

Report of: Chief Executive

Subject: To agree to respond to the consultation by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on the Draft (Designation) Order and the proposed map for a new National Park in Wales.

Decision Required: No specific decision required, however, Members are asked to express their views in order to inform a consultation response.

Recommendation: Members are asked to:

- a) Note the consultation by NRW on the Draft (Designation) Order and the proposed map for a new National Park in Wales.
- b) Express views that will be used to inform a response to the consultation. This will be in partnership with the other two Welsh National Park Authorities, unless we are unable to agree a joint response. In such a circumstance the Authority will submit its own response.
- c) To delegate the agreement of a response to the Chair and Chief Executive (as the consultation closes on 8th December).

1. Key Messages

Since 2022, Natural Resources Wales, have been undertaking a process to consider designating a new National Park in North East Wales. To date the Authority has not expressed a view on designating a new National Park and not responded to any of the consultations. However, at a recent meeting of National Parks Wales, it was decided that the three National Park Authorities should submit a response to the current consultation.

2. Background

The Welsh Labour Manifesto for the 2021 Senedd elections, included a commitment to “Designate a new National Park to cover the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley”. This commitment was included in the Programme for Government and since then Natural Resources Wales have been undertaking work to assess the suitability of the area to be designated as a National Park. This has involved a number of consultations and significant work to collect background information. These document can be accessed from the NRW web site - [Wales's New National Park Proposal - Natural Resources Wales Citizen Space - Citizen Space](#)

Following these consultations Natural Resources Wales are currently undertaking a Statutory Consultation on a Draft (Designation) Order and the proposed map for a new National Park. A copy of the relevant documentation and map is included as Annex A. The documents along with other background documents can be accessed from this link: [Proposed Glyndŵr National Park \(Designation\) Order - Statutory Consultation 2025 - Natural Resources Wales Citizen Space - Citizen Space](#)

4. Strategic Policy Context

If designated this will be the first new National Park in Wales since 1956.

The consultations to date have generated a significant number of both supportive views and objections. By responding to the consultation existing National Park Authorities will be able to both welcome the proposed designation and outline the positive elements of designation.

It is proposed that a response would include the following:

- Support the designation of a new National Park;
- Outline some of the positive benefits of a National Park;
- Express concern regarding funding issues (see below);
- Provide a view on Governance

However, the Authority will not express a view on the proposed boundary of the proposed National Park.

It is proposed to send in a joint response from the three existing National Park Authorities. However, the other two National Parks are closer to the proposed fourth National Park and therefore if we cannot agree a response we will send in a response from this Authority.

5. Financial Considerations

Over the past 15 years Welsh National Park Authorities have seen an erosion in public funding available to undertake their work. Currently the Welsh Government settlement is divided between the three Welsh National Park Authorities based on a formula agreed over 20 years ago. All three NPAs have sought to make up this deficit through a range of income generating and cost reducing actions. The long-term reduction in funding along with high inflation over the past four years means that all three NPAs are currently facing significant deficits. A series of on-off funding contributions from Welsh Government have enabled all three to avoid significant reductions in service, however, there is concern that without additional funding, all three will have to consider a number of challenging decisions. This is an issue that has been regularly raised with Ministers and officers at Welsh Government.

With the deficits all three NPAs are facing, there is concern that the situation will be made worse if a fourth National Park is designated. However, both the First Minister and Deputy First Minister have said that there will be no reduction in funding of the existing National Park Authorities to fund a new National Park.

It would be prudent to highlight concerns in a consultation response.

6. Risk and Compliance Considerations

Since this is a consultation response there are no Risk or Compliance issues to consider.

7. Impact on our Public Sector Duties

7.1 Integrated Assessment Completed: No

7.2 Equality, Socio-Economic, Health and Human Rights Impacts

Since this is a consultation response there are no issues to consider.

7.3 Welsh Language Impacts

Since this is a consultation response there are no issues to consider.

7.4 Section 6 Biodiversity Duty and Carbon Emission Impacts

Since this is a consultation response there are no issues to consider.

7.5 Well-being Goals for Wales and 5 Ways of Working (Sustainable Development Principles) Impacts

Since this is a consultation response there are no issues to consider.

8. Conclusion

Members are asked to note the consultation from Natural Resources Wales and suggest any issues they wish to include in a consultation response. Since the consultation closes on 8th December 2025, Members are asked to delegate the response to the Chair and Chief Executive.

(For further information please contact Tegryn Jones,
tegrynj@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk)

Background Documents: [Proposed Glyndŵr National Park \(Designation\) Order - Statutory Consultation 2025 - Natural Resources Wales Citizen Space - Citizen Space](#)

DRAFFT

DEDDF PARCAU CENEDLAETHOL A MYNEDIAD I GEFN GWLAD 1949

GORCHYMYN(DYNODI) PARC CENEDLAETHOL GLYNDŴR 2026

Yn unol ag Adrannau 5 a 7 Deddf Parciau Cenedlaethol a Mynediad i Gefn Gwlad 1949, mae Corff Adnoddau Naturiol Cymru drwy hyn yn dynodi yn Barc Cenedlaethol yr holl ardal honno o dir sy'n cynnwys oddeutu 927 cilomedr sgwâr a leolir yn siroedd Sir Ddinbych, Sir y Fflint, Gwynedd, Powys, Wrexham ac y dangosir ei therfynau ag ymyl ddu ar y map sydd wedi'i atodi yma ac a ddisgrifir ymhellach yn yr Atodlen i'r gorchymyn hwn.

Gellir cyfeirio at y gorchymyn hwn fel Gorchymyn (Dynodi) Parc Cenedlaethol Glyndŵr 2026.

RHODDWYD o dan Sêl Gyffredin

Corff Adnoddau Naturiol Cymru

ar y diwrnod hwn yn
2026

DRAFT

NATIONAL PARKS AND ACCESS TO COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1949

GLYNDŴR NATIONAL PARK (DESIGNATION) ORDER 2026

In pursuance of Sections 5 and 7 of the National Parks and Access to Countryside Act 1949, the Natural Resources Body for Wales hereby designate as a National Park all that area of land comprising approximately 927 square kilometres situated in the counties of Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, Powys, Wrexham and shown bounded by a black line on the map annexed hereto and further described in the Schedule to this order.

This order may be cited as the Glyndŵr National Park (Designation) Order 2026.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of

the Natural Resources Body for Wales

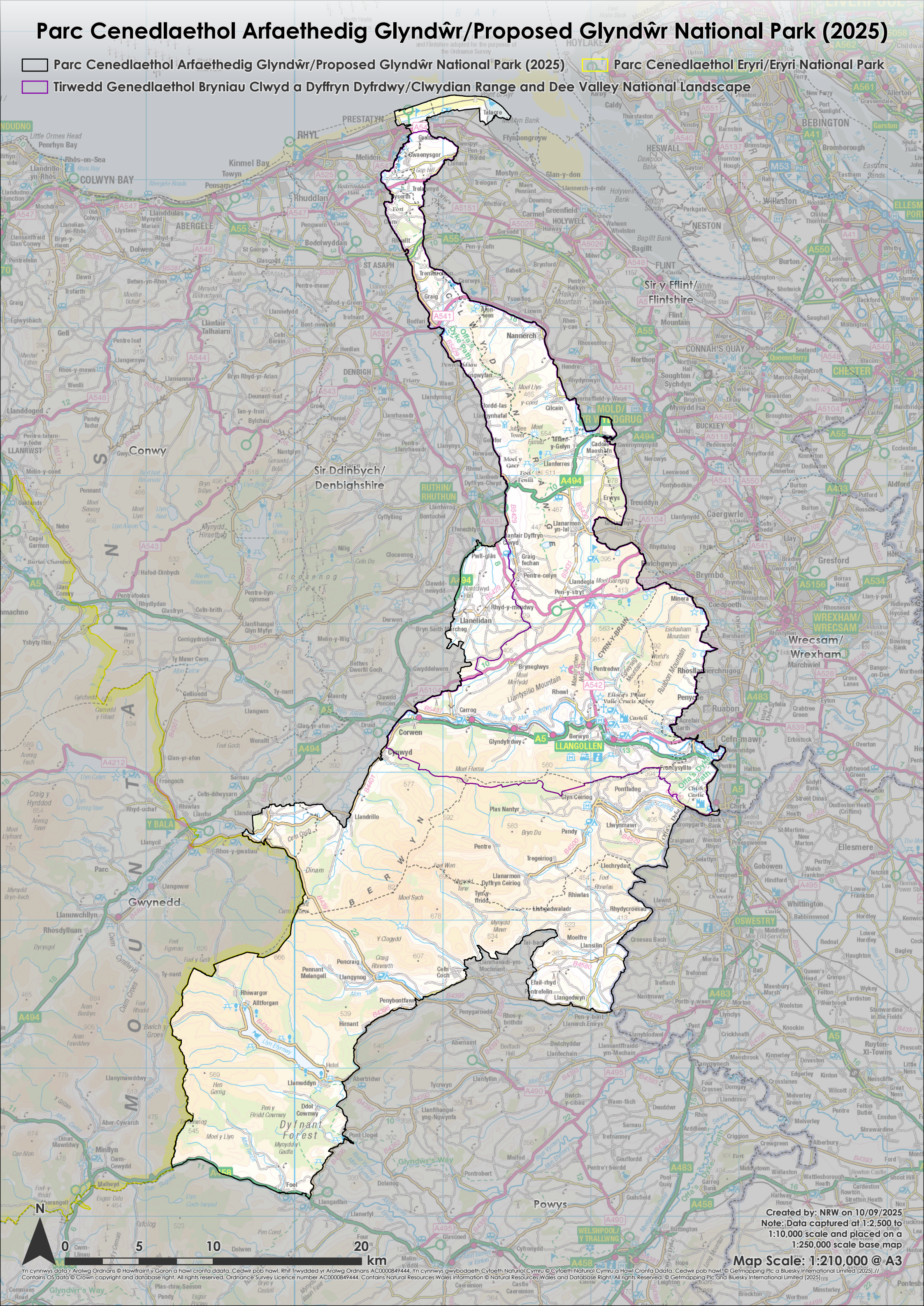
on this day of
2026

Cadeirydd Corff Adnoddau Naturiol Cymru / Chair of the Natural Resources Body for Wales

Prif Weithredwr Corff Adnoddau Naturiol Cymru / Chief Executive of the Natural Resources Body for Wales

Parc Cenedlaethol Arfaethedig Glyndŵr/Proposed Glyndŵr National Park (2025)

- Parc Cenedlaethol Arfaethedig Glyndŵr/Proposed Glyndŵr National Park (2025)
- Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri/Eryri National Park
- Tirwedd Genedlaethol Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy/Clwydian Range and Dee Valley National Landscape



Created by: NRW on 10/09/2025
Note: Data captured at 1:2,500 to 1:10,000 scale and placed on a 1:250,000 scale base map

Map Scale: 1:210,000 @ A3

Yn cynnwys data'r Arolwg Ordnans © Hawlfraint y Goron a hawl cronfa ddata. Cedwir pob hawl. Rhif Trwydded yr Arolwg Ordnans AC000849444. Yn cynnwys gwybodaeth Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru © Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru a Hawl Cronfa Ddata. Cedwir pob hawl © Getmapping Plc a Bluesky International Limited (2025). Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number AC000849444. Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and Database Right. All rights reserved. © Getmapping Plc and Bluesky International Limited (2025).