the use has increased by over 5%.

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Table QS207WA, 2021: Table TS032

Welsh language activities

Cyngor Gwynedd publishes an interactive Welsh language activities map. This map shows 12 activities and/or organisations within the AONB. However, this is only a snapshot – there are many other activities within and/or near to the AONB boundary. The map does not show activities such as talks, exhibitions, music events and Eisteddfodau, which reflect the strength of the Welsh language on the Llŷn Peninsula.



Allwedd/Legend

- Clwb Chwaraeon/ Sports Club
- Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc/ Young Farmers
- Côr Neu Grŵp Cerddorol/ Choir or Musical Group
- Cylch Meithrin/ Nursery
- Cymdeithas Arall/ Other Social Club
- Grŵp Diddordeb/ Interest Group
- Gweithgaredd/Sgyrsiau yn ymwneud a Hanes yn bennaf/ Activity/Conversations mainly related to History
- Menter Gymdeithasol/ Social Enterprise
- Merched Y Wawr/ Ladies Social Group
- Papur Bro/ Local Newspaper

Welsh language community newspapers

- Llanw Llŷn
- Lleu
- Y Ffynnon

Canolfan Iaith a Threftadaeth Cymru/ Welsh Culture and language Centre

Nant Gwrtheyrn, an old mining village, has been transformed into a significant centre for Welsh language learning. It aims to grow the number of Welsh speakers, provide local employment and inspire people to come together, discovering connections to the Welsh language, nature and the seasons that can shape a life into the future.

There is also support to learn the Welsh language locally through Menter Iaith Gwynedd and *learnwelsh.cymru*.

Source: Cyngor Gwynedd website 2025 - <https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Council/The-Welsh-Language/The-Welsh-Language.aspx>
Gweithgareddau Cymunedol Cymraeg interactive map updated July 2025 & accessed in September 2025 -
<https://cyngorgwynedd.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=23abd967d2894e2e9dc6081b9e8e59ec>

Registered historic landscapes

There is one historic landscape, Llŷn ac Ynys Enlli, classed as Outstanding Historic Interest.



Llŷn ac Ynys Enlli – designated 2001 (29,500 ha)

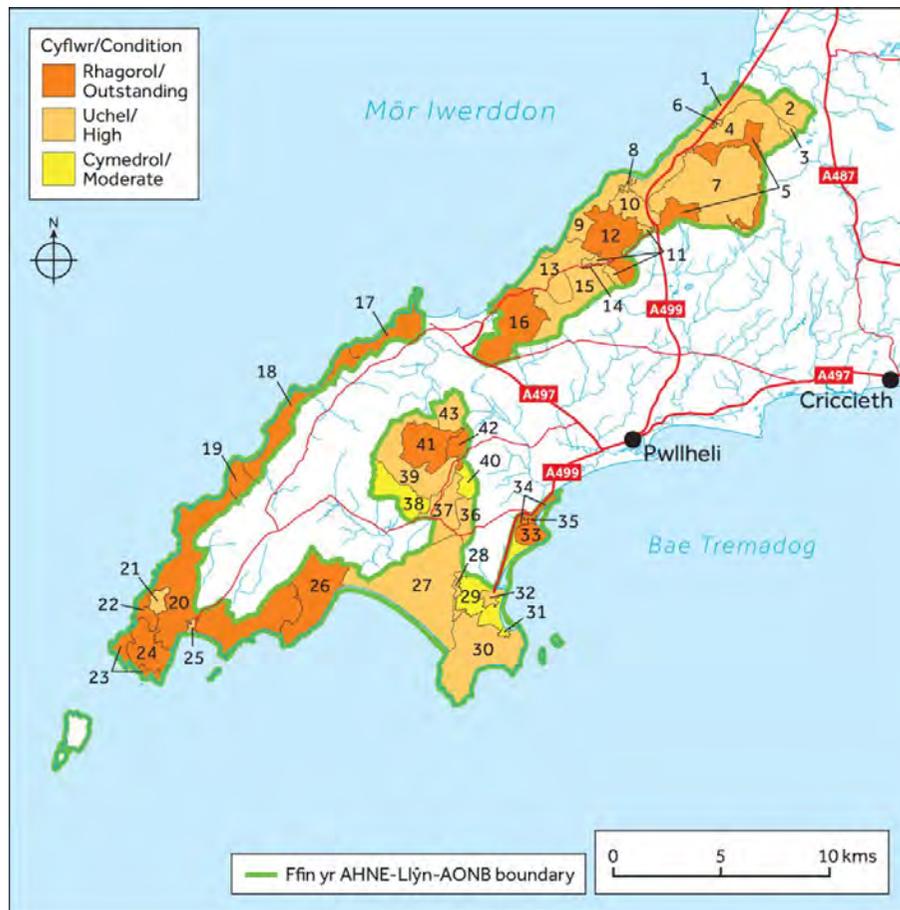
The Register of Historic Landscapes describes this as an area that "possesses a great and unparalleled wealth and diversity of, most often, smaller scale archaeological and historic features, which together form a cohesive and integrated whole, demonstrating both the continuity and the territorial unity of Llyn from possibly prehistoric times onwards. There are archaeological sites ranging from the Mesolithic period to the recent past."

The Register of Historic Landscapes is a non-statutory, advisory register. Its primary aim is to provide information and raise awareness of an initial selection of the most important and significant historic landscape areas in Wales in order to aid their protection and conservation.

Source: Designated Historic Asset GIS Data, The Welsh Historic Environment Service (Cadw), 2025, licensed under the Open Government Licence <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

Condition of the historic landscape

The Gwynedd Archaeological Trust found that most of the historic landscape in the AONB is in a high or outstanding condition.



Allwedd/Legend

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Dinas Dinlle-Aberdesach | 29 Caeau arfordirol o amgylch Abersoch |
| 2 Lleuar | 30 Penrhyn Cilan |
| 3 Coridor Afon Dwyfach | 31 Machroes |
| 4 Tirwedd caeau uwchben Clynog | 32 Abersoch |
| 5 Tirwedd caeau islaw Bwlch Mawr | 33 Mynydd Tir y cwmwd |
| 6 Clynog Fawr | 34 Fflatiau arfordirol o gwmpas Llanbedrog |
| 7 Ucheldiroedd Bwlch Mawr | 35 Llanbedrog |
| 8 Trefor | 36 Mynytho |
| 9 Chwareli cerrig arfordir y gogledd | 37 Nanhoron |
| 10 Caeau a choedwigoedd islaw Yr Eifl | 38 Llwyfandir Botwnnog |
| 11 Caeau bach islaw Carnguwch | 39 Dyffryn Llaniestyn |
| 12 Yr Eifl | 40 Carneddol |
| 13 Moel Gwynus | 41 Garn Fadryn |
| 14 Lithfaen | 42 Tirwedd caeau o amgylch Llanfihangel |
| 15 Tirwedd caeau o amgylch Pentreuchaf | 43 Coed a chaeau i'r gorllewin o Ryd-y-Clafdy |
| 16 Mynydd Nefyn | |
| 17 Tirwedd caeau o amgylch Edern | |
| 18 Caelun, arfordir gogleddol Llŷn | |
| 19 Caeau Rhoshirwaun | |
| 20 Llwyfandir Aberdaron | |
| 21 Anelog | |
| 22 Mynydd Anelog | |
| 23 Mynydd Mawr | |
| 24 Llain-gaeau canoloesol, Uwchmynydd | |
| 25 Aberdaron | |
| 26 Mynydd Rhiw | |
| 27 Gwastadedd Neigwl (Gofaint Uffern) | |
| 28 Llangian ac Llanengan | |

The Gwynedd Archaeological Trust examines the component historic character of areas found within the registered historic landscape. Each area includes components that are distinct from its neighbours. This dataset focuses on archaeological and historical sites and how they relate to each other and to the surrounding landscape. The features mapped include those resulting from past human activity and structurally prominent patterns and features that contribute to the historic character of the present landscape.

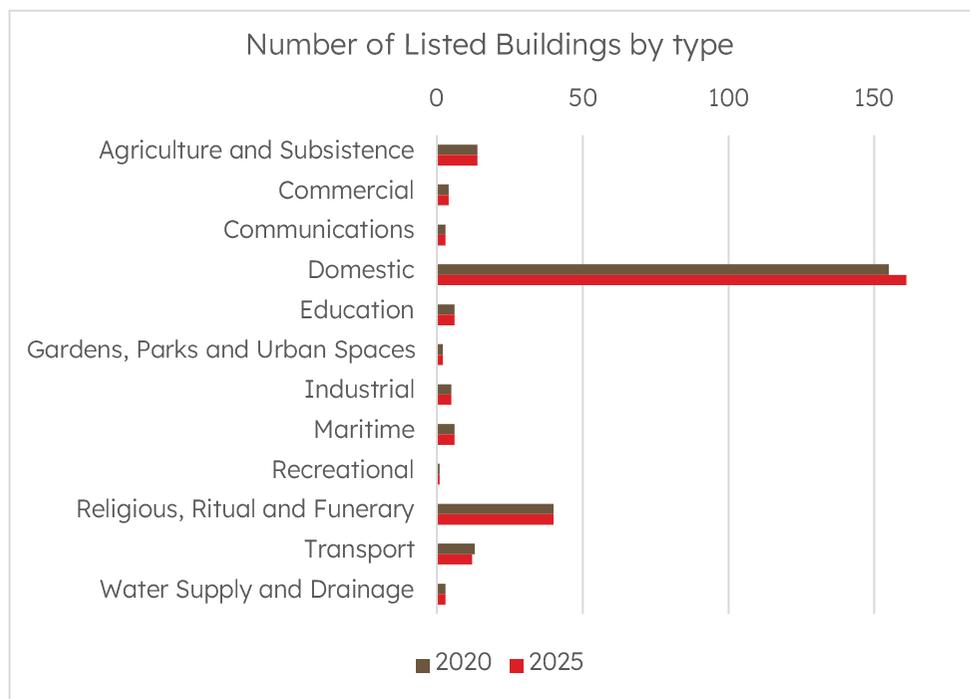
Source: From the Llŷn Historic Landscape Characterisation surveys by the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/inspire-nrw:NRW_LANDMAP_Historic_Landscape

Number and type of heritage assets

There are 257 Listed Buildings, 55 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (covering 156.6 ha), 1 Registered Park and Garden and 1 Historic Landscape. There is no public record on the current condition of these assets. Cadw seeks to undertake an inspection of the condition of all listed buildings in Wales at least once every five years, but it is not the intention to make any findings publicly available.

Listed Buildings

Buildings on the List are given one of three grades (I,II* & II) that denote their level of importance. Grade I is the highest; they are of exceptional interest.

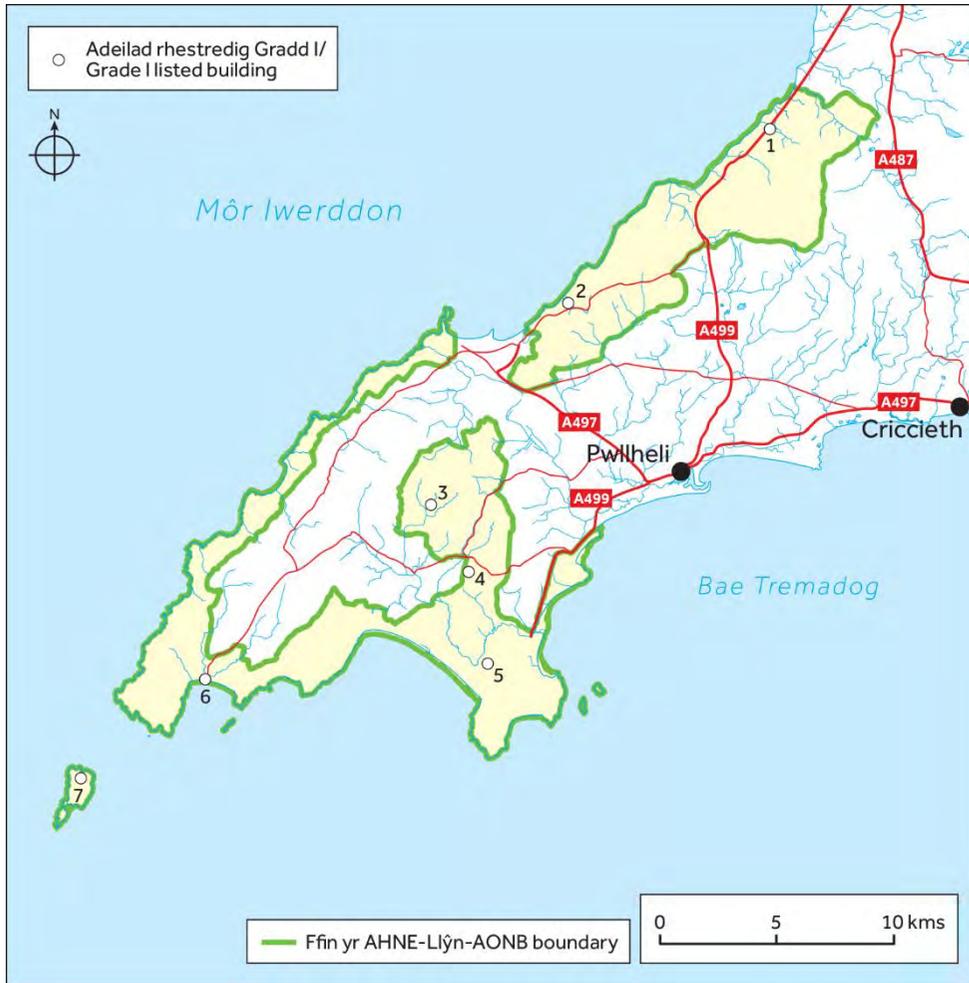


In 2025, there are 257 Listed Buildings, up from 252 in 2020. The change is because there are 6 additional domestic buildings but a loss of one transport building.

Source: Cadw

Location of Grade I Listed Buildings

There are 7 Grade I listed buildings in the AONB (the same as in 2021).



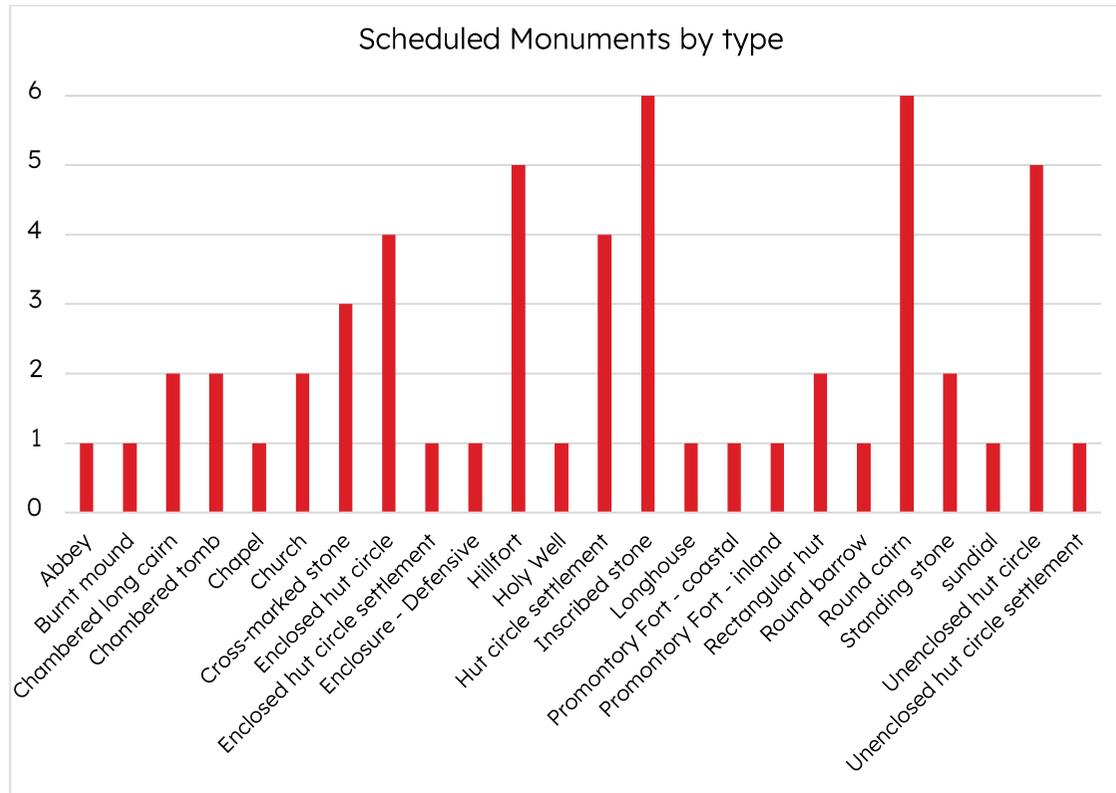
Allwedd/Legend

- 1 Eglwys Sant Beuno, gyda Chapel Sant Beuno ynghlwm/
Church of St Beuno, with attached Chapel of St Beuno
- 2 Eglwys Sant Beuno/
Church of St Beuno
- 3 Eglwys Sant Iestyn/
Church of St Iestyn
- 4 Capel Newydd/
New Chapel
- 5 Eglwys Sant Engan/
Church of St Engan
- 6 Eglwys Sant Hywyn/
Church of St Hywyn
- 7 Adfeilion Abaty Santes Fair/
Ruin of Abbey of St Mary

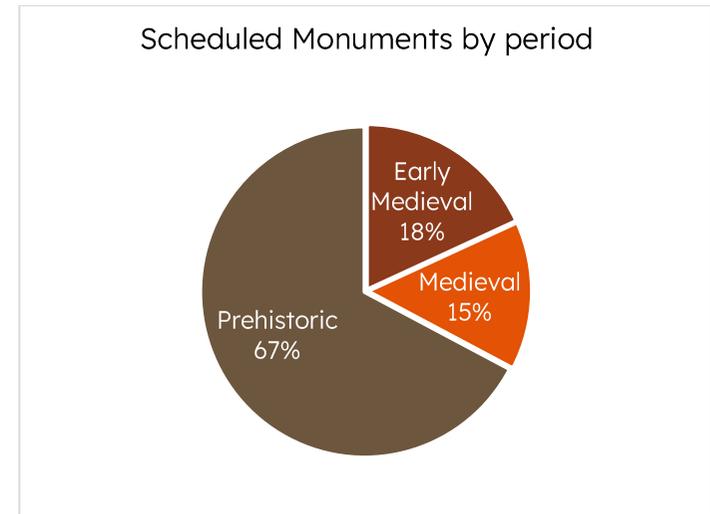
Source: Cadw listed buildings https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/inspire-wg:Cadw_ListedBuildings

Scheduled Monuments

There are 55 scheduled monuments within the AONB; 67% are from the prehistoric period. There is no public record on the current condition of these assets.



Source: Cadw



Location of Scheduled Monuments

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales records the National Monuments Record of Wales. It lists 55 records for the Llŷn AONB (legend is shown on the next page).

More information on monuments within the AONB area is available from Heneb – the Trust for Welsh Archaeology.



Source: Cadw Scheduled monuments:
<https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/inspire->
g:Cadw_SAM

Allwedd

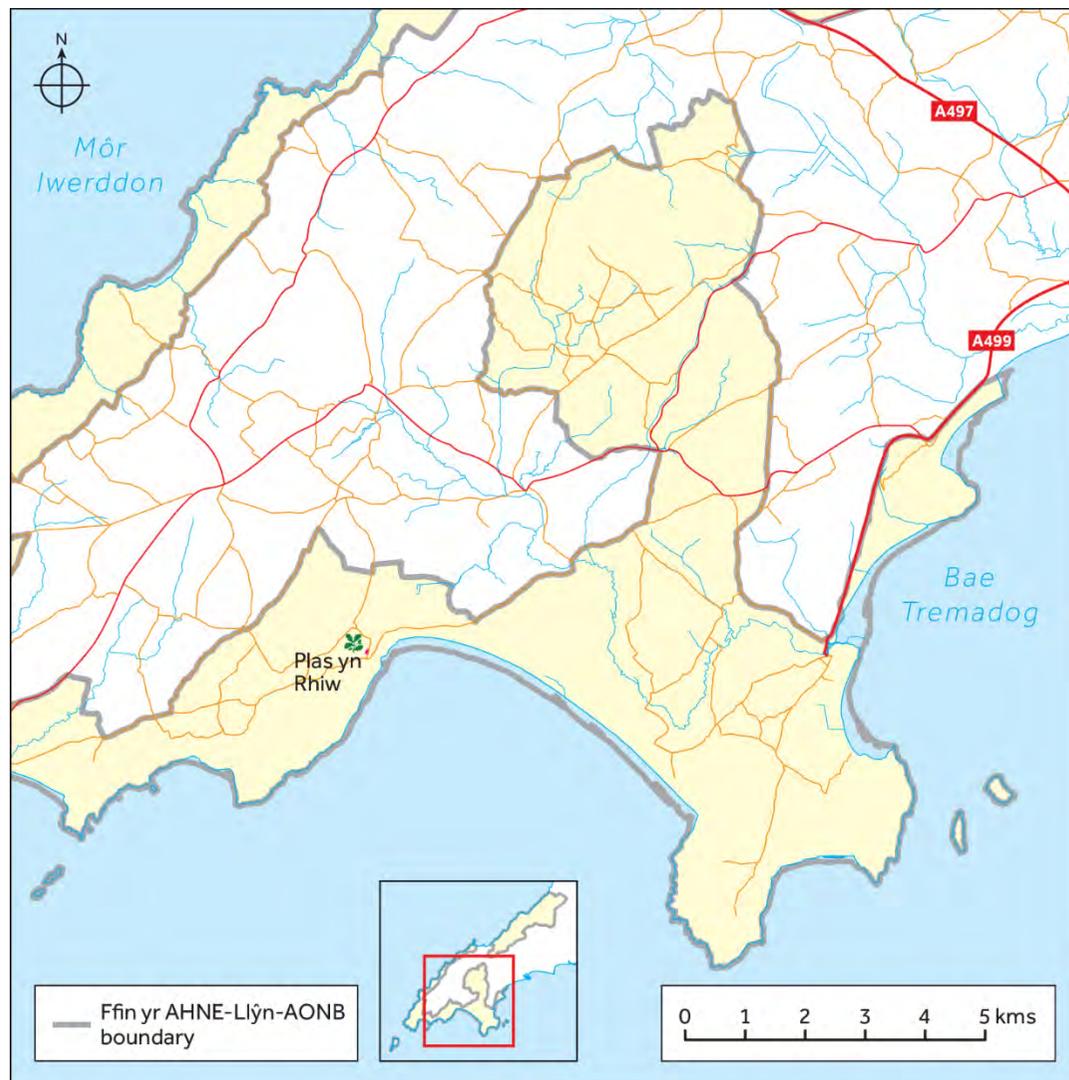
- 1 Siambr Gladdu Penarth
- 2 Gwersyll Y Foel
- 3 Siambr Gladdu Bachwen
- 4 Deial haul ym Mynwent Eglwys Clynnog Fawr
- 5 Croes Arysgrif Ger Capel Uchaf
- 6 Ffynnon Sant Beuno
- 7 Setliad Cylch Cytiau De-Orllewin o Ben-yr-allt Uchaf
- 8 Grŵp Cytiau Gogledd Gyrn Ddu
- 9 Grŵp Cytiau i'r Gorllewin o Gyrn Ddu
- 10 Carnedd Gron i'r Gorllewin o Gyrn Ddu
- 11 Dwy Garnedd Gron E o Gyrn Ddu
- 12 Grŵp Cytiau a System Caeau i'r De-ddwyrain o Iard y Fferm
- 13 Grŵp Cytiau i'r Gogledd o Cwmceiliog
- 14 Twmpath Llosgedig i'r Dwyrain o Pen-y-Gaer
- 15 Gwersyll Pen-y-Gaer
- 16 Grŵp Cytiau a System Gaeau i'r Gogledd Orllewin o Tyddyn Mawr (a elwid yn flaenorol yn Grŵp Cytiau NW o Tyddyn Mawr)
- 17 Anheddiad Cylch y Cwt i'r Gorllewin o Fferm Cwm
- 18 Cwt Hir i'r Gogledd o Fferm Cwm
- 19 Grŵp Cytiau Caeedig i'r Gogledd-orllewin o Fferm Cwm
- 20 Yr Eifl, carnedd ar gopa'r gogledd orllewin o
- 21 Cylchoedd Cytiau a Chlostir i'r Gogledd-orllewin o Mount Pleasant
- 22 Copa'r Eifl, Cairns
- 23 Gwersyll Tre'r Ceiri
- 24 Maen Arysgrifedig Cristnogol Cynnar ym Mynwent yr Eglwys, Llanaelhaearn
- 25 Rhan o Garreg Arysgrifedig wedi'i Adeiladu i Wal Mynwent yr Eglwys
- 26 Carnedd Carn-y-Gŵr
- 27 Maen Hir Moel Gwynus
- 28 Carreg Groes-Gerfiedig Tymawr
- 29 Slab Croes Wedi'i Adeiladu i Adeilad Fferm Ty'n-y-Cae
- 30 Garn Boduan
- 31 Maen Hir Nant y Gledrydd
- 32 Gwersyll Carn Fadryn
- 33 Anheddiad Cylch Cytiau ym Mhen-y-Caerau
- 34 Grŵp Cytiau Caeedig i'r De o Penbodlas
- 35 Ardrefniant Amddiffynnol Garn Saethon
- 36 Pen-y-Gaer
- 37 Carreg Arysgrifedig ym Mynwent Eglwys Sant Cian, Llangian
- 38 Gwersyll Pared Mawr
- 39 Siambr Gladdu Cilan-Uchaf
- 40 Siambr Gladdu Rhiw
- 41 Mynydd Rhiw Cairns Round
- 42 Tŷ Hir i'r De o Talarfor
- 43 Cylch y Cytiau ym Mynydd-y-Graig
- 44 Maen Senacus (gynt yn Nhudweiliog, Dwyfor)
- 45 Maen Veracius (gynt yn Nhudweiliog, Dwyfor)
- 46 Safle Eglwys Sant Merin
- 47 Anheddiad Cylch y Cwtiau i'r Gogledd-orllewin o Mount Pleasant
- 48 Capel Anelog
- 49 Eglwys Santes Fair
- 50 Tai Hir, Llociau a Systemau Caeau, Ynys Enlli
- 51 Abaty Santes Fair, Ynys Enlli
- 52 Carreg â Chroes wedi'i Harysgrifio yn y Capel, Ynys Enlli
- 53 Carreg Arysgrifedig yn y Capel, Ynys Enlli
- 54 Barrow Crwn Mynydd Enlli, Ynys Enlli
- 55 Cytiau ar Mynydd Enlli, Ynys Enlli

Legend

- 1 Penarth Burial Chamber
- 2 Y Foel Camp
- 3 Bachwen Burial Chamber
- 4 Sundial in Clynnog Fawr Churchyard
- 5 Cross Inscribed Stone Near Capel Uchaf
- 6 St Beuno's Well
- 7 Hut Circle Settlement South-West of Pen-yr-allt Uchaf
- 8 Hut Group N of Gyrn Ddu
- 9 Hut Group West of Gyrn Ddu
- 10 Round Cairn West of Gyrn Ddu
- 11 Two Round Cairns E of Gyrn Ddu
- 12 Hut Group and Field System South East of Farm Yard
- 13 Hut Group North of Cwmceiliog
- 14 Burnt Mound East of Pen-y-Gaer
- 15 Pen y Gaer Camp
- 16 Hut Group & Field System North West of Tyddyn Mawr (previously known as Hut Group NW of Tyddyn Mawr)
- 17 Hut Circle Settlement West of Cwm Farm
- 18 Long Hut North of Cwm Farm
- 19 Enclosed Hut Group North West of Cwm Farm
- 20 Yr Eifl, cairn on NW summit of
- 21 Hut Circles and Enclosure NW of Mount Pleasant
- 22 Yr Eifl Summit Cairns
- 23 Tre'r Ceiri Camp
- 24 Early Christian Inscribed Stone in the Churchyard, Llanaelhaearn
- 25 Part of Inscribed Stone Built into Wall of Churchyard
- 26 Carnguwch Cairn
- 27 Moel Gwynus Standing Stone
- 28 Tymawr Cross-Incised Stone
- 29 Cross Slab Built into Farm Building Ty'n-y-Cae
- 30 Garn Boduan
- 31 Nant y Gledrydd Standing Stone
- 32 Carn Fadryn Camp
- 33 Hut Circle Settlement at Pen-y-Caerau
- 34 Enclosed Hut Group South of Penbodlas
- 35 Garn Saethon Defended Settlement
- 36 Pen-y-Gaer
- 37 Inscribed Stone in St Cian's Churchyard, Llangian
- 38 Pared Mawr Camp
- 39 Cilan-Uchaf Burial Chamber
- 40 Rhiw Burial Chambers
- 41 Mynydd Rhiw Round Cairns
- 42 Long House South of Talarfor
- 43 Hut Circle at Mynydd-y-Graig
- 44 The Senacus Stone (formerly in Tudweiliog, Dwyfor)
- 45 The Veracius Stone (formerly in Tudweiliog, Dwyfor)
- 46 Site of St Merin's Church
- 47 Hut Circle Settlement North-West of Mount Pleasant
- 48 Capel Anelog
- 49 St Mary's Church
- 50 Long Houses, Enclosures & Field Systems, Bardsey Island
- 51 St Mary's Abbey, Bardsey Island
- 52 Inscribed Stone in the Chapel, Bardsey Island
- 53 Cross-Inscribed Stone in the Chapel, Bardsey Island
- 54 Mynydd Enlli Round Barrow, Bardsey Island
- 55 Huts on Mynydd Enlli, Bardsey Island

Location of Registered Parks and Gardens

In 2025, there is 1 Registered Park and Garden in the AONB - Plas yn Rhiw.



Plas yn Rhiw 5.6 ha (shown as 4.5 ha in 2020) – Grade II Registered Historic Park & Garden.

Plas yn Rhiw is registered for the historic interest of its small, enclosed plantsman's garden planted this century, but laid out earlier, and set within a wooded park. The house and gardens are afforded spectacular views out over Porth Neigwl (Hell's Mouth Bay). The registered area shares important group value with the house and associated estate buildings.

Source: Designated Historic Asset GIS Data, The Welsh Historic Environment Service (Cadw), September 2025, licensed under the Open Government Licence <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

Location and condition of conservation areas

The Local Authority has designated nine Conservation Areas in the AONB, covering 245 ha (1.6%) of the AONB (condition was assessed in 2015).



Conservation Areas in the Llŷn AONB (the statements in brackets are a précis of the 2015 study findings)

Designated 1974:

- Aberdaron – 9.11 ha in the AONB (well-maintained but ensure a good design standard for the dormant buildings)
- Clynog Fawr – 4.93 ha in the AONB (Establish Article 4 (2) guidance to limit cladding, painting, rendering, permitted rights and extensions.)
- Llangian – 9.56 ha in the AONB (well-maintained but ensure a good design standard for the dormant buildings. Establish Article 4 (2) guidance to restrict permitted rights for external appearance.)
- Llanengan – 17.64 ha in the AONB (well-maintained but preserve settlement boundary. Avoid development beyond the village border. Establish Article 4 (2) guidance to limit cladding, painting, rendering, permitted rights and extensions.)
- Llaniestyn – 1.34 ha in the AONB (well-maintained but ensure a good design standard for the dormant buildings. Establish Article 4 (2) guidance to restrict permitted rights for external appearance.)

Designated 1986:

- Llanaelhaearn – 0.46 ha in the AONB (fairly well maintained - needs additional protection and an extension possible)
- Porth Dinllaen – 0.71 ha in the AONB (unique – need to maintain character. Resist developments and extensions to the settlement. Assess changes to existing property against high standards.)
- Trefor – 2.05 ha in the AONB (fairly well maintained – need to retain the stone walls and field limits. Establish Article 4 (2) guidance to restrict permitted rights for external appearance)

Designated 1995:

- Ynys Enili – 199.28 ha in the AONB

Note: The best way to define the local character is through the production of a conservation area appraisal. This provides an understanding of the history of an area and its special qualities.

Source: Burum Advisory Services and Conservation Architect Maredudd ab Iestyn (2015)

People

In this section:

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The special qualities

People and close-knit communities

In Llŷn there are close-knit communities that have been developed over a long period of time. As with all areas there have been changes within the communities over the years – people from outside the area moved in for work purposes, to retire or as a lifestyle change. Although in-migration has taken place for centuries the level has been higher in the recent decades – and this has had an impact on communities and the Welsh language. People have also moved out of the area – mainly to obtain education or to find work. Because the community contributes to the area’s character, it is important to try and support the well-being of these communities. Therefore, there is a need to address people’s needs in terms of housing, services and facilities, leisure, employment and jobs.



Local produce and rural businesses



Traditionally, emphasis has been placed on work that is linked directly to the environment. Farming and fishing have developed since very early times, and they continue to be important to this day. They support families, provide local produce and support other industries. In the eighteenth and nineteenth century, the quarries and mineral mining industries became important industries. There is a tradition of being self-employed in Llŷn. Once there was a high proportion of joiners, blacksmiths and farm workers but today, many builders, electricians, carpenters etc. are to be found. The tourism industry is mainly based on the special qualities of the area – the beauty, the beaches, the clean environment and the peace.

Rights of way and access

There are many opportunities to roam and enjoy the natural beauty and historical features of Llŷn. As well as the network of public footpaths, there are a myriad of small rural lanes that weave their way along the peninsula and connect areas together. The paths along parts of the coast include the old routes used by Pilgrims who walked along the shore towards Bardsey. There are substantial areas of common land that offer an excellent opportunity to roam more informally, and view and enjoy wildlife, different plants and striking views. One of the main attractions are the wonderful beaches along the north and south coast.

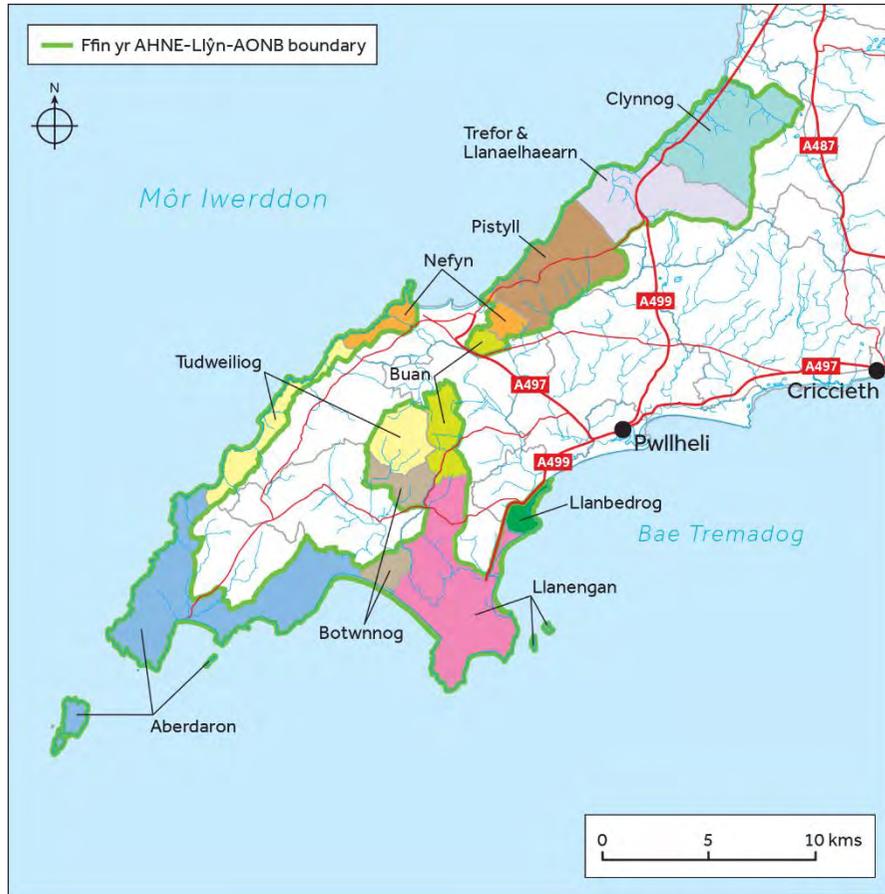


Administrative boundaries

Only one local authority, Cyngor Gwynedd, is the 'relevant* local authority' for the AONB.

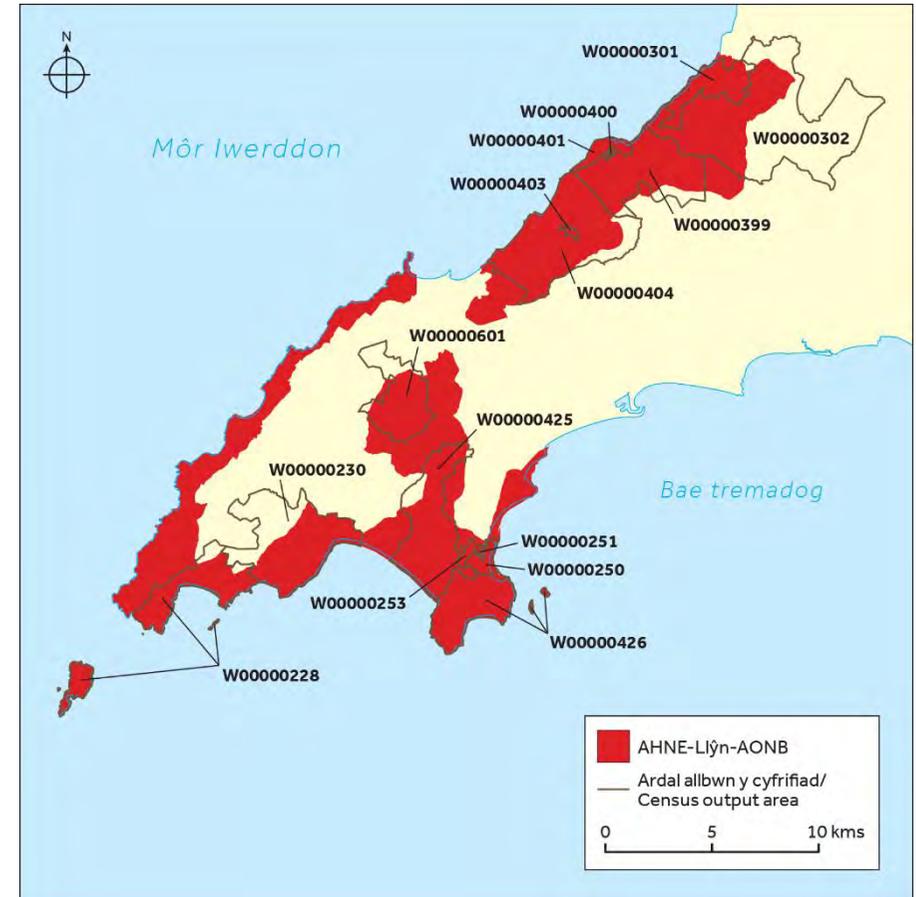
Community council boundaries

There are 10 community councils



Census Output Areas for 2011 and 2021

There are 9 output areas

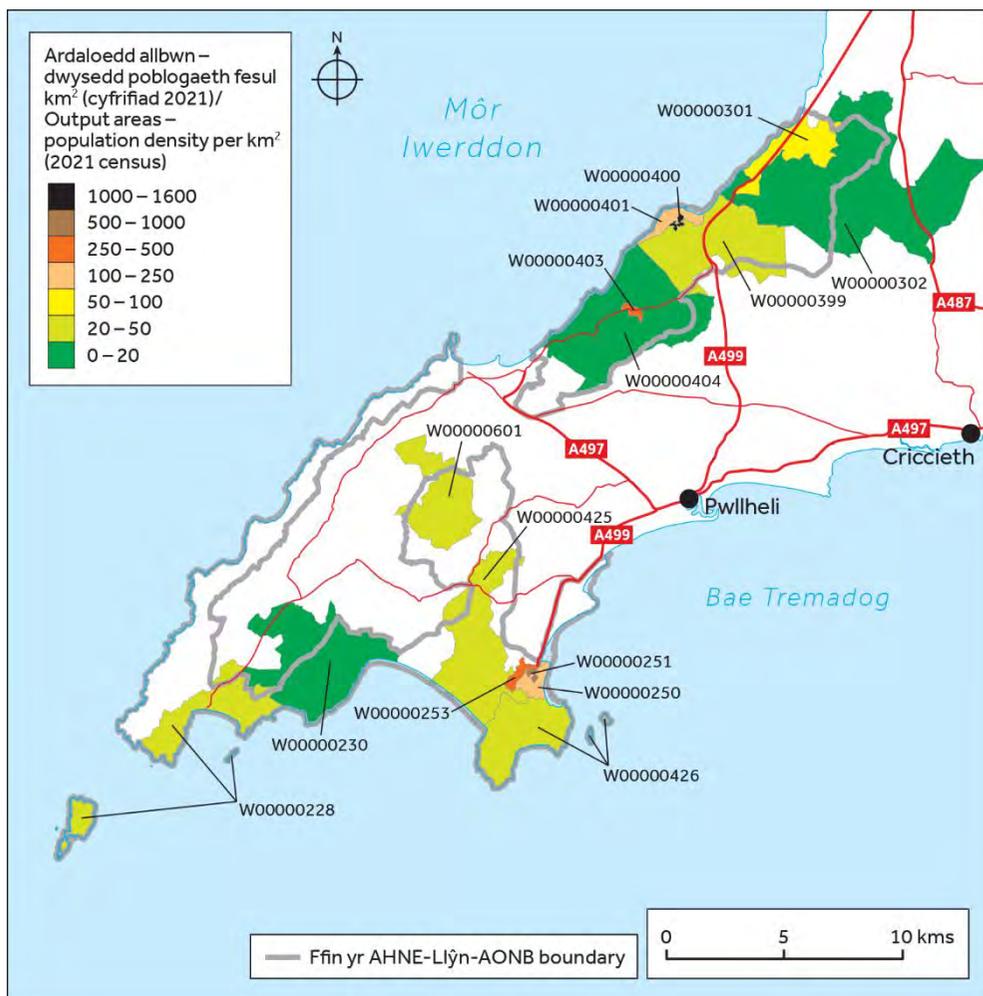


Source: GIS data obtained from www.data.gov.uk *Note - The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (Sections 84 & 89) define the relevant local authorities.

Population density

By census Output Areas

The population density in 2021 was **26.7 residents per km²** (down 12.4% from 30.5 residents per km² in 2011).



Within the selected Output Areas, there is rural depopulation.

Output Area Profiles:

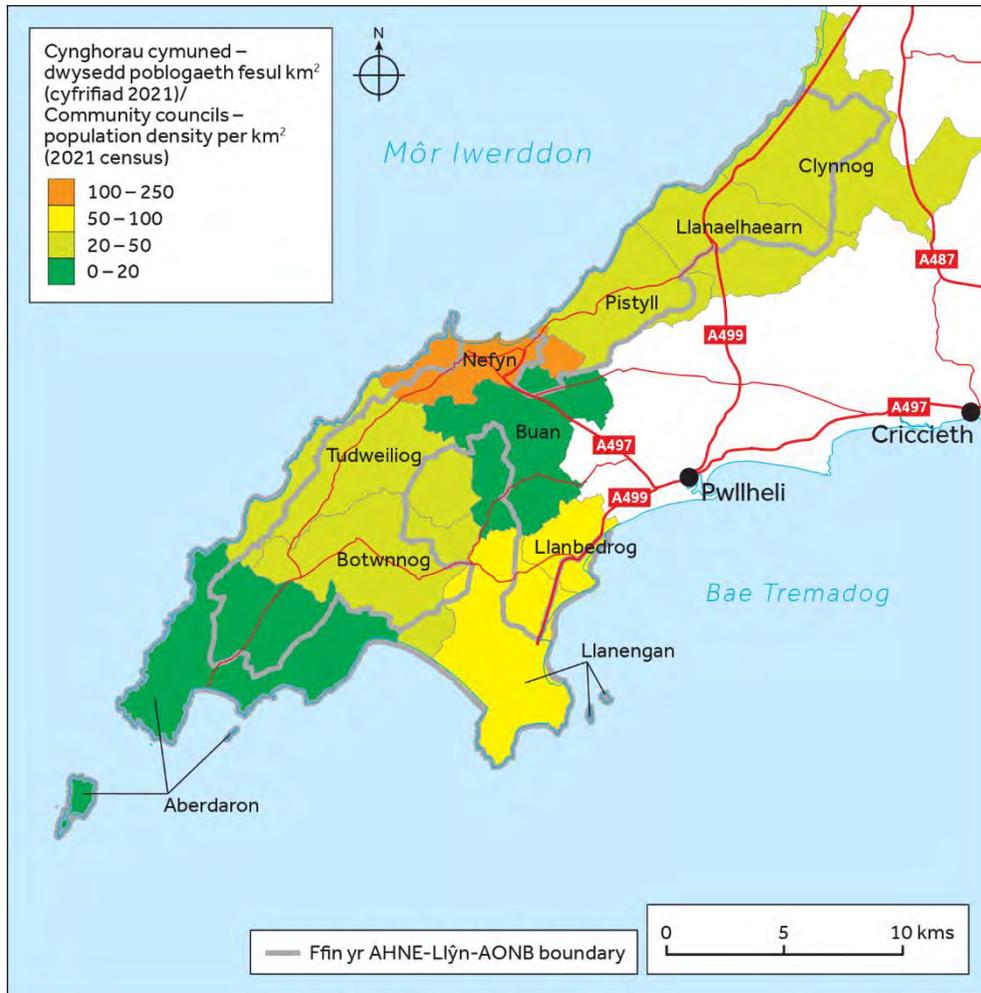
	Population		Total area (km ²)	Population density (people/km ²)	
	2021	2011		2021	2011
W00000228	252	289	10.36	24.3	27.9
W00000230	294	308	17.27	17.0	17.8
W00000250	135	205	1.19	113.4	172
W00000251	141	174	0.15	938.7	1,160
W00000253	167	192	0.65	262.0	295.4
W00000301	304	343	5.36	56.6	64
W00000302	382	361	36.02	10.6	10
W00000399	299	303	14.04	21.3	21.6
W00000400	210	258	0.17	1,223.8	1,517.7
W00000401	238	253	1.50	159.1	102
W00000403	136	153	0.31	437.3	493.5
W00000404	367	413	20.38	18.1	20.3
W00000425	296	336	14.19	20.8	23.7
W00000426	217	334	8.91	24.3	37.5
W00000601	296	340	9.16	32.2	37.1
Totals	3,734	4,262	139.66	26.7	30.5

The 2011 map is not shown as the only difference is OA W00000251; this was in the 1000-1600 band in 2011 but moved down to the 500-1000 band in 2021.

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Table QS102EW and 2021: Table TS006

By community council areas

The population density in 2021 was **36 residents per km²** (down 7.7% from 39 residents per km² in 2011).



The Llyn AONB lies within ten community council areas. These community council areas are experiencing rural depopulation (fall of 7%) but not at the same rate as in the Output Areas (12.4%).

Community Council Profiles:

	Population		Total area (km ²)	Population density (people/km ²)	
	2021	2011		2021	2011
Aberdaron	896	965	47.70	18.78	20.23
Botwnnog	979	996	34.27	28.57	29.06
Buan	478	484	32.43	14.74	14.92
Clynnog	950	997	45.55	20.86	21.89
Trefor & Llanaelhaearn	1,053	1,117	27.41	38.42	40.75
Llanbedrog	838	1,002	9.29	90.22	107.86
Llanengan	1,685	1,989	33.64	50.09	59.13
Nefyn	2,515	2,602	15.23	165.1	170.85
Pistyll	503	566	20.69	24.31	27.36
Tudweiliog	883	970	35.53	24.85	27.3
Totals	10,780	11,688	301.74	35.7	38.7

Population density for the Gwynedd in 2021 was 46.08 people/km²

Population density for Wales in 2021 was 149.55 people/km²

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Table QS102EW and 2021: Table TS006. City populations <https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/wales/admin/>

Comparative size of settlements

Most settlements within the AONB have a population of less than 500 people.



Most settlements within the AONB have a population of less than 500 people. The exceptions are Abersoch at 615 residents and Llanbedrog with 838.

There are larger settlements close to the area. Nefyn and Pwllheli have 1,294 and 3,622 residents respectively.

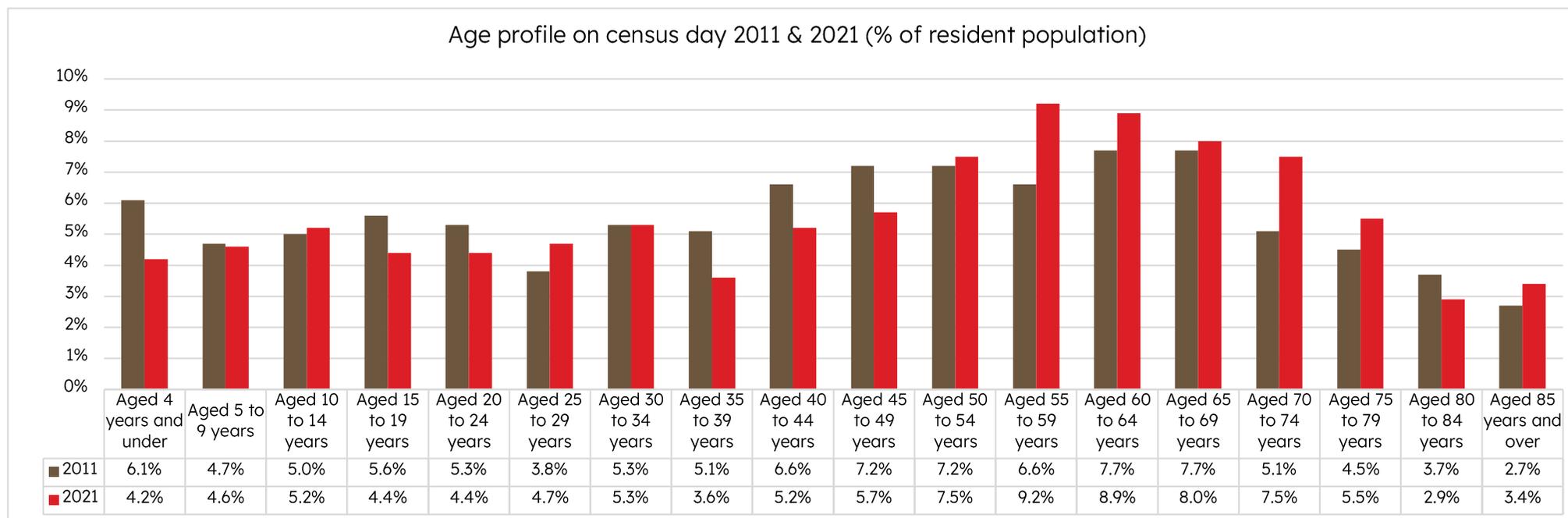
Within the 30-minute travel area, there is Caernarfon (9,827), Criccieth (1,738), and Porthmadog (2,574).

All these settlements lie within the 30-minute travel area for the AONB. (Click here to see the [Travel areas to the Llyn AONB](#) Error! Reference source not found.map).

Source: City populations (<https://www.citypopulation.de/en/uk/yorkshireandthehumber/>) OpenStreetMap data is available under the Open Database License

Population numbers and age profile

The estimated total population on census day 2021 for the AONB was **3,734** (down 12.4% from 4,262 in 2011).

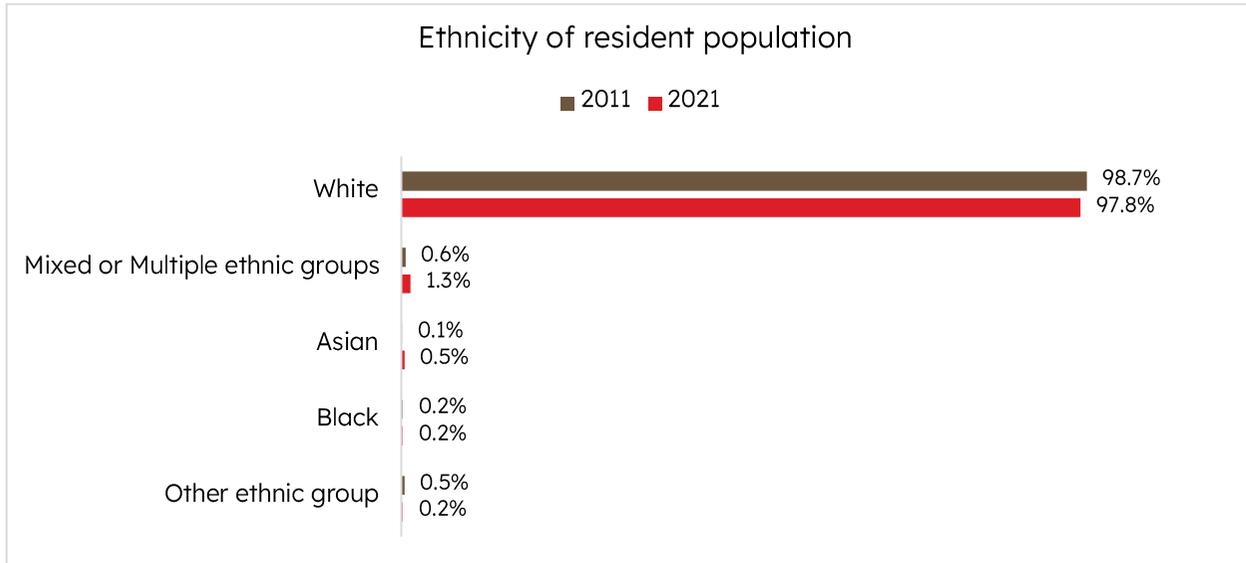


Population numbers have fallen by around 12% since 2011. Taking account of the respective population sizes, there is a slow ageing of the population with a 1.9% increase in the number of people over the age of 70 between 2011 and 2021. For the same period, there now 30.6% fewer people aged 40-49, 21% fewer aged 15-29, and 40% fewer aged 4 years and under. In 2011, the largest band was the 65-69 age group (7.74% of the population). Ten years later, the largest band is the 55-59 age group (9.2% of the population). This may be a result of early retirees moving into the area.

Source: Based on allocation of Output Areas, Census 2021. These estimates are based on AONB boundaries as of 2022. Output area population estimates have been allocated to AONBs on a best fit basis. ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Tables QS102EW & QS103EW and 2021: Tables TS006 & TS007A

Ethnicity and gender resident population

There has been little change in either ethnicity or gender between 2011 and 2021. In 2021, around 99% of the resident population class as 'white' and just over 50% of the population is female.



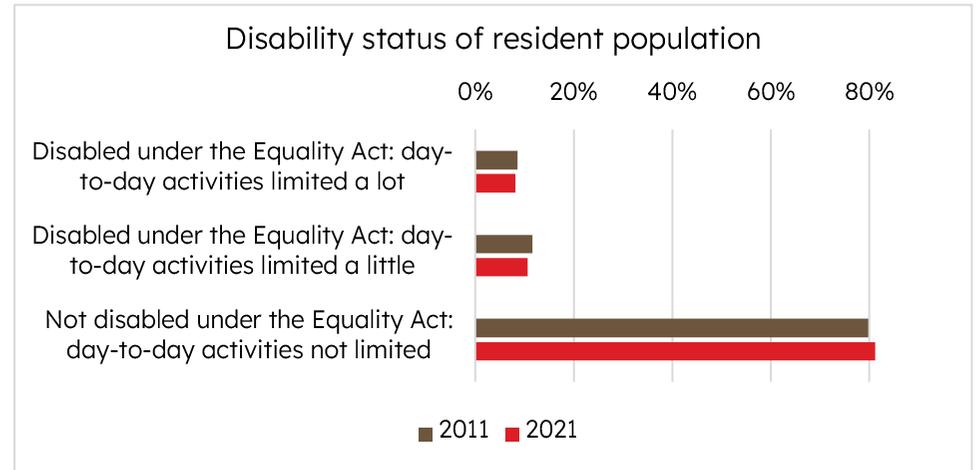
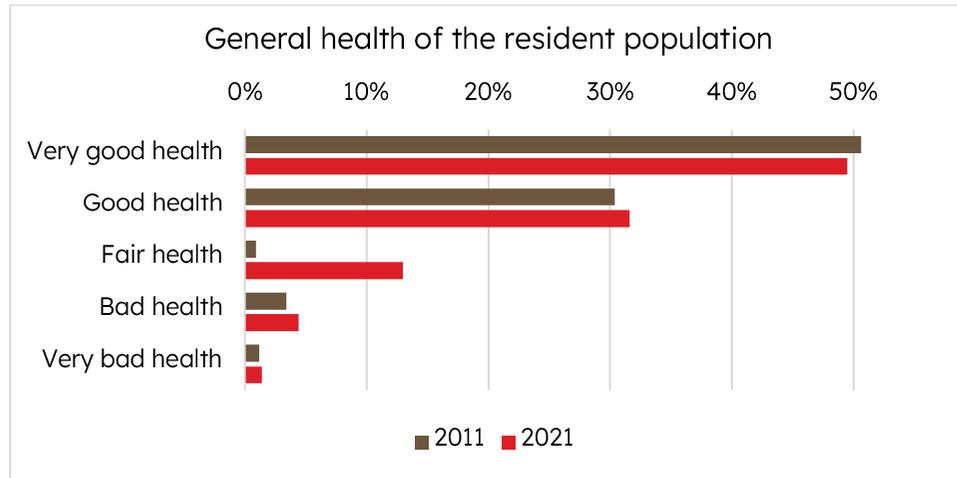
Gender of resident population

	2011	2021
Female	50.2%	50.5%
Male	49.8%	49.5%

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Tables QS104EW & KS201EW, 2021: Tables TS008 & TS021

Health of resident population

In 2021, 50% of the resident population enjoy very good health; only 1.4% suffer very bad health. There is no material difference with the 2011 data. In 2021, 81.2% of the resident population suffered no long-term health conditions. The 18.8% who did have long-term health condition were listed as disabled under the Equality Act.



Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Tables QS302EW & QS303EW, 2021: Tables TS037 & TS038

Relative wealth of the resident population (*using partial data*)

From the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, the median gross annual earnings for full-time adults working in Gwynedd were £30,500 in 2023. For Wales, it was £34,000. No data has been found for smaller areas (data for Middle Layer Super Output Areas should be available).

From the ONS House Price Statistics for Small Areas data set, the median price paid in the Abersoch and Aberdaron Middle Layer Super Output Area was £454,167 in 2023 (up 84% since 2020). For Gwynedd, the price was £185,000 (up 16% since 2020). For Wales, the price was £202,500 (up 24% since 2020).

Dividing house prices by annual earnings creates a housing affordability ratio. Ratios have been rounded to the nearest 1. They stand for the mean house purchase price to mean gross annual household income.

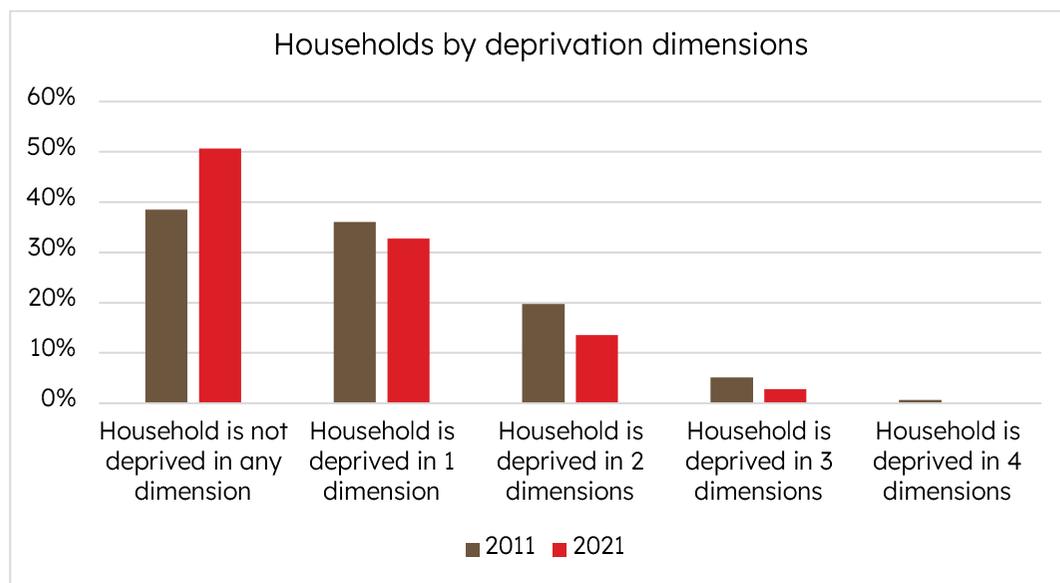
In 2023, the Gwynedd house-price affordability ratio was **6**, as it was for Wales as a whole. If the median gross annual earnings in the Abersoch and Aberdaron area equals that found in Gwynedd, then the AONB house-price affordability ratio was **14**. This means that full-time employees could expect to spend 14 times their earnings on buying a home in the AONB. Full-time employees in Wales could expect to spend around **6** times their annual earnings buying a home, making the AONB a less affordable area.

If earnings in Abersoch and Aberdaron are higher than the Gwynedd average, then the ratio would be lower. The median gross annual earnings for full-time adults working in Gwynedd was £34,900 in 2023. Using this income level, the house-price affordability ratio in the western end of the Llŷn peninsula would be **13**.

Source: Office for National Statistics, HM Land Registry - based on apportioning of Middle-layer Super Output Areas. ONS Crown Copyright Reserved. Welsh Government analysis of Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings

Households by deprivation dimensions

In 2021, there were 1,669 households in the AONB (down from 1,908 in 2011). In 2021, 50.7% were not deprived in any dimension (up from 38.5% in 2011).



The dimensions of deprivation used to classify households are indicators based on four selected household characteristics.

Education - A household is classified as deprived in the education dimension if no one has at least level 2 education and no one aged 16 to 18 years is a full-time student.

Employment - A household is classified as deprived in the employment dimension if any member, not a full-time student, is either unemployed or economically inactive due to long-term sickness or disability.

Health - A household is classified as deprived in the health dimension if any person in the household has general health that is bad or very bad or is identified as disabled.

Housing - A household is classified as deprived in the housing dimension if the household's accommodation is either overcrowded, in a shared dwelling, or has no central heating

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Table QS119EW, 2021: Table TS011

Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) is the Welsh Government's official measure of relative deprivation for small areas in Wales. It is designed to identify those small areas where there are the highest concentrations of several different types of deprivation. Deprivation is defined as the lack of access to opportunities and resources which we might expect in our society. This can be in terms of material goods or the ability of an individual to participate in the normal social life of the community.

An Index is a group of separate measurements which are combined into a single number. WIMD is currently made up of eight separate domains (or types) of deprivation:

1	Income	5	Access to Services
2	Employment	6	Housing
3	Health	7	Community Safety
4	Education	8	Physical Environment

Each of the domains include several indicators of deprivation. WIMD ranks all small areas in Wales from 1 (most deprived) to 1,909 (least deprived). It does not provide a measure of the level of deprivation in an area. Of the eight domains, only Housing shows any significant variations across the area. The other domains show a uniform level of deprivation. Consequently, we map only Overall and Housing levels of deprivation and contrast the 2019 and 2025 data sets (see maps below).

Considering the domains in combination

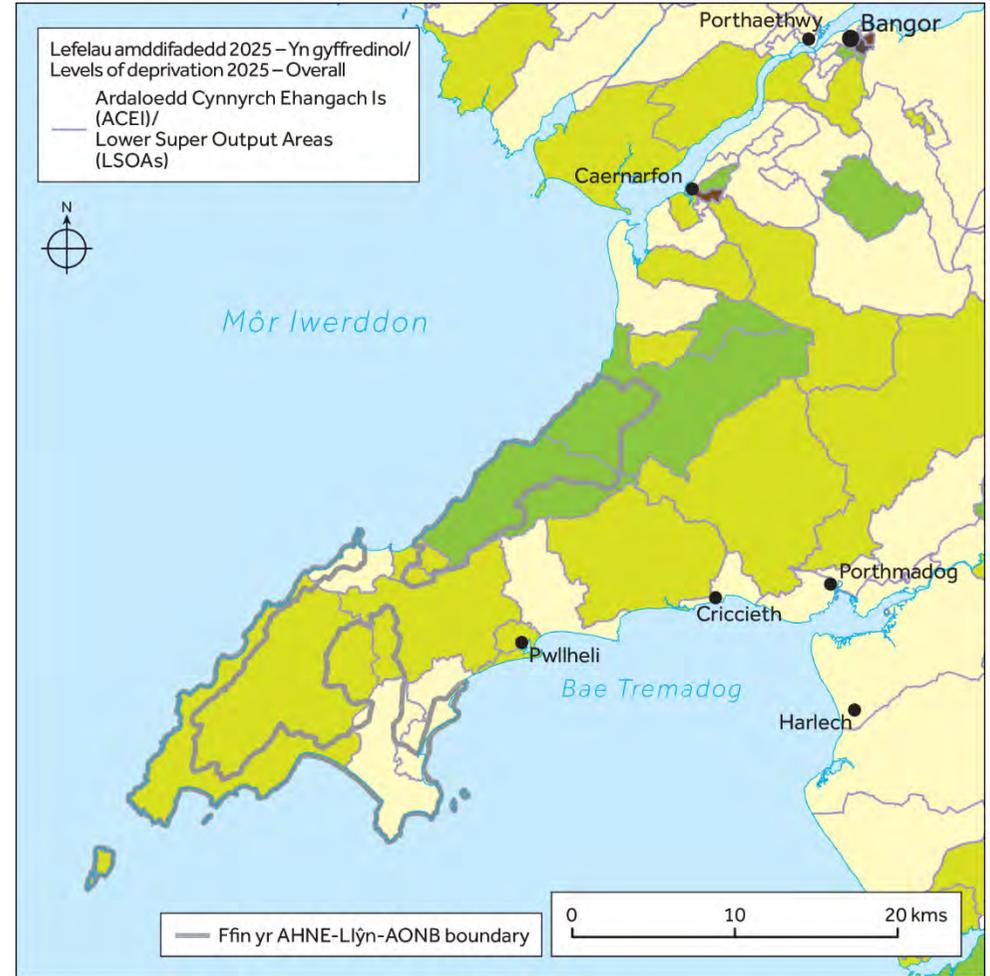
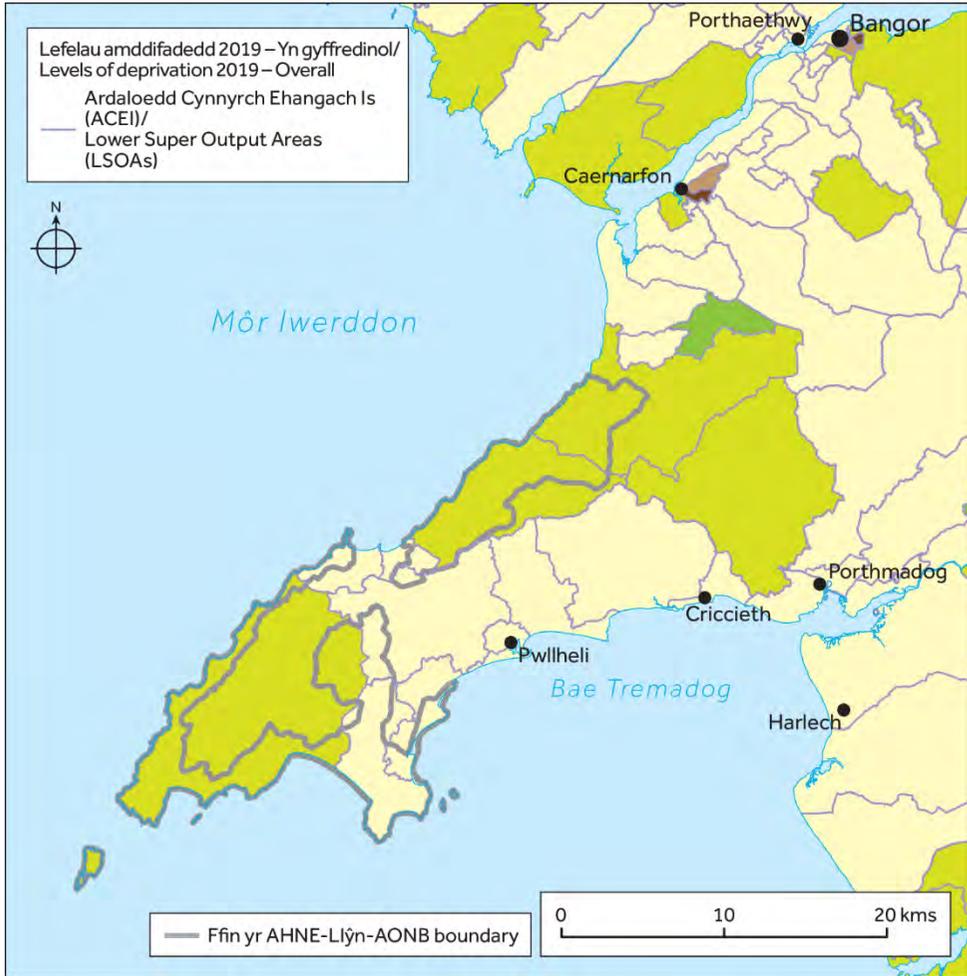
In 2019, the majority of the AONB lay in 30% and 50% of the most deprived Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in Wales. In contrast, a central band running from Morfa Nefyn and Mynydd Nefyn in the north to Abersoch and Cilan Uchaf in the south lay in the 50% least deprived LSOA.

By 2025, those parts of the AONB in the Clynog, Llanaelhaearn and Pistyll Community Council areas have fallen into the 20% and 30% of the most deprived LSOAs in Wales. The Buan Community Council area has fallen from the 50% least deprived LSOAs to the 30% and 50% of the most deprived LSOAs.

Considering just the housing domain

In 2019, a large part of the AONB lay in the 10% most deprived LSOAs in Wales. This includes the western and eastern extremities of the area. Most of the rest lay in 10% and 20% of the most deprived LSOAs in Wales. There were two small pockets, around Morfa Nefyn in the north and Abersoch in the south, that lay in 30% and 50% of the most deprived LSOAs in Wales. And there was one small pocket between Nefyn and Mynydd Nefyn that lay in the 50% least deprived LSOAs in Wales.

By 2025, the majority of the AONB lies within the 10% most deprived LSOAs in Wales, with the exception a small area around Abersoch that is in the 10% and 20% of the most deprived LSOAs in Wales (a fall from 30% to 50%).



Allwedd/Legend

Lefelau amddifadedd – Yn gyffredinol/
Levels of deprivation – Overall

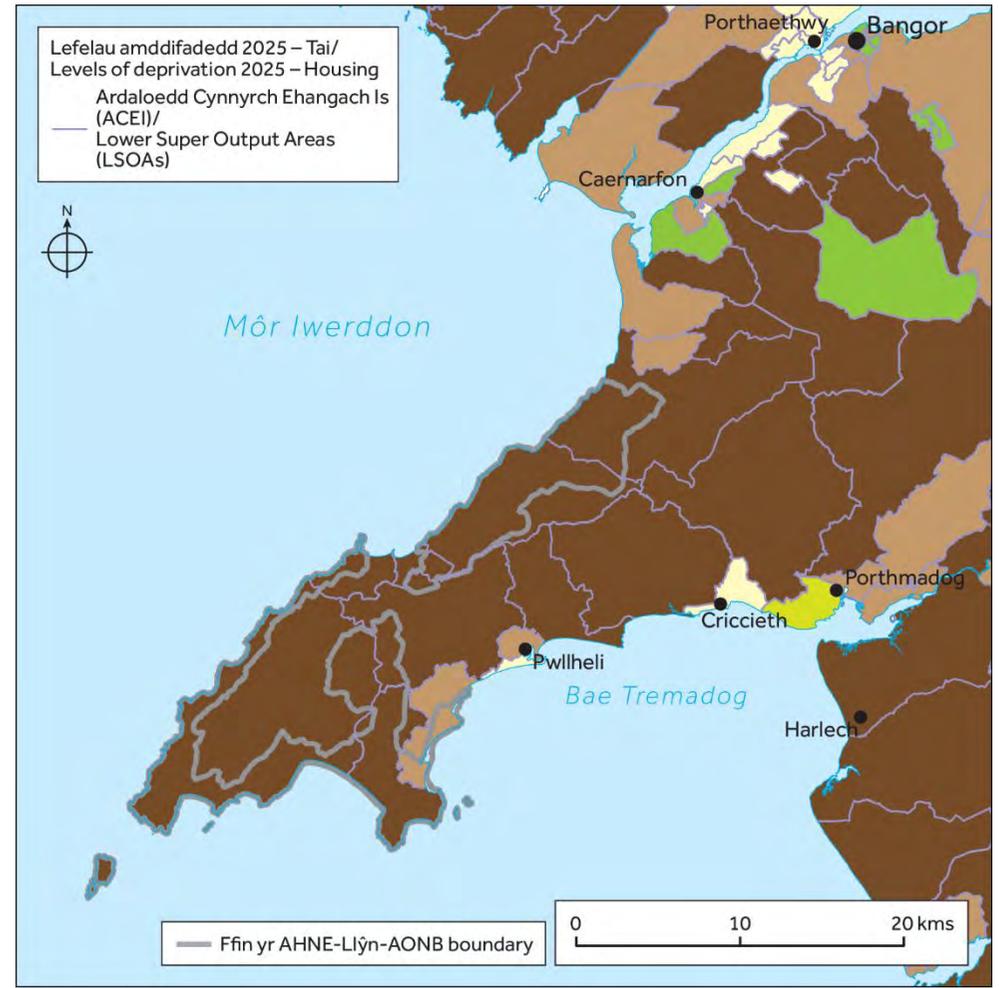
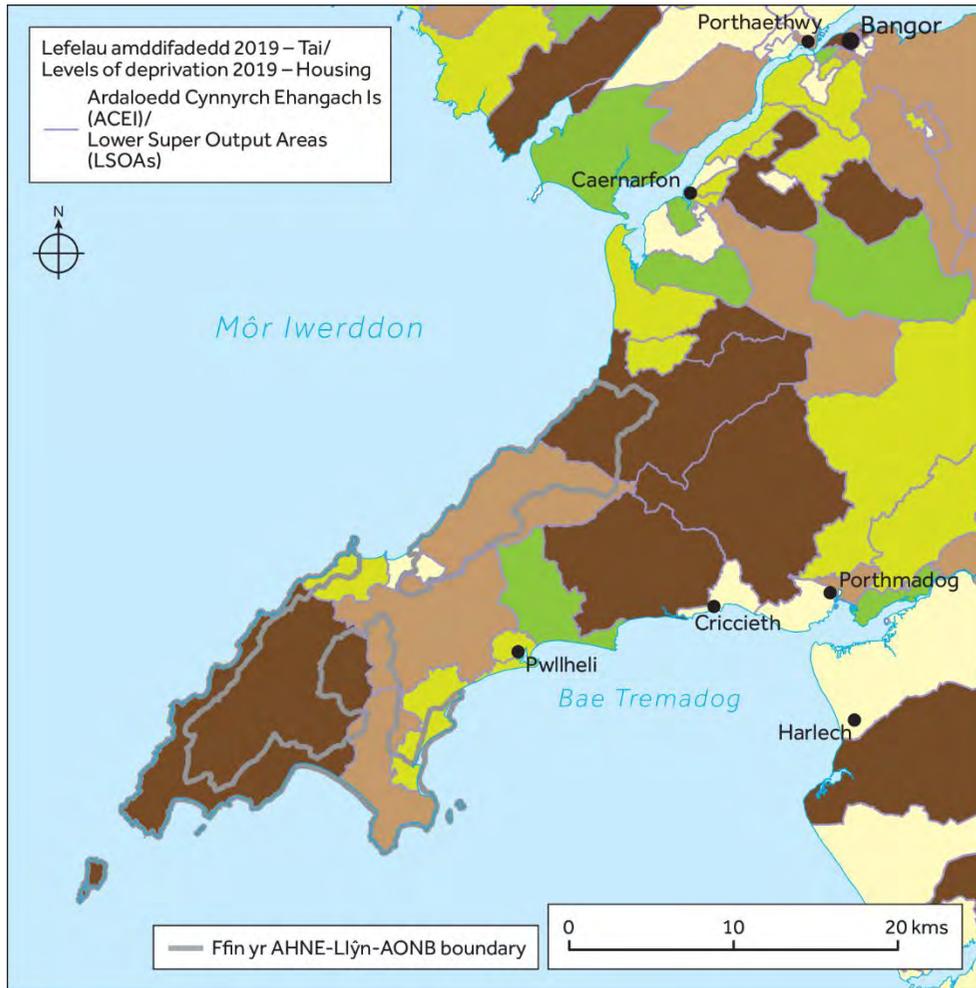
10% o'r rhai mwyaf difreintiedig/
10% most deprived

Rhwng 10% a 20% o'r rhai mwyaf difreintiedig/
Between 10% and 20% most deprived

Rhwng 20% a 30% o'r rhai mwyaf difreintiedig/
Between 20% and 30% most deprived

Rhwng 30% a 50% o'r rhai mwyaf difreintiedig/
Between 30% and 50% most deprived

50% lleiaf difreintiedig/
50% least deprived



Allwedd/Legend

Lefelau amddifadedd – Tai/
Levels of deprivation – Housing

10% o'r rhai mwyaf difreintiedig/
10% most deprived

Rhwng 10% a 20% o'r rhai mwyaf difreintiedig/
Between 10% and 20% most deprived

Rhwng 20% a 30% o'r rhai mwyaf difreintiedig/
Between 20% and 30% most deprived

Rhwng 30% a 50% o'r rhai mwyaf difreintiedig/
Between 30% and 50% most deprived

50% lleiaf difreintiedig/
50% least deprived

Source: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved

<https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/welsh-index-of-multiple-deprivation-wimd-2019/> & <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/welsh-index-of-multiple-deprivation-wimd-2025/>

Numbers of second homes

Cyngor Gwynedd does have data based upon council tax and non-domestic business tax returns. This records 1,150 residential units as either holiday accommodation or second homes (33.4% of the AONB housing stock).

Total number of residential units in the AONB	3,438
Number of residential units paying second home premium	932
Number of self-catering holiday units	218
Percentage of AONB housing stock listed as either holiday accommodation or second home	33.4%

Source: Cyngor Gwynedd 2025

There are no second address census data cut to the AONB boundary. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) produce housing data for second addresses by location and type. These datasets are part of 'Holiday homes in England and Wales', a release of results from the 2021 Census for England and Wales. There are two tables of interest; one by middle layer super output area and the other by lower layer super output area. Unfortunately, the data set is incomplete with the western end of the peninsula (covering Aberdaron and Botwnnog) data not presented.

Employment profiles of resident population

Employment status

Between 2011 & 2021: there has been a 6% reduction in the level of registered employment and a 7% swing from those residents wanting to work to those not seeking work; perhaps reflecting the increasing retired population (29.4% in 2021, up from 19.6% in 2011).

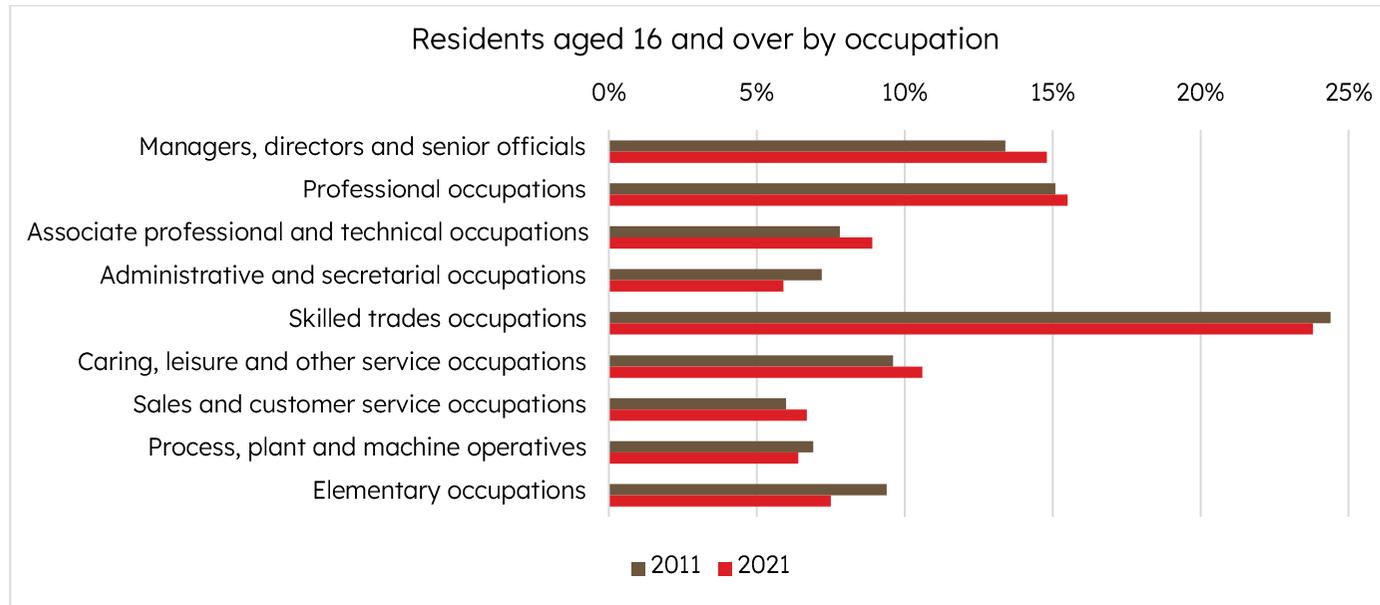
Employment status

	2011	2021
Employed	60.5%	54.4%
Seeking work	2.9%	2.4%
Not seeking work	36.6%	43.2%
Not seeking work - Retired	19.6%	29.4%

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Tables KS601EW to KS603EW, 2021: Table TS066

Occupation

Between 2011 & 2021: the spread of occupations has shifted slightly from the skilled trades towards professional roles with the biggest change in the elementary occupations (a 2% reduction).



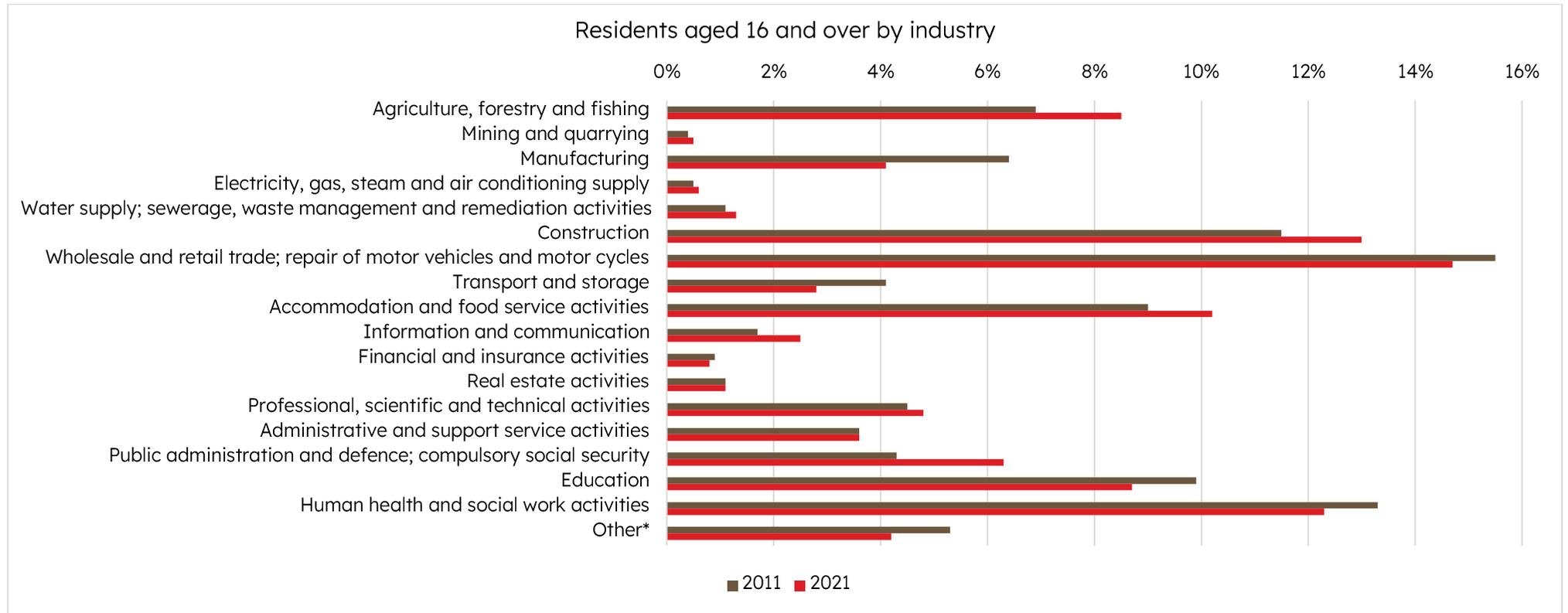
Occupation

- Increase in managerial (+1.4%), associate professional (+1.1%), technical occupations (+1.1%), service occupations (+1%), sales (+0.7%), and professional occupations (+0.4%).
- Decrease in elementary occupation (-1.9%), administrative (-1.3%), skilled trades (-0.6%), and process operatives (-0.5%).

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Tables KS608EW to KS610EW, 2021: Table TSO63

Industry

Between 2011 & 2021: There has been an increase in public administration, land-based industries, construction and hospitality sectors. There has been a decrease in manufacturing, transport, educational, health and retail sectors; but retail and health services are still dominant.



Industry

- Increase in administration (+2%), agriculture and forestry (+1.6%), construction (+1.5%), hospitality (+1.2%), information ((+0.8%) and professional (+0.3%).
- Decrease in manufacturing (-2.3%), transport (-1.3%), education (-1.2%), other* (-1.1%), health and social work (-1%) and retail (-0.8%).

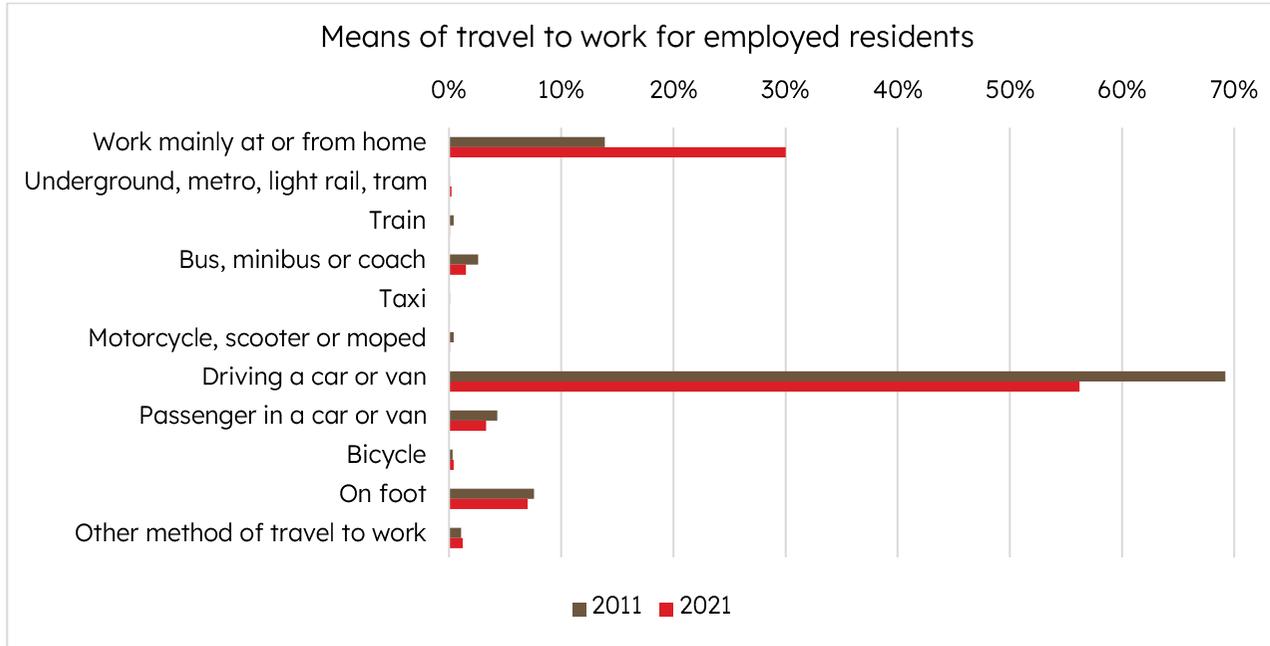
*Other includes arts, entertainment and recreation; other service activities; activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services producing activities of households for own use; activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies.

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Tables QS601EW, QS605EW, 2021: Table TS060A

Travel to work

Means of travel

In 2021, 30% of employed residents worked from home, up from 14% in 2011. In 2011, 69% of employed residents drove to work; this reduced to 56% in 2021.

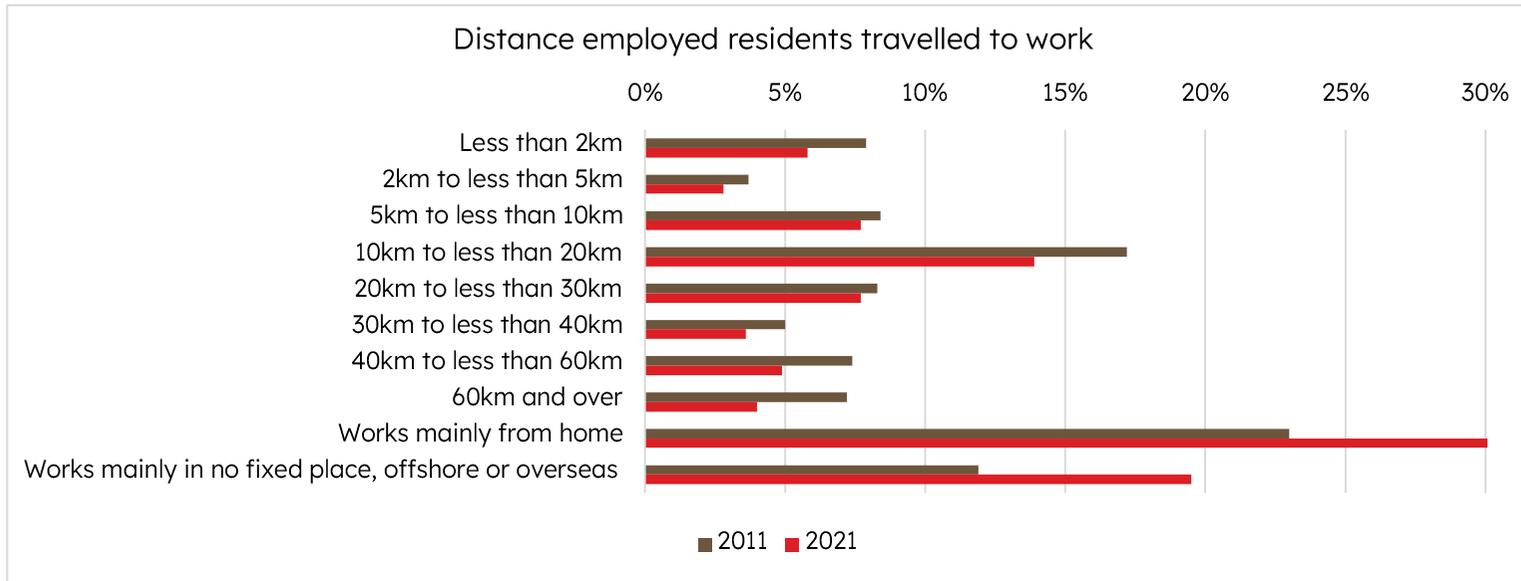


The most striking changes between 2011 and 2021 is the 16% increase in the number of people working mainly at or from their home, and the 13% decrease in people driving to work. These are, by far, the two highest categories. The third highest is walking to work (7% in 2021, down from 7.6% in 2011).

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Table QS701EW & 2021: Table TS061

Distance travelled to work

In 2021, 35.9% of employed residents travelled less than 2km to work; 4% travelled over 60km to work (long distance commuters); and 19.5% worked in no fixed place, offshore or overseas.



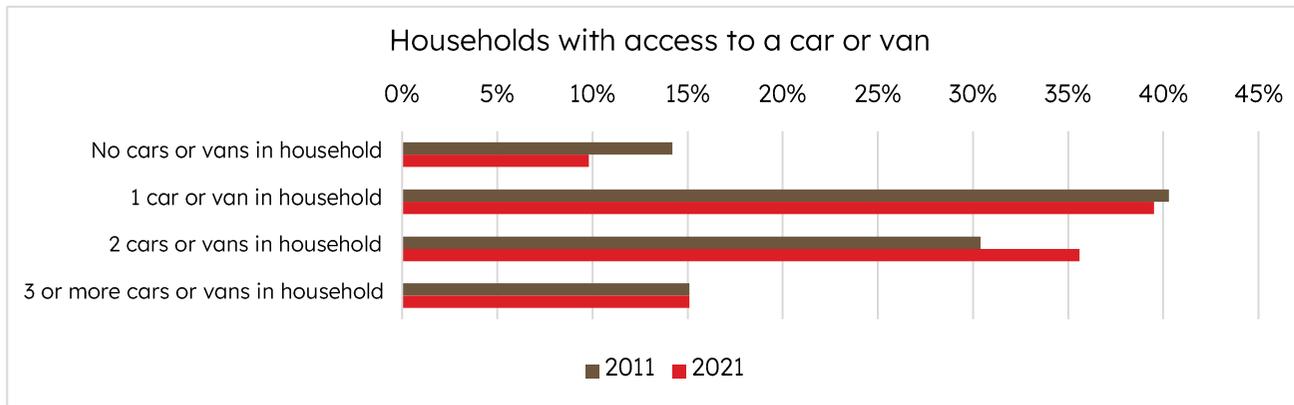
This table also shows that home working has increased. Up from 23% in 2011 to 30.1% in 2021. But there is only a 4% increase in travelling less than 2km to work (30.9% in 2011 up to 35.9% in 2021).

Long-distance commuting (60km+) has fallen from 7.2% in 2011 to 4% in 2021.

People working in no fixed place, offshore or overseas has risen from 12% in 2011 to 19.5% in 2021.

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] 2011: Table QS702EW. 2021: Table TS058

Access to car or van



In 2021, 90% of the resident population had access to at least one car or van, up from 86% in 2011. 14.2% of households had no access to a car or van in 2011, this reduced to 9.8% by 2021. The growth in access is primarily in the 2 car or van band; up from 30.4% in 2011 to 35.6% in 2021.

Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved [from Nomis on 28 August 2025] Tables KS404EW & TS045

Access to public transport



Source <http://www.busatlas.uk/> checked against the latest timetables October 2023 <https://bustimes.org/> Transport for Wales <https://tfw.wales/flecsi>

Few evening services but morning and afternoon services generally good.

Routes shown on map:

Seven days a week

- 8** Pwllheli - Nefyn - Tudweiliog (Nefyn Coaches) regular service) 6:45-20:50
- 12** Caernarfon - Trefor - Pwllheli (Clynnog & Trefor / Berwyn Coaches) regular service 07:30-21:00
- 18** Pwllheli - Abersoch - Pwllheli (Berwyn & Nefyn Coaches) regular service 07:40-18:30

Six days a week

- 8A** Pwllheli - Nefyn (Nefyn Coaches) limited service 10:15-17:00
- 8B** Pwllheli - Rhydlios (Nefyn Coaches) 1 return journey 09:00 & 13:45
- 17** Pwllheli - Aberdaron (Berwyn Coaches) regular service 06:20-18:55
- 17B** Pwllheli - Aberdaron (Berwyn Coaches) 2 return journeys 10:25-15:00
- 27** Pwllheli - Llithfaen - Nefyn (Nefyn Coaches) regular service 09:15-17:40

Five days a week

- 14** Tudweiliog - Trefor - Pwllheli (Berwyn Coaches) limited service 7:15-17:15

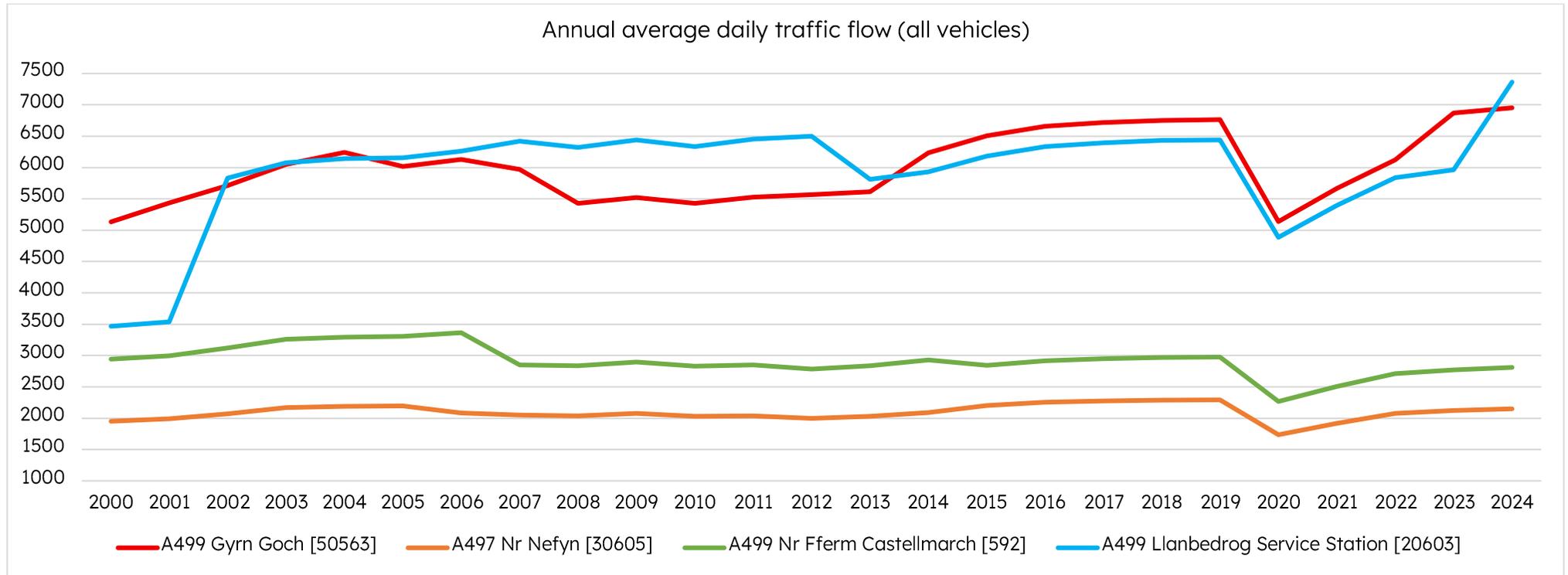
flecsi bus flecsi Llŷn Peninsula operates May - September. The service is a demand-responsive transport initiative run by O Ddrws i Ddrws with Transport for Wales (TfW) and AONB Sustainable Development Fund support. flecsi buses pick up and drop off passengers with bookings made via an app or phone.

Trains

Pwllheli for journeys towards Aberystwyth and Shrewsbury (Transport for Wales)

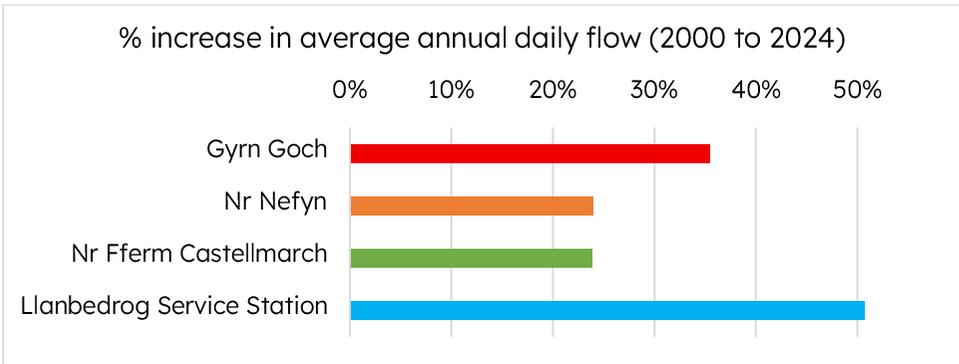
Road traffic counts

In 2024, the number of vehicles that travelled past the count points (in both directions) was 19,299. The most common vehicles on all roads were cars (77%) and light goods vehicles (19%). Daily traffic flows for 2000-2024 show the busiest monitoring points are along the A499 in the eastern end of the peninsula. During that period, the average number of vehicles that travelled past the count point (in both directions) at Gyrn Goch was 6,006 vehicles, and at Llanbedrog, 5,956. The quietest A-road monitoring point is on the A497 near to Nefyn (2,914 vehicles).

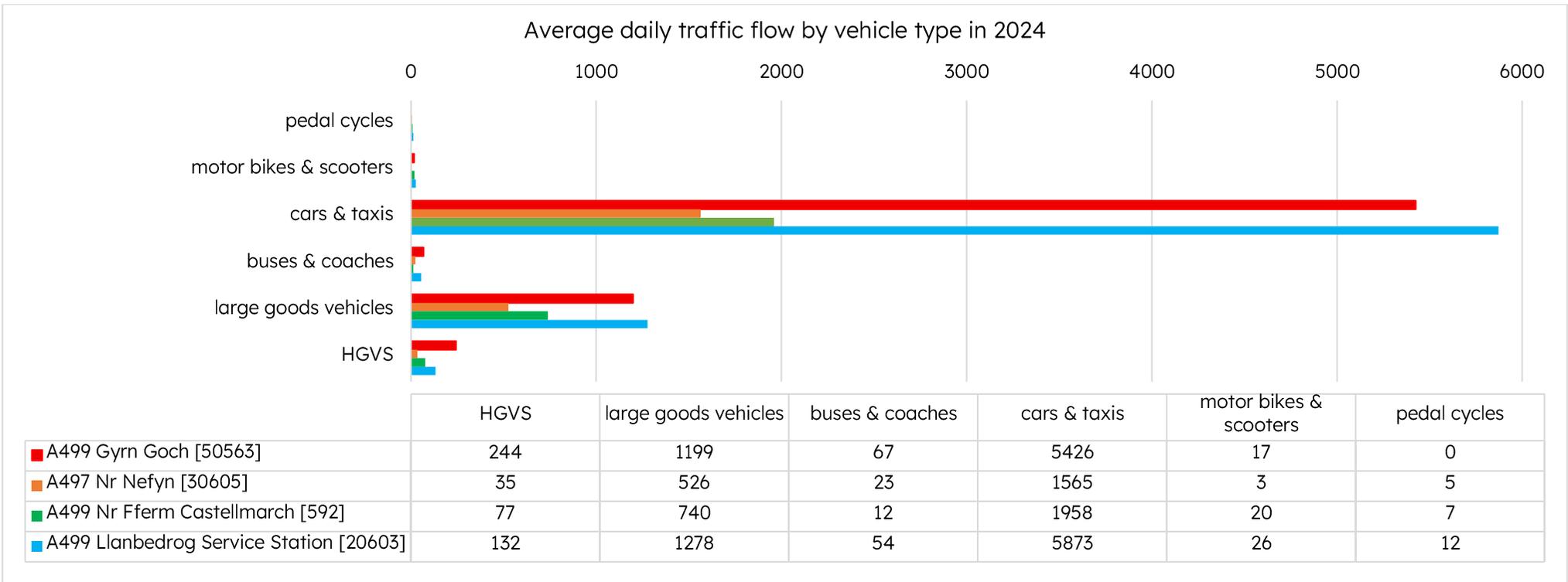


Number of vehicles that travel past the count point (in both directions) on an average day of the year. The Department for Transport reported on four traffic count monitoring points on A roads between 2000 and 2024 (there are other monitoring points, but they only cover short time periods). The effects of Covid-19 shows with a dip for the 2019-20 figures. Traffic levels in the eastern end of the peninsula have increased since 2000. Along the A499 at Gyrn Goch by 36% and at Llanbedrog by 112%. (**Note:** the 2000-2001 counts for Llanbedrog suggest an anomaly, perhaps caused by a local development or major road works. Using 2002-24 figures shows +22% at Gyrn Goch and +26% at Llanbedrog).

It is noticeable that the A497 and A499 in the western end of the peninsula have, with the exception of the Covid year, had steady flows of traffic since 2000. Traffic flows on the A497 near Nefyn only increased by 10% whilst the A499 near Fferm Castellmarch has seen a 5% decrease in traffic.



Traffic levels have increased since the Covid-19 lockdowns. The greatest increase (+51%) is along the A499 to the north of Llanbedrog with the A499 at Gyrn Goch showing the next highest increase in traffic (+36%). Both the A497 and A499 in the western end of the peninsula each experienced a 24% increase in traffic.

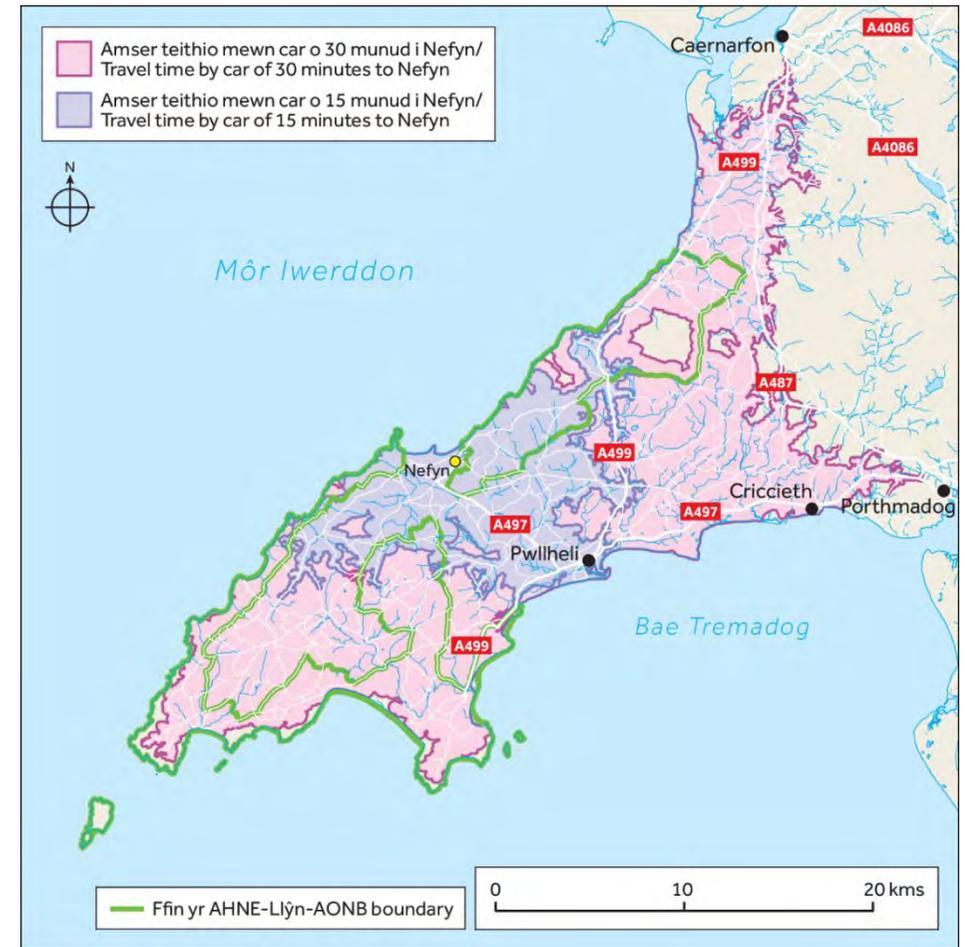


Source: Dept for Transport Road traffic statistics <https://roadtraffic.dft.gov.uk/#/6/55.254/-6.053/basemap-regions-countpoints>

The Department for Transport monitoring point reference number is shown in square brackets [xx]. 'Average annual daily flow' is the number of vehicles that travel past the count point (in both directions) on an average day of the year.

Travel areas to the Llŷn AONB

Map showing the 15 and 30-minute travel times by car to Aberdaron and Nefyn. Generally, travel surveys assume that the average trip-time for a day trip is 33 minutes.

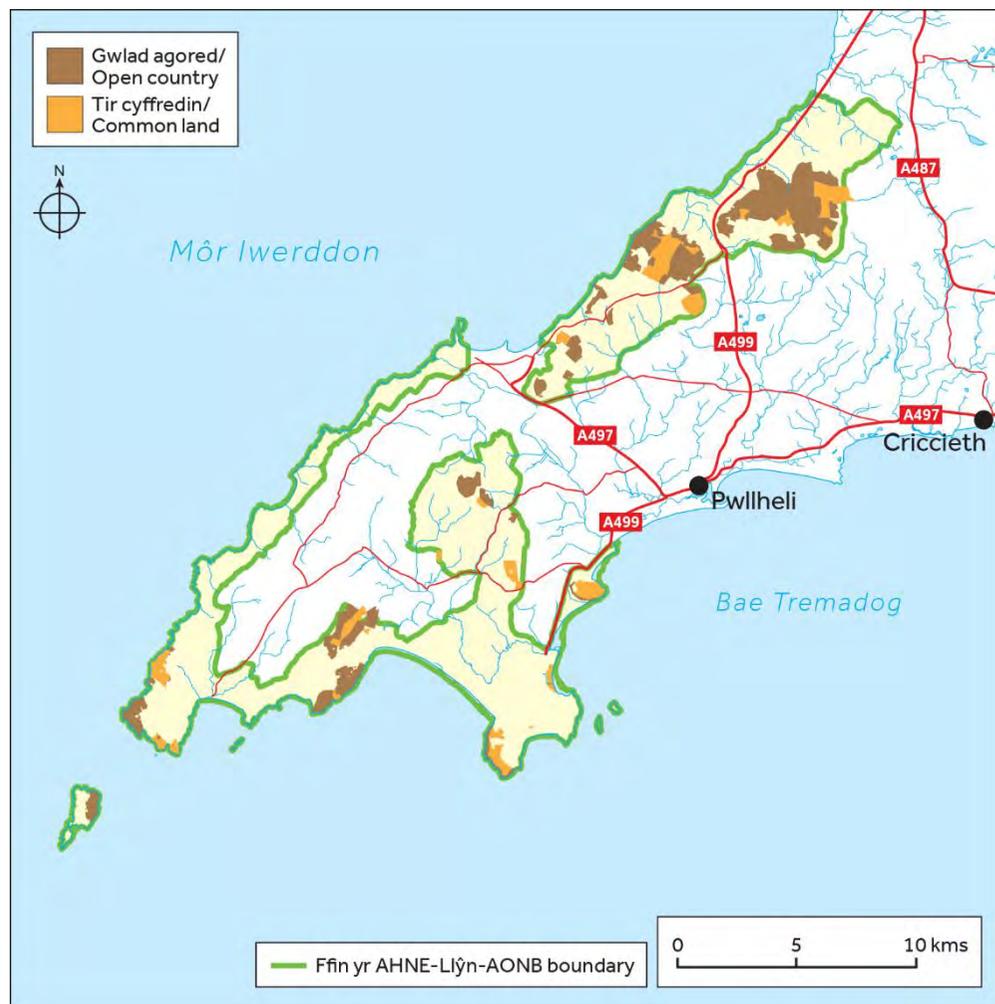


The maps show the approximate boundary of the 15-minute and 30-minute car journey areas. Currently, there is no National Travel Survey data specifically for Wales. The intent is to introduce the Wales National Travel Survey in 2026. The primary aim is to provide Welsh Government and Transport for Wales with reliable, robust data to track progress towards targets and commitments for the transport sector.

Source: Wales National Travel Survey <https://tfw.wales/brief-guide-wales-national-travel-survey> Travel Time areas created using the Open Route Service plugin in QGIS based on Open Street Map data.

Open Access Land

In 2023, there was 2,069 ha of open country (13% of the AONB) and 835 ha of registered common (5% of the AONB).



Open access land, under the CRow Act, consists of open country (mountain, moor, heath and downland) and 'registered common land', which consists of land that is recorded on the official registers held by the commons registration authorities. It also includes areas of 'dedicated land' where owners, such as Natural Resources Wales, allow free access.

Access land type	Area (ha)	% of AONB
Open country (CRow)	2,069	13%
Registered common	835	5%

There are no recorded Urban Commons, Commons with Deeds for Access, 1899 Commons Act, Provisional Order Confirmation or Village Greens.

Source: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Ordnance Survey Licence number AC0000849444. Crown Copyright and Database Right. <https://naturalresources.wales/days-out/recreation-and-access-policy-advice-and-guidance/managing-access/open-access-land/?lang=en>

Access network

In both 2020 and 2025, 300 km of public rights of way were reported; there is no comprehensive assessment of condition.



Allwedd/Legend

- Llwybr ceffylau/
Bridleway
- Cilffordd ar agor i bob traffig/
Byway open to all traffic
- Ffordd gyfyngedig/
Restricted byway
- Llwybr Troed/
Footpath

Public Rights of Way

Type	Length (Km)
Byway open to all traffic (BOAT)	6.2
Bridleway	10.8
Footpath	270.8
Restricted Byway (RUPP)	11.8
Total	299.6

Cyngor Gwynedd reports that it has never undertaken a full assessment of the condition of its rights of way network. The most comprehensive survey was undertaken 2004/05 when approximately 35% of the network was assessed. Up to 2012/13 an annual assessment of 5% of the network was undertaken but these surveys were stopped due to the lack of resources and the weaknesses inherent in small data sets.

The lack of core information about the condition of the network is a barrier to measuring the effectiveness of current working arrangements and policies.

Coastal Paths and trails

There are 12 waymarked circular walks and rides within the AONB and two close to its boundary. The Wales Coast Path follows the AONB's coastline.



Wales Coast Path

The Wales Coast Path was launched in 2012. Its total length is 870 miles. On the Llŷn Peninsula, the Coast Path follows the AONB's coastline from Aberdesach on the north coast to Carreg y Defaid near Llanbedrog in the south.

Circular walks:

- Clynog Trefor approximately 15km/9.3 miles (5hrs).
- Llithfaen approximately 13km/8 miles (4hrs).
- Nefyn Circular walk approximately 6.4km/4 miles (2hrs).
- Edern approximately 10.4 km/6.5 miles. (3.5 hrs).
- Tudweiliog approximately 5 km/3.2 miles (2.5hrs).
- Llangwnnadr approximately 6.4 km/4 miles (2.5hrs).
- Aberdaron approximately 15 km/9.3 miles (5hrs).
- Rhiw approximately 4.3 km/2.7 miles (2hrs).
- Botwnnog approximately 15km/9.3 miles (6hrs).
- Llanbedrog approximately 3.6 km/2.3 miles (2hrs).

Circular cycle routes:

- Route 40 approximately 22.5 km/14 miles
- Route 41 approximately 27.4 km/17 miles
- Route 42 approximately 43.5 km/27 miles
- Route 43 approximately 30.6 km/19 miles

National Cycle Route

Not in the AONB but crossing the peninsula, National Cycle Route No 8. Known as the Lôn Las Cymru, fully open and signed between Cardiff and Holyhead (Anglesey) via Brecon, Builth Wells, Machynlleth, Porthmadog and Bangor. Approximately 391.7 km/243.4 miles (20 hours 17 minutes to cycle; 81 hours 8 minutes to walk).

Source: Wales Coast Path - https://datamap.gov.wales/layers/inspire-nrw:NRW_WALES_COASTAL_PATH Circular routes - <https://www.ahne-llyn-aonb.org/Circular-Walks> National Cycle Network - <https://data-sustrans-uk.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/Sustrans-UK::national-cycle-network-public->

Location and condition of designated bathing waters

There are 4 designated bathing waters within the AONB. In 2025, all were rated 'excellent'.



Sites designated under the 2013 Bathing Water Regulations:

- Aberdaron (designated 2011) There are condition issues in 2025, but it was excellent between 2024 and 2021,
- Porth Neigwl (designated 2012) Condition was excellent between 2024 and 2021
- Abersoch (designated 1988) There are condition issues in 2025, it was good in 2024 but excellent from 2021
- Morfa Nefyn (designated 2012) Condition was excellent between 2024 and 2021

Just outside the AONB, Porth Nefyn bathing water was designated in 2024 with water in a good condition but there is no trend data to confirm the classification (see note below).

Classification:

Parameter	“Excellent”	“Good”
Intestinal enterococci1	100 cfu/100 ml*	200 cfu/100 ml
Escherichia coli1	250 cfu/100 ml	500 cfu/100 ml

*cfu/100 ml = Colony forming units per 100 millilitres

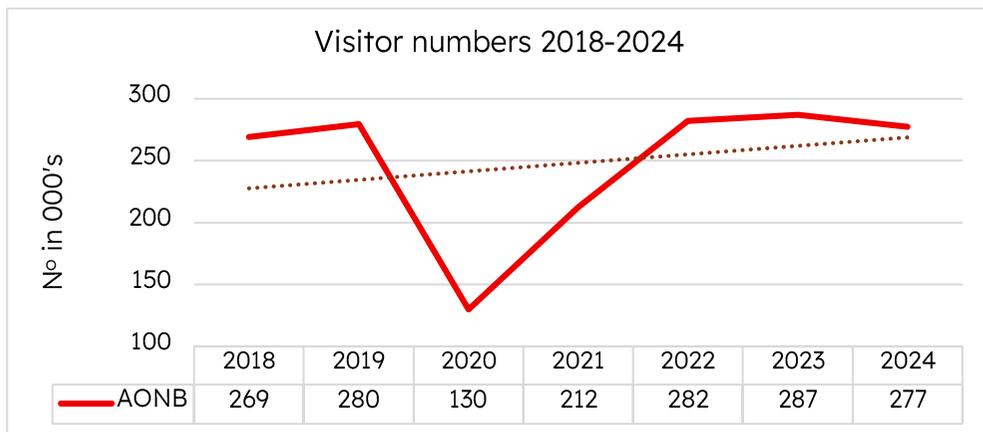
Note: Water quality at designated bathing water sites in Wales is assessed by Natural Resources Wales. From May to September, regular assessments measure current water quality, and at many sites daily pollution risk forecasts are issued. Annual ratings classify each site as excellent, good, sufficient or poor based on measurements taken over a four-year period.

Source: Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights Reserved. Contains Ordnance Survey Data. Ordnance Survey Licence number AC0000849444. Crown Copyright and Database Right. <https://environment.data.gov.uk/wales/bathing-waters/profiles/index.html>

Tourism and the Visitor Economy

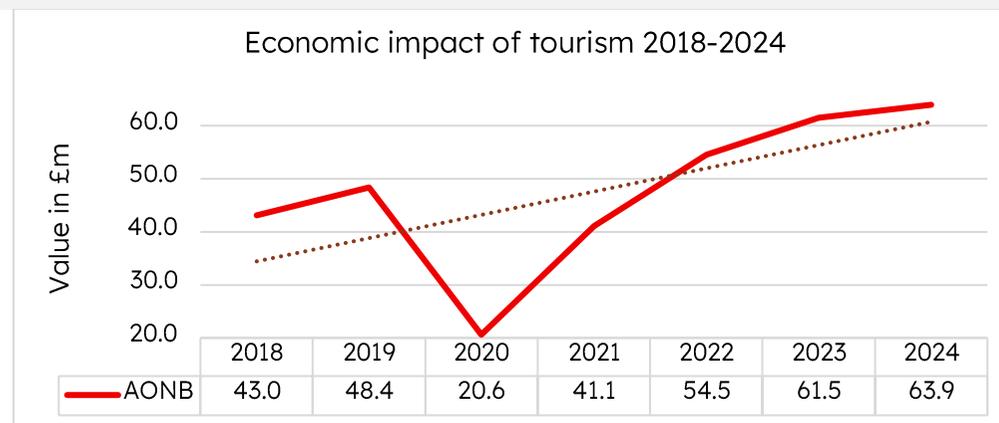
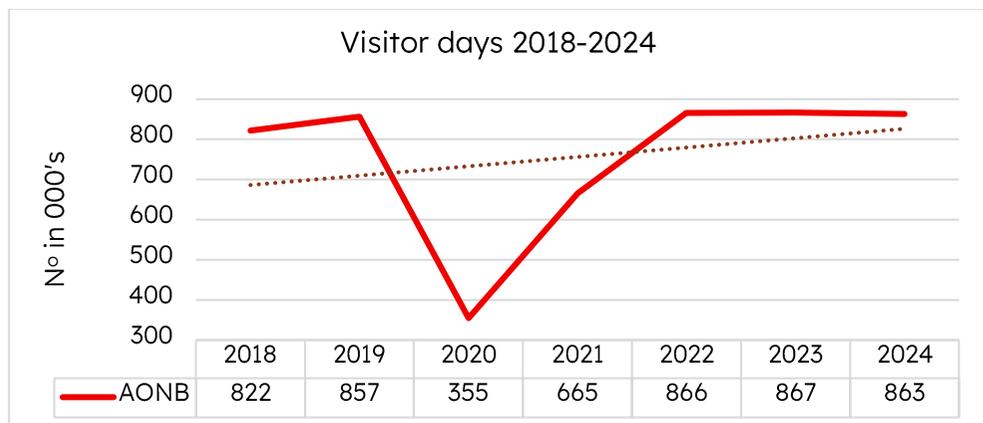
Using the 2021 State of the AONB Report methodology

In 2024, the AONB welcomed 277,000 visitors (a fall of 1.1% since 2019) with 863,000 visitor days (a rise of 0.7% since 2019). The economic impact was £63,900,000 (a rise of 32% since 2019). The impact of COVID shows clearly with a fall of 54% in visitor numbers between 2019 and 2020.



For the 2021 state of reporting, the STEAM data for Gwynedd was apportioned to the AONB using Census 2011 data to establish a ratio. This was based on employment in the 'Accommodation and Food Service Activities' sector. We use Census 2021 data.

Census 2021 data shows that approximately 158 people within the AONB were employed in Accommodation and Food Service Activities whilst 4,419 were employed in this sector in Gwynedd as a whole. Therefore, analysis is based on attributing 3.58% of the local authority totals from STEAM data to the AONB. Due to the method used to apportion local authority data, the statistics presented in this section are best approximations.



Excluding the COVID effects in 2020/21, visitor numbers are generally stable over time averaging 280,000 a year, though the trend-line suggests a slow growth. Likewise, the number of visitor days remains stable, averaging 855,000 a year with the trend-line showing a slow growth. Notwithstanding the stable tourism numbers, the economic impact data shows a steady growth.

Source: Compiled by Cathy James, GTS (UK) Ltd (2025): STEAM Summary for Cyngor Gwynedd

Data from STEAM Summary reports

The State of the AONB Report 2021 used data from the full STEAM reports. We have not had access to those reports, but Cyngor Gwynedd does publish STEAM summary reports. From these it is possible to add a little more detail, as shown in the table. The AONB figures are calculated as 3.58% of the Gwynedd totals.

Since 2019, the number of:

- staying visitor days has increased by 0.8%
- staying visitors has increased by 2.4%
- day visitors has increased by 3.1%
- FTE jobs supported by tourism has fallen by 3.8%

In 2023, 50.7% of visitors stayed at least one night; 49.3% were day visitors.

Source: LUC (2021): State of the AONB Report 2021 For the Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; and GTS (UK) Ltd (2023): STEAM Summary for Cyngor Gwynedd

STEAM topics	Gwynedd	AONB	Gwynedd	AONB	Gwynedd	AONB
	2023		2019		2011	
Staying visitor days	20,250,000	724,950	20,100,000	719,580	18,190,000	651,202
Number of staying visitors	4,070,000	145,706	3,973,000	142,233	3,405,000	121,899
Number of day visitors	3,954,000	141,553	3,836,000	137,329	3,792,000	135,754
Number of FTE jobs supported by tourism spend	17,538	628	18,244	653	15,906	469

Touring and Static Caravan Sites

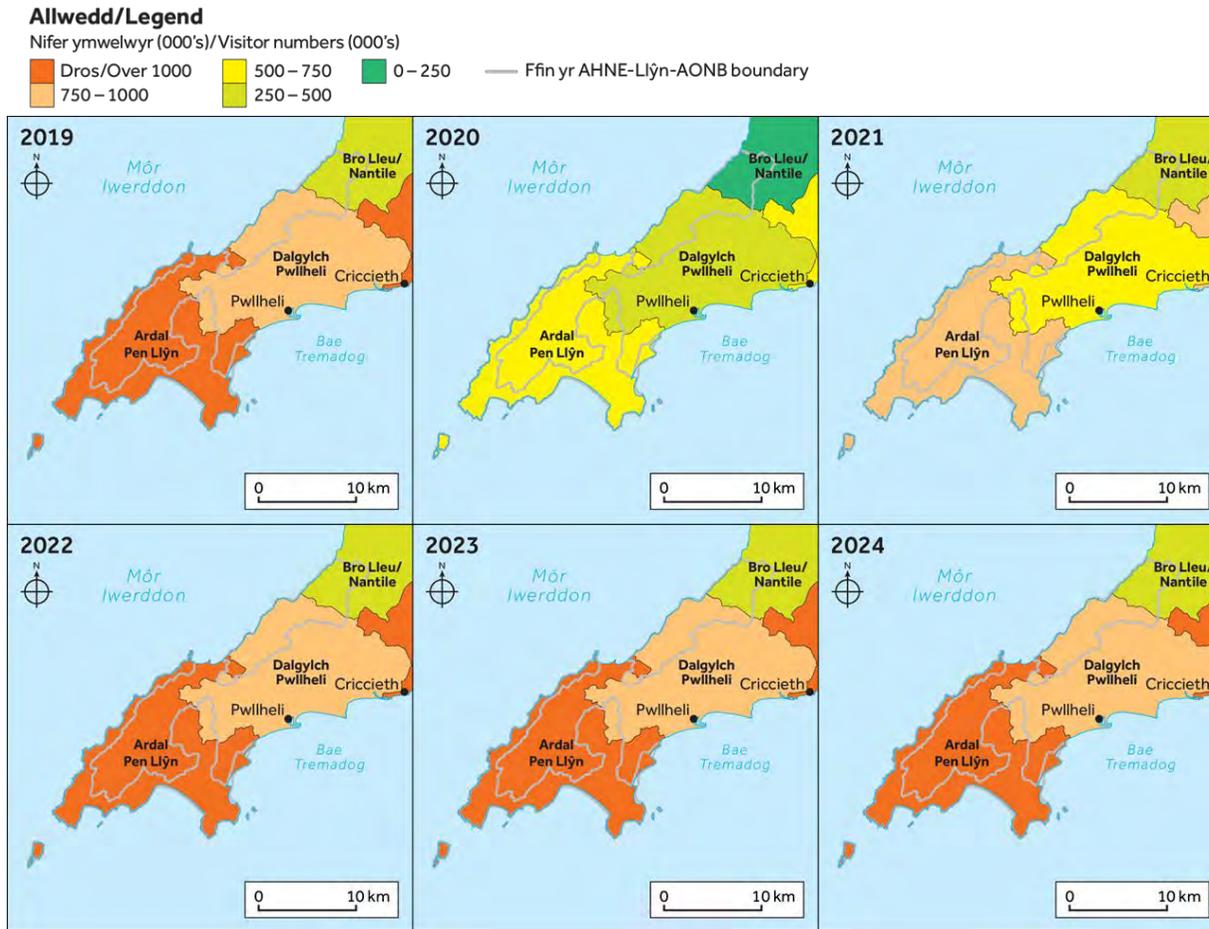
The Llŷn Peninsula is a very popular caravan and camping destination. To understand the pressures facing the AONB in relation to this, the number of touring and static caravan sites was set as a baseline indicator and reported in the 2021 State of the AONB report. Cyngor Gwynedd keeps a public register of licensed caravan and camping sites, as required by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960. This register lists sites with valid licences, including details on site owners, conditions, and, for mobile homes, a register of "fit and proper" managers.

In 2021: LUC found 82 sites on the Public Register of Licensed Caravan & Camping Sites within the AONB; 51 of these sites had provisions for static caravans; 32 had provisions for touring caravans; and 10 had provision for both touring and static caravans.

In 2025: The register had only 8 caravan (and 1 tent) records for the whole of the County, few were in the AONB. We could not find the data made available to LUC. Given the potential impact of caravan and camping on both the local economy and landscape character, we recommend that a survey is commissioned to find the current position within the AONB.

Using STEAM Area reporting

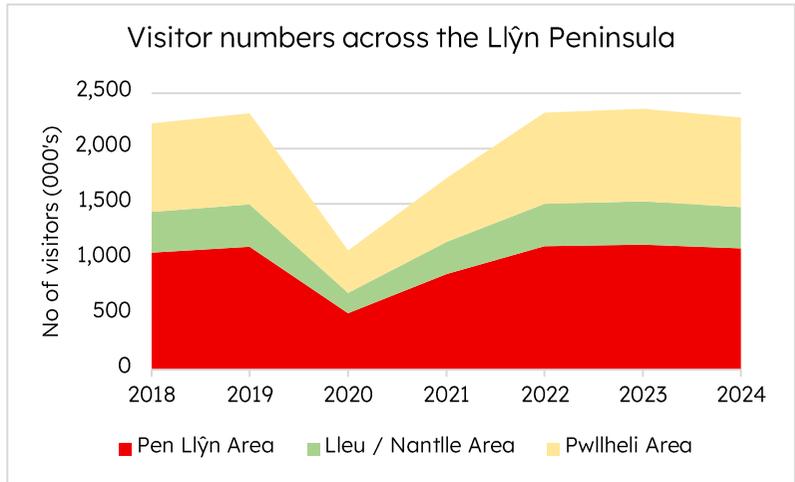
In 2024, the Llŷn Peninsula welcomed 2,280,000 visitors (a fall of 1.6% since 2019) with 7,814,000 visitor days (a rise of 0.3% since 2019). The economic impact was £544,800,000 (a rise of 30.8% since 2019).



There is no AONB-specific tourism data, but the Gwynedd-wide STEAM data is split into areas. Three of those areas cover the Llŷn Peninsula:

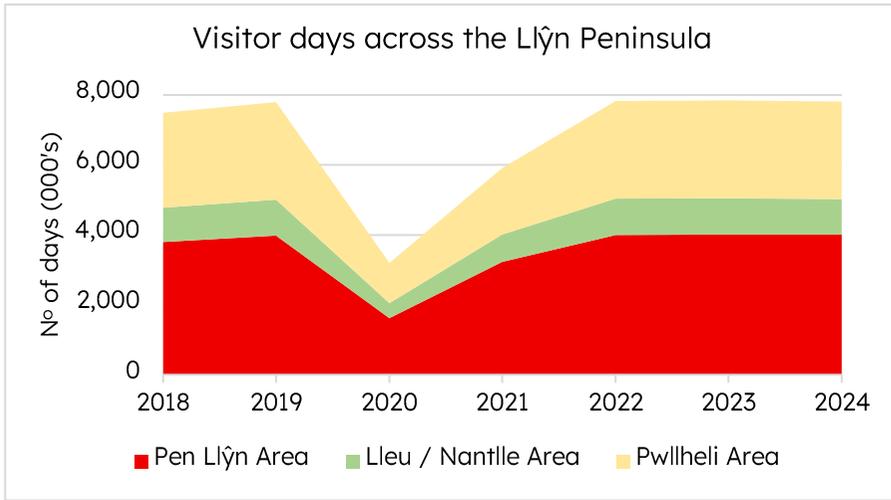
- Pen Llŷn Area
- Lleu / Nantlle Area
- Pwllheli Area

This data-set is statistically more robust than the bespoke methodology.



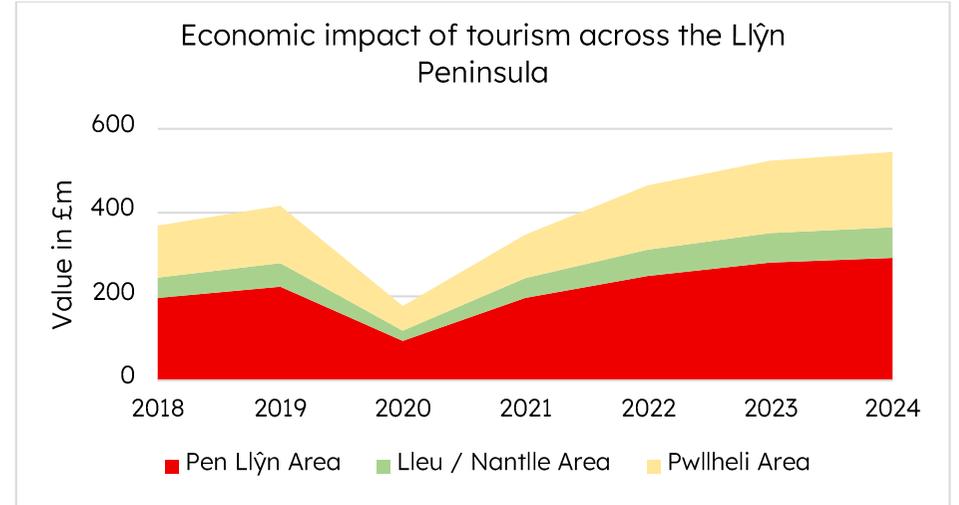
Visitor numbers are generally stable over time at around 2,300,000 a year but with the notable impact of COVID in 2020 (a fall of 53% in that year).

In 2024, around 48% of the visitors were in the Pen Llŷn Area, 36% in the Pwllheli Area, and 16% in the Lleu / Nantlle Area.



The number of visitor days is generally stable over time at around 7,750,000 a year but with the notable impact of COVID in 2020 (a fall of 59% in that year).

Source: Compiled by Cathy James, GTS (UK) Ltd (2025): STEAM Summary for Cyngor Gwynedd



The economic impact data shows a steady growth with a rise in value from £416,600,000 in 2019 to £544,800,000 in 2024 (up 30.8%).

Glossary

Access land

Open access land, under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, consists of open country (mountain, moor, heath and downland) and 'registered common land', which consists of land that is recorded on the official registers held by the commons registration authorities. It also includes areas of 'dedicated land' where owners, such as Natural Resources Wales, allow free access.

Adaptive management

SMNR principle: Managing adaptively by planning, monitoring, reviewing and, where proper, changing action.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

(Also known as an AONB) An area of landscape that is of such outstanding natural beauty that it merits designation under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act of 1949. Together, AONBs represent 18% of the finest countryside in England and Wales. The designation helps to protect their special character, for example, through enhanced planning regulations.

Area Statements

NRW document outlining the key challenges facing that locality, how to face those challenges and how to better manage natural resources.

Agri-environment schemes

Schemes that offer payment to farmers who give an undertaking, or enter into an agreement, to manage their land for biodiversity, landscape, the historic environment, public access or amenity objectives. (See Glastir, Habitat Wales and Sustainable farming)

Biodiversity

The term given to the variety of life and the natural processes of which living things are a part. The term includes living organisms, the genetic differences between them and the communities in which they occur.

Built heritage

A collective term for heritage assets of local, regional or international significance because of their heritage value(s).

Climate change

Change in global climate patterns apparent from the mid- to late 20th century onwards, attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produced using fossil fuels.

Climate change adaption

Adjustments that societies or ecosystems make to limit the negative effects of climate change or take advantage of opportunities provided.

Climate change mitigation

Efforts aimed at reducing or preventing the impacts of climate change e.g. reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Common land

Areas where people who do not own the land have rights to use it for livestock grazing or other purposes. See also registered common land.

Conservation Area

Designated by the local planning authority as an area which they consider has special architectural or historic interest, the character and appearance of which they consider is desirable to preserve or enhance.

Connectivity

Part of the DECCA framework to assess ecosystem resilience. Connectivity refers to the links between and within habitats, which may take the form of physical corridors, stepping stones in the

landscape, or patches of the same or related vegetation types that together create a network that enables the flow or movement of genes, species and natural resources.

Cultural heritage

Inherited assets that people identify and value as a reflection and expression of their evolving knowledge, beliefs and traditions, and of their understanding of the beliefs and traditions of others

Cultural landscapes

These landscapes have been moulded by human influence over millennia.

DECCA framework

Diversity, Extent, Condition, Connectivity and Adaptability is used to assess ecosystem resilience in NRW's SoNaRR approach.

Designated heritage asset

A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Registered Battlefield, Registered Historic Landscape, Registered Park and Garden, Listed Building, Conservation Area, Area of Townscape/Village Character, Local Landscape Policy Area or Protected Wreck Site.

Earth heritage

The rocks, soils and landforms that reveal our geological history, determine the diverse habitats in which wildlife can thrive and create the rich landscapes that we all enjoy.

Ecosystem

Natural unit consisting of all plants, animals and micro-organisms (biotic factors) in an area functioning together with all the non-living physical (abiotic) factors of the environment.

Ecosystem services

Ecosystem services (sometimes called environmental services) are the essential services and benefits that are derived from a fully

functioning natural environment, including the management of basic resources such as water, and the sequestration of carbon.

Environmental capital

Environmental capital is the environmental assets, such as soils, from which beneficial services flow supplying resources to the economy. Four basic categories of environmental capital are generally recognised: air, water (fresh, groundwater and marine), land (including soil, space and landscape) and habitats (including the ecosystems, flora and fauna which they both comprise and support).

Ffermio Bro

An agri-environment scheme launched in 2025 to support habitat restoration and nature recovery on farms within the Designated Landscapes of Wales.

Geodiversity

The term geodiversity incorporates the variety of rocks, minerals and landforms, and the processes that have formed them through geological time. The breadth of geodiversity gives insight to past climates, earlier environments and life on earth.

Glastir

Introduced in 2012, this scheme had both an entry-level and an advanced-level component. Its objectives included soil management, water quality, flood risk reduction, and biodiversity conservation. Glastir contracts ended in 2023

Green infrastructure

Strategically planned and delivered network comprising the broadest range of high-quality green spaces and other environmental features. It should be designed and managed as a multi-functional resource capable of delivering those ecological services and quality-of-life benefits required by the communities it serves and needed to underpin sustainability.

Habitats of Principal Importance

Under the Environment (Wales) Act (2016), Section 7 requires biodiversity lists to be produced. These lists include types of habitats that are of "Principal Importance" for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales. This dataset was created using Priority Habitats of Wales Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) and Broad Habitats, both of which are derived from Phase 1 Terrestrial habitat and species surveys conducted across Wales.

Habitat Wales

The Habitat Wales is an interim scheme that began in January 2024 and will continue until the new Sustainable Farming Scheme is implemented. It supports habitat protection on agricultural land, particularly for those who were previously in Glastir Advanced.

Heritage Asset

A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having cultural significance. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

Historic environment

All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and deliberately planted or managed flora.

Invasive species

Plants, animals and microbes not native to a region which, when introduced either accidentally or intentionally, are harmful to the environment by out-competing native species for available resources, reproducing prolifically or dominating regions and ecosystems.

LANDMAP

A tool to help sustainable decision-making and natural resource planning at a range of levels from local to national. It includes five, nationally consistent spatial datasets.

Landscape

An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.

Landscape Character Assessment (LCA)

The LCA is a method for identifying, understanding and expressing the different patterns and elements of the landscape. These elements include the woodlands, hedgerows, building styles and historic artefacts that give a place a distinctive character.

Listed building

Listed buildings are structures considered to be of high architectural or historic interest that are placed on a statutory list to help protect their important features under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The list is compiled by the Welsh Ministers on advice from Cadw.

Local Development Frameworks (LDFs)

Since 2004, LDFs are part of the new two-tier structure of the planning system (the higher tier is the regional spatial strategy – see below). The LDF replaces the structure Plan and the Local Plan. It consists of several Local Development Documents (LDDs) including a Core strategy, site-specific Allocations of Land, and a Proposals Map. It may also contain additional optional development documents such as Area Action Plans. Production of the LDF must be accompanied by a statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

Local Geological Sites

Previously known as Regionally Important Geological Sites, sites that are selected by voluntary geo-conservation groups, according to nationally agreed criteria.

Local Wildlife Sites

There are several different terms in use to describe Local Wildlife Sites, including Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, Sites of Nature Conservation Importance and County Wildlife Sites. National advice is to use the term, Local Wildlife Sites. Local Wildlife Sites are usually selected within a local authority area through Local Nature Partnerships. They support both locally and nationally threatened wildlife, and many sites will contain priority habitats and species.

National Landscapes

A new name for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (see Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty).

Natural Capital

Those elements of the natural environment that provide valuable goods and services to people, such as the stock of forests, water, land, minerals and oceans.

National Cycle Network (NCN)

The National Cycle Network is a UK-wide network of signed paths and routes for walking, wheeling, cycling and exploring outdoors. Ideally, the route, will be traffic-free. If it is not, it should either be on a quiet-way section of road or be fully separated from the adjacent carriageway.

National Landscape Character Areas (NLCAs)

NLCAs are defined at a broad landscape scale throughout Wales. The descriptive profiles for the 48 individual character areas highlight what distinguishes one landscape from another, with reference to their regionally distinct natural, cultural and perceptual characteristics.

Natural beauty

A combination of distinctive characteristics and key features. The National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949 states that natural beauty includes 'flora, fauna, and geological and

physiographical features. Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 confirms that land can be of natural beauty because of human intervention.

Priority Ecological Network (PEN)

(PENs) in the terrestrial environment are versions of the all-Wales habitat networks that show areas of connectivity between Protected Sites, and as such provide a framework to inform the location of action to build functional resilient ecological networks based on our most important places for biodiversity.

Priority Habitat Mapping

Semi-natural habitats which are listed as priority habitats under Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

Protected landscape area

Defined by the IUCN as a clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.

Ramsar Site

A Ramsar Site is a wetland of international importance, designated under the global Ramsar Convention (Convention on Wetlands) for its ecological value, aiming for its "wise use" and conservation through local, national, and international efforts, protecting crucial habitats for waterbirds, biodiversity, and sustainable development.

Regenerative tourism

Regenerative tourism is a sustainable way of travelling and discovering new places. Its main goal is for visitors to have a positive impact on their holiday destination, meaning that they leave it in a better condition than how they found it (see sustainable tourism).

Resilience

The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties, e.g. climate resilience is defined as the capacity of social, economic and ecosystems to cope with a hazardous event or trend.

Scheduled Monument

A Scheduled Monument is defined in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as a protected archaeological site or historic building of national importance. Nationally, they range from prehistoric standing stones and burial mounds to more recent structures such as collieries and wartime pill-boxes. The scheduling of a monument means that permission is required for works affecting that monument.

Setting

The immediate and extended environment that is part of – and contributes to – the significance and distinctive character of an asset, and through which an asset is understood, seen, experienced and enjoyed.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)

SSSIs are the best examples of our natural heritage of wildlife habitats, geological features and landforms. An SSSI is an area that has been notified as being of special interest under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

SMNR

SMNR in Wales stands for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, a long-term goal under the Environment Act (Wales) 2016 that aims to manage natural resources for current and future generations without long-term decline. It is a key part of the Welsh Government's approach to sustainability, aligning with the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015 and focusing on four key aims: safeguarding natural resources, building resilient ecosystems, creating a healthy environment for people, and fostering a regenerative economy.

SMNR principles

Sustainable Management of Natural Resources principles guide decision making and action to maintain and enhance the resilience of ecosystems.

Social capital

Social capital describes the pattern and intensity of networks among people and the shared values that arise from those networks. While definitions of social capital vary, the main aspects are citizenship, neighbourliness, trust and shared values, community involvement, volunteering, social networks and civic participation.

SoNaRR

SoNaRR in Wales stands for the State of Natural Resources Report, a requirement of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. It is a statutory requirement for NRW to assess Wales's sustainable management of natural resources and to set out a range of opportunities for action.

Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)

SACs are protected areas in the UK designated under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in England and Wales (including the adjacent territorial sea) and the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 in the UK offshore area to conserve important natural habitats and rare, endangered, or characteristic wild fauna and flora

SACs, together with Special Protection Areas (SPAs), form part of the UK's national site network.

Special Characteristics

The unique components that give the area its sense of place.

Special Features

The physical elements in the landscape that are regionally distinctive.

Special Protection Areas (SPAs)

SPAs are protected areas for birds in the UK classified under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in England and Wales (including the adjacent territorial sea) and the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) in the UK offshore area to conserve populations of rare, vulnerable, and regularly occurring migratory wild birds and their essential habitats, both on land and at sea.

SPAs, together with Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), form the UK's national site network.

Special Qualities

The combination of distinctive characteristics and key features that make an area important and valued (see Distinctive Characteristics and Key Features).

STEAM

STEAM (Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor) is a tourism economic impact modelling process that approaches the measurement of tourism from the bottom up, through its use of local supply side data and tourism performance and visitor survey data collection.

Sustainable

Capable of meeting present needs without compromising ability to meet future needs.

Sustainable development

Sustainable development means meeting four objectives at the same time: social progress that meets the needs of everyone; effective protection of the environment; prudent use of natural resources; and maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

Sustainable communities

Places where people want to live and work, now and in the future, that meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents, are sensitive to their environment and contribute to a high quality of life.

Sustainable Farming Scheme

The new, whole-farm scheme set to be introduced in 2026. It will serve as the primary source of government support for farmers in Wales. The Scheme will reward farmers for actions that align with the Sustainable Land Management Objectives set out in The Agriculture (Wales) Act 2023

Sustainable tourism

Sustainable tourism is tourism that attempts to make a low impact on the environment and local culture, while helping to generate income, employment and the conservation of local ecosystem services.

State of the Llŷn AONB Report 2025

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