



North Pembroke Transport Forum Fforwm Trafnidiaeth Gogledd Penfro

January News Briefing, 2022

Senedd Climate Change Committee - Priorities for the Sixth Senedd

1. Points made in the Introduction by Committee Chair, Llyr Gruffydd MS

- 'Over the summer, we consulted widely on what stakeholders and members of the public thought should be our priorities at the start of this new Senedd term. We were pleased to receive over 100 responses to the consultation which have been published in a separate summary report. We then held oral evidence sessions, to allow us to drill down into the issues that had been raised. Finally, we heard from the Minister and Deputy Minister to understand their immediate and long-term priorities'.
- 'We have now identified three key priority areas for our work – Climate Change and Net Zero, Protecting and enhancing the natural environment, and Sustainable Communities. This third priority encompasses transport, infrastructure and planning and will consider how policies in these areas can deliver sustainable communities'.
- 'This is a live document – priorities will change, external events will bring to the fore new challenges that need to be addressed. We have agreed to be agile and responsive. We will also undertake another public consultation halfway through this Senedd term to understand whether we need to refocus on some of these priorities'.
- 'We are committed to engaging with people, especially young people, and I hope we will soon be able to meet people face to face again...We look forward to you sharing your expertise and experience with us'

For the full Chair's forward *Visit* <https://senedd.wales/media/fntnx0vd/cr-ld14820-e.pdf>.

2. Transport. Points of Interest in the Report

- 173. Stakeholders from a wide range of sectors...highlighted the importance of integration of land-use and transport planning.
- 175. Transport for Wales (TfW) – TfW's anticipated role is growing to include a role in wider modes, and to act as both a consultant and delivery body for the Welsh Government (WG) and local authorities.
- 178. Decarbonisation of transport, particularly through behaviour change and modal shift, was a key issue raised by stakeholders.
- 181. There was a strong view that an integrated, accessible, and affordable public transport system, along with improved active travel infrastructure are required if Wales is to radically reduce carbon emissions.
- 189. Several stakeholders emphasised the need to ensure public transport services and infrastructure, and active travel networks and facilities, are accessible and inclusive.
- 191. The Future Generations Commissioner noted 'Wales has one of the lowest per capita spend on public transport in the UK leading to a lack of affordable and accessible transport options.' She recommended the Welsh Government should 'allocate a least 50% of capital transport spend on improving bus and train services, providing long-term funding wherever possible'.

- 192. Stakeholders emphasised the importance of accelerating action on active travel, in particular through investment in infrastructure and a programme of behaviour change.
- 194. Sustrans emphasised the need to look at increasing the number and diversity of people travelling actively, including tackling barriers for those with protected characteristics.
- 196. Bus Users UK and the Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT) suggested the Committee should prioritise work on post-Covid recovery for the public transport sector. Bus Users UK state: 'There is a very real danger that, post-Covid, we will see a car-led recovery...There needs to be greater promotion of the benefit of sustainable transport, backed by a Welsh Government campaign encouraging people back onto public transport'.
- 198. Stakeholders referred to the Welsh Government's long-standing commitment to reform bus services in Wales. They suggested the Committee should undertake early work to help shape the reform programme.
- 199. Great Western Railway said it would like to see 'a wider discussion about rail to include mainline services, and how they form part of the answer for local journeys, and for business and visitor journeys to and from Wales.'

Evidence from the Minister and Deputy Minister

- The Minister and Deputy Minister recognised the modal shift target 'may need to be raised further if the science of climate change demands it, and [the Welsh Government] has committed to keep it under review'. They said that to achieve the target, 'walking and cycling must become the normal way of making shorter journeys'.
- They reported active travel funding 'has been ramped' and 'is set to increase further as active travel infrastructure construction accelerates to put in place the local authority network plans'.
- According to the Deputy Minister 10% of the Welsh Government's transport budget is allocated to active travel in the current financial year.

For the full summary: Download the attached 'Committee priorities for the Sixth Senedd summary'.

Ramblers Cymru Paths to Well Being Project - Brynberian

Paths to Well Being Project is a key driver of Ramblers Cymru's vision to put walking at the heart of communities by improving access to green spaces. Selected communities are to be given the tools and free training needed to identify and design new routes and enhance and upgrade existing ones. Brynberian in north Pembrokeshire has been selected as one of the 18 communities that are to be involved in the project, that has received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities -Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.

Visit www.ramblers.org.uk/pathstowellbeing for more information.

The Forum's work is supported by:

Individual Members (£5 p.a.), Family Members (£8 p.a.) & Corporate Members (£12 p.a.)

(Corporate members include town and community councils, transport operators, and groups, organisations and associations with a transport interest)

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