



# Future Generations September 2021 Newsletter



## Foreword

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"What Wales is doing today - the world will do tomorrow."

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Since my appointment in 2016, I've worked with United Nations officials to tell the unique and inspirational story from Wales with our commitment to consider the long-term impacts of decisions.

Earlier this month UN Secretary General, António Guterres published his report '[Our Common Agenda](#)' and announced the establishment of a UN Special Envoy for Future Generations and a Summit of the Future in 2023. Inspired by Wales' own Well-being of Future Generations Act, the UN have committed to long-term thinking and the consideration of the impact on succeeding generations with a Special Envoy who's tasked with representing the interests of those who are expected to be born over the coming century.



This is an exciting development and a big step forward in taking Wales' future generations approach to the World. I look forward to building on the advice and partnerships I have already developed and shared with the United Nations, in the implementation of these proposals.

The report 'Our Common Agenda' represents the Secretary General's vision for the future of the UN and sets his major priorities for the next five years. Building on previous commitments made, this report sets out a vision for the UN to ensure the interests of future generations are placed at the heart of the way we govern our societies at a national and global level. A vision based on what Wales is already putting into action.

We all have a duty to protect future generations from the harm they'll suffer from ill-thought-out and unwise decisions taken today. Without action, problems such as poverty, the climate and nature emergencies, and health inequalities will be exacerbated for our children and grandchildren.



Ruth Mari Cocks  
@RuthyCocks



This is a pretty epic achievement for @sophiehowe and the team @futuregencymru! Congratulations! Paving the way for #futuregenerations with an agreed governance model announced by the #UN based on the cracking example set by #Wales. Go large or go home I say! Well done all 🙌🇨🇪



Sophie Howe @sophiehowe · Sep 10

Massive step forward in taking Welsh future generations approach to the world. We've been working with @UN & have been part of an advisory grp to the Secretary General on governance for future generations so I'm thrilled to see this announcement from him today #proudtobeWelsh

**in partnership with**

- **United Nations Youth Office**
- **Transforming Education Summit in 2022**
- **Recovery barometer** to track career paths and labour market outcomes for youth
- **High-ambition coalition** to promote green and digital-economy job creation

**Future generations**

- **Summit of the Future in 2023**

10:53 PM · Sep 14, 2021 from Cairo, Egypt · Twitter for iPhone



UN Youth Envoy  
@UNYouthEnvoy



Replying to @JacobDEllis @antonioGuterres and 9 others

Thank you for your leadership and guidance  
@sophiehowe @JacobDEllis 🙌

11:00 PM · Sep 10, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone



Jacob Dafydd Ellis  
@JacobDEllis



ANNOUNCEMENT 📢 🇬🇧 🇨🇪

"What Wales is doing today - the world will do tomorrow!"

@antonioguterres intends to establish a @UN Special Envoy for Future Generations and Summit of the Future!

We've been supporting and advising UN leadership on this and today is a proud day!



With COP26 in Glasgow inching closer, it has never been more important to put pressure on global leaders to take urgent and necessary action on the climate and nature emergencies.

As the Guardian of Future Generations, I believe the voices of young people should be front and centre at COP. Not only have they contributed least to the causes of climate change, but it is their futures, and the futures of generations yet to be born, that are going to be most affected.

And while Wales is doing great things, we have a long way to go, and we must not be complacent. Ahead of COP, I am urging Welsh Government and other world governments to protect our current and future generations well-being.

I am calling on you – take the vision of the Act and put pressure on your governments, friends and family to take climate action seriously. Become the Future Generations Commissioners of your own families, communities and nations.

The lives and livelihoods of current generations of everyone in Wales, and the planet, are at stake – not to mention the prospects for future generations to survive and thrive.

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**"We expect 10.9 billion people to be born by century's end.**

**We need their talents, ideas and energies, young people need more than support.**

**They need a seat at the table."**

António Guterres

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## Movement for Change

*The Well-being of Future Generations Act is legislation of the people of Wales, for the people of Wales and the generations still to come.*

*Central to achieving the seven well-being goals in the Act, is the diverse movement of organisations today campaigning on and delivering projects that meet the Act's aspirations. Many of them have contributed to the work of our Office over the past five years, helping shape what we do and our recommendations to government and public bodies.*

*We refer to this wider movement as the 'Movement for Change' and in this month's newsletter, we wanted to shine a light on some of the organisations and networks that are part of this diverse ecosystem of change makers: [Community Leisure UK \(Wales\)](#) and [Ffilm Cymru Wales](#).*

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### *Welsh Leisure and Culture Trusts as Community Change Makers*

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Community Leisure UK (Wales) is a membership association that represents charitable Trusts (charities, societies or community interest companies) which manage and provide public leisure, sport, arts and culture services for communities across Wales.

They work closely with local government, managing their public leisure and culture services and contributing significantly to local authorities' duties under the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Their charitable trust business model ensures people have (subsidised) access to a wide range of cultural and physical activity programmes, and offers accessible choices based on personal preferences, needs and ability to engage.

Trusts manage 50% of all public leisure in Wales, public libraries in four Welsh local authority areas and a range of locally and nationally important arts and cultural venues, offering an accessible pathway for all ages to enjoy culture and be active.

This includes:

- free-swimming programme and learn to swim classes
- relaxed and subtitled cinema screenings
- community sports development programmes
- rhyme time in libraries
- rehabilitation and falls prevention
- National Exercise Referral Scheme
- youth theatre classes

All their work is done with the aim of providing a safe space for the community, reducing social isolation and loneliness, addressing and preventing long-term health conditions, and improving mental health and well-being. They've found their work

programmes have reduced member's anxiety, increased people's confidence, and has supported learning and personal development in all ages.



*Image: Participants at the Visually Impaired Tennis Competition hosted by Newport Live, in partnership with Lawn Tennis Association during summer 2021. As a charitable organisation, Newport Live invests any profit generated back into the services and facilities they offer – so Newport Live customers help to support their local community.*

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Community Leisure UK (Wales) are delivering against the well-being goals and ways of working with their ethos and vision. They also actively support their members in aligning with the Act, helping their members act as true community change makers.

Supporting 'A Resilient Wales', they've recently published a [Climate Change Action Plan](#), helping leisure and culture trusts understand how they can respond to the climate change emergency, and to communicate their collective contribution to environmental targets.

As significant partners to local government and being at the heart of local communities, leisure and culture trusts can make a significant contribution to the climate targets set by local and national governments.

They also play an important role in educating staff and the public, local recycling efforts, encouraging sustainable and active travel, and investment in ageing facilities to improve their environmental footprint.

For example, Freedom Leisure which manages over 30 facilities in Wales, has recently invested over half a million pounds in energy saving installations in Penlan Leisure Centre, Swansea. The installations include:

- a solar panel electricity system
- combined heat and power
- LED lighting
- improved pool hall air handling units

These investments have led to a 75% reduction in electricity, an estimated 16% decrease in gas usage, and estimated 40% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> – which is equivalent to saving enough gas to power 44 houses and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions equivalent to 172 cars.

Another area of focus for Community Leisure UK is to support its members around [equality, diversity and inclusion](#) (ED&I), discussing and addressing barriers of participation in public leisure and culture, both in terms of employment and activities. Through this work, they've contributed to 'A More Equal Wales' where they're working with partners and members on the promotion of the leisure and culture sectors as a career choice for individuals from all backgrounds and supporting members in the development of their own ED&I policies.

In their 2021 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan they identified three ways to deliver on their commitments of equality, diversity and inclusion which include: "working with our members, engaging with our partners, and educating ourselves as an organisation."

For more information on their work visit their website [communityleisureuk.org](http://communityleisureuk.org).



Ffilm Cymru Wales is the sector development agency for Welsh film who are dedicated to advancing and sustaining an inclusive, fair, and green film industry for Wales.

They do this by:

- providing funding and training to emerging and established Welsh filmmakers
- offering exciting cinematic experiences to audiences across Wales
- engaging people of all ages and abilities in creative learning
- developing skills and career paths through a range of training programmes
- co-developing approaches that help people in the sector to work differently

The Well-being of Future Generations Act invites a distinctive and unique approach for Welsh companies to consider sustainability and public responsibilities in an imaginative and forward-thinking way.

Framed around the Act and the seven well-being goals, their work ranges from providing inclusive alternatives to recruitment methods, to supporting production companies maximise the value of their intellectual property, helping to ensure that companies are sustainable and have global reach.

They are supporting 'A Globally Responsible Wales' by tackling environmental challenges within the film industry with their Green Cymru programme. The programme aims to support screen sector professionals and companies in Wales to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.



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“Ffilm Cymru’s work is underpinned by the WFG Act, promoting sustainable development, and contributing to environmental well-being.

It provides a shared framework for us all to work towards.

For example, the Green Cymru programme looks to facilitate a sustainable film industry in Wales that is not only better equipped to combat emerging challenges from climate change and other environmental issues but also continues to prosper and grow sustainably”.

*Chris Hill, Green Manager*

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The programme has already managed to:

- Establish the Green Cymru Challenge Fund (an innovation fund in partnership with Clwstwr making seed funding available for individuals, organisations and collaborations across multiple sectors to research and develop new sustainable ways of working in film and TV) which aims to bring together understanding and practice across areas such as transport, energy, and tech, as well as the creative industries, to help develop products and services that support the creative sector to be greener
- Secure £600,000 of funding to develop new products and services that support a greener screen sector, as part of the multi-partner Strength in Places Media.Cymru programme
- Shine a light on resources and best practice to inspire others to make their work in Wales' screen sector more sustainable and work in partnership with green organisations and networks (including Green Regio, BAFTA's Albert, Sustain Cymru and Welsh Government’s Creative Wales)

Ffilm Cymru are also supporting ‘A Prosperous Wales’ with their new programme Foot in the Door, an inclusive new entrant training programme which helps connect local people with screen production jobs, focusing on their transferable skills from carpentry and catering, to driving and administration. The scheme works in partnership with Housing Associations, job centres and grassroots organisations to develop a flexible and resilient workforce.

To learn more about Ffilm Cymru Wales' inspiring work, visit their website [www.ffilmcymruwales.com](http://www.ffilmcymruwales.com).



## Wales to the World - the World to Wales

### **COP26 - Code Red for Humanity**

In November, world leaders will come together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement.

With the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report calling it 'code red for humanity', we know we're not doing enough to limit global warming and that our activity is irreversibly changing our climate.

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*But we can change our future.*

*Wales, as a small nation, can show leadership on climate action and protect future generations from the harm they'll suffer without action to limit the impact of the climate crisis.*

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**CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS  
EVERY SINGLE ONE OF US.**

**THIS IS A THREAT TO  
PEOPLE, OUR HOMES AND THE  
PLACES WE LOVE.**

COMMITMENTS HAVE ALREADY  
BEEN MADE.  
TARGETS HAVE BEEN SET.  
  
NOW WE NEED REAL  
ACTION.

Not only have young people contributed least to the causes of the climate and nature emergencies, but it is their futures, and the futures of generations yet to be born, that are going to be most affected.

A recent global study of more than 10,000 young people across 10 countries found that 45% of global youth are affected by “*climate anxiety and distress*” with 75% of respondents believing “*the future is frightening*”.

The Commissioner will be attending COP in Glasgow and working with partners including [Size of Wales](#) and the [Youth Climate Ambassadors for Wales](#) to amplify youth voices and we’ll soon be setting out asks to Welsh Government on what they need to action urgently to protect our future.



## Our latest work and resources

- **We're recruiting 2 new roles – work with us!**

Are you a Welsh speaker with a passion for detail and supporting others? **You could be our next Team Support Administrator!**

Or are you a visual storyteller, full of innovative ideas with a passion for finding new ways to communicate important and sometimes complex messages? **You might be interested in our Content Creator position!**

We truly value difference and would love for passionate people with diverse lived experience from across Wales to work with us. We recognise our team could be more diverse so operate a guaranteed interview scheme for people from Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic backgrounds and disabled people who apply and meet the essential job criteria. Please tell us about your lived experience when making your application.

You can find out more about the roles on our website:

- [Team Support Administrator](#) - closing date 4th October
- [Content Creator](#) - closing date 4th October



- **Betty Campbell Monument**

Today, Wednesday 29th September, our Poet in Residence Taylor Edmonds performed her latest poem at the unveiling of the Betty Campbell Monument in Cardiff: [When I Speak of Bravery | A poem for Betty Campbell](#).

After thousands of votes were cast in Monumental Welsh Women's vote, Betty Campbell was chosen as the first out of five historical Welsh women for whom they would wish to see immortalised with a statue. As Wales' first black head teacher, Betty Campbell championed her nation's multicultural heritage throughout her life. Betty helped to create Black History Month, became a member of the Commission for Racial Equality, served as a councillor for Butetown from 1999 to 2004 and was awarded an MBE in 2003 for her services to education and community life.

In celebration of her life and work, the Monument was unveiled outside the new HMRC building in Central Square, Cardiff on Wednesday, September 29.



**Monumental Welsh Women**  
@women\_welsh

🎉 It's finally happening! 🎉  
The **FIRST** public statue of a named Welsh woman will be unveiled in Cardiff on the 29th September. The Betty Campbell Monument has been designed & created by Eve Shepherd @UKSculpture  
[#monumentalwelshwomen](#) [#makingherstory](#)  
[#BettyCampbell](#) [#HiddenHeroines](#)

The Unveiling of the Betty Campbell Monument



We are delighted to announce the unveiling of the Betty Campbell Monument will take place outside the HMRC building near Central Square, Cardiff at 11am on Wednesday 29th September 2021. More details to follow or catch up on twitter @women\_welsh

You and 7 others

- **Delivering Well-being with Doughnut Economics event recording**

Did you join the Commissioner, Kate Raworth and Katherine Trebeck (Co-founder of WEAll) at WEAll's event earlier this month on 'what is "doughnut economics" and how it relates to the WFG Act'? If you missed it, you could catch up via their YouTube channel [here](#).



- **Picture Your Future: A Participatory Photography Project for Young People on the Environment in Wales**

How can young people express their views about the environment, and their aspirations to be agents of change? How can those perspectives be turned into recommendations for meaningful collective action?

To pursue these questions, we're working with the Food, Farming and Countryside Commission and the Berggruen Institute from the USA to host 'Picture your Future' – a participatory photography project that brings diverse young voices to the table, engaging young activists in a deliberative process around long term environmental action at the personal, local, and national levels. We are inviting young people (ages 18-25) from across Wales to apply for this unique opportunity to influence decision-makers by documenting your concerns and ambitions for the environment and the future you want to create.

Find out more about the project [here](#).



## Contact Us

Want to catch up on previous issues of the newsletter? You can find them on our website [here](#).

For more information get in contact here:

[futuregenerations.wales/futuregenerations2020.wales](http://futuregenerations.wales/futuregenerations2020.wales)

[contactus@futuregenerations.wales](mailto:contactus@futuregenerations.wales)

@futuregencymru

**Please note the office is currently closed and the best way to contact us is via our email address above.**

