



Future Generations May 2023 Newsletter



1 - Derek Walker, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales

Foreword

*We're calling all public, private and voluntary sector organisations, elected officials, campaigners and community organisers in Wales – **what should be the priorities of the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner over the next seven years and beyond?***

We are exploring where and how we can have the most impact - working within our powers and duties – in this new phase of our work. This work, [Our Future Focus](#), includes gathering data and information from:

- Published reports
- Analysis of futures trends
- Discussions with stakeholders
- An online survey

You can access the survey here – [Our Future Focus](#).

The survey will be **live until the 3rd July 2023** and is tailored to be specific to you and whatever role you have in shaping Wales' future.

you represent based? *

South-East Wales

South-West Wales

Mid-Wales

North Wales

2. There are two sections to this survey - one is intended for those in the public, private and voluntarily sectors, elected officials, campaigners or community organisers. Do you identify as a part of the aforementioned groups/ sectors? *

Yes, I belong to one of these sectors or groups

No - I am a member of the Public (you will be routed to a separate part of the survey)

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Dewiswch ranbarth yng Nghymru rydych chi neu'ch sefydliad yn dod ohono ac os ydych yn perthyn i unrhyw un o'r sectorau y sonnir amdanynt yn y cwestiwn neu os ydych yn cynrychioli eich hun.

Select the region of Wales you or your organisation is from and if you belong to any of the sectors mentioned in the question or if you're representing yourself.

<https://sway.office.com/R2ozxE7XcZwehHCq#content=bDFaxUPASGDICX>

So, whether you work in a public body, you're a business interested in the Well-being of Future Generations Act, or an individual who's campaigning for a better future, we want to hear from you.

You can complete it on behalf of your organisation, as an individual, or both – the questions will route you to the appropriate part of the survey.

Questions in the survey range from which of our activities have had the most impact and what areas of work we should continue/stop; to **what** you believe are the biggest issues and challenges that we should tackle over the next seven years and **how** we should do it.

We're also asking questions around how your organisation is helping to address some of these issues and what you could do more/less of.

If you'd like to submit a collective response from your organisation or group, you can also access Word document versions of the survey [on our website](#). But, please do not send us your answers via any Word documents – you will need to transfer them to the online survey.

These are just some of the ways we're involving people from across Wales.



Bod cynaliadwyedd cryf a'u bod yn falch iawn o Gymru.

That there's strong sustainability and that they're really proud of Wales.

<https://sway.office.com/R2ozxE7XcZwehHCq#content=rRRy5hVwJP7h6G>

Since March 1st, the start of Derek Walker's term as Commissioner, our team have been involved in a number of meetings and events which have contributed to Our Future Focus. Just a few of these include:

- Across Wales - Meeting with public body leaders and frontline staff to discuss their duties under the Act and how we can best support and advise them going forward
- Aberystwyth - Keynote speaker at **WISERD Wales** and the **Centre for Welsh Politics and Society**'s event in Aberystwyth to discuss how the Act provides a framework for cohesive communities
- St Asaph - Working with **Nina Ruddle** at **Wrexham Glyndwr University** to bring together leaders and changemakers from across North Wales for collaborative thinking and learning
- Online - Hosting a conversation with **Well-being Economy Alliance (WEALL)** to discuss Our Future Focus and what public services need to do to ensure the well-being of our future generations
- Cardiff - Collaborating with **Audit Wales** and their event with **Arts Wales, Welsh Language Commissioner** and the **Urdd** to discuss the 'Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language' well-being goal



WISERD
@WISERDNews



Next up is the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales
[@derekwalker_](#), who is today's keynote speaker! 🗣️

[@VSSN_UK](#) [@AberUni](#) [@CWPSAber](#) [#VSSN_Aber](#)



2:27 PM · May 24, 2023 · **1,898** Views



Future Gen Cymru
@futuregencymru



Thank you @CWPSAber for hosting us today to present how WBFG Act & Ways of Working can provide a framework to avoid intergenerational divides and the polarisation of communities. #FutureFocws

Have your say via our survey to help shape Our Future Focus:
bit.ly/ourfuturefocus



CWPSAber @CWPSAber · May 24



Our keynote speaker, @derekwalker_ , Future Generations Commissioner for Wales @futuregencymru, shared how Wales is well-placed to resist division from an increasingly polarised world

#VSSN_Aber @WISERDNews @VSSN_UK @AberRBI



4:25 PM · May 24, 2023 · **622** Views

Future Gen Cymru Retweeted



Sarah Harvey
@Sarah_Harvey35



Brilliant turnout @theopticcentre for our @WGUCivicMission C4C launch in collaboration with @futuregenymru bringing together leaders and changemakers from across North Wales



10:21 AM · May 10, 2023 · 693 Views

"What do current & future generations need public services and others to do in order to achieve the 7 wellbeing goals?" #FutureFocws

We've partnered with @WEAll_Alliance today to have an important conversation as part of Our Future Focus. Get involved:
bit.ly/m/futureffocws



10:13 AM · May 18, 2023 · 1,050 Views



Future Gen Cymru
@futuregenymru



“One of the things we need to do more of is give opportunity for organisations and people to take bold and radical steps to get to where we need to go.” - [@derekwalker_](#)

We're at [@AuditWales_GPX](#) today for Our Future Focus talking about achieving a Wales of vibrant culture. [#AWales](#)



Urdd Gobaith Cymru and 3 others

12:47 PM · May 16, 2023 · **1,905** Views

We're also planning:

- Roundtables on culture, race equality, and trade unions, and a workshop on A More Equal Wales (June)
- More regional events in collaboration with our Future Generations Changemaker 100 (June)
- Exploratory policy sessions with stakeholders to discuss different live issues

For more information on how you can feed in your ideas about our work and the future of the Office, visit our [website](#).

We're recruiting

Are you passionate about finding new solutions to sustainable development and working with others to improve well-being across Wales and the world?

We're seeking to appoint five individuals to join our Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee (ARAC) to provide assurance and advice on the governance of my Office.

The purpose of the committee is to advise me and my team on the adequacy and effectiveness of strategic processes for risk control and governance. You can find the full list of responsibilities of ARAC on our [website](#).

We're looking for people with a knowledge or interest in the Well-being of Future Generations Act, someone who wants to act as an ambassador for the organisation and be able to share your view, even if it is not shared by others.

We need people who can see the big picture, act with integrity and role model inclusive behaviours. For the full list of the specific skills we're looking for, please visit our [website](#).

Across the vacant roles, we're **seeking a blend of expertise** from finance, legal, governance and the political sphere - so you might have held roles in government, intergovernmental organisations, the private sector or civil society organisations.



"Playing a small role in the amazing journey of FGC so far is an absolute privilege and knowing that the office is well run, is financially sound and has good governance processes allows the Commissioner to carry out their visionary work without distraction."

ARAC Member

We strongly encourage applications from people in the following groups to apply:

- Racially diverse backgrounds
- Living with a disability / disabilities

If you have a deep interest in embracing new solutions to sustainable development, we would love to hear from you!

Alongside this recruitment, we are offering several two-year trainee positions, working with Pathway to Board and the alumni of our own Future Generations Leadership Academy.

For more information [please visit our website](#).

Meet the Team Q&A – Pep

Each month, we'll be publishing a Q&A with a member of our team who will share their insights into their time with the office.

This month it's Petranka (Pep) Malcheva, a long-standing team member who's worked on numerous projects around a variety of topics including planning and placemaking, Wales' transport system, and futures thinking.



When did you start with the office?

May 2018

What are your current priorities?

I am currently working on [Our Future Focus](#). Together with colleagues, we are developing an analytical framework, criteria and plan for how we will analyse everything that people are telling us through our multiple involvement sources.

I am also working, alongside Sara Elias from Public Health Wales, on our training and advice to public bodies in relation to long-term thinking and foresight. Foresight and futures thinking, i.e, what could happen as a result of decisions, actions and issues occurring in the present, has been something of a personal passion of mine for years, so I am very excited to be working in this area.

What has been your proudest moment?

I've had a few but the one that stands out is when someone said that our [Section 20 report](#) and our [Maturity Matrix](#) are the best report/tool they have seen!



What has been your biggest piece of learning in your time with the office?

Our work is very dynamic and encompasses such a wide range of things that I feel like I am constantly learning something, so it's difficult to pick one thing out of the huge mountain of lessons I have had over the years.

Perhaps the thing that has taken me longest to learn has been that cultural change takes a long time and you must constantly be striving towards it for it to work.

What is your foremost hope as the work of the office continues into the future?

That we can create momentum that everyone in Wales can get behind, and that the good examples we are seeing in Wales on a local level can be grown, replicated and shared with the world, because thinking about the children of the future in the present is something that everyone should be doing.

What advice would you give to new team members?

It is absolutely normal and pretty standard to be feeling overwhelmed with the scale of the things we are trying to achieve - in fact, that feeling never fully goes away - but you will quickly go from overwhelmed to excited.

One word that sums up your time at the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales:

Стихия (which, translated from Bulgarian, would mean an uncontrollable force of nature).



Wales Net Zero 2035 Challenge Group

We're on "our final warning".

That's what leading scientists have said recently regarding the disastrous worldwide impacts of climate change.

Established earlier this year, the Wales Net Zero 2035 Challenge Group is working to deliver on a commitment made by the Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru to “**commission independent advice to examine potential pathways to net zero by 2035.... and look at the impact on society and sectors of our economy and how any adverse effects may be mitigated**”.

Led by Jane Davidson (former Welsh Government Environment Minister) the group brings together experts from across academia, public, private organisations, and representatives from the Welsh Youth Parliament and is tasked with:

- finding the best examples of transformative change from Wales and around the world and bringing them to Wales;
- challenging the Welsh government and Senedd to go further and faster;
- imagining what a fairer, more sustainable future looks like for the Welsh nation.

“I challenge anybody with big ideas about how to reach net zero by 2035 – whilst also making sure that we support communities in Wales and deliver better outcomes for nature – to respond to our calls for evidence.”

Jane Davidson

Former Environment Minister, who proposed what became the Well-being of Future Generations Act.



Grŵp Herio Cymru
Sero Net 2035
Wales **Net Zero 2035**
Challenge Group

They have now launched the first of five Challenge Areas that they will be looking into – **How can Wales feed itself by 2035?** - and will be looking for the most imaginative solutions to inform 10-year deliverable plans from 2025 to 2035.

It will be seeking views from Wales and the world, making draft conclusions public to openly put them to the test in Wales and beyond, before making recommendations to the Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru in summer 2024.

The other Challenge areas that they will be working on include:

- *How could Wales **meet energy needs** by 2035 whilst phasing out fossil fuels?*

- *How could Wales **heat and build homes and workplaces** by 2035?*
- *How could **people and places be connected** across Wales by 2035?*
- *What could **education, jobs and work, look like** across Wales by 2035?*

We are excited to be joining the group as an observer and look forward to seeing the innovative and inspiring examples of transformational change which could help to fast track our net zero ambitions and ensure a better future for those not yet born.

You can find out more about the Wales Net Zero 2035 Challenge Group on [their website](#).



2 - [Wales Net Zero 2035 Challenge Group](#)

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:

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@futuregencymru

