

## Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs planning meeting

5 February 2021, 2pm-3pm

Minutes

### Attendees

- Anna Nicholl, WCVA
- David Cook, WCVA
- Sarah Germain, Fareshare Cymru
- David Bowles, RSPCA Cymru
- Karen Balmer, Groundwork North Wales
- Gethin Rhys, Interfaith Council for Wales
- Kevin Rahman Daultry, Size of Wales
- Gary Mitchell, Social Farms and Gardens

### Apologies

- Rachel Sharp, WTW
- Elspeth Jones, Size of Wales
- Sarah Evans, Wales Coop Centre

### Minutes and actions from previous MM

Group commented that payment issues around Rural Payment Wales and RDP are still valued.

#### *Actions*

- *Chase Welsh Government officials about items from previous Ministerial Meeting that have not yet taken place.*
- *Gary to send key issues around RDP to Dave C. WCVA will ask Welsh Government for an update.*

### Update from Natural Resources Wales Forum

Karen's email update is noted. Another meeting may take place in March.

### Items to be raised at next Ministerial Meeting

At time of this meeting, group unsure when next Ministerial Meeting will be.

Kevin noted the NRW reports on priorities for green recovery, but conversations with NRW indicate that money has not been offered to support the proposals. Gethin suggested that as the green recovery document is public, it would be worth writing to the Minister and other parties and ask what their response to it is, and do they intend to prioritise implementation and funding of it. The

group agreed. Gethin said the agriculture White Paper is a chance to keep government on trajectory with reforming food and farming systems and protections. It would be good to ask that this process goes ahead before the elections in May.

Gary noted there is a chance to talk to the Minister about food and the environment. Food Policy Alliance Cymru have already sent her a paper.

David B said now was a chance to discuss how restrictions have affected environmental organisations and that animal rescue organisations have coped better than expected. Sarah suggested a piece of work looking at the impact of Covid and Brexit together would be useful. Group noted that full implementation of import restrictions will take place on 1 July.

#### *Actions*

- *WCVA to draft letter to Minister regarding green recovery proposals.*
- *Anna to feed information from this meeting back to Peter Davies, who is a representative on NRW.*
- *WCVA to draft a checklist of group concerns. Group will later look at this list and prioritise items.*

#### **AOB**

Gethin raised a question about local places for nature funding. Anna said she understood budgets would be rolled forward, but groups could be waiting for confirmation letters from Welsh Government.