

<b>MEETING</b>	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
<b>DATE</b>	September 10 <sup>th</sup> 2024
<b>TITLE</b>	AONB Management Plan
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Inform members
<b>AUTHOR</b>	AONB Officer
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	Accept the Information

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Preparing and reviewing a Management Plan is one of Gwynedd Council's responsibilities in relation to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty as a consequence of the CRoW Act 2000. The Joint Advisory Committee has a role to play in the Plan preparation and review process.
- 1.2 The existing Llŷn AONB Management Plan is dated and needs to be reviewed. Unfortunately a number of factors, including the pandemic, work on other projects and capacity issues have delayed the process.

## **2.0 THE REVIEW PROCESS**

- 2.1 When reviewing the Plan there is a need to consider the most up to date information on the area's features, relevant plans and strategies, conservation objectives, local projects etc.
- 2.2 Also reference needs to be made to guidelines on the preparation and review process. Guidelines on AONB Management Plans review was published by the former Countryside Council for Wales many years ago.
- 2.3 Recently Natural Resources Wales commissioned Land Use Consultants to review and update these Guidelines and also make them relevant to National Parks. The final version of this guidance is expected to be published soon.

## **3.0 STATE OF THE AONB AND CONTEXT**

- 3.1 Some background work on the Llŷn AONB Management Plan review has taken place.
- 3.2 The AONB Unit commissioned an update of the State of the

AONB Report. This Report contains information on the condition of the AONB's special features and the pressures they are under. A summary has been presented to the JAC in the past.

- 3.3 Also some time ago the AONB Unit commissioned consultants to update of the section on the Management Plan's context. The work included updating information on plans, strategies, Acts etc which are relevant to the AONB Management Plan.

#### **4.0 SPECIAL QUALITIES**

- 4.1 As part of the preparation work on the earlier Management Plans the special qualities of the Llŷn AONB were defined – these can be seen below. We do not foresee a need to change these qualities for the revised Plan.

- Beautiful landscape and coast
- Tranquility and a clean environment
- A wealth of wildlife and habitats
- The Historic Environment
- The Welsh language and culture
- People and close knit communities
- Local produce and businesses
- Access and rights of way

#### **5.0 THE VISION**

- 5.1 Also, a Vision for the Llŷn AONB area (based on a 2040 date) is included in the existing Plan, as follows:

AN AREA OF BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE AND COAST, SUPPORTING A WEALTH OF WILDLIFE AND PROVIDING A RANGE OF NATURAL SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS. HISTORIC FEATURES AND OTHER QUALITIES BEING VALUED AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES SUSTAINING THE WELSH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE.

- 5.2 It is believed that this Vision in the most part is still mostly relevant but could be somewhat simplified and be amended to include some additional matters. Therefore it is suggested that the following revised Vision is included in the new Plan:

## **Llŷn AONB 2050**

AN AREA OF BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE AND COAST WHERE INDIGENOUS WILDLIFE THRIVES, LOW LEVELS OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND AN ABUNDANCE OF PUBLIC ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES. HISTORICAL BUILDINGS AND FEATURES IN GOOD CONDITION, LOCAL BUSINESSES SUCCEEDING AND LLŷN COMMUNITIES SUSTAINING THE WELSH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE.

### **6.0 NEXT STEPS TO BE TAKEN**

- 6.1 Soon the AONB Unit will start work on assessing and revising the Plan's objectives and policies and suggest updating/ changes to respond to new information and/ or a change in circumstances. The aim is to arrange a meeting of the JAC to discuss these matters later in the year.
- 6.2 Then we will work on updating the Action Plan which will include information on the work which it is intended to undertake during the Plan period. Also, the Environmental and Habitats Regulation Assesments will need to be reviewed.
- 6.3 Following on there will need to be a consultation period on the revised draft Plan. As part of this work we will consult with public and private sectors, societies and individuals by various methods to get their views and opinions on the Plan. The Joint Advisory Committee will have a key role in assessing the responses received during the consultation period.

### **7.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 7.1 Accept the information in the report and revised Vision to be included in the Management Plan.