

<b>MEETING</b>	Llŷn AONB Joint Advisory Committee
<b>DATE</b>	13 July 2016
<b>TITLE</b>	Future Landscapes Wales
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Inform members
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Llŷn AONB Service manager
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	Accept the information.

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 This report provides information on the situation regarding the Review of Designated Landscapes commissioned by the Welsh Government.

## **2.0 REVIEW OF DESIGNATED LANDSCAPES**

2.1 A Panel of three people were appointed to conduct the Review of Designated Landscapes in 2014, namely Professor Terry Marsden, Dr Ruth Williams and Mr John Lloyd Jones.

2.2 Part 1 of the Review looked at the purpose of the designating landscapes and the pros and cons of categorising these landscapes under one designation. Part 2 of the Review considered how National Parks and AONB's are managed and governed.

2.3 Representations were made on the Review by the Welsh AONB's, National Parks and a variety of other public and private bodies, trusts and charities (including this JAC). In addition the Panel conducted a series of meetings with individuals and organisations.

## **3.0 THE REVIEW REPORT**

3.1 The Final Report of the Review was handed over to Welsh Government in October 2015. It was a substantial document with a total of 69 detailed recommendations. Some of these were principles and procedural matters which could have been included in an Appendix.

3.2 After receiving the Final Report Welsh Government decided to develop a programme called **Future Landscapes Wales**. The purpose of this programme was to consider the report findings and other relevant matters, such as the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

## **4.0 FUTURE LANDSCAPES WALES**

4.1 The Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas was appointed as Chair of this process and an initial meeting with stakeholders was held in Cardiff on November 2015. Following on from this a Development Group (mostly officers and members) and

a Working Group (mostly academics and interest groups) was established to look at 4 specific issues related to Welsh Designated Landscapes:

- **Vision**
- **Governance/ Management**
- **Resources**
- **Economy**

4.2 Following on from this a fairly detailed programme of training, developing ideas, discussing options and deciding on recommendations has entailed.

4.3 The climax of the Future Landscapes Wales was a Challenge Chamber meeting at Cardiff on June 20th. At this meeting all the members of the Programme agreed on a Vision for the Future Landscapes, see below:

*Wales as a nation values its landscapes for what they provide for the people of Wales and elsewhere. The designated landscapes of Wales deliver both within and beyond their boundaries to enhance their social, economic, environmental and cultural resources and deliver the maximum well-being benefits for present and future generations whilst enhancing the very qualities that make them both distinctive and cherished.”*

4.4 Also, a series of measures, under the 4 topic areas (Vision, Governance, Resources and Economy) were placed in order of priority – Short term, medium and long term. Sufficient resources for AONB’s was highlighted within this process.

4.5 Next, all the conclusions and recommendations of the Development Programme will be collated by the Chair and presented to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs, Lesley Griffiths, for further consideration.

## **5.0 RECOMMENDATION**

5.1 Accept the information.