

Bwletin Rheoli Adnoddau Naturiol

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Llywodraeth Cymru
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Nature Fund

When we announced the Nature Fund, we confirmed that funding would be allocated to successful projects on a “first come, first served” basis. We’ve had a very positive response resulting in 62 formal proposals and we are therefore now closing the Fund to further applications. We’ll be making an announcement soon on the successful projects.

We will continue to work with projects under development and with unsuccessful projects to offer advice on next steps and potential sources of funding so the work that has been put in to date is not lost.

For more information contact us at: NaturalResourceManagement@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Other areas of interest

Nature Recovery Plan

The Nature Recovery Plan sets out how the Welsh Government intends to reverse the decline of biodiversity in Wales.

Last year’s State of Nature report highlighted that many habitats and species in Wales and across the UK are in decline and under pressure from farming practices, pollution, climate change and invasive plants such as Japanese Knotweed. This decline in biodiversity has made the environment less resilient and able to adapt to change.

The proposed plan sets out an ambition and details the strategic actions needed to achieve such goals and asks how the Welsh Government can best help Wales’ natural environment recover and thrive.

The consultation closes on 3 December 2014 and the final Nature Recovery Plan will be launched next year: [Nature Recovery Plan](#).

Welsh National Marine Planning Process: Update and an opportunity to get engaged

The Welsh Government has announced a series of consultation and feedback exercises for the Welsh National Marine Plan as part of the ongoing engagement process for the new Welsh marine planning system. Our short animation tells you more about what we are doing and why. The aim is to put in place a Welsh national marine planning system by 2015 and we are asking for your ongoing input through a series of updates via the Welsh Government Website. As part of this approach we have recently published a Draft Marine Planning Portal, the Draft Strategic Scoping Exercise and the Draft Scope, Draft Vision and related Objectives (including questions on the Draft Scope for the Sustainability Appraisal) for comment: [Marine Planning Latest News, Developing the Welsh National Marine Plan, Marine Planning Video](#).

Organic farmers in Wales invited to apply for Welsh Government support

Organic farmers in Wales can apply for financial support from the Welsh Government from 1 October – 29 October as part of the first application round of Glastir Organic. Contracts will begin on 1 January 2015.

Glastir Organic is an element of the Welsh Government's Glastir Scheme. Glastir Organic provides support to organic farmers and producers that deliver positive environmental land management.

Glastir is a 5 year contract with the Welsh Government, open to those who wish to convert to organic production and to existing organic producers who meet the eligibility criteria.

As part of the Welsh Government's commitment to a digital Wales, the Glastir Organic application has been developed online and is available through the Rural Payments Wales (RPW) Online service.

Guidance on completing your Glastir Organic application online will be available from 1 October at www.wales.gov.uk/rpwonline. If you do not have access to broadband or need additional help, you should contact the Customer Contact Centre as soon as possible on 0300 062 5004 to discuss digital support and alternative application routes.

The Glastir Organic Rules booklet has full details of eligibility, the selection process and payment rates. This can be found at www.wales.gov.uk/glastir from 1 October.

Planning (Wales) Bill

The Planning (Wales) Bill was introduced on 6 October 2014 by the Minister for Natural Resources, Carl Sargeant. The Bill introduces a series of legislative changes informed by a comprehensive evidence base and extensive consultation. The Bill aims to deliver reform of the Welsh planning system to ensure that it is fair, resilient and enables development. Taken together with proposed changes to secondary legislation, policy and guidance, the Bill will support delivery of the homes, jobs and infrastructure that Wales requires, whilst providing opportunities to protect and enhance our most important built and natural environments and support the use of the Welsh language. The Bill can be viewed here: [Planning Wales Bill](#)

For more information visit the Welsh Government website www.wales.gov.uk/planning

Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs)

After consulting on draft regulations for Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs), we have recently announced our decision to adopt SWMPs as a voluntary code of practice, supported by best practice guidance and templates. Having considered the variety of opinions in the consultation responses and the progress that is being made towards achieving high waste and recycling rates in the Construction and Demolition Waste Survey published by Natural Resources (June 2014), the Welsh Government has decided not to introduce regulations requiring SWMPs. To further reduce waste produced by the sector and to get the benefits set out in the consultation (particularly in designing out waste at the early stages of construction), we will be working with the Construction and Demolition industry to publish best practice guidance and SWMP templates which will help businesses focus on waste prevention, preparing for re-use and recycling in their work. The use of SWMP templates will be made available for businesses of all sizes to use as good practice. Details of the consultation exercise and responses can be found at: [Site Waste Management Plans](#).

Wales Regeneration Summit 2014

Liberty Stadium, Swansea - 23 October 2014

The 2014 summit follows on from the successful event held in November 2012. The key theme this time will be town centres in Wales. The summit will provide updates on the Vibrant and Viable Places programme and the progress of Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). It will also provide opportunities for learning from other town centre initiatives in Wales and elsewhere. The full agenda and programme are currently being finalised. To express your interest in receiving further information as the programme develops, please visit the [CREW website](#) (external link).

Ways to keep updated

To learn more about the Natural Resource Management Programme please visit: www.wales.gov.uk/naturalresourcemanagement

The web pages include [frequently asked questions \(FAQs\)](#), an [information pack](#) and some [case studies](#).

You can also keep up to date with developments on Facebook and Twitter by following @WG_NatResMin and liking the Welsh Government's Facebook page.

If you have any questions or if you want to join the mailing list, please email us at naturalresourcemanagement@wales.gsi.gov.uk