

## **Voluntary sector climate change group meeting**

7 March 2022, 10am-11.30am

Notes

### **Attendees**

- Gethin Rhys, Interfaith Council for Wales
- Sarah Germain, Fareshare Cymru
- Amanda Carr, SCVS
- Kevin Rahman-Daultrey, Size of Wales
- Gemma Lelliott, Community Transport Association
- Sue Husband, Business in the Community
- Stephen Tiley, GAVO
- Melda Grantham, Interfaith Council for Wales
- David Williams, Llais y Goedwig
- Gary Mitchell, Social Farms and Gardens
- Grant Peisley, Deg Cymru
- Peter Williams, DTA Wales
- Adam Kennerly, DTA Wales
- Katy Stevenson, Groundwork Wales
- David Cook, WCVA
- Anna Nicholl, WCVA
- Kenneth Addison, CPRW
- Susie Ventris Field, WCIA
- Cat Miller, WCVA
- Rebecca Brough, Ramblers Cymru
- Jess McQuade, WWF Cymru

### **Welcome and introductions**

Group noted that we have had an initial meeting with Welsh Government officials on the Net Zero plan.

### **Review recent activity:**

*Reflection on Meeting with Deputy Minister for Climate Change*

It was suggested that, given the ongoing series of meetings with officials on Net Zero plans, it would be good to look at how we raise questions around housing and other parts of this portfolio.

*Reflection on meeting with officials on Net Zero engagement plan and actions arising*

The group discussed a number of points, including:

- difficulties for the sector in engaging in all the different points of climate change activity across Welsh Government
- How to get officials to attend sector events related to climate change

- How should the sector work with Welsh Government following engagement processes, including co-delivery of the plan

### **Updates against other priorities**

Group keen to know how the portfolio is divided between Minister and Deputy Minister and who leads on what. Gethin said that Senedd questions indicate Julie James leads on housing, while Lee Waters leads on climate change and transport.

Note that areas such as community rights to housing and land cuts across other portfolios – e.g. Rural Affairs. It was suggested this group touches base with that one. Kevin had been told that the deforestation commitment does not fall under this portfolio. It would be useful to know where Welsh Government see this fitting. Susie wondered where international commitments fit under this Cabinet. She suggested the climate change group should meet with other Ministers and Deputy Ministers from time to time. Anna said this would help with issues around deforestation and procurement.

Mapping of land use was discussed. It was decided this was best left to IWA, who have already begun work in this area.

Group agreed checking in on Welsh Government's COP26 commitments would be a good idea.

Adam suggested need for more resource for sector to do the comms and engagement that they require. We offer to make the voice of communities more clear and coherent, but ask for resource to do so.

Links between social businesses and the environment were discussed, and how this links to the Economy portfolio.

Group noted the engagement work around the 2010 climate strategy that Welsh Government could build upon.

### **AOB**

Kevin noted Welsh Government commitment to tackle Wales' overseas deforestation footprint focussing on public procurement practices and farming

#### *Agenda for Net Zero meeting, 22 March*

- Engagement between voluntary sector and government (Susie Ventris Field, Grant Priestly, Jess McQuade if she has things to develop from the climate change strategy, WCVA on national principles of engagement)
- Co-delivering the Net Zero Plan (Dave Williams, building on his paper on being clear that there are so many strands to this, the plan needs to include how those different

parts of Welsh Gov link to different parts of the sector. Eg his work with Llais y Coedwig and giving away trees)

- Preparation for launch/ roll out of the engagement strategy
- Engaging officials in voluntary sector events

*Agenda for future Ministerial Meeting (date TBC)*

- Delivering on COP commitments: update
- Engagement and co-delivery of Net Zero Plan
- Community Ownership in Wales (depending on what that group thinks – Ben Lloyd is lead for WCVA on this)