

Easy Read



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

# Wales 2020 to 2040

What we need to think about when planning things like houses, buildings and power supplies

This is an easy read version of Welsh Government's '**National Development Framework**'.

July 2019

# How to use this document



This is an easy read version. The words and their meaning are easy to read and understand.



You may need support to read and understand this document. Ask someone you know to help you.

Some words may be hard to understand. These are in **bold blue writing** and have been explained in a box beneath the word. If the hard word is used again it is in **normal blue writing**. You can check what it means on page 32.



Llywodraeth Cymru  
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This document was made into easy read by **Easy Read Wales** using **Photosymbols**.

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# Introduction

We want Wales in 2040 to be the best place it can be.

We need to think about all the services people need to live good lives. For example:

- Housing.
- Roads.
- Health services.
- Energy supplies.
- Public transport.
- Mobile phone signal.
- Internet.



And how we can grow and change these things to make places in Wales great.



We want Wales to be a good place for the people who live here now and the people who will live here in the future.



Over the next 20 years we need to think carefully about where growth and change happens.





And how we plan and manage growth so it all works well together. So we can:



- make and use lots more clean energy



- grow our cities and towns



- give young people reasons to stay living in the countryside



- make transport cleaner and healthier. For the **environment** and for people.

The **environment** is where we live. It is the land, the sea, the air, and everything that lives in and on it. For example plants, animals and fish.



This plan is split into 2 sections:

1. Where Wales will grow
2. How we plan and manage growth

## Other important plans and laws



This plan is for the whole of Wales. There will be smaller plans that have more details about what will happen and where.

These plans are called:



- **Strategic Development Plans** – These plans are for each **region** of Wales.

For this work Wales is split into 3 **regions** – **North Wales, Mid and South West Wales** and **South East Wales**.



- **Local Development Plans** – These plans are for each council area in Wales.



This plan also supports the work of other important laws and plans in Wales.



## Plan aims

We want this plan to help make Wales in 2040 a great place. We want:



1. A Wales where people are connected and feel included.



2. A Wales where people can live happily in the countryside. With good homes, jobs and services.



3. A Wales where people have the same chances wherever they live.



4. A strong Welsh language.



5. A Wales where we focus change and growth in towns and cities.





6. A Wales where people can succeed and be creative.



7. Travel that is good for the **environment** that we can keep using in the future.



8. Good internet and to keep up with new **technology**

**Technology** is things like computers, machines and equipment.



9. To look after **natural resources**. And have less **pollution**.

**Natural resources** are things like wind, the sun, coal and iron. They come from nature and we can use them for things like energy, power and food.



**Pollution** is when anything that harms the **environment** is let off. For example gases like **carbon**.



10. Good, strong animal and plant life.



# Strengths and challenges



To achieve these aims we need to think about our strengths and challenges:



- There are more and more people living in Wales. And they are getting older.



- We want 1 million people to speak Welsh by 2050.



- We need to make sure everyone in Wales has the same chance to do well in life. Wherever they live.



- We need to use our **natural resources** carefully so they last into the future. And take care of our land, coast and **environment**.



- We have a long history in **heavy industry**. This means making things like steel and railways and coal mining. But there is not as much need for this now.



- Visitors to Wales make Welsh businesses £6 billion.



- We need better internet speeds.



- We need to be well connected to England and the rest of Europe.



- We need to keep up with new **technology**. And how it may change the way we do things in the future.



# 1. Where Wales will grow

## Towns and cities



We want to focus growth in our towns and cities. They already have good jobs, homes and services.



We think focusing on these areas is better than starting again somewhere new.



People often live in areas where they have good chances of getting good jobs. And where there are things they need like schools, hospital and shops.



This has meant that we have 3 main areas where people live:

- Cardiff, Newport and the Valleys
- Swansea Bay and Llanelli
- Wrexham and Deeside.



These places are important for Wales. Most large scale growth to jobs and housing will happen in these places.

## Countryside communities



Growth in the countryside will be based on what people who live there need and want.



We need to get and keep people of working age living in the countryside. This will help us keep and grow services here.



We hope this will also help protect the land in the countryside. Especially important farm land. And take away the need to build new or larger towns in the countryside.

## The regions

For this work Wales is split into 3 **regions**:

- 1. North Wales**
- 2. Mid and South West Wales**
- 3. South East Wales**





Each **region** must have a **Strategic Development Plan**.



**Regions** should work together to make sure their plans support each other.



We will check that each **region** has a **Development Plan**.

## North Wales



The North Wales **region** is made up of:

- Conwy
- Denbighshire
- Flintshire
- Gwynedd
- Isle of Anglesey
- Snowdonia National Park
- Wrexham.



Over 700 thousand people live here. And over 200 thousand people speak Welsh here.



People mainly live along the coast.



We think we will need over 19 thousand new houses in this [region](#). This plan will help us make sure some of these houses are cheap enough for everyone to afford.



Growth in North Wales will mainly happen in Wrexham and Deeside. We will work with councils in England that are near these places to support growth here.



Other important areas for growth are:

- Caernarfon
- Bangor
- Llandudno
- Colwyn Bay
- Rhyl
- Prestatyn.





Flooding is a big problem in many of these places. We must think about flooding when planning.



The **Strategic Development Plan** must protect countryside around towns and cities. Especially around Wrexham and Deeside.



Holyhead is very important. Many people come to Wales by boat to Holyhead Port.



We will work with partners to make sure the Port is the best it can be. And help cruise ships to travel into the Port.



We will work with partners to make sure there is good public transport into North West England.



We will support plans for a new **Metro** in the [region](#).

A **Metro** is a transport system.



**Strategic and Local Development Plans** should help to improve travel between:

- North Wales
- Chester
- Liverpool
- Manchester.



We support new energy projects in North West Wales. Energy projects should provide jobs, training and skills.



We will think about nuclear energy projects. And whether we need energy made in this way. And whether it could have a bad impact.

## Mid and South West Wales



Mid and South West Wales is made up of:

- Brecon Beacons National Park
- Carmarthenshire
- Ceredigion
- Neath Port Talbot
- Pembrokeshire
- Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
- Powys
- Swansea.



Nearly 1 million people live in this [region](#). But it also has areas where not very many people live. Plans should help make communities in the countryside stronger.



We think over 23 thousand new houses will be needed in this [region](#). This plan will help us make sure some of these houses are cheap enough for everyone to afford.



Swansea Bay and Llanelli will be the main places for growth in this [region](#).



**Strategic and Local Development Plans** should follow the **Swansea Bay City Region City Deal** and other important plans for the [region](#).



To support growth in Swansea Bay and Llanelli we also need to grow:

- Carmarthen
- Llandrindod Wells
- Newtown
- Aberystwyth
- Milford Haven
- Haverfordwest
- Pembroke
- Pembroke Dock.



We will support the growth of the port in Milford Haven. This port is important. Oil and gas are sent here to provide energy to people across Britain.



We want there to be a Swansea Bay [Metro](#). Plans should support this too. And look at ways to make the most out of having a [Metro](#).

## South East Wales



South East Wales is made up of:

- Blaenau Gwent
- Bridgend
- Caerphilly
- Cardiff
- Merthyr Tydfil
- Monmouthshire
- Newport
- Rhondda Cynon Taf
- Torfaen
- Vale of Glamorgan.



This is the biggest **region** in terms of how many people live here. Over 1.5 million people live here. But it is the smallest **region** in terms of land.



Half of all demand for new housing in Wales is in this **region**. We think we will need 71 thousand new houses here. This plan will help us make sure some of these houses are cheap enough for everyone to afford.



Growth in this **region** should be spread out. Communities around Cardiff are important to keeping the city a great place.



A **Metro** would help people travel quicker and easier into Cardiff. And would help communities around Cardiff grow.



We want to see growth in Newport. We want to use land and buildings in Newport that have been left empty for a long time.



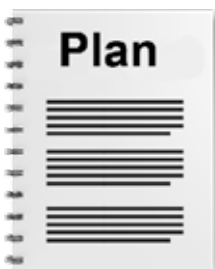
Plans for the **region** as a whole should support growth in Newport. This will help us ease the pressure for more growth in Cardiff.



Half of all our money is made in South East Wales. We will think carefully about how our plans can support this.



This **region** has some of the richest communities and the poorest too. We need to make sure people here have the same chances to do well. And get great services.



The **Strategic Development Plan** must protect countryside. The plan should make links with countryside around Bristol.

## Cardiff Airport



Cardiff airport is really important for Wales. We want to grow Cardiff airport. We want 3 million people to use Cardiff airport each year by 2040.



We will support plans to make the airport bigger. And to improve on its buildings and services.



We want there to be easier and better ways to get to the airport. Including better public transport to the airport.

## Valleys Regional Park



The aim of this park is to get people to visit and make the most of the beautiful land.



We will work with partners to make the most of the park.





## 2. How we plan and manage growth



We want places to be healthy where people can do well and live great lives. Places should help us be happy, healthy and comfortable.



Places must be well planned so all services link together well. And so our needs are met in a way that takes care of our **natural resources** and **environment**.



More people should be able to walk, cycle or use public transport to get where they need to.



Well planned places have clean air and lots of **green spaces**.

**Green spaces** are areas of open land. No building will be allowed on them. **Green spaces** are important to people's well-being.



Homes and businesses can get important services like energy, water and internet.



And there should be good social spaces and meeting places.



Good planning is important in making all this happen. We have written policies to help us manage growth and change well.

## Lasting growth in towns and cities



We want towns and cities to be well organised around town centres and public services. We want lots of people to live in these places to:



- make best use of our land



- support better and more public services like transport and health



- to support lots of businesses.



Places like schools, colleges, hospitals, shops and council offices are important for us all. They must be easy to use and get to for everyone.



People should be able to walk, cycle or use public transport to get to these places.



New, large public services should be based inside towns and cities. They should only be based outside of towns and cities if there is no other choice.

## Supporting communities in the countryside



1 in 3 people live in the countryside in Wales. We want to make sure that people living in the countryside have:

- Jobs.
- Homes.
- Services.
- Social opportunities.



## Mobile phone signal

Mobile phones are important to people. We use them for many things.



We will make sure we have good mobile phone signal all over Wales.



We will focus on areas that have bad or no mobile phone signal. We will work with partners to do this.

## Clean energy vehicles



Clean energy vehicles like electric cars give off fewer gasses that are harmful to the **environment**.



We think more people will want to drive electric cars in the future.



We must make sure there are enough places to charge electric vehicles all over Wales.

# Green spaces



We want to:

- protect plants and animals
- make our **environment** stronger
- protect important places.



We are working with **Natural Resources Wales** to find places that are important to protect. We want to find places that will make the biggest difference.

## National Forest



We want there to be a **National Forest**. We will find the best place for it.

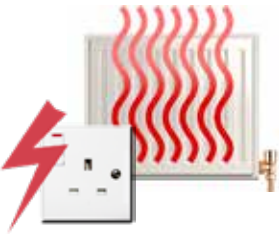


Woodlands have lots of benefits. For example they help to lower **pollution**. And lower the risk of flooding. And we need more woodland to help make our **environment** stronger.



We have set big targets for more woodland from 2020. And a National Forest would help us reach this target. It could also help to provide jobs. And get more people to visit Wales.

# Clean energy



Every house and every workplace needs heat and energy.



We need to get them in a clean way. This means in a way that does not use things that are running out. Like coal and oil.



We have set big targets for making clean energy.



We will support wind farms and sun farms on the land to make clean energy.



Wind farms use large wind machines to make energy from the wind.



Sun farms use solar panels to make energy from the sun.





Wind farms and sun farms can affect our land. We will think carefully about the impacts they can have when choosing where they should go.



And we have set clear rules about this.



Large wind and sun projects must not happen in:

- National Parks.
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



We are interested in all types of clean energy that can help us meet our targets. This might include energy from the sea, from rivers or from waste.

# Heat Networks



A **Heat Network** is a group of pipes. The pipes take heat from where it comes from to buildings.



We have named the places we should focus on for **Heat Networks**.



We should have **Heat Networks** in as many places as possible.



Any large scale projects should have a special plan for **Heat Networks**. It should say whether a **Heat Network** is the best energy choice for the project.

# Hard Words

## Environment

The environment is where we live. It is the land, the sea, the air, and everything that lives in and on it. For example plants, animals and fish.

## Green spaces

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## Heat Network

A Heat Network is a group of pipes. The pipes take heat from where it comes from to buildings.

## Metro

A metro is a transport system.

## Natural resources

Natural resources are things like wind, the sun, coal and iron. They come from nature and we can use them for things like energy, power and food.

## Pollution

Pollution is when anything that harms the environment is let off. For example gases like carbon.

## Regions

For this work Wales is split into 3 regions – North Wales, Mid and South Wales and South East Wales.

## Technology

Technology is things like computers, machines and equipment.