

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.