

**Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS**  
**Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros**  
**Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig**  
**Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate**  
**Change and Rural Affairs**



**Llywodraeth Cymru**  
**Welsh Government**

**Ein cyf/Our ref HIDCC/00586/25**  
**Cabinet Secretary for Climate**

**Arweinydd, Cyngor Gwynedd**  
[cynghorydd.niaieffreys@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:cynghorydd.niaieffreys@gwynedd.llyw.cymru)

**Dafydd Gibbard**  
**Prif Swyddog Gweithredol, Cyngor Gwynedd**  
[dafyddgibbard@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:dafyddgibbard@gwynedd.llyw.cymru)

**21 August 2025**

Dear Nia and Dafydd

Earlier this year I wrote to Flintshire CC following a letter from their Chief Executive. In that letter I pledged to provide further information about how a future new National Park Authority in Northeast Wales would be funded, if a new National Park is designated. I am now writing to provide further information about the Welsh Government's commitment to provide future funding for the proposed new National Park and the financial implications to Cyngor Gwynedd of any decision made by Welsh Ministers in relation to the designation.

As outlined in my previous reply, it is absolutely vital that a new National Park is properly funded without reducing the core funding for our existing National Park Authorities, or by reducing the funding available to Welsh Local Authorities. We are committed to this principle and will continue work to assess the costs related to the establishment of a new National Park and the funding required by the Welsh Government.

At this stage, ahead of any recommendation that Natural Resources Wales (NRW) might make about any new designation, it is not yet possible to accurately quantify the cost of a potential new National Park. However, I can confirm that I have now been able to consider in more detail the most significant costs that would arise out of creating a new National Park Authority and confirm that these will form part of the Welsh Government's future financial plans.

In particular, using approximate costs based on our existing National Parks, I have considered the likely core revenue costs arising from the Environment Act 1995 (EA 1995) that require funding from Welsh Government and a NPA's constituent Local Authorities. The Welsh Government is committed to providing additional funding to fully cover both of these requirements should a new National Park be designated. That is to say, there would be no financial burden placed on your Council to provide funding to a new National Park, as additional funding would be provided to your Authority to meet the costs outlined under EA 1995.

In addition, I would note that our existing NPAs have benefited in recent years from accessing additional Welsh Government capital funding through programmes such as Sustainable Landscapes, Sustainable Places (SLSP), Ffermio Bro and Local Places for Nature (LPfN) to take forward important work in areas including nature recovery, climate change, access and sustainable tourism. I fully expect that any new NPA would be able to access and benefit from these schemes or their future equivalents.

There would be a period of transition required between any new designation being confirmed and a new National Park Authority being brought into being. While further work is required on the nature of such a transition arrangement, the Welsh Government also intends to provide funding towards this.

Finally, while the above has focussed on costs and funding, I would also highlight that National Parks have the potential to bring economic benefits to the areas they serve such as through boosting tourism and the visitor economy, as well as wider benefits. As part of its assessments, NRW has carried out an Economic Impact Review for the proposed National Park, which will be made available to Local Authorities alongside other new evidence by NRW during a statutory consultation in the autumn (subject to approval by NRW's board).

I hope that this information is useful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Huw Irranca-Davies', with a stylized, flowing script.

**Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS**

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs