The Wales we want by 2050

A Welsh society’s commitment to a better quality of life for future generations

This document has been published as part of the Welsh Government’s input into the pilot National Conversation that is being taken forward by the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures. This was launched on 18th February. Further details on the pilot national conversation and launch can be found here: www.thewaleswewant.co.uk.

Our Vision: A sustainable future for Wales

In 2050, Wales will be the best place to live, learn, work and do business. We want our businesses, our public services, the third sector and Government to have worked together to achieve the goals that we set in 2015 through the ground-breaking Future Generations Bill.

We will have thought more about the long term, worked better together, taken early action and engaged with citizens on this journey; this will mean people in Wales are healthier and happier and more bilingual; and our economy is prosperous and our environment is resilient. We recognise the value of achieving good health for the population of Wales.

In 2014, Wales faces a number of complex challenges. Many of these are a legacy from the past, but it is important that this generation does not leave them as challenges for the next. We need to create jobs and get the right growth to lift people out of poverty. We need to make our environment and our communities more resilient to the major environmental problems we face including addressing declining biodiversity. We need people to be healthy, to achieve their potential and to make Wales a more equal society. We need to reduce our consumption of natural resources and act to tackle the causes and consequences of climate change.

We must think differently and we must act collectively.

Doing things differently is about looking forward so the choices we take secure a safe and prosperous future for us, for our children and for our grandchildren. To achieve this we need to be clear and consistent about the Wales we want. We need collectively agreed goals, the commitment to achieve them and the legislation to enable us to make our contribution. This means finding distinctively Welsh solutions, drawing on the strength of our local communities and building on our Welsh values.

We are not alone in taking up this challenge. Over the past two years there has been a global conversation, facilitated by the United Nations, with people the world over to seek their views
on a set of international Sustainable Development Goals; building on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals.

In Wales too, we need to build a consensus around the shared goals which are the most important to all of us, including our children and grandchildren.

**Goals for Wales’ future**

It is intended that these goals will explain the story of a Wales that within a generation we want to achieve. They will collectively represent what the long term economic, social and environmental well-being of Wales would look like.

The Future Generations Bill will set ambitious, long term goals to reflect the Wales we want to see in the future. By putting these goals into law, it will set a course for all public services in Wales to provide for the well-being of a sustainable Wales.

For the purposes of the Future Generations Bill, it is proposed that the goals will be achieved by placing a duty on named public service organisation in Wales to maximise the contribution they make. We intend to use other mechanisms such as the Sustainable Development Charter and our approach to sustainable procurement to also engage businesses, the third sector and other organisations to help us achieve these goals. We will measure the progress we are collectively making to achieve these goals.

**Proposed draft goals for input into the national conversation**

The pilot national conversation is an engagement exercise being facilitated by Peter Davies, the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures between February and April 2014. The purpose is to discuss the issues that matter to people in Wales now and for the long term. For more information go to: www.thewaleswewant.co.uk / www.ygymruagarem.co.uk

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