

Voluntary sector climate change group

8 September 2021, 10am-11.30am

Notes

Attendees

- Clare Rudall, Business in the Community
- Megan Thomas, Disability Wales
- Peter Williams, DTA Wales
- Kate Hamilton, Renew Wales
- Kevin Rahman-Daultrey, Size of Wales
- Rachel Sharp, Welsh Wildlife Trust,
- Gary Mitchell, Social Farms and Gardens
- Rebecca Brough, Ramblers Cymru
- Dave Williams, Llais y Goedwig
- Karen Balmer, Groundwork North Wales
- Hayley Richards, WCIA
- Hugh Russell, Wales Coop Centre
- Sarah Germain, FareShare Cymru
- Rob Simpkins, Shelter Cymru

Welcome and introductions

The group discussed the lack of engagement between Welsh Government and voluntary sector on climate change issues, for instance the Climate Change Phase 2 plan or plans for COP26.

Ben Lloyd outlined that WCVA is working with officials to take forward actions agreed in the previous Improvement Plan for delivering the Scheme. That includes shifting from focussing on the timetable of meetings, to arranging meetings based on shared outcomes we want to achieve.

Shared priorities for coming government

Discussion on the wide-ranging nature of the portfolio, nature-based solutions to climate change and commercial woodland planting.

COP26

Agreed to ask for a meeting with the Minister in the run up to COP26. Time is now tight and it would be useful to be able to plan around Welsh government's proposed involvement at COP26 as well as build conversations for collaboration over the longer term.

An outline agenda to put forward is:

- Government activity and preparations ahead of COP26
- Voluntary sector activity and preparations ahead of COP26
- Opportunities for collective action on climate change

Community ownership

Hugh outlined the paper Wales Coop Centre are working on which will look at community land use, land reform, land rights and a land registry.

National Forest

A number of organisations have an interest in the National Forest. Llais y Goedwig have particular interest and are working on this, but also angles such as biodiversity, access, ownership and enterprise.

Government will be making decisions on this shortly. Agreed to write to Deputy Minister to ask for a meeting on the National Forest proposals.

Actions

- Hugh to circulate draft of Community Right to Buy paper for comment.
- WCVA to facilitate a meeting of networks looking at Community Right to Buy/ Community Rights to come together to explore with other interested stakeholders where there may be common issues for a collective voice.
- Gary to share reports received by Climate Committee so group can consider areas that may be used for future paper.
- WCVA to write to Minister for Climate Change to ask for meeting with the group ahead of COP26 to discuss priorities and opportunities to collaborate, and after COP26, to discuss actions arising.
- WCVA to write to Deputy Minister for Climate Change to ask for a specific meeting regarding the National Forest.