

COMMITTEE	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
DATE	July 2nd 2025
TITLE	Update on Llŷn AONB capital projects
PURPOSE	Inform members
AUTHOR	AONB Projects 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 benefit from this support.
- 1.2 The first round of SLSP projects which covered 2022-25 have now been completed. This report provides an overview of those projects and an outline of what is planned for the next project period – 2025-27

2.0 CAPITAL PROJECT THEMES

- 2.1 Themes for the Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places scheme (2022-25) were set by Welsh Government and were as follows:
- Biodiversity and nature recovery
 - Decarbonisation
 - Resilient and green communities
 - Sustainable Tourism
- 2.2 The Llŷn AONB had projects for each of the four themes and the Unit has been presenting reports to the JAC annually with information on progress. Information and updates have also been included in the Llygad Llŷn newsletter which has been sent to members, copies of the newsletter are also distributed locally.

3.0 UPDATE ON 2022-25 PROJECTS

3.1 These projects ended in March this year. Below is a summary of the work that was undertaken during the last year of the scheme:

- **Common land** – further work was carried out on the commons at Y Foel Gron, Horeb and Rhos Botwnnog. Actions have included access improvements, tackling invasives, re-introducing grazing, restoring a historical stone wall and a new fence to safeguard Ffynnon Fyw, Mynytho.
- **Native trees** – this was a two year project. In 2023-24 the main work was in identifying suitable sites to plant trees while the planting itself was completed in 2024-25. In total around 5,000 trees were planted on different sites within, and near, the AONB.
- **Non native invasive species** - species such as the himalayan balsam, japanese knotweed and rhododendron are a problem across Llŷn with their adverse effect on biodiversity. Following undertaking surveys in 2023-24 much work was undertaken to eradicate these species in 2024-25.
- **Y Ganolfan, Llithfaen** – The Ganolfan project was the biggest SLSP project and spanned three years. The AONB Unit was successful in attracting a significant financial contribution to the project from the UK Government's Prosperity fund. The refurbishment of the Ganolfan began in January 2024 and was completed by October 2024, it was officially re-opened in November.
- **Llanbedrog quarry car park** – this was a project under the theme of Sustainable Tourism. It is a popular site but had become untidy and overgrown. A series of improvements were undertaken including re-surfacing the parking area, moving large boulders, cutting back vegetation and tree planting.

4.0 COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

4.1 In addition to the specific projects for the Llŷn AONB the area has benefitted from collaborative projects with other Designated Areas. Information on these projects are included in Llygad Llŷn and there will be an update at the meeting:

- Traditional boundaries

- The Dark Sky
- Education pack

5.0 2025-27 PROJECTS

- 5.1 At the beginning of 2025 details were obtained of an additional period of capital funding by Welsh Government through Sustainable Landscapes Sustainable Places. This time it was over two years but on similar themes to the earlier scheme, however there is now greater emphasis on nature recovery and decarbonisation.
- 5.2 Proposals were submitted on behalf of the Llŷn AONB in accord with the scheme guidelines and the following plans have been supported:
- Planting native trees in the AONB
 - Tackling non-native invasive species
 - Abergeirch Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
 - Decarbonisation of village halls/ centres
- 5.3 The AONB Unit will be working on these projects over the next two years ensuring they are completed in accordance with regulations and and budget.

6.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 Accept the information.