



## Cymru Can Newsletter - June 2024



## Foreword



*1 - Derek Walker, Future Generations Commissioner for Wales*

### **More bodies getting in on the Act**

Eight more organisations are coming under the Well-being of Future Generations Act and will be legally obliged to think and act long-term for the well-being of those not yet born.

The eight new public bodies are:

- Transport for Wales
- Qualifications Wales
- Digital Health Care Wales
- Centre for Digital Public Services
- Health Education Improvement Wales
- Social Care Wales
- Welsh Ambulance Services University NHS Trust
- Welsh Revenue Authority

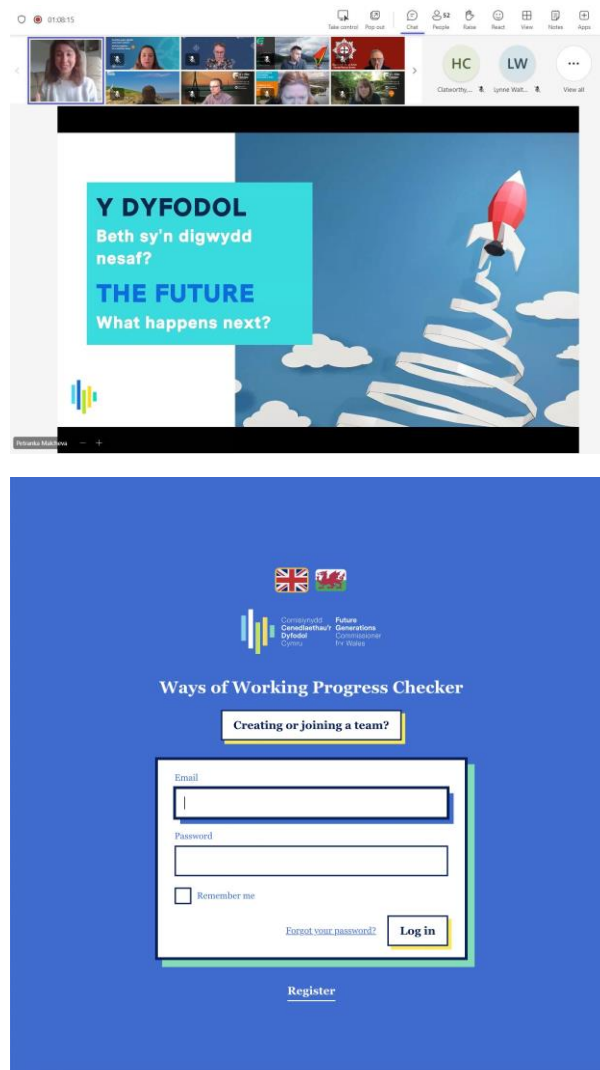
My strategy, [Cymru Can](#), puts [implementation and impact](#) of the Act at our core, and my team and I are looking forward to supporting these organisations to act today for a better tomorrow.

Here's how we're hitting the ground running together:

- Many of these organisations were already using the Act – alongside a growing number of those in business, the voluntary sector and others who are inspired to put the well-being of future generations at the centre of their work.
- The new organisation's chief executives, senior leadership teams and I have been meeting, and they are putting in place ways of showing their impact on long-term well-being; like

involving service users in setting their new well-being objectives, setting up ways of measuring success based on social, environmental, cultural and economic well-being, convening events to share practice and using future trends to think about where they need to focus.

- Each organisation has received individual and targeted support from us as they consider their new well-being objectives and strategies.
- Network sessions have trained organisations on issues including the basics of the Act and their duties to future generations, long-term thinking and futures methods.
- Our [Ways of Working Progress Checker](#), an interactive tool to help organisations understand and measure their impact so far, has been rolled out to all eight new organisations.



This support isn't a one off and we'll be working with all 56 public bodies to help them shift further to long-term decision making which considers all dimensions of well-being.

I also recognise the organisations under the obligation of the Act are all different.

They are local authorities, health boards, park authorities and national and regional organisations, covering the expanse of Wales and have to address a wide range of issues including how we build

and create communities, how we travel, how we eat and keep healthy, how we reduce our environmental impact and more.

But we all have the same goal, leaving the world in a better place than we found it, and we can all be working, with ambition, to increase the pace of change.

Here are some examples of the work already happening towards the vision of the Act:

- Transport for Wales' sustainable impact model is supporting local communities, for example, the [Cynon Valley Organics Adventure project](#) which research has shown has a social value of £4.60 for every £1.
- Centre for Digital Public Services brought organisations together to discuss digital services as a solution, in the context of public service budget cuts following my advice around budgetary pressures.
- Qualifications Wales has set up an internal team to work on WFGA duties. They are one of the first organisations coming under the Act this year to produce well-being objectives and its well-being statement.
- Social Care Wales has designed its business plan around the Act and used the ways of working to scrutinise decision-making. Transport for Wales has also supported four colleagues to develop their leadership skills through our [Leadership Academy](#) with five Alumni now working in the organisation.

For more information on our work to advise and support public bodies, please read our strategy, [Cymru Can](#), and visit [our website](#).

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gyroscope; picture-in-picture; web-share" referrerpolicy="strict-origin-when-cross-origin"  
allowfullscreen></iframe>



2 - [Edwina O'Hart](#)

## Seaweed could be Wales' new superpower



3 - Câr-y-Môr, a regenerative seaweed farm in Pembrokeshire.



4 - Derek Walker (left) and Câr-y-Môr in Pembrokeshire.

With a coastline of 1,680 miles, Wales needs to unlock the super-power of seaweed.

Project Madoc, a 12-month study led by the Seaweed Alliance, found 50% of the marine area of Wales is suitable for cultivating kelp, with the potential to build a £105 million industry and create almost 1,000 jobs.

Seaweed farming, also known as ‘regenerative ocean farming’, creates habitats, nursery grounds and shelter for fish and other marine life while also absorbing carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus from the ocean, making it easier for other species to thrive.

By investing in and supporting seaweed farming, we have an opportunity to contribute to A Prosperous and Resilient Wales.

We’re surrounded by water on three sides, it seems obvious for Wales to be exploring the benefits of seaweed and a new blue economy; and many already are.

To celebrate the growing seaweed industry and encourage others to harness the power of seaweed, on 11 June I co-hosted an event with The Earthshot Prize and WWF Cymru held at Cardiff Met, which was attended by HRH The Prince of Wales.



5 - Sam Elsom, Sea Forest (left) and Pierre-Yves Paslier, Notpla, (right) winners of The Earthshot Prize with HRH Prince of Wales (middle).



6 - Derek Walker (left) and Hilary Roberts, Chief Product Officer at The Earthshot Prize.



7 - Derek Walker (right) and Karen Scofield Seal, Co-founder and CEO of Oceanium.

The event showcased businesses from across Wales, the UK and world which use seaweed in product development and included [Notpla](#), the 2022 Earthshot Prize Winner, whose 100% natural seaweed coated food containers help eliminate waste, and [Sea Forest](#) from Australia, a 2023 Earthshot Prize finalist who are the first in the world to cultivate *Asparagopsis*, a red algae, at a commercial scale and producing SeaFeed™ livestock supplement.

WWF has been supporting the development of regenerative seaweed farming for years and has worked with Câr-y-Môr, a regenerative seaweed farm in Pembrokeshire, on community engagement and biodiversity monitoring.

Other Welsh innovators include [Plantsea](#) in St Asaph that makes plastic alternatives and [High Tide](#) from Swansea that make a seaweed snack bar.

I also chaired a discussion on the potential of a properly managed seaweed industry with key stakeholders including The Earthshot Prize, Natural Resources Wales and The Crown Estate where we discussed how we can support this green industry through licensing and investment.



*8 - Roundtable discussion with stakeholders from Morrisons, High Tide, the Crown Estate, Câr-y-Môr, the Waterloo Foundation and Sea Forest.*



I have called for Welsh Government to set out a robust plan for growing a seaweed industry in Wales. We have to grab this opportunity in Wales and I will continue to work with The Earthshot Prize and WWF-Cymru to help that happen.

For more information on the event and our work supporting the Welsh seaweed industry, [visit our website](#).

Keep an eye out in our future newsletters for a more in-depth look at some of the amazing people who are developing the potential of seaweed to create jobs and environmental benefits.

## Putting the Act into action - free training

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### *Understanding the Act*

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Are you trying to apply the Well-being of Future Generations Act and create practical change, but it feels harder than it should?

As part of our work to support public bodies in Wales to further understand and implement the Act, we've been holding online learning and development sessions to introduce people and refresh them on the Act.

Our latest session is at 12.30pm - 3pm on Tuesday, September 24 2024.

Please register your attendance via [our survey](#) and if you have any queries, please e-mail [contactus@futuregenerations.wales](mailto:contactus@futuregenerations.wales), directing your e-mail to Heledd Morgan.



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### *Putting the Act into practice*

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Welsh Government and Academi Wales are also jointly running hour-long sessions on the Act, with support from our team and Audit Wales Good Practice Exchange.

Suitable for beginners and experienced practitioners, the top-up course provides one hour of experiential learning and will bring you up to date with some of the latest behavioural science you can apply, in practical and effective ways, to deepen your understanding and application of the Act.

Please e-mail [sustainable.futures@gov.wales](mailto:sustainable.futures@gov.wales) to register.

- Tuesday 10 September 10:30 – 12 (Bilingual)
- Monday 30 September 2:30 – 4pm (Bilingual)
- Thursday 10 Hydref 10-11:30 (Cymraeg)
- Thursday 31 October 3-4:30 (Bilingual)
- Tuesday 19 November 1-2:30 (Bilingual)
- Monday 2 December 10:30-12 (Cymraeg)

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### *Healthcare Horizons – Youth Futures Workshop*

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Calling all young people – join the **Healthcare Horizons - A Youth Futures Workshop for the Future of Health in Wales** on 2nd July 2024.

Led by Kate Seary, UNICEF Youth Foresight Fellow, the online workshop will bring young minds together to shape the future of health in Wales using tools to think about the long-term.

Register your attendance on their [Eventbrite](#).



Did you catch it?

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*Call for evidence on the reality of our waterways*

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People are fed up with the state of our waters so I'm working with the Deputy Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales, Anna Heslop, who has issued a [Call for Evidence on water quality](#).

This summer, for the first time, a Call for Evidence will gather evidence about whether the laws to protect Wales' waterways are fit for purpose. This will inform the Assessor's findings and recommendations to Welsh Ministers later this year around how Wales can improve its laws to reduce pollution and protect our environment and people's health.

We are urging everyone who is worried about water quality and the future of nature and our wildlife, to share your experiences, observations, concerns and ideas for change as part of this Call for Evidence.

You can submit evidence until Monday August 5, 2024, via [their questionnaire](#) or email [IEPAW@gov.wales](mailto:IEPAW@gov.wales) with the heading “Water quality evidence”.



9 - [Submit your evidence on water quality](#)

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### *Imagining Wales in 2100*

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As part of an essay series commissioned by Institute of Welsh Affairs and the National Infrastructure for Wales, I recently imagine what Wales’ future infrastructure could look like if we harnessed the power of the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

Read the full article, ‘*Imagining Wales in 2100: What if, by 2100, we had an infrastructure fit for future generations?*’ on IWA’s website [here](#).

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### *Inspiring the Next Generation of Welsh Entrepreneurs*

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Principality Building Society, in partnership with enterprise education specialists 2B Enterprising, are delivering a three-year programme to support children from 50 primary schools develop skills they need for the future including entrepreneurship, sustainability and inclusion.

Read the full article, ‘*Principality Building Society Inspires Next Generation of Welsh Entrepreneurs*’ on Business News Wales’ website [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](http://futuregenerations.wales) / [futuregenerations2020.wales](http://futuregenerations2020.wales)

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