

Voluntary sector climate change meeting

14 June 2021, 10am-11.30am

Minutes

Attendees

- Gary Mitchell, Social Farms and Gardens
- Karen Balmer, Groundwork North Wales
- Julia Korn, Pont
- Rebecca Brough, Ramblers Cymru
- Peter Williams, DTA Wales
- Gemma Lelliot, Community Transport Association
- Rachel Burr, Community Transport Association
- David Williams, Torfaen Council
- Rhiannon Hardiman, Living Streets
- Barbara Davies Quy, Size of Wales
- Kate Hamilton, Renew Wales
- Jocelle Lovell, Wales Coop Centre
- Ben Lloyd, WCVA
- Anna Nicholl, WCVA
- David Cook, WCVA

Discussion around new Climate Change portfolio

This table shows policy areas group members suggested could be raised with the Minister and Deputy Minister at a future meeting.

Subject	Representative	More detail
Clean Air Act	Rhiannon	Concern Clean Air Act may not be tabled until December 2022
Decarbonization of voluntary sector transport	Rachel	Infrastructure for electric vehicle charging should be high on agenda
How does Wales avoid contributing to overseas deforestation	Barbara	Links to food and farming
Revolving loan funds for community-led housing	Jocelle	Paper already submitted to Minister in her previous role
Climate change and the voluntary sector	Anna	Paper by WCIA and Cytun already prepared
Reforming access to the countryside	Rebecca	Countryside access seems to link across several portfolios

How Future Wales is embedded in strategic development plans	Gary	Concerned Foundational Economy work done in last year could be lost
Community Right To Buy	Jocelle	Could also fall under Social Justice portfolio.
Digital strategy	Jocelle	Welsh Government's digital strategy is key across many portfolios
Small vs large horticulture permitted development rights	Gary	There is not a level playing field
Food system and links to climate change	Gary	Food Policy Alliance could lead on a paper on this, focusing on climate
Green jobs	Rocio	Green jobs should be developed in way that reduces the gender pay gap
Environment (including housing) and mental health	Rocio	Need to address inequality to help people access an environment that helps mental health

Elsewhere in discussions:

- The possibility of meeting with the Minister and Deputy Minister separately, given the size of the portfolios.
- The importance of green jobs for social enterprises.
- That the group should look at transport policy periodically
- There is an opportunity to highlight some areas where we think there should be KPIs.
- We need to ensure nature/wildlife is represented on the group.
- Group agreed need to focus on approximately five points to focus on over next few years. Several issues above could be brought together under overarching themes – e.g. green and just recovery, planning reform, etc.
- Next meeting agenda to include items on Minister's priorities, plus decision on two other items to take forward to future Ministerial Meeting .

Actions:

- *WCVA to share document listing members of each portfolio group, and asking if anyone would like to join a group they are not already a rep on.*
- *WCVA to send a list of the Minister's and Deputy Minister's separate responsibilities to the group when available.*
- *Jocelle to develop paper for group around issue of community right to buy.*
- *Gary/Food Policy Alliance to work on positioning paper to share with group.*
- *Susie Ventris-Field to report to group on COP26.*

- *Jocelle/WCVA to bring proposals to next meeting for progressing work on digital strategy and climate change.*
- *WCVA to ask Welsh Government what Minister and Deputy Minister's top-line priorities are.*
- *WCVA to arrange next group meeting for September 2021 to narrow down ideas outlined in above table.*