



WWF

CYMRU

MANIFESTO
SUMMARY

WWF Cymru Manifesto Summary

ASKS & POLICIES

VISION

We need a Government which will work for a better Wales in the future. We need a Government who can *maintain* a

long term vision, ensuring that the major changes needed in our infrastructure start to happen now.

We need a commitment to a truly sustainable Wales.

By this we mean a One Planet Wales, where the people of Wales lead happy, healthy, prosperous lives within their fair share of the Earth's resources.

We must plan for a different country, post recession, where resources, such as oil are constrained and where a successful economy is a low carbon, low resource use economy.

One where:

We are cleaner and greener – emitting 80% less greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

We live within our environmental limits – having reduced our ecological footprint to a One planet level by 2050.

The well being of the people in Wales – in all its aspects - health, happiness and prosperity- is the priority of Government – not just economic growth.

We believe these long term objectives should be held as articles of faith by all political parties. The time is past for dissenting from this future. What we need to see is parties competing over who has the most credible policies and programmes of action to make this happen.

There are some key milestones that all parties need to commit to if they are to seriously transform Wales.

By 2020,

- Recommit to a 40% reduction (on 1990 levels) of Total Welsh greenhouse gas emissions.
- Wales ecological footprint should be on downward trajectory, reducing by an average of at least 3% per annum.

In the following pages, WWF presents the pledges we expect to see from a new Government that is serious about becoming a world leader.



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TO ACHIEVE A ONE PLANET WALES

The aim of reducing ecological and carbon footprints must be explicit in *all* strategies, plans and policies. It is not enough just to pursue programmes to reduce GHG emissions produced in Wales.

The latest data on carbon footprint of Wales' consumption shows that savings from improving technical energy efficiencies have been wiped out, over the last 15 years, by increasing levels of consumption. I.e. products are being produced with less carbon emissions but we are consuming more of them, so the overall impact is an increase in footprint.

Therefore, in addition to climate change plans, there is a need to work towards sustainable consumer behaviour.

Pledge:

- Stabilise and then reduce Wales' ecological footprint so that we are on a downward trajectory by 2020.

The following are key areas of activity for the next 4 years to achieve a One Planet Wales.

One planet economy

A sustainable economy will have to operate using at least 75% less resources and 80% less carbon emissions than currently. Government should support a just transition through all of its levers – regulatory and financial. Government must ensure every pound spent is effective and focussed on these key aims.

Policy:

To deliver this WWF Cymru believes you need to:

- Produce a plan for the reduction of Wales' ecological/carbon footprint and monitor implementation.
- Redirect public expenditure away from where it subsidises high-carbon and resource-inefficient aspects of the economy, towards areas which are crucial to Wales' capacity to thrive in the transition to a green world economy. At the same time supporting businesses making the transition to using 75% less resources, including carbon.
- Assess the impact of all policies, programmes and public expenditure on reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and Wales ecological/carbon footprint and publish this.

Sustainable Procurement

Ensure public sector food procurement is local and seasonal and only from sustainably certified sources by 2012, whenever such sources are available. This should use the full range of sustainability certification schemes, including 100% Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) fish and specifying RSPO certified palm oil (Round Table on Sustainable Palm Oil).



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CLIMATE CHANGE

In order to ensure Wales combats potentially dangerous climate change, we must make rapid reductions in our levels of greenhouse gas emissions.

Crucial to this will be that the next Government prioritises the delivery of a decarbonised electricity supply system and decarbonisation of the existing housing stock. Prioritising the urgent delivery of actions to achieve this is vital.

Pledge

- Recommit to reducing Wales' greenhouse gas emissions by 40% (on 1990 levels) by 2020, and ensure the level of annual reduction targets enable the 40% cut to be achieved.

Policy

To deliver this WWF Cymru believes you need to:

- Maintain the current ambition for a decarbonised electricity supply sector by 2025, backed by a robust package of incentives to make this happen.
- Set a target to reduce all carbon emissions from housing by at least 40% by 2020, supported by a nationwide housing retrofit programme to deliver it.
- Stabilise traffic levels at 2001 level by 2021.

To do this the new Government needs to:

DECARBONISE THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SYSTEM

Power up renewables

- Greater sharing of renewables targets with local authorities so that there is a joint responsibility to deliver renewable energy capacity linked to incentives. Apply sanctions to local authorities where local development plans and development control decisions consistently fail to comply with National Planning Policy.
- Investigate lower-impact options to exploit the Severn's tidal energy in full compliance with the EU Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Directives.

Reconfigure the planning system

- Revise TAN 8 ensuring the Strategic Search Areas (SSAs) are sufficient for future development needs.
- Develop a planning system geared towards enabling renewable energy and shifting towards a low carbon economy which respects environmental limits.
- A clear assessment of the carbon impacts of energy proposals.
- Decision-makers must have a remit to refuse development that is likely to impede the achievement of targets for renewable energy and emissions reductions.

REDUCE DEMAND FOR ENERGY

In homes & buildings

- A nationwide housing retrofit programme, that would deliver:
 - Universal loft and cavity insulation as part of a whole-house eco refurbishment package.
 - Provide grants and cheap loans for more expensive measures.
 - A plan for every home to reduce its carbon emissions by 80% and delineating a stepwise approach to achieve it.
- Maintain commitments to zero carbon new buildings via the tightening of building regulations.
- Activate building regulations to require a minimum energy efficiency standard for all private housing by 2015. These standards will escalate over time, leading to a 'very good' standard by 2020.
- Consequential improvements should be required in existing homes when people increase the carbon footprint of their home.

In transport

- Government must be clear that a key goal is reducing car miles to 2001 levels by 2020 and this should be a very clear and dominant goal of transport plans.



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- Support an alternative fuel infrastructure & supply chain for urban/rural areas, supporting technological innovation to help achieve an aspiration that at least 10% of the car fleet are electric vehicles by 2020.
- The public sector car fleet to be entirely 100% electric vehicles by 2020.
- Stop subsidy of the north south air link and instead invest in video conference and other ICT facilities which will reduce the need for travel.
- Introduce a congestion charge in two cities creating an immediate financial incentive to choose active or public transport and use the revenue generated for more ambitious alternatives.

In agriculture & food

- Commit to a target of 15-20% reduction in meat and dairy consumption by 2020. This target should sit within the context of a green house gas reduction plan for food which commits to at least 25% reductions by 2020 and 75% reductions by 2050. Research shows that production efficiency improvements alone are not enough to meet the level of cuts required by our targets.

In the Public Sector

- Public sector bodies to be given mandatory performance targets in emissions reductions and provision of renewable energy which are set out in performance management frameworks. Penalties for non-compliance should be introduced.
- Commit to retrofitting all council buildings and properties.

MARINE & FISHERIES

Effective protection and management of our coasts and seas is urgently needed to address declining biodiversity and to ensure a sustainable future for marine industries.

In our view, the need to ensure a sustainable marine environment and not go beyond the environmental limits of our seas is crucial to achieving sustainable development.

Therefore to secure long-term biodiversity the Government must ensure that:

- They improve management of existing Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and designate new Highly Protected Marine Conservation Zones (HPMCZ) as part of this ecologically coherent network by 2012.
- Marine plans are produced by 2015 which cover all activities and secure sustainable resource use throughout Welsh Seas.
- Every fishery is managed sustainably according to a long-term management plan, created by stakeholders.
- Lobby for improved governance through reform of the Common Fisheries Policy and the establishment of regional fisheries management bodies.
- Actively promote Marine Stewardship Council certification as a credible means of encouraging sustainable fishing practices and achieving improvement in fisheries performance.



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FRESHWATER

Demand for water in the UK is growing at a time when climate change is likely to lead to a

greater threat of water scarcity than ever before, and when we will be more prone to both droughts and floods. We must protect ourselves and the environment from these threats by:

- By 2012, ensure that climate change policies include specific policy interventions to reduce water consumption, in both new and existing homes, to put Wales on a path to reducing average level of consumption by 20% by 2030.
- Introduce universal water metering, with a pricing structure that provides an incentive to be water efficient, without penalising vulnerable households.
- Upgrade the sewage system to reduce the impacts of discharging sewage into the natural environment.
- Create a modern urban drainage network that can mitigate surface water flooding and trap pollution.
- Meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive and ensure local stakeholders are fully involved in the delivery.

WWF Cymru in numbers



2000

WWF Cymru is established and begins operating in Wales

75%

reduction needed in Wales' ecological footprint by 2050



10 YEARS

of our campaigning has led to a new Marine Act that will protect Welsh and UK seas

40%

emissions reduction needed by 2020



Why we are here.

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

wwf.org.uk/wales