

The Environmental
Network for
Pembrokeshire

DIRECTORY of SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: POLICY and PRACTICE

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FOREWORD



I wish to congratulate TENP on the production of this Directory which I believe will help to both inform and stimulate discussion on the nature of and approaches to achieving a sustainable society.

Sustainable Development attracts a great deal of rhetoric and is a term that is easily ‘hi-jacked’. This Directory presents the 5 Principles of Sustainable Development all of which need to be expressed in policy and practice if we are to achieve a sustainable and flourishing future.

We can be proud of our commitment to sustainable development in Wales, but turning that commitment into reality is a challenge which is well documented throughout this directory. The directory provides a useful information source on current policy and programmes, examples of practice and some pithy observations, which will help to focus minds on delivery. It is a great example of the importance of a strong civil society organisation concerned about the long term future of their county

Sustainable Development Commissioner for Wales

Chair of the Climate Change Commission for Wales

Peter Davies

N.B. The views expressed in the observations are not necessarily ones Peter Davies would agree with, but he believes, they provide an important contribution to a transparent debate on the ways in which we need to ensure sustainable development is embedded within all levels of Government

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TENP wishes to thank Environment Wales for providing the funds to support the printing of the Directory which spurred us to complete what had become 'work in progress'.

We also thank officers from Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services (PAVS), the West Wales Eco Centre, Environment Wales (EW), and Pembrokeshire Local Action Network for Enterprise and Development (PLANED) who, as members of our Advisory Group have supported and guided our work.

Finally we wish to thank officers from Pembrokeshire County Council, the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, and the National Trust who responded to requests for information.

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Introduction



The role of TENP is: "To promote for the benefit of the public through the Network, the conservation, protection and enhancement of the natural and physical environment of Pembrokeshire and its borders (the "Area") and the contribution this makes to sustainable development..." and has a membership of 50 local organisations interested in enhancement of the environment..

This Directory evolved from the support TENP received from the Pembrokeshire Association for Voluntary Services (PAVS) in developing our Business Plan. Our Position Statements reflect our objectives and the 5 principles of Sustainable Development established by the UK Government and the Sustainable Development Commission. It seemed to us to be a logical next step to investigate to what extent these Position Statements were supported or contradicted by current policies and practice from a Pembrokeshire perspective.

We are also aware that local policies and action had to be set in the context of global developments and in this regard we felt it appropriate and useful to consider policies and practices beyond Wales and the UK.

We would not claim that this Directory is comprehensive, our simple intention is that it should offer an insight to policies and practices that support, to varying degrees, the objective of achieving a sustainable society. As such the purpose is to both inform and to stimulate discussion.

We are particularly aware that this first edition has focussed on a number of substantive policy areas and that one of the key principles of Sustainable Development: Social Justice and Equality, has been referred to implicitly rather than explicitly (with the exception of a reference to food rationing and access to transport). The fact is that without the social cohesion that social justice and equality provide, the prospects of achieving a sustainable society are much diminished. Future editions of the Directory will seek correct this imbalance.

Whilst this Directory provides facts, it has also provided TENP with an opportunity to provide comments on policies and practice. These are highlighted in the text.

Finally, we welcome feedback and comments on this first edition in the hope that this will increase its usefulness to all organisations having an interest in or commitment to sustainability.

You can contact us via the website www.tenp.org.uk

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:



TENP Position Statements

- TENP is committed to the application of sustainable development principles, in and around Pembrokeshire, as developed by the UK Government and the UK Sustainable Development Commission and the implicit in the European Union's Sustainable Development Strategy and the Gothenburg agenda.

Action:

- TENP will promote and encourage the adoption and application of Sustainable Development principles (see below), through all its activities.
- TENP will take every opportunity to engage in discussion with local and national statutory organisations to challenge any current approach to development, both policy and practice, which TENP considers to be unsustainable.
- TENP will contribute to the ongoing discussions in Wales on the evolution of Sustainable Development policy and practice.

Current Policies

Local

Under the 2004 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, section 39, a Local Planning Authority must exercise their functions to contribute to Sustainable Development. However every indication is that the local public agencies in the County have yet to grasp the concept of Sustainable Development. For example, there has been no deliberate effort on behalf of Pembrokeshire County Council to develop and implement an overarching sustainable development approach. Whilst there have been some ad-hoc actions some obvious opportunities, including the Transition Town movement, have not been supported.

We are not aware of any local authorities in Wales that have signed up to the European wide 'Aalborg+10-Inspiring Futures' commitments to sustainable development. Local authorities sign up recognising that they have "a central role in ensuring sustainable development. A role that demands that we take a more energetic and integrated approach to local policy making"

National

Sustainable Development (SD) as a 'cross-cutting theme', organising concept and set of principles has yet to be fully embraced within public policy and practice with NAW and WAG.

i) The Welsh Assembly Government Directorate of Environment and Sustainability has made a conscious decision not to adopt the UKSDC definition of SD, nor the 5 principles, for the purposes of organising it's activity. Instead it has chosen to focus on 'well-being' as the overarching organising principle. Perhaps the greatest shortcoming of this decision is a failure to recognise the implications of global resource depletion. Other Directorates have yet to adopt SD principles in any coherent form.

ii) WAG has produced the 'One Wales, One Planet' Sustainable Development Scheme, 2009. The aims include; to achieve social equality and social justice, to make Wales and international example of sustainable living, and, to reduce the ecological footprint of Wales by 66% over a generation (20-30 years)

These are ambitious, some might say totally unrealistic targets, and suggest that rhetoric and policy are well in advance of practical actions.

(Note: for details of the ecological footprint of Wales and action that could be taken to reduce it go to the Stockholm Environment Institute on www.york.ac.uk)

Carmarthenshire County Council and the Local Service Board are frequently highlighted as an exemplar of integrating sustainable development principles into mainstream policy making.

UK & European

According to an adviser to the UKSDC all Governments struggle with introducing sustainable development policy. While the policy rhetoric may exist all Governments have to struggle with what has been called the 'growth dilemma', in other words "the state is bound to economic growth to protect jobs and economic stability, they are locked in!" (Jackson 2009,p 167 'Prosperity Without Growth). The worry is that policy continues, predominantly to support unsustainable development and uneconomic growth, and the sustainable option has yet to be given serious consideration.

This dilemma is clearly expressed in EU policy for as concerns surrounding climate change and unsustainable development have increased over the last 10 years the policy rhetoric has become more impassioned. The SD Strategy, in 2001, was supplemented by the promotion of sustainable consumption and production policy in 2003, the aim to break the link between growth and environmental degradation in 2004, the SD Strategy review

in 2005 claimed that a stronger economy is vital to sustainable development without explaining how they related and went on to encourage all stakeholders to come up with ways addressing the challenges and asked for greater efforts to cut car ownership and reduce greenhouse gas emissions (CEC 2005). This trend, the recognition of the growing problem and the failure to meet key targets, such as CO₂ emissions and preventing bio-diversity loss, continue into 2010.

One conclusion to draw is that action will not be taken until a crisis occurs which is sufficiently significant and immediate in nature to require a response. In the meantime SD policy will remain at the margins of the public policy and decision making agendas.

Observations

SD requires a move away from the status quo and 'business as usual' which is difficult to imagine, both in terms of the process of change involved in making a transition to a sustainable future and the nature of the final outcome. There are clearly initiatives which are attempting to contribute to the process, such as the Transition Town movement, but these are relatively ad-hoc and small in scale and are dependent on a few highly motivated volunteers.

A further difficulty for advocates of SD is that the very term is easily hi-jacked, abused, or misunderstood. The prefix, 'sustainable' has been readily adopted to mean 'to maintain' or 'to continue', eg sustainable economy, sustainable community, sustainable funding, etc, and has been unchallenged or unexplained. This ambiguity results in a great deal of rhetoric but little action.

A further barrier to the adoption of SD principles is the fear that a Sustainable Future of 'low or no growth' will be 'bleak' and unsatisfying, and see a return to rationing and poverty and be characterised by social conflict over scarce resources and opportunities. Such views ignore the fact that the lives of many people in the 21st C, both nationally and globally, have these characteristics (See the web site www.socialevents.org.uk, established by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation who characterise the UK as having 'material success with social failure'). The reality is that a sustainable future could offer a higher level of well-being and prosperity and will certainly require high levels of innovation and skills.

Stern has pointed out that the cost of a managed response to climate change will be lower than a delayed and uncoordinated response. Essentially, we will be richer if we plan and act now than if we wait until we have to react. But it should be appreciated that a focus on Climate Change, whilst important, is not the same as, nor a substitute for Sustainable Development. In fact climate change is a symptom of unsustainable development. Climate Change is an 'attractive' problem as energy efficiency is amenable to technological solutions and stimulates economic growth and job creation, it does not guarantee sustainable development!

Beyond the economic argument observers have made the point that countries with high levels of social cohesion and low levels of inequality will be far better placed to manage a response to climate change and resource depletion and rationing, eg, Scandinavian countries, than those countries which maintain, or even increase, the levels of economic and social inequality, eg, USA, UK (see 'Spirit Level' R Wilkinson and K Pickett, or www.equalitytrust.org.uk) .

Finally, there are those who argue that a sustainable future will require no sacrifices at all for, *"crossing the 2C threshold we are contemplating a process as devastating as an all-out thermonuclear exchange, and what for exactly? For work devoid of meaning, for recreation which moves us restlessly round the world, and for electronic entertainment consisting of endless repetitive chatter. Recognising this is regaining perspective and sanity, not sacrifice. We won't opt for less until we stop seeing less as sacrifice"* (J Foster, Dept of Philosophy, Lancaster University.)

Views such as those offered above are, of course, open to ridicule and rejection but TENP believes that the discussion of them is critical to the process of working towards an understanding of a sustainable future and how it might be achieved.

Practice

Practice in SD specifically, as a cross cutting theme, is difficult to identify. Without the SD principles having an overarching role organisations inevitably 'cherry pick' within substantive policy areas, eg renewable energy or bio-diversity projects, or waste management as important contributions to sustainability. Local initiatives take the form of local grants to support sustainable life styles as well as community initiatives such as Transition Towns.

Of course ad-hoc initiatives are very important however there is a danger that other activities which are unsustainable overwhelm their impact. This is the challenge of SD, to avoid the rhetoric being supported by marginal action and to argue for a coherent and integrated approach. For example, currently the sustainability appraisals carried out as part of the Local Development Plan process simply considers how far objectives relate to each other and in some cases economic objectives are left out of the equation. The resolution of conflicting objectives does not take place, the contradiction or tension is simply recorded!

SD requires that all 5 principles are considered when developing policy or making decisions and this requirement raises a serious challenge to policy makers. It will no longer be enough to applaud economic development because it creates jobs. Under SD questions would have to be asked, such as, is the development sustainable in terms of both production and consumption?, will the jobs help to alleviate inequality locally? Are the risks or benefits to bio-diversity clear? Have local people been party to the discussions on the proposed development and the final decision? The 5 SD principles, then, are a check list of requirements, not a tick box, where any conflicts or tensions between sustainability principles and unsustainable proposals have to be resolved. Initially this will be a difficult process but as resource depletion and scarcity intensifies over the next few decades this analytical process will be essential and need to be increasingly transparent.

Five principles of sustainable development

Securing the Future - UK Government sustainable development strategy, 2005

Living Within Environmental Limits

Respecting the limits of the planet's environment, resources and biodiversity – to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations.

Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society

Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunity for all.



Achieving a Sustainable Economy

Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluter pays), and efficient resource use is incentivised.

Promoting Good Governance

Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging people's creativity, energy, and diversity.

Using Sound Science Responsibly

Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.



TENP Position Statements

Natural environment

- TENP supports the conservation, enhancement and enjoyment of the rich diversity and quality of landscapes within Pembrokeshire and the marine environment and will oppose developments, which would reduce those qualities.
- TENP supports the safeguarding and enhancing of biodiversity (plants and animals) in Pembrokeshire and in particular the protection of native species that are at risk.
- TENP supports action to raise the quality of coastal waters, estuaries, rivers and ground water and the elimination of pollution to watercourses.

Built environment

- TENP supports sustainable development in terms of location, layout, design and energy efficiency and looks to the Planning Authorities to apply these principles
- TENP supports the retention and enhancement of the built heritage of Pembrokeshire; particularly the ancient monuments, listed buildings and Conservation Areas and their respective settings
- TENP will support development being focussed on larger settlements within the County to reflect the existing pattern of development and associated services (and in anticipation of the likely pattern of public services over the next 10 years and rising costs of fuel for transport).

Current Policies

Local Policies include

- **PCC signatory to the Climate Change Declaration**
- **The Joint Unitary Development Plan/ Local Development Plans.**
- **Supplementary Planning Guidance.**
- **The evolving Wales Spatial Plan for the Haven.**
- **Marine Special Area of Conservation (The Haven) Management and Action Plans.**
- **Pembrokeshire : Biodiversity Partnership Action Plan.**
- **Shoreline Management Plans are in place for the coast of Pembrokeshire, however it is not clear who has overall responsibility for flood defences (see TENP web site. www.tenp.org.uk)**

National Policies include

The Sustainable Development Scheme 2009 which advocates:

- **a 60% reduction in the ecological footprint of Wales within a generation**
- **CO2 reduction targets.**

WAG policy on energy efficient and low carbon emission for new buildings are as follows:

The Code for Sustainable Homes is set out in Planning Policy Wales Edition 3 and Technical Advice Note 22 - Planning for Sustainable Buildings.

Planning Policy Wales 4.11.4 states "the Assembly Government expects that the following standards will be met:

Applications for 1 or more dwellings received on or after 1st September 2010 to meet Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3 and obtain 6 credits under issue Enw 1 - Dwelling Emission Rate.

All applications received on or after 1st September 2009 for non-residential development which will either have a floorspace of 1000m² or more, or carried out on a site having an area of one hectare or more, to meet the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) "Very Good" standard and achieve the mandatory credits for "Excellent" under issue Ene1 - Reduction of CO₂ Emissions."

All Local Planning Authorities in Wales, will be pursuing this policy as it is a national mandatory requirement and not discretionary.

Planners will have to ensure compliance, and will rely on CofSH/BREEAM assessors to provide the evidence. TAN 22 sets the process. Planners could place a condition preventing occupation until a code/BREEAM final certificate has been issued verifying that the development complies with code 3 or BREEAM very good (TAN22 section 6).

WAG has recently (August 2010) tendered for a piece of work to provide guidance to Local Planning Authorities on how to apply 'ecological footprinting' to the assessment of planning applications.

WAG is currently consulting on Flood defence proposals for the coast of Wales (refer to current consultation process).

The prospect of the sale of publicly owned nature reserves and conservation areas and possible changes to the remit of CCW, the Environment Agency and Forestry Commission may have serious implications for the natural environment and bio-diversity and access to it, (see below under UK).The Chair of CCW is reported to have said "we have to ask whether we actually need nature reserves and whether the business sector can come in to provide new revenue streams" (Guardian, 14th August 2010, page 6) The Forestry Commission Wales is considering sell offs and WAG owns 300,000 acres of forest some highly valuable because of its potential for wind power.

‘Glastir’ the new Sustainable Land Management Scheme for Wales , is designed to cover the costs incurred and any income foregone as a consequence of farmers delivering environmental outcomes on behalf of the taxpayer (this is in addition to the Single Farm Payment which delivers income support to farmers). To receive a grant under this agri-environmental scheme farmers have to select options which collectively achieve the qualifying points of 28 points per hectare. Options include: habitat, arable, and landscape. The total allocation for Wales is £90m.

Observations

Both the NFU and FUW have expressed concern that the Glastir ‘entry level’ (points required) is too high and that it is unattractive to some farmers and inaccessible to others. There is also a view that a better investment is to purchase more livestock as the payments barely exceed costs and that agri-environment schemes take valuable grazing land out of production.

UK

The Coalition Government is looking into selling off publically owned conservation areas/nature reserves as part of its deficit cuts. Proposals are being considered in Westminster and Cardiff. The latest strategic plan by the Environment Agency has replaced a vision with 4 specific pledges from which bio-diversity is absent (Guardian 14th August).

There are fears that a 40% cut in the environment budget could threaten crucial research into the health of Britain’s seas at a time of unprecedented pressure on marine habitats; the importance of which has been recognised in the recent Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. Cuts could also put the Government in breach of its duties under the Habitats Directive and, as a result, have implications for investments in offshore wind farms and oil wells.

European

In the interest of protecting the Natural 2000 habitats against wind energy developments and non-energy extractive industries the Commission has recently published specific guidance for assessing plans and projects in Article 6 of the Habitats Directive. All guidance is available from: www.ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/management/guidance_en.

The European Commission is currently preparing a new strategy to preserve its rich variety of eco-systems. As the target to halt biodiversity loss by 2010 was not met the EU is seeking more rigorous ways of achieving this goal by 2020. New targets have been set, a study has been commissioned on the costs of biodiversity loss (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity , TEEB) and a biodiversity equivalent of the IPCC has been established to promote scientific evidence and inject biodiversity concerns into mainstream policy making (Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, IPBES). For more information: www.ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/intro/index.

Observation

“TEEB attempts to price the eco-system we are destroying. It shows that the economic benefit of protecting habitats and species often greatly outweigh the money to be made by trashing them. I understand that if something can’t be measured, government and business don’t value it. Even so this exercise disturbs me. As soon as something is measurable it becomes negotiable. This approach reduces the biosphere to a subsidiary of the economy. In reality it is the other way round. While I am revolted by the way in which nature is being squeezed into a column of figures I am forced to agree that it may be necessary. What else will induce the blinkered, frightened people who hold power today to take the issue seriously?” (G Monbiot, Guardian 2/11/2010,page 27)..

International

The UN has announced that 20m people employed in fishing need to be retrained for other work over the next 40 years if the final collapse of fish stocks in the world's oceans is to be avoided. £18bn in subsidies each year, a third of the value of the fish caught, are part of the problem as they lead to overcapacity and depletion of fish stocks (date 18/5/2010).

The UN convention on Biological Diversity announced that no country has met its targets to protect nature and fears that a 'tipping point' will be reached very soon. This would mean a collapse of economies as bio-diversity is linked to economic security. The UN claim that the economic case for global action to stop species destruction is even more powerful than the argument for tackling climate change as the savings from natural goods and services (pollination, fertile soils, clean air, etc), are between 10 and 100 times the cost of saving the habitats and species that provide them (date 17/8/2010).

Practice

Locally

There are examples of local action to protect or enhance bio-diversity (see PLANED and the Biodiversity Partnership).

There are examples of building design, construction and repair which adopt traditional techniques and materials (lime, straw-bale, timber). These are small scale in number and are dependent on the commitment of individual property owners (ref: 'Our Precious Inheritance: The conservation of Welsh vernacular buildings', by Cliff Blundell, 2007)

PCNP and PCC are building and designing low carbon properties and advocating best practice in sustainable design.

Shoreline Management Plans are in place for the coast of Pembrokeshire , however the indications are that with predicted sea level rise the current coast will revert back to it 1750 shore line. All the gains made over the last 250 years are likely to be lost without massive investment. (For details, go onto the TENP web site for the presentation by Richard Ellis of the National Trust: www.tenp.org.uk).

Calon yn Tyfn Cyf (Growing Heart) is a small cooperative in North East Pembrokeshire which since 1996 has been engaged in the process of converting a predominantly coniferous woodland to one composed of Native broadleaf trees with edible fruit and nut trees. The aim is to make the forest more suitable for the needs of the future. (www.growingearth.co.uk)

Nationally

The WLGA, CCW, and EA Wales are currently supporting 4 local authorities in Wales to carry out a project into the impact of climate change, 'Climate Change : Changing Places'. The 4 local authorities will investigate the nature, risks, and opportunities of climate change, how it will affect their localities and what they need to do to adapt to impending change.

UK

The Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership provides the latest updates on how climate change is affecting our seas, including regional seas impact and the impact of climate change on coastal environments (www.mccip.org.uk)

Europe/Internationally

Cities such as Freiburg in Germany and Malmo, and Stockholm, in Sweden, provide inspirational examples of low energy settlement patterns and building design and the 'greening' of cities.

The Netherlands has long been an example of integrating and supporting pedestrians and cyclists both in urban design but also in the provision of cycle friendly public transport and secure parking facilities.

Information on: the state of coastal erosion, the sea level rise index, population density of coastal regions, and the distribution of quotas or catches by country, fishing zones or species, covering the whole of Europe can be found in 'The European Atlas of the Sea'. Access this from www.ec.europa.eu/maritimeatlas. Note: requires Flash Player.

ENERGY



TENP Position Statements

- TENP supports activities that reduce energy use and increase energy efficiency.
- TENP supports the development, promotion and use of renewable energy technology across all sectors from domestic to industrial, including existing and new developments, subject to its acceptability within the landscape.
- TENP supports research into the development and impact of bio-fuels on the environment, society, transport and economy.
- TENP supports actions and initiatives that reduce fuel poverty in the County and ensure that the most disadvantaged are not excluded from the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Action

Through its networking and representative role TENP will:

- Encourage the adoption of the highest energy BREEAM ratings and renewable energy generation technology.
- Encourage the adoption of best practice in energy efficient working across all sectors of the economy and will advocate the publication of energy generation, purchase, use and efficiency across all public and voluntary sectors agencies.
- Actively participate in consultation processes to achieve policy change and the effective implementation of existing policies at local, regional and national level which will reduce both fossil fuel consumption and CO2 emissions.
- Support and contribute to initiatives which seek to increase renewable energy installations across the County, such as a County-wide Energy Trust.

Current Policies

Local

Policies on Energy Efficiency and Low Carbon Use are evident in:

- PCC and PCNP are signatories to the Climate Change Declaration.
- Support for the low energy settlement pattern being developed with WAG in the Wales Spatial Plan for the Haven.
- PCC and PCNP commitment to renewable energy generation both in developments and in recent changes to permitted development rights under Planning Controls.

Nationally

The WAG SD Scheme commits to low energy use, a 3% reduction in CO₂ emissions per annum from 2011, and 'zero carbon' building construction by 2011. The difficulty with the 3% reduction target is that it falls short of the 6-9% that is needed. As the IPCC has observed, whatever targets public agencies set they are a statement of the level of risk that those agencies are prepared to manage!.

TAN 8 sets Renewable Energy Targets of 4 TerraWatt hours of renewable electricity capacity by 2010 and 7 TWh by 2020.

'One Wales One Planet' sets targets of 30TWh of renewable electricity capacity by 2025 and 3TWh of renewable heat by 2025.

WAG is currently working with the Cardiff office of the UKSDC on a 'Low Carbon Wales' initiative to help develop priorities for action in each of the Spatial Plan areas. The carbon footprint for each area is identified and working groups have been set up to discuss how to reduce carbon use: in the community, housing, transport, food production, the environment and the economy. The SDC and WAG support and facilitate these workshops and the SDC also provides a 'Resource Bank' of reference material: www.sd-commission.org.uk/wales.

UK Government

In April 2009 the Government released £55m in interest free loans to help public sector organisations reduce their energy consumption while cutting their carbon footprint. The loan covers 100% of the total cost of the project and 25% of the savings can be invested in front line services. The programme managed by the Carbon Trust and Salix Finance estimates that cost savings should cover loan repayments, which start in March 2011. The programme expects to save £600m and 3.5m tonnes of CO₂. See the web site (www.salixfinance.co.uk/loans) for a list of participants. The deadline for applications was 5/2/10 and by the 28/1/10 only 4 Local Authorities in Wales had taken advantage of the programme, Pembrokeshire County Council is not one of the 4. In the 2009 Budget the UK Government gave WAG an additional £4m.

Carbon Reduction Commitment from April 2010 a legally binding carbon trading scheme to increase energy efficiency and reduce CO₂, based on the 'polluter pays' principle. This will apply to large energy users such as local authorities.

Feed in Tariffs from April 2010 provide income for small scale micro-generation of renewable energy
The Energy Bill 2008 introduced binding CO₂ targets (15% of energy from renewables by 2020, 80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050). These fall short of the reduction needed to prevent 2C of global warming.

The Sustainable Communities Act 2008 (England) provides voluntary and community organisation, in conjunction with their local authority, to apply for grants to implement transition town principles.

Carbon rationing is under consideration. The current 10 tonnes of CO₂ produced annually by each Briton would have to be cut to 2 tonnes by 2050 to meet climate change targets. This equates to 6kgs a day or 25 miles of driving per day. McKinsey Consulting have stated that "the Government had not grasped the economic and social consequences of such a change" (July 2009).

UK Government assessments indicate that the UK contribution to global warming has reduced by 19% since 1990. However if aviation, shipping, tourism and the emissions outsourced and imported in the form of

manufactured goods is taken into account the UK has increased its contribution by 29%. The impression is that progress in renewable energy generation is driven more by energy security and economic growth and job creation opportunities than global warming.

As of October 2010, the Coalition Government announced a £1bn investment in carbon capture technology, a 10% reduction in the Feed in Tariff payments and plans for a £6bn Green Investment Bank to encourage investment in green technology. These plans have since been amended so that £2bn will be made available from existing projects.

Europe/International

The global deal for limiting greenhouse gas emissions, Kyoto, expires in 2012. There is currently little prospect of this deal being replaced before Kyoto elapses. The G8 and G20 nations have, however, adopted the 2C increase in global warming target. The G8 translated this as 50% reduction in global emissions but without giving a reference year!

The target of a 2C rise in global temperature emerged at a meeting of the EU Council of Ministers in 1996 and later validated by the IPCC in 2001. In 2007 the IPCC impact threshold was revised down by 0.5C. The IPCC Vice Chair has stated that the danger threshold has changed in the last 13 years from 2C and 450ppm, to 1.5C and 350ppm in 2010. In other words existing reduction targets need to be reduced. (Source research*eu, No 63, April 2010). The IPCC states that the targets currently envisaged at international level fall short of what would be needed to protect populations and ecosystems. In 2007 the IPCC said that global emissions should be cut by 50-85% compared to 1990 levels. Since then emissions have increased by around 40%!

A recent report by the 'Climate Interactive Scoreboard' stated that based on monitoring the emission reduction targets of more than 60 countries the world is heading for an average temperature rise of 3.5C, better than the 'business as usual' prediction of 4.8C but almost double the stated goal of 2C (6th July 2010.)

On the 22/23 September, 2010, the first Arctic Summit took place of those nations with an interest in exploiting oil and gas reserves in the area, estimated to be 25% of all global reserves. The opportunity to exploit these reserves has improved as a result of global warming and the melting of the permafrost (methane, a powerful GHG, will be released in the process!)

Japan, which imports nearly all its gas, is planning to invest £667m for deep drilling offshore to exploit the source of frozen methane hydrate off its coast. Surveys indicate enough gas for 100 years at the current rate of usage. There are concerns that methane beds could be destabilised, marine life devastated and that methane could leak into the atmosphere.

The EU target is for 15% of electricity to be generated by wind power in 2020 and 50% by 2050.

Practice

Locally

PCC use Biomass boilers and energy efficiency technology in County Hall.

Portfield School Pembrokeshire, is one of the first 'A' rated buildings in Wales.

PCC purchases 'brown energy'.

PCNP are committed to the highest level of BREEAM rating (energy efficiency) for their buildings, for example Oriel y Parc at St Davids.

The Local Service Board is considering a 'Carbon Reduction Pact' which would require all public agencies in the County to declare on-line, their annual energy use.

4 Local Communities in the County have set up Transition Town groups in response to Climate Change and 'Peak Oil' and are seeking to promote a low energy lifestyle. (Haverfordwest, Bro Gwaun/Fishguard, Narberth, Transition Frenni (Crymych). Currently the number of members and supporters exceeds 600.

The West Wales Eco Centre (Newport, Pembrokeshire) provides independent advice on energy efficiency measures and technology and has developed a number of innovative projects, including a trans-national EU funded project.

MEP (Marine Energy Pembrokeshire) is a public private partnership has recently been established (August 2010). The aim is to showcase Pembrokeshire's expertise in marine renewable energy and attract developers to bring more projects to the area. MEP is a one-stop-shop for developers and was set up by PCC, PCNP, MHPA, CCW, WAG and others. Tonia Forsyth of the Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum oversees the web site www.marineenergypembrokeshire.co.uk

6 communities in Pembrokeshire applied for capital funding under the DECC Low Carbon Communities Challenge. While only one or two are likely to be successful this provides an indication of 'grass-roots' initiative in the County.

(Footnote: Lammas were successful in Phase 1 and Cwm Arian (Hermon) in Phase 2)

Nationally

WAG and the UKSDC are working on the development of a number of Low Carbon Regions (LCR) across Wales. The aim is to identify practical measures which will help bring about the minimum target reduction of 3% in CO2 emissions per annum. The regional groups are looking at all aspects of energy, land use, transport, waste, etc. (see Low Carbon Regions report, available from the UKSDC).

WAG and the SDC, Wales, launched a Low Carbon Route Map in September 2010 which is a blueprint for South West Wales to be the first LCR in Wales. This will build on its renewable energy potential. The Low Carbon Task Force will produce an action plan, to cut emissions, in early 2011. The SDC argue that local people need to be involved so that they and the local environment can benefit. (for more details: www.sd-commission.org.uk/wales)

'Woodfuel Wales', an industry based body, are encouraging quality standards in the production and sale of wood for fuel and promoting wood as a reliable, low carbon and sustainable energy source (www.woodfuelwales.org.uk)

UK

Locally authorities in England (for example: Somerset, Nottingham, and Brixton) are committed to supporting their local Transition Town initiatives.

Merton Council has used planning law to encourage renewable energy and stimulate 'green' job creation.

Kirklees Council: has set up a renewable energy training college and provides grants for energy efficiency measures in the home, and

Aberdeen City Council: has invested in 2 district heating systems for social housing.

Oxford City Council has recently won a Carbon Trust 'Innovation Award' in recognition of its progress towards a 25% cut in its carbon footprint over 3 years : "*There is nothing very difficult or expensive in anything we have done*", said Cllr Tanner. The next stage is to build wind turbines on sites around Oxford's rural fringe. An 'Oxford Partnership' of public sector agencies has also been formed who are committed to a 50% cut in all emissions across the County by 2030.

Windsor and Maidenhead Council require all public agencies to publish their energy consumption 'on-line'. Consumption has reduced by 15% in the last year.

A farmer in Wadebridge, Cornwall is proposing a 15 acre 'energy farm' based photovoltaic silicon panels. He has raised £4.5 m in private investment. It would generate electricity for 600 homes. The consortium involves the University of Exeter and the Renewable Energy Cooperative (R-ECO) and is talking to the NFU about involving other farmers.

The UK currently provides 3% of its energy through wind power, although the figure was 10% during one week in September 2010, (Guardian, Sept 2010). Renewables provided 6.2% of total supplies in the first quarter of 2010 (DECC Energy Statistics)

The hope is that 30% of total energy consumption will be generated by renewables within 10 years, although this will be determined by the level of Government support, through the Green Investment Bank, and the global market in energy supply and demand . A 100 turbine off-shore installation is soon to become operational 12km of the Kent coast. Another, of 340 turbines, London Array, will open shortly.

EU/ Internationally

Globally wind power capacity grew by 31% during 2009.

In Europe only 5% of electricity comes from wind turbines but, significantly, 40% of all **new** generating capacity in the past 2 years came from wind turbines. Including all other renewables the figure is 65% in the last year, 2009

Denmark wind energy supplies 19% of the country's electricity (5052 turbines, in May 2010)

France, which has a very small number of turbines, announced plans to invest in 600 offshore wind turbines (September 2010)

Sweden has plans to invest in 1100 land based turbines

Germany and Denmark lead the way on other forms of renewable energy generation; Denmark on district heating systems, Germany on solar energy .

Malmö, in Sweden, has a 100% renewable energy suburb adjacent to the harbour.

The Californian company 'Better Place' launched a public trial of a system for re-filling electric cars in April 2010, in Tokyo. This is an automated battery-swap station which means that electric cars can be recharged in minutes rather than taking several hours to charge their batteries.

100 'Better Place' charging points are being trialled in Copenhagen.

The 4,000 islanders of Samsø in Denmark has reduced their carbon footprint by 140%* since 1997 by scrapping its old fossil fuel generators and building renewable energy power plants all owned by local collectives or individuals supported by £40m of investment, from the Government, the EU and local contributions, which equates to £10k per capita. (* By selling surplus power.)

The EU and its 27 Member states are committed to achieving 15% of energy generation through wind by 2020 and 50% by 2050. Currently Germany Spain, Italy, France and the UK are leading nations in relation to wind energy, with Portugal currently making the most rapid progress.

The current estimate is that 200,000 people are employed in the renewable energy industry across Europe and that this could increase to 450,000 by 2020.

For information on the latest developments in renewable energy and energy efficiency go to:
www.guardian.co.uk/globalcleantech100

Observation

The independent Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP) have reported that plans to make European motorists use more biofuels could take an area the size of Ireland out of food production by 2020, that is between 4.1m – 6.9m hectares. In addition the authors say that opening up land to compensate for food taken out of production will lead to between 27m and 56m tonnes of additional Co2 emissions, the equivalent of putting 26m cars on the road. The authors conclude that importing first generation biofuels to achieve EU renewable energy targets should be replaced by promoting the use of advanced biofuels, electric vehicles or energy efficiency. FoE commented that biofuels cause more emissions than they replace. (Guardian, 10/11/2010, page 6)

WASTE & RECYCLING



TENP Position Statements

WASTE & RECYCLING

- TENP supports significant reductions in waste in all its forms and the maximisations of re-use and recycling.

Action

- TENP will advocate the identification and publication of baseline data, current targets and practices for waste management and recycling within the County
- TENP will encourage initiatives by regulators, producers and distributors to reduce the use of packaging especially plastics
- TENP will encourage the implementation of Directives, which favour local and responsible recycling of waste materials
- TENP will advocate the development of local waste management projects such as community composting schemes.

Current Policies

Local Policies

Pembrokeshire County Council's Municipal Waste Strategy is to reduce, recycle and compost as much waste as possible which will reduce the amount of residual waste that needs treating but will not eliminate the need for residual waste treatment. Pembrokeshire County Council's approach to the treatment of residual waste is to treat it through 'Energy from waste' technology

National Policies

WAG is seeking to develop a range of measures to prevent waste, and to divert waste from landfill by increasing recycling, composting and anaerobic digestion.

The revised Waste Strategy, 'Towards Zero Waste', June 2010, sets out long term policy aims and targets for 2025 and 2050. Action will be implemented through sector plans developed with 'stakeholders' at a later date.

The strategy is a long term framework for Wales that describes the social, economic and environmental outcomes that resource efficiency and waste management will achieve and how they will contribute to a sustainable future. It details high level principles, policies and targets. There are two key milestones for 2025 and 2050

By 2050 the aim is to have achieved 'zero waste':

"as a minimum we will reduce the impact of waste in Wales to within our environmental limits so that the only waste that is produced is reused or recycled as a resource".

Delivery actions will be developed in sector plans which will describe the role of the sector, the Welsh Assembly Government and others in delivering the outcomes, targets and policies in Towards Zero Waste. The Municipal Sector Plan – Part 1 – consultation responses were submitted in September 2010 with the final plan likely to be published in the early part of 2011.

The WAG have proposed a Measure, Proposed Waste (Wales) Measure, to make provision to reduce the amount of waste and litter in Wales and to contribute towards more effective waste management arrangements in Wales. The Measure reaches stage 3, Plenary consideration of amendments, on 2 November 2010 and once passed will: impose a charge for single use carrier bags, make waste targets statutory, prohibit the deposit of waste in landfill and require site waste management plans.

LAs in Wales are required to maximise recycling and composting and achieve targets. If these targets are not met WAG has the option to introduce financial penalties.

LAs in Wales are required to collect food waste for composting and through anaerobic digestion to produce heat and power and bio-fertiliser.

The WAG Waste Strategy aims to reduce the amount of waste in the first place by encouraging smarter shopping and reusing items before replacing with new.

UK

Centrica is opening a plant at Didcot sewage works to produce renewable gas for household use, the first in the UK. This is a pilot project to demonstrate the technology and will supply 200 homes with gas.

Adnams brewery in Suffolk have opened an anaerobic digestion facility using waste slurry which will provide renewable gas for 235 homes.

European Union

The EU Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) is a European Union Directive issued by the European Union to be implemented by its member states.

The Landfill Directive for the UK sets targets for the progressive reduction of biodegradable municipal waste being sent for disposal in landfill. EU wide targets were established for 2006, 2009 and 2016 for reduction of biodegradable municipal waste. As the UK started from a point where over 80% of this waste was being landfilled in 1995, a 4 year derogation on these targets was available and the UK biodegradable waste targets stand as:

- By 2010 the biodegradable waste landfilled must be reduced to 75% of that produced in 1995.
- By 2013 the biodegradable waste landfilled must be reduced to 50% of that produced in 1995.
- By 2020 the biodegradable waste landfilled must be reduced to 35% of that produced in 1995.

The Landfill Allowances Scheme in Wales has been introduced under the provisions of the Landfill Allowances Scheme (Wales) Regulations 2004 (the Regulations), which implement, in Wales, the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003 (WET Act). The WET Act transposes into UK law the requirements of Article 5 of the European Council Directive (1999/31/EC) on the landfill of waste (the Landfill Directive).

The Landfill Allowances Scheme sets maximum tonnages of biodegradable waste Authorities can send to landfill with a target that reduces each year. Failure to meet these targets will result in fines.

Practice

Locally

Pembrokeshire County Council provides a range of recycling services to reduce the quantity of waste sent to landfill:

An “Orange Bag” recycling service is available to all households for the collection of a range of dry recyclables from the kerbside. The sorting of the recyclate is carried out by AJ Recycling at Pembrokeshire Boncath and SITA at Withyhedge, who separate out the waste and as far as possible send it to recycling facilities throughout the UK. Some plastics do not have a ‘market’ and so recycling is not an option at the present time (eg agricultural wrap and plastic film).

Food waste is collected from over half of domestic properties and is sent to a facility for anaerobic digestion which produces energy and a digestate which is spread on land as a fertiliser.

Recycling ‘Bring Points’ located within communities for the collection of a range of materials for recycling including cans, glass, newspapers and textiles.

Six civic amenity and recycling centres provide facilities for the recycling of a range of materials including electrical items, rubble, paints, batteries, green waste, cans, glass, paper, engine oil, cardboard, textiles, furniture, wood, cooking oil and scrap metal.

The recycling rate achieved by Pembrokeshire in 2009/10, although not yet externally audited and verified was 40.77%.

A farm in Ceredigion uses farm waste to supply an Anaerobic Digester and the energy is sold to a neighbouring brewing company.

FRAME, a furniture recycling initiative, supported by PCC, employees people with learning disabilities providing support and work experience.

‘Scrapyard Textiles’, based at PLANED, this project uses disused clothing and material in projects with young children and has an annual fashion show in Narberth. Unused material is recycled. <http://scrapyardtextiles.co.uk/index.html>

‘Freecycle’: a national on-line initiative where unwanted goods can be given away.

Anything from electrical equipment, furniture to compost. FreeCyclePembrokeshire@mods.freecycle.org
<http://my.freecycle.org>

Charity shops in every high street ensure that goods are recycled and reused.

National

WAG and LAs are committed to the incineration of residual waste (stuff that can't be re-cycled)

All authorities in Wales have been set tough targets through ‘Towards Zero Waste’ and the emerging Municipal Sector Plans, in order to achieve zero waste by 2050.

Table 1: Summary Targets as published in Towards Zero Waste – June 2010.

Municipal Waste collected by local authorities	09/10	12/13	15/16	19/20	24/25
Minimum levels of preparing for reuse and recycling / composting (or AD) for municipal waste.	40%	52%	58%	64%	70%
WAG are consulting on proposed minimum levels of composting (or AD) of source separated food waste from kitchens in the Municipal Sector Plan – Part 1					
Minimum proportion of preparing for reuse/recycling/ composting that must come from source separation (kerbside, bring and/or CA Site)	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
Maximum level of energy from waste of municipal waste for individual local authorities.	-	-	42%	36%	30%
Maximum level of landfill	-	-	-	10%	5%
Minimum levels of preparing for reuse (excluding WEEE)		0.4%	0.6%	0.8%	1.0%
WAG propose to undertake research to build on this target in the Municipal Sector Plan – Part 1					

WAG and LAs are committed to ‘energy from waste’ technology for residual waste (stuff that can't be re-cycled)

WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme) has produced a number of Information sheets, eg Composting, and Anaerobic Digestion, to promote the recycling and use of food waste. WRAP also runs a number of training courses and workshops (www.wrap.org.uk).

The University of Glamorgan hosts the Sustainable Environment Research Centre which incorporates the Wales Centre of Excellence for Anaerobic Digestion (www.walesadcentre.org.uk)

UK

Somerset County Council have a 'Waste Register' which monitors and records the 'trail' of all waste collected and the ways in which it is recycled.

English Local Authorities have to implement a building waste disposal permit system. This is not the case in Wales.

Windsor and Maidenhead Council have piloted and adopted the policy to pay the public to recycle, which has significantly reduced domestic waste.

Observation

The tendency in the UK is for Local Authorities to incinerate waste, this is both wasteful and a sign of risk aversion to new technological approaches compared with other European countries. The Campaign for Real Recycling says that incineration is the 'elephant in the room' as companies operating incinerators need a guarantee of mixed waste and Local Authorities, under current arrangements, are contractually bound for 25 years with penalties if they fail to deliver the required volumes of waste. As recycling regulations aim to reduce the amount of waste for disposal there will be less available for incineration and local Council Tax payers, CRR, claim, will be faced with surcharges to pay these penalties.

In the UK more than a quarter of the food we buy is junked while still in its wrapping, that's; £10bn of wasted food, or £420 per household. 5.9 m tonnes goes into land fill !!

Europe/International

Northern European countries such as Denmark, Germany and Sweden have a more responsible approach to waste management..

A new suburb of Malmo collects all domestic food waste (through a piped vacuum system) and uses it to create methane to provide fuel for local buses.

Many communities in Denmark use Anaerobic Digestion systems to convert food waste to bio-fuel to generate heat and power or used a motor fuel and bio fertiliser for spreading on fields (which saves the energy needed to make inorganic fertiliser).

In Belgium the government subsidises the cost to householders of keeping chickens, who are fed food waste.

In Wilmington, Delaware, 18,000 households are involved in a recycling-to-reward points scheme run by RecycleBank. A total of 1 million people in the USA are involved. This enables families to achieve rewards with a value of £135 per annum which can be used at retailers. The decision to take part in the scheme is taken by local authorities. RecycleBank now has a UK arm (www.recyclebank.com)



TRANSPORT



TENP Position Statements

- TENP supports the development and use of public and community transport as a means of reducing car usage, promoting access and achieving social inclusion
- TENP supports the development and maintenance of footpaths and cycle ways as an alternative to the use of private cars and to strengthen sustainable communities
- TENP supports the introduction and use of information communication technology to minimise the need to travel (telephone and video conferencing)

Actions

- TENP will actively encourage and promote walking, bus use, car sharing scheme, raising investment at railway and bus stations (including improved access and passenger facilities), and improving the capacity and quality of the rail rolling stock and infrastructure.
- When carrying out TENP business Trustees will car share whenever possible.
- TENP will adopt a car mileage claim policy which favours car sharing and makes ‘driver only’ trips uneconomic.

Current Policies

Local

Pembrokeshire is a member of the South West Wales Integrated Transport Consortia (SWITCH) which has recently published a strategy with a strong emphasis on sustainable transport in the region. (See Regional Transport Consortia below)

National

The Wales Transport Strategy: 'One Wales: Connecting the Nation', May 2008, promotes the principles of access for all and greater mobility as well as expressing the aims that travelling should be easy and sustainable and support economic growth. As well as promoting and encouraging mobility the strategy seeks to reduce demand on the transport system by encouraging home working and the use of telephone conferencing and ensuring that, as far as possible, new development should be well serviced by facilities for walking, cycling and using public transport.

This strategy provides the framework for the National Transport Plan, March 2010, which sets out the full range of measures to develop a better integrated and sustainable transport network in Wales.

Regional Transport Plans provide the detailed actions being taken by the Regional Transport Consortia and their constituent local authorities. The RTC for South West Wales submitted a plan in September 2009 which has the objectives to:

Improve air quality,

Improve access for all, and

Improve the range, quality and awareness of transport options.

Maximum traffic flow on the M4 in Wales increased by 13% between 2001-2008 (source : Dept of Transport),.

UK

The number of cars in the UK is expected to rise by 30% within 30 years (15 /9/10 Guardian) The Government aims to reduce CO₂ in transport by 14% within 10 years. Along with hybrid and electric cars there is the likelihood of carbon markets which will allocate annual carbon allowances. Building more roads is unlikely to be an option, the emphasis will be on using existing road space more efficiently through the use of intelligent transport systems which will enable the density of traffic to increase while the movement is maintained. The driver will have less control of the vehicle and could be directed to an allocated route and have their speed restricted technologically.

Since 1970 total carbon emissions from transport has increased by 89%, to 134.9mt, (Source DEFRA 2007)

Practice

Local

The Pembrokeshire Coast Bus Network has an innovative and efficient transport system aiming to achieve greater use of more sustainable and healthy forms of travel and is developing a valuable service for local communities, visitors and walkers.

The latest contribution to this aim is the small fleet of new wheelchair accessible buses on the Network which are powered by recycled vegetable oil. The use of recycled vegetable oil reduces vehicle carbon emissions by 95% compared to conventional diesel engines and is available from 'Veg Oil Motoring' in North Pembrokeshire. The fleet of 6 buses was purchased with financial support from WAG/EU and the engines were converted by 'Regentec' of Berkshire.

4 of the buses are used on the Puffin Shuttle, Poppit Rocket and Strumble Shuttle routes. 2 on the Coastal Cruiser route in the south of the County. Marketing is carried out through the Pembrokeshire Greenways Partnership.

‘Green Dragon Connect’ is one example of a community bus service in Pembrokeshire.

Set up by the Preseli Rural Transport Association, this service provides local journeys and a link to existing bus services from Narberth to Cardigan. Journeys have to be booked a day in advance. (www.greendragonbus.co.uk)

National

The WAG/SDC discussion groups on Low Carbon Regions have identified a number of potential transport initiatives. They include: new development favouring the use of public transport, ICT support for home working, provide walking and cycle routes, public agencies to procure electric and hybrid vehicles and use bio-fuels for public transport. Promote car sharing by designating parking spaces at public sector buildings. Require developers to fund travel plans for large new developments. Pilot bio-fuel for HGVs. Switch freight from road to rail or water

UK

In Cambridge some 26% of journeys are made by bicycle.

European/International

10% of all journeys in Germany are by bicycle (The figure for the UK is 2%). The figure for the Netherlands is 27%. Copenhagen has a figure of 37%.

FOOD PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

Position Statements

- TENP seeks a reduction in the adverse environmental impact of food production and consumption, and supports ethical and environmental farming practices; for example organic farming.
- TENP supports local production and local consumption of food and goods which in turn supports local economies
- TENP wishes to see the further development of and increased adoption of agri-environmental schemes across the County as they are in the best interests of producers and consumers, and bio-diversity and eco-systems.
- TENP supports extensive farming that promotes health and wellbeing and which can also make a significant contribution to the capture of CO₂ in the soil.

Action

- **TENP will promote developments in extensive farming and agri-environmental schemes.** (extensive farming being less dependent on mechanization indoor environments).
- **TENP will forge links with agricultural networks and organisations in the County in order to monitor and appraise developments and practices in the rural economy.**
- **TENP will advocate the provision of allotments by the local authority and advocate greater support by statutory bodies for community food initiatives.**
- **TENP will support the Transition Town movement.**
- **TENP will promote localism in the production and consumption of food.**

Current Policies

Local

Pembrokeshire County Council supports the development of Farmers Markets across the County

Local Authorities have a duty to provide allotments however the waiting list for allotments in the UK stands at approx 100,000.

National

NAW/WAG: Living healthily and choosing locally sourced fresh food rather than processed foods is one of WAGs commitment to improving the long term health and well-being of the people of Wales. To this end a Community Food Cooperative Programme has been established as has a Community Grown Food Action Plan, July 2010 (see WAG web site , Environment and Countryside section,) and a study into the availability of allotments has been carried out (available from the sustainability pages of the NAW website).

The Minister for Agriculture recently commissioned consultants to consider a range of scenarios on Land Use and Climate Change in Wales (LUCC Group , March 2010). The Final Report focussed on Scenario 5: which advocated more intensive farming in Wales, with the prospect of dairy cattle in sheds 24x 365. This recommendation has stimulated a great deal of discussion.

Observations

We have to remember that in Wales between 45%-90% of many farmer's profits depend on Government/EU subsidy and so food production is determined by the consumer and Government, not the land owner.

With 90% of Wales food imported and 95% of Welsh lamb exported (LUCC report) it is possible that we may be seeing the slow restructuring of food production in Wales, intensive unsustainable farming for the international market and extensive and sustainable, local and domestic production, for the home market.

UK

A report by Chatham House to the then Sec of State , Hilary Benn, in 2008 predicted that by 2020 there will be a shift from individual food preferences to a system in which Government and Industry have to ensure that the food that is sold reflects the wider needs of society. Food security is becoming a big issue, food supply cannot be taken for granted. The early indications of serious trends in food supply and demand are the rise of wheat prices during 2010 and the attempt by China to purchase a Canadian phosphate mine to guarantee fertiliser supply as it faces a reduction in arable land and water supply and a growing population.

The trends towards increasingly intensive agriculture are being countered by arguments in favour of extensive agriculture. G Harvey argues that pasture based extensive farming provides better food and is better for the land and the animals. Intensive farming, dependent on fertilisers and fossil fuels, has led to the degradation of the soil, water pollution and a loss of bio-diversity and release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Good soils, achieved through the better use of grazing animals, he argues, can take CO₂ out of the atmosphere and end the threat of global warming. Richer pastures would reduce the methane emissions of grazing animals (G Harvey, 'The Carbon Fields', 2008)

The current Coalition Government has proposed establishing a farming review group, chaired by the NFU, which will be looking at the regulation of agriculture and the subsidy system.

European/International

Common Agricultural Policy, the European subsidy arrangements, are due for review in 2014 and negotiations with Member states are ongoing . Predictions are that the subsidy levels will be reduced in the long term and linked to environmental management or land stewardship programmes.

125 environmental cooperatives are currently operating across the Netherlands. In one region of the country one cooperative covers an area of 50,000ha and 1000 farm units. The purpose is to develop cooperative approaches to agri-environmental action and implementing agri-environmental measures. For more details see EU Rural Review No 2, December 2009. Go on to the Netherlands National Rural Network site : www.info@netwerkplatteland.nl. Access the work of Jeremy Franks, Newcastle University, who has looked at the potential for adopting the Dutch approach in the UK.

It is estimated that feeding a population of 9 billion by 2050 will require twice as much water for agriculture, yet only 2.5% of the world's water resources are fresh, desalination is energy intensive. Nuclear power plants use up to 83% more water per megawatt generated than coal fired power stations.

Practice

Local

The 'Really Wild Food Fayre' takes place each year near St Davids and where people are encouraged to reconnect with the rural environment through food walks, talks and activities. The main criteria for the festival is that food being offered for sale must originate from the wild. www.reallywildfestival.co.uk

Caerhys Organic Community Agriculture. based on a 2 acre plot near Berea, that is harvested each week is divided amongst the schemes members, who pay an annual membership fee and a monthly subscription.

'Pasture to Profit', the New Zealand style method of dairy farming which promotes better pastures in the interests of healthier food, better pastures, improved animal health and bio-diversity, is practised in Stackpole by Chris James.

Pembrokeshire Heathland Beef/ Cig Tir Comin: an initiative between the National Trust and local farmers near St Davids has produced a conservation grade brand. The land is owned by the National Trust and local farmers provide the cattle that graze the heathland and in doing meet the conservation needs of this scarce habitat. The beef produced on this semi natural pasture is considered to produce better tasting and healthier meat.

The National Trust have recently acquired a farm near Newgale and is piloting an approach based on land capability (soil type, water courses, wood fuel for the farm, etc). Once rehabilitation and conservation work has been carried out the farm will be open to the public. The National Trust has a set of environmental standards for farms which are available on its web site

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park has been investigating the potential for it to provide allotments on its own land. Progress is unclear at the date of publication.

Two of the Transition Towns in Pembrokeshire, Narberth and Bro Gwaun/Fishguard are actively engaged in, or supporting, local food production in the form of local allotment initiatives. Narberth Allotments have also started work on a community orchard.

National

For information about local initiatives across Wales go on to the website www.physicalactivityandnutritionwales.org.uk. There is also a hard copy newsletter, 'Bitesize', available from Public Health Wales, 14 Cathedral Road , Cardiff, Cf11 9LJ.

The Community Food Co-operative Programme in Wales encourages the reduction of food miles and support local growing and purchasing of fruit and vegetables. 77 community food coops were set up in 2004/5, the total is now 270 providing food to 6,500 families and involving 1500 volunteers. 11,000 bags of fruit and vegetables are sold each week (source Gwlad, September 2010, page 9).

Under the Glastir initiative farmers will be eligible to apply for an Agriculture Carbon Reduction and Efficiency Scheme grant to improve efficiency and reducing costs. One aspect of this is to cover the cost of installing a rainwater harvesting system.

UK

For information on Allotments go to www.nsalg.org.uk

‘National Trust’ has set a target to provide 1000 allotments on its own land this year (2010)

A number of Community Supported Agriculture projects exist across the UK, perhaps the most well know are:

Stroud Gloucestershire. This is a project which leases 23 acres of land. The principles are that:

- i) the consumer commits to supporting the farmer, and provides the farmer with a fair income.
- ii) the farmer develops the health and fertility of the farm , it’s wildlife and environment.

All the produced is shared between the supporting consumers and if there a surplus this is sold locally. (www.stroudcommunityagriculture.org)

www.futurefarms.org.uk,: provides an inspirational examples of community food production. Based in Martins, Hampshire and established in 2004, through a cooperative structure. 129 local households cultivate land adjacent to the village, producing 45 different vegetables, chickens and pigs. Sale is to local people only, shortening the supply chain to the minimum. Local people are under no obligation to buy the produce. The Coop currently has a turnover of £36K and employs 4 part-time gardeners.

European/International

In the Netherlands environmental cooperatives are well developed/ (more/references) There are 124 agri-environmental cooperatives, with 10,000 members (of which 7,500 are farmers and land managers) and they cover 40% of agricultural land.

The benefits are, to farmers:

- increasing incomes,
- local solutions to national regulations,
- reductions in transaction costs,
- greater awareness of agri-environmental issues and opportunities.

They also promote natural management to farmers and provide ecological advice. They also help integrate farming and the rural economy.



BNPS

LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Position statements

- **TENP supports the preparation of environmental policies based on transparent and competent research and a regular review of their effectiveness**
- **TENP supports the development and adoption of arrangements for community involvement in sustainable development policymaking, implementation, monitoring, review and evaluation**
- **TENP advocates a programme of training, development, and awareness raising in the principles and practices of sustainable development**
- **TENP is committed to participatory decision making with its membership**
- **TENP is committed to the promoting social cohesion and empowerment as they provide a critical contribution to achieving a socially responsible, resource sensitive and flourishing society.**
- **TENP is a signatory to the WCVA Third Sector Declaration on Climate Change.**

Actions

- **TENP is committed to engaging with the voluntary, statutory and private sectors on behalf of its Members in order to ensure that the views of local voluntary sector environment groups are considered in the development and delivery of national and local policy.**
- **TENP will join local, regional and national networks to contribute to the developments and discussions on environment and sustainable development policy and practice.**
- **TENP will work with the voluntary and statutory sector to ensure that our Members are involved in the Community Plan community engagement process.**
- **TENP will promote community engagement and local governance.**



Current Policies

Local

The Pembrokeshire Local Service Board members are committed to community engagement in order to determine the key actions need to deliver the objectives of the Community Plan. PAVS has been charged with developing a community engagement programme during 2010..

National

WAG recently commissioned a study into the 'Policy Options for stimulating and supporting community action for Climate Change'. The findings identified that:

- only a small proportion of the 3rd sector is participating in Climate Change activity,
- there is a gap in the language used by policymakers and communities,
- there is a lack of evidence on what is effective in mobilising community led behaviour, and
- WAG needs to put resources into capacity building and empowerment.

As part of its approach to Sustainable Development WAG is keen to help develop the community engagement capacity of the public sector, through the Local Service Boards

Practice

Local

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park has recently carried out (Summer 2010) a community engagement survey as a basis for developing a community engagement strategy.

Pembrokeshire's Local Service Board and Community Plan Leadership Partnership are committed to a process of community engagement in order to identify and attract support for those activities which will help deliver the Community Plan objectives.

National

Swansea Environmental Forum (SEF): is an independent partnership with a wide membership of individuals and organisations from the public, voluntary and private sectors working together to safeguard and improve the environment. SEF is managed by an elected executive committee and has representatives from local government and other local and national bodies (FoE, Swansea Uni, CCW,etc). SEF has it's own centre which provides a focal point for environmental information, education and activity.(www.swanseaenvironmentalforum.net)

UK

Oldham District Council Have developed the concept of mutual contracts between residents and service providers. Richard Farnell, Prof of neighbourhood regeneration, Coventry University says:

“ the Oldham model illustrates a successful collaboration between public sector agencies: these are excellent example of published agreements. They provide a welcome illustration of public service providers working together well on issues of strategy, intent and aspiration”.

In 2006 Oldham pioneered neighbourhood agreements: mutual contracts between residents (all, not just social housing tenants) and public sector providers to let residents influence the running of their areas.

The agreements covered : housing, the environment, community, policing and health. Community engagement workers made the link and facilitated resident involvement. The agreements were overseen by, in this case, Hathershaw and Fitton Hill New Deal for Communities. Between 2004 and 2008 the proportion of residents who felt they could influence decisions went up from 15% to 25%, and satisfaction with the area as a place to live went up from 55% to 71%.

Residents volunteered to monitor service performance. Residents set up a 15 strong advocates group who met heads of service to discuss minimum mutual standards. Standards were based on organisation’s previously unpublished internal targets. Agreements were published and residents helped draft jargon free documents .

In 2009 Barnsley Council won a ‘Guardian’ newspaper Public Service Award for ‘sustainability’ for its commitment to regular engagement with the public on environmental policy and practice

A major development in assisting meaningful dialogue between public agencies and their clients is the use of the internet. A number of sites have been developed in the last year:

www.fixmystreet.com www.kingscrossenvironment.com
www.TalkAboutLocal.org.uk (this is to help working with local authorities)

The Leadership Centre for Local Government has produced a guide and web site for councillors on how to use social media , www.socialmedia.21st.cc

“The question for councils is how to move from communicating with residents to having a conversation”.

See also,

www.bccdiy.com This was created by someone who wanted to simplify the very expensive City Council web site. The same person (Stef Lewandowski) built a facility called ‘Near me’ ..and you just tap in your post code to find a page of useful services and events in your local neighbourhood.

www.diyCouncil.com is a site by Stef Lewandowski that can be applied to every council in the Country
The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has a research programme dedicated to ‘Climate Change and Social Justice’ (www.jrf.org.uk) . Within this programme a number of ‘think pieces’ and reports have been produced and research projects funded. Currently JRF are asking for applications on the subject of ‘A socially just transition to a low carbon economy and society.

ECONOMY



TENP Position Statements:

- TENP supports sustainable production and consumption as advocated by the European Commission, so that resource use is minimised..
- TENP believes the UKSDC assertion that economic growth has become uneconomic, the costs outweigh the benefits, and therefore that a achieving a sustainable society requires a recognition of these costs, and a recognition of the trends in: bio-diversity, demography, debt levels, fuel and mineral availability, mental health, wellbeing, and economic and social inequality which will require a fundament re-thinking of how our economy develops and is managed over the coming decades.
- TENP believes that the resilience of the local economy is best achieved by giving greater support and priority to local development linked to local markets and need and utilising local resources, skills and social capital rather than depending on global markets and footloose international investment.

Action

- TENP advocates ‘scenario building’ involving all sectors in the County to develop a vision of a local economy by 2050, linked to the work currently being carried out by WAG/SDC on ‘Low Carbon Regions’ and the Spatial Plan for the Haven.
- TENP advocates, and would support, that ‘sustainability appraisals’ carried out by statutory agencies, such as local planning authorities, should recognise and confront the tensions between ‘economic development’ and sustainability principles, as advised by WAG and the UKSDC.
- [TENP will work with policy making organisations and business to encourage those policies and practices which make the least demand on scarce resources.](#)

Current Policy

Local

TENP is not aware of any discussions within Pembrokeshire County Council, the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority or within the Local Service Board about the formulation of a strategic economic policy based on the UKSDC 5 principles of sustainable development. The Community Plan focuses on: diversifying the economy to reduce an over dependence on a small number of major employers, the potential of the marine renewable energy sector to create jobs, and a desire to achieve a fairer allocation of employment opportunities.

Insofar as local policy may evolve which reflects sustainable development principles then the discussions taking place on the Wales Spatial Plan for the Haven, and the work being carried out on Low Carbon Regions may be productive”

National

‘A Vibrant Economy’ (2005) points out that Wales has been successful in reducing unemployment and increasing exports faster than the rest of the UK. As with most visions this document seeks to build on these trends in order to achieve more economic success and achieve strong and sustainable growth and thereby “support our disadvantaged communities”.

Whilst the cost of living in Wales is 7% less than the UK average raising the quality of earnings to match the UK average is an objective. The public sector plays a significant role in achieving this as it provides 24% of all employment and has smaller differential across the UK than the private sector in terms of job quality so the public sector ‘props up’ job quality. However the public sector and tourism are recognised as having a significant proportion of low paid jobs, many part-time employing women (Joseph Rowntree Foundation).

Sustainability is interpreted as using clean energy and promoting ‘green jobs, and encouraging businesses to be more energy efficient and thereby more competitive and sustainability and growth are seen as the key to increase prosperity and increasing earning is central to prosperity.

UK

The Stockholm Environment Institute, York University, which carried out the assessment of the ecological footprint of Wales, has recently established a research team dedicated to a study of sustainable production and consumption, (www.york.ac.uk).

European/International

The EU has advocated sustainable production and consumption since 2003 and, under the ‘Cardiff Process’ (established in 1998), has attempted to incorporate this in national policy making. This has had minimal success as most policy makers perceive that the fundamental function of an economy is to increase GDP (gross domestic product).

EU then amended its policy to express a desire to break the link between economic growth and environmental objectives (2004), yet there remained the assumption that economic growth could continue in the context of global resource depletion and population growth (EU SD Strategy 2005).

More recently there are signs that the EU and national governments are re-thinking the dominant role of the economic imperative and economic growth and are moving attention to measures of well-being rather than GDP and to the prospect of managing low or no growth.

EU research indicates the difficulty of maintaining current living standards without making severe changes. “For a socially just society by 2050 the world economy would have to be 4 times it’s current level but we would have to de-carbonise and de-materialise by a factor of 10..this would mean a change in food consumption,

mobility, housing and energy-using products !!”.and “Manufacturers and products will have to be far more energy efficient” (Environment for Europeans, Sept 2009, page 9.) .

The EU is now (2009/10) supporting 5 actions to develop environmental and social indicators to complement GDP so as to take into account well-being, quality of life and environmental degradation. The EU is also now piloting a ‘Sustainable Development Scoreboard’ and an ‘Index of Environmental Pressure ‘ (www.beyond-gdp.eu/).

IN May 2010 the EU published it’s most recent advice on Sustainable Consumption and Production ‘Making sustainable consumption and production a reality’. This 32 page guide aims to help people make more informed decisions to achieve better environmental outcomes. This publication can be downloaded from: www.bookshop.europa.eu/is-bin. Also available free of charge from the EU bookshop.

Practice

Observation

As the introductory section on Sustainable Development made clear the ‘growth dilemma’ faced by Governments is something of a ‘straight-jacket’ as long as growth and prosperity are linked to wealth and GDP. The promise of wealth and economic prosperity is an ‘offer’ that no Government is able to rescind, yet the promise that this economic growth will help the most disadvantaged and vulnerable and that benefits will ‘trickle down’ to them seems as hollow as ever.

The UKSDC has considered what the characteristics of a sustainable economy ought to be. However it goes without saying that the massive transformation required has yet to take place. In the interim best practice in sustainable production and consumption can only seek to identify initiatives that seem to reflect these characteristics and principles of sustainability. Some have already been mentioned in previous sections: local food production and consumption (CSA ‘s farmers markets), renewable energy initiatives, bio-diversity and ecosystem management, strict emission and resource use limits (FRAME , recycling, free-cycle, and waste avoidance) .Whether these practices will develop and become mainstreamed is difficult to predict.

The credit crunch and the current deficit cuts and austerity measures being introduced by the UK Government, under pressure from the financial markets and credit agencies, conform to the ‘hollowing out of the State’ experienced in the USA from 2001. The hope is that the privatisation of public services helps to revive and stimulate the economy and increase business activity and that deficit cuts will appease global investors. In this context the ‘Big Society’, based on self help and volunteering, is an unavoidable policy option, the self management of austerity is critical to maintaining social cohesion

From a sustainable development perspective however these developments do not resolve the global issues of resource depletion, social justice and continuing bio-diversity loss, they continue to be issues awaiting a response. The question is not if, but when!.

Scenario builders have posed this question and suggested that Governments and large corporate interests (the FTSE350) face serious problems , with 50% of the FTSE 350 suffering negative financial effects from resource depletion , climate change and pollution (Source; Cooperative Asset Management report, Observer , 29/8/10, page 36 or www.guardian.co.uk/business).

Shell has outlined 2 distinct scenarios:

- disorderly decline in economic growth where resources are exploited past the point of no return, policy becomes dysfunctional and Governments become protectionist, or
- a rocky transition to a new economic paradigm where use of resources is restrained, technological solutions are found and Governments, globally, coordinate their actions.

Within nations, if or when conventional economic growth diminishes, the pressure will be on all sectors to avoid further social fragmentation and maintain stability and avoid increasing inequality. This challenge may

be some time in the future but the examples of sustainable production and consumption provided above, which tend to be seen as marginal and perhaps undervalued, may provide the lessons which will need to be mainstreamed and applied more extensively in the future.

Local

As the previous chapters in this Directory have described there are numerous local, ad-hoc and incremental developments within the County, across all sectors, such as Transition Towns, renewable energy initiatives, etc, which provide indications of an evolving and emerging set of practices which may, over time, become established as ingredients in a sustainable economy. However, to date there is little indication that the principles and values underpinning these initiatives will become 'mainstreamed'. What Jackson calls 'the social logic that locks people into materialistic consumerism' is extremely difficult to change but local examples may have an impact and help these practices, and the principles underpinning them, to be adopted more widely as local and global circumstances change.

National

WAG, along with the other devolved administrations contributes to the work of the UKSDC which has a Cardiff office. www.sd-commission.org.uk/wales

UK

The UKSDC has commissioned a number of pieces of research and published a number of reports; Redefining Prosperity, 2003, 'Prosperity Without Growth?', 2009. For more information: enquiries@sd-commission.org.uk.

European

EU brochure: 'Making sustainable consumption and production a reality', take 'Life Cycle Thinking' (LCT) and applies it to products looking at the environmental impact and use of resources from raw material stage to reuse and eventually disposal. Examples such as light bulbs, nappies and washing machines are used to explain the principles of the approach. Relevant to policy makers, procurement officers, consumers and businesses. Available from www.bookshop.europa.eu/is-bin/INTERSHOP

Norway has set up a foundation; Green in Practice (GRIP) to promote sustainable consumption and production.

International

Recent reports (25th October) that China, which produces 97% of the world's supply of rare earths (the 17 minerals and elements crucial to hi-tech manufacturing, consumer products and green technology), has cut exports by 72% has reinforced the concerns expressed by the UKSDC of the shortage of key minerals. Prices have risen nine-fold in a few months which makes extraction in the West economic but nevertheless there are concerns of a massive shortfall in supply over the next 5 years. This shortage and increasing prices will impact on green technology such as wind turbines: a turbine generating 3 megawatts might require 600kg of rare earths for its magnets. (special report, Guardian 26th October 2010, page 29).

IN CONCLUSION



TENP appreciate that as policies are always evolving and new innovative practices and initiatives are always emerging this document is likely to be out of date as soon as it is printed. There are also sections where our knowledge is very limited.

This first edition published December 2010

Therefore we trust the reader will recognise that this is a document which will require continuous updating.

We hope that even with, or because of, these shortcomings you will find the directory useful and be involved in the regular updates. We hope to provide a Second Edition in the summer of 2011.

We look forward to hearing your views and receiving your contributions.

You can contact us via our website www.tenp.org.uk

**The Environmental
Network for
Pembrokeshire**

