

## ANGLESEY & GWYNEDD JLDP (2011 – 2026)

### PUBLIC INQUIRY:

### Hearing Session 6 –

### NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT



CYNGOR SIR  
YNYYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL

#### Action Point S6/PG1 – General

Refine policy wording to ensure consistency in terms of describing the degree of impact, i.e. the use, or not, of ‘significant’.

#### Councils’ Response

In respect of the policies pertaining to the natural and built environment, the Councils consider that this is only an issue for policies PS16 and AT4 and are addressed under Action Points S6/PG5 and S6/PG10 respectively.

#### Action Point S6/PG2 – Paragraph 7.5.2

*Present Matters Arising Change to correct the last sentence of paragraph 7.5.2 to note that the whole of Anglesey has been designated by UNESCO as a Geopark.*

#### Councils’ Response

After giving the matter further consideration it is considered that the sentence that refers to the GeoPark should be moved to the section relating to ‘landscape conservation’ rather than retain it within the section dealing with ‘nature conservation’. Also, it is considered that additional information should be included to explain the reason for the Island’s designation as a Geopark. Consequently, the Councils wish to offer the following modifications (through Matters Arising Change):

7.5.2 **Nature Conservation:** Species of principal importance ..... ~~Part of Anglesey is designated as a GeoPark.~~

7.5.4 **Landscape conservation:** Covering an area that incorporates the Anglesey Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Llyn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, to the boundaries of the Snowdonia National Park, the Plan area has a distinctive and diverse landscape. As well as the nationally protected Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the wider Plan area has tracts of unspoilt countryside that are locally distinctive and worthy of designation as Special Landscape Areas. The character and beauty of the landscape significantly improves the quality of life of residents, and has major social and health benefits. It is also a major attraction for those wishing to visit the area, thereby fulfilling an

important role for the local economy. Additionally the whole of Anglesey has been designated by UNESCO as a Global GeoPark (GeoMon Global Geopark) in recognition of the Island's extraordinary diversity of geology.

### **Action Point S6/PG3 – Paragraph 7.5.7, 7.5.8 and Table 23**

#### ***Introduce Matters Arising Change to:***

- (i) *describe in greater detail the purpose and contents of Table 23;*
- (ii) *refer to the Anglesey GeoPark in Table 23, including the criterion used by UNESCO to identify these parks;*
- (iii) *describe those matters which dictate the significance of local, national and international designations.*

#### **Councils' Response (i)**

~~“7.5.7 Existing legislation and national policy and guidance set out clear statements of national development management policy. These should be referred to in formulating proposals, and will be applied locally within the Plan area by the Councils in deliberations on planning applications.~~

7.5.8 The following. Chapter 5 of Planning Policy Wales and TAN 5 set out clear national development management policies and guidance in respect of statutory designations, reflecting the greater environmental significance of international and national statutory designations, compared to statutory and non statutory local designations. Table 23 lists details all the international and national statutory designations relevant to the Plan area, and defines the obligation of the designation. Although it is a non statutory designation, GeoMôn Global Geopark is also included in Table 23 due to its designation by UNESCO. When preparing and considering planning applications, PS16, PCYFF1 as well as Planning Policy Wales and TAN5 should be considered. This approach subjects all planning applications to up-to-date national planning policy and guidance to avoid unnecessary repetition throughout the Plan

#### **Councils' Response (ii)**

	<u>Global Geopark</u>	<u>Designated by UNESCO</u>	<u>None</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>UNESCO Global Geopark” is not a legislative designation – though the defining geological heritage sites within a UNESCO Global Geopark must be protected under indigenous, local, regional or national legislation as appropriate. UNESCO Global Geopark status does not imply restrictions on any economic activity inside a UNESCO Global Geopark where that activity complies with indigenous, local, regional and/or national legislation.</u></li></ul>
--	-----------------------	-----------------------------	-------------	---

## Action Point S6/PG4 – Policy AMG 1 & 7.5.11

### **Introduce Matters Arising Changes to Policy AMG 1 a 7.5.11 to:**

- *not to refer to (either located within or directly outside) in the Policy,*
- *give guidance on when a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment will be required;*
- *explain the the significance of a 'Statement of Value and Significance' as a planning consideration and what form of information is expected to support the application.*

### Councils' response

#### **POLISI AMG1: SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AREAS**

When considering proposals within Special Landscape Areas (SLA) as identified by the proposals map and listed below, there will be a need to appropriately consider the scale and nature of the development thus ensuring that there is no detrimental impact on the landscape. The development should aim to maintain or add to the historic, visual, geographical, ecological and cultural features of the SLA.

Proposals should ~~be~~ have regard to address and coincide with the prepared relevant 'Statement of Value and Significance'.

Where ~~appropriate there are reasonable grounds to suggest that proposals may result in a significant adverse impact on the SLA (either located within or directly outside)~~ the Council will require a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment in order to ~~further~~ consider the impact of the development on the designated area.

In exceptional circumstances, where development is necessary and could result in significant impact on the landscape, appropriate mitigation and compensation measures should be provided.”

~~“7.5.11 A 'Statement of Significance' has been prepared for each of the SLAs. This statement should be referred to when considering development proposals within the SLAs. In order to define the new SLAs a review was undertaken of the previous SLAs with the aim of ensuring that there was justification for their special protection (i.e. the LUC report 'Review of Special Landscape Areas in Gwynedd and Anglesey). A 'Statement of Value and Significance' has been prepared for each SLA as part of the LUC report. Each Statement provides a description of the SLA's landscape character, drawing attention to those qualities and features that are key to the designation. Development proposals will need to demonstrate that consideration has been given to the relevant 'Statement of Value and Significance'. Where applicable, this should form a key element of a planning application's supplementary information (e.g. Design and Access Statement or any other planning statement) and should demonstrate that the proposal has been designed to remove or reduce any unacceptable impacts on the qualities for which the SLA has been designated. The level of detail required should be commensurate with the scale of the proposal. A Landscape and Visual Impact~~

Assessment may be required, for example, where the proposal is likely to impact on the integrity and sustainability of the SLA designation, or the public's appreciation/perception of the uniqueness and sense of place in landscape terms. The Councils offer a pre-application advice service, which would provide guidance regarding whether or not a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment would be required. It is possible to examine ~~the document which explains how SLAs are defined along with the 'Statement of Significance'~~ the LUC report 'Review of Special Landscape Areas in Gwynedd and Anglesey' on Anglesey County Council ([www.anglesey.gov.uk](http://www.anglesey.gov.uk)) and Gwynedd Council ([www.gwynedd.llyw.cym](http://www.gwynedd.llyw.cym)) websites by contacting the Joint Planning Policy Unit."

### **Action Point S6/PG5 – PS 16, Criterion 3 / AMG 4 / AMG5**

*Introduce Matters Arising Change to strengthen the wording of the criterion together with policies AMG4 a AMG5.*

### **Action Point S6/PG1 – General**

*Refine policy wording to ensure consistency in terms of describing the degree of impact, i.e. the use, or not, of 'significant'.*

### **Councils' Response**

To avoid confusion between the Plan and the Constraints Map, the Councils wish to, in reference to wildlife sites, replace 'unassessed' with 'candidate' on the Constraints Map's notion. In response to the Action Points, the Councils wish to offer the following modifications (through Matters Arising Change):

"STRATEGIC POLICY PS16: CONSERVING AND ENHANCING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The Councils will manage development so as to conserve **and or** enhance the Plan area's distinctive natural environment, countryside and coastline, and proposals that have a **significant** adverse effect on them will be refused **unless the need for and benefits of the development in that location clearly outweighs the value of the site or area and national policy protection for that site and area.** When considering permitting an application the Planning Authorities will ensure that they **are**:

1. Safeguard**ing** the Plan area's habitats and species, geology, history and landscapes;
2. Protect**ing or and** enhance**ing** sites of international, national, regional and local importance and, **where appropriate,** their settings in line with National Policy;
3. Have **ing appropriate** regard to the relative significance of ~~the~~ **international, national or local** designations in considering the weight to be attached to acknowledged interests, **ensuring that any international or national responsibilities and obligations are fully met** in accordance with National Policy;
4. Protect **ing or and** enhance **ing** biodiversity within the Plan area and enhance **ing** and/or restore **ing** networks of natural habitats in accordance with the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Policy AMG4;

5. Protect ~~ing or and~~ enhance ~~ing~~ biodiversity through networks of green/ blue infrastructure;
6. Safeguard ~~ing~~ internationally, nationally and locally protected species;
7. Protect ~~ing~~, retain ~~ing~~ or enhance ~~ing~~ the local character and distinctiveness of the individual Landscape Character Areas (in line with Policy AMG2) and Seascape Character Areas (in line with Policy AMG3);
8. Protect ~~ing~~, retain ~~ing~~ or enhance ~~ing~~ trees, hedgerows or woodland of visual, ecological, historic cultural or amenity value.”

#### **POLICY AMG4: LOCAL BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION**

Proposals must protect and, where appropriate, enhance biodiversity that has been identified as being important to the local area by:

- a. Avoiding significant harmful impacts through the sensitive location of development.
- b. Considering opportunities to create, improve and manage wildlife habitats and natural landscape including wildlife corridors, stepping stones, trees, hedges, woodlands and watercourses.

Proposals affecting sites of local biodiversity importance will be refused unless they can conform with all of the following criteria:-

1. ~~Ensure That there are is no other satisfactory alternative sites available for the development.~~
2. ~~Ensure that the development is in a suitable location, avoiding locations that are of international, national and local biodiversity importance.~~
2. The need for the development outweighs the importance of the site for **local** nature conservation;
3. That appropriate mitigation or compensation measures are included as part of the proposal.
3. ~~Provide measures to mitigate potential detrimental impact.~~
4. ~~Protect and enhance the nature conservation features.~~
5. ~~Create, improve and manage wildlife habitats and natural landscape including wildlife corridors and stepping stones.~~
6. ~~Contribute towards achieving the targets set in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.~~

Where necessary, an Ecological Assessment which highlights the relevant local biodiversity issues should be included with the planning application.

~~When a development can't protect or enhance biodiversity and the need for the development outweighs the importance of the site for nature conservation it should be clearly shown that there is no other appropriate location available and there are appropriate mitigation or compensation measures in place.~~

Explanation:

**7.5.19 Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (“the NERC Act”) places a duty on all public authorities to consider the task of protecting biodiversity, provided this is consistent with exercising those functions appropriately.**

7.5.20 The aim of this policy is to ensure protection and improvements to local biodiversity. In particular, this policy will be a way of protecting those species and habitats that have been identified within the Gwynedd and Anglesey Local Biodiversity Action

Plans. This policy will afford protection to those identified species and habitats, which are not located on either internationally or nationally designated sites (e.g. SSSI's, National Nature Reserves) or local designated sites (e.g. Local Nature Reserves, Wildlife Sites).

~~7.5.20 Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 ("the NERC Act") places a duty on all public authorities to consider the task of protecting biodiversity, provided this is consistent with exercising those functions appropriately.~~

#### **POLICY AMG5: PROTECTING SITES OF REGIONAL OR LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Proposals that are likely to cause direct or indirect significant harm to Local Nature Reserves (LNR), Wildlife Sites (WS) or regionally important geological / geomorphologic sites (RIGS) will be refused, unless it can be proven that there is an overriding social, environmental and/or economic need for the development, and that there is no other suitable site that would avoid having a detrimental impact on sites of local nature conservation value or and local geological importance.

When development is granted, assurance will be required that there are appropriate mitigation measures in place. It will be possible to use planning conditions and/or obligations in order to safeguard the site's biodiversity and geological importance.

#### **Explanation:**

- 7.5.24 Local Nature Reserves, Wildlife Sites<sup>1</sup> and Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphologic Sites can contain a variety of nature conservation qualities and features of geological value, including a range of habitats that support a range of species. The evaluation of a site is most likely to be triggered by a planning proposal on or near a candidate site. The location of these sites is shown on the Plan's Constraints Map.
- 7.5.25 Planning applications that affect sites listed under this policy that are important to local nature conservation are expected to include an Ecological Assessment of the site. It will be essential for the Assessment to be undertaken by a qualified professional, and to include an assessment of any possible mitigation measures. Supplementary Planning Guidance will be published to provide advice on the matter.

#### **Action Point S6/PG7 – Appendix**

---

<sup>1</sup> 'Wildlife Sites' is the term used by the Councils to cover those sites referred to in Planning Policy Wales as Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINCs). The Plan's Constraints Maps include 'Wildlife Sites' and 'Candidate' wildlife site. The latter refers to a site identified via an initial desk top survey of being potentially worthy of consideration, whilst a 'Wildlife Site' refers to those which have then been ratified following a detailed site survey and assessment against a set of criteria. The policy will be applicable to 'Wildlife Sites'. Since a full evaluation of the entire candidate Wildlife Sites has not been carried out to date, their biodiversity value will be evaluated on a site by site basis when development proposals come forward in these locations. Policy AMG 5 would not apply unless the detailed survey and assessment reveals that it meets the relevant designation criteria.

*Introduce Matters Arising Change to include the names of Local Nature Reserves, Wildlife Sites. Anglesey GEOPark and World Heritage Sites.*

### **Councils' Response**

Amend Appendix 7 to include a 'health warning' at the start of the Appendix as the information is time-limited, i.e. additional sites could be added during the Plan period or, conversely, monitoring and review of designations could lead to sites being de-designated.

In response to the action point the Matters Arising Change also includes a Schedule of Local Nature Reserves, Wildlife Sites, Anglesey GeoPark and World Heritage Sites

The information included in the following tables is correct at [date of adoption].

<b><u>Local Nature Reserves</u></b>		
<b><u>Gwynedd</u></b>	<b><u>Anglesey</u></b>	
1. <u>Morfa Aber,</u> 2. <u>Traeth Lafan,</u> 3. <u>Morfa Madryn,</u> 4. <u>Y Foryd,</u> 5. <u>Parc Dudley,</u> 6. <u>Lôn Cob Bach,</u> 7. <u>Pen y Banc,</u> 8. <u>Parc y Borth</u>	9. <u>The Dingle/ Nant y Pandy, Llangefni</u> 10. <u>Llangoed Commons</u> 11. <u>Cytir Mawr, Llandegfan</u> 12. <u>Wylfa Head</u> 13. <u>Aberlleiniog</u> 14. <u>Coed Cynol, Menai Bridge</u>	
<b><u>Wildlife Sites<sup>2</sup></u></b>		
<b><u>Gwynedd</u></b>	<b><u>Anglesey</u></b>	
1. <u>Nant Meillionydd</u> 2. <u>Coed Caerdydd</u> 3. <u>Mur-Serchog</u> 4. <u>Nyffryn Bella</u> 5. <u>Pen-y-foel</u> 6. <u>Ty Engan</u> 7. <u>Plas yn Rhiw</u> 8. <u>Nanhoron</u> 9. <u>Tyn Lon</u> 10. <u>Abersoch, Borth Fawr</u> 11. <u>Bwlchtocyn</u>	154. <u>Coed Bryn Llwyd</u> 155. <u>Bryn Llwyd</u> 156. <u>Gorphwysfa (Brewery Fields)</u> 157. <u>Treborth Road Woodlands</u> 158. <u>Ty'n y Clwt</u> 159. <u>Ysgol Faenol</u> 160. <u>Railway cuttings (Treborth)</u> 161. <u>Treborth Woods</u> 162. <u>Treborth Botanic Gardens</u> 163. <u>Goetra Isaf</u>	305. <u>Glan Tywyn</u> 306. <u>Coedydd Ystad Bodior</u> 307. <u>Craig Dinas</u> 308. <u>Rhostir Ty'n Mynydd</u> 309. <u>Tywyn Bryn-y-Bar</u> 310. <u>Cae-Barcdy</u> 311. <u>Arfordir Bwth Corwgl – Bae Trearddur</u> 312. <u>Cors Trewilmot</u> 313. <u>Chwarel Morglawdd Caerqybi</u>

<sup>2</sup> **Please note that the list of Wildlife Sites is correct at the date of adoption. To see if any sites have been added or removed from this list please visit Cofnod's webpage (i.e. the Local Biological Record Centre) <http://safleol.lrcwales.org.uk/>**



12. <a href="#"><u>Fach Farm</u></a>	164. <a href="#"><u>Bryniau-heulog</u></a>	314. <a href="#"><u>Rhostir Mynydd Celyn</u></a>
13. <a href="#"><u>Rhandir mosaic</u></a>	165. <a href="#"><u>Mausoleum woodland and pasture</u></a>	315. <a href="#"><u>Cors Pont Hwfa</u></a>
14. <a href="#"><u>Creigir Goch</u></a>	166. <a href="#"><u>Vaynol Wood</u></a>	316. <a href="#"><u>Gwely Brwyn Cliperau</u></a>
15. <a href="#"><u>Dwylan Bellaf / Dwylan</u></a>	167. <a href="#"><u>Vaynol Park woodlands and lake</u></a>	317. <a href="#"><u>Tywyn Gwyn/ Penial Dowyn</u></a>
16. <a href="#"><u>Craigfryn</u></a>	168. <a href="#"><u>Ty-newydd</u></a>	318. <a href="#"><u>Arfordir Penbryn yr Eglwys</u></a>
17. <a href="#"><u>Afon Soch (South West)</u></a>	169. <a href="#"><u>Tyddyn-Heilyn</u></a>	319. <a href="#"><u>Arfordir Porth Nobla - Traeth Mawr</u></a>
18. <a href="#"><u>Afon Soch (South East)</u></a>	170. <a href="#"><u>Coed Nant y Garth</u></a>	320. <a href="#"><u>Coedydd Ystad Bodorgan</u></a>
19. <a href="#"><u>Afgon Soch (North West)</u></a>	171. <a href="#"><u>Coed Pont Ladi-wen</u></a>	321. <a href="#"><u>Gwely Cyrs Caergeiliog</u></a>
20. <a href="#"><u>Afon Soch (North East)</u></a>	172. <a href="#"><u>Gwyndy</u></a>	322. <a href="#"><u>Cae Ifan</u></a>
21. <a href="#"><u>Pant Gwyn</u></a>	173. <a href="#"><u>Llanfair Wood &amp; nearby copses</u></a>	323. <a href="#"><u>Tywyn Llyn/ Tywyn Fferam</u></a>
22. <a href="#"><u>Macroes Mosaic (West)</u></a>	174. <a href="#"><u>Cefn-Cynrig</u></a>	324. <a href="#"><u>Tyn Morfa</u></a>
23. <a href="#"><u>Macroes Mosaic (East)</u></a>	175. <a href="#"><u>Rhos-chwilog (North)</u></a>	325. <a href="#"><u>Cors Ysgwydd</u></a>
24. <a href="#"><u>Penrhyn Du</u></a>	176. <a href="#"><u>Rhos-chwilog (South)</u></a>	326. <a href="#"><u>Cors Fferam-Bach</u></a>
25. <a href="#"><u>Gwinllan Olwen Bach</u></a>	177. <a href="#"><u>Pont-rug</u></a>	327. <a href="#"><u>Tyddyn Harri</u></a>
26. <a href="#"><u>Coed Creigiau-cathod</u></a>	178. <a href="#"><u>Pen-yr-orsedd</u></a>	328. <a href="#"><u>Cors Rhosbadrig</u></a>
27. <a href="#"><u>Coed Dinam</u></a>	179. <a href="#"><u>Afon Cadnant</u></a>	329. <a href="#"><u>Cors Tafarn-y-Grib</u></a>
28. <a href="#"><u>Wierglodd Garn / Rhos</u></a>	180. <a href="#"><u>Lon-glai</u></a>	330. <a href="#"><u>Tywyn Trewan</u></a>
29. <a href="#"><u>Cei Llydan</u></a>	181. <a href="#"><u>Penrhyn Stud</u></a>	331. <a href="#"><u>Tyddyn Gwyn</u></a>
30. <a href="#"><u>Trwyn-y-Fach / The Warren</u></a>	182. <a href="#"><u>Gallt-y-sil farm</u></a>	332. <a href="#"><u>Rhostir/ Pwll Caergeiliog</u></a>
31. <a href="#"><u>Coed Penrallt</u></a>	183. <a href="#"><u>Waenfawr Road</u></a>	333. <a href="#"><u>Cors Plas</u></a>
32. <a href="#"><u>Morfa Nefyn</u></a>	184. <a href="#"><u>Afon Seiont Mosaic (South)</u></a>	334. <a href="#"><u>Coed Carreglwyd</u></a>
33. <a href="#"><u>Ty'n Pwll</u></a>	185. <a href="#"><u>Afon Seiont Mosaic (East)</u></a>	335. <a href="#"><u>Clwch Dernog</u></a>
34. <a href="#"><u>Garn Boduan</u></a>	186. <a href="#"><u>Maes-merddin</u></a>	336. <a href="#"><u>Llyn Cors Goch</u></a>
35. <a href="#"><u>Western flank of Garn Boduan</u></a>	187. <a href="#"><u>Gwredog</u></a>	337. <a href="#"><u>Coed Tre Iorwerth</u></a>
36. <a href="#"><u>Gors Tynrhos</u></a>	188. <a href="#"><u>Pen-y-groes</u></a>	338. <a href="#"><u>Llyn Bwch</u></a>
37. <a href="#"><u>Coed Mynydd Mawr</u></a>	189. <a href="#"><u>Pen y Castell</u></a>	339. <a href="#"><u>Cors Tre'r Ddol</u></a>
38. <a href="#"><u>Pyllau-Budron</u></a>	190. <a href="#"><u>Craig y Pandy</u></a>	340. <a href="#"><u>Rhostir Mynydd Mechell</u></a>
39. <a href="#"><u>Nr.Tyddyn Cae</u></a>	191. <a href="#"><u>Corbri</u></a>	341. <a href="#"><u>Cors y Bol</u></a>
40. <a href="#"><u>Coed Bachellyn</u></a>	192. <a href="#"><u>Parc y Moch</u></a>	342. <a href="#"><u>Tir Lleidiog Mynydd y Garn</u></a>
41. <a href="#"><u>Allt Ty Coch</u></a>	193. <a href="#"><u>Ymwlch Fawr</u></a>	343. <a href="#"><u>Cors Mynachdy</u></a>
42. <a href="#"><u>Coed Cefn Llanfair</u></a>	194. <a href="#"><u>Ymwlch Bach</u></a>	344. <a href="#"><u>Cors Bonw</u></a>
43. <a href="#"><u>Coed Bodgale</u></a>	195. <a href="#"><u>Rhydd Rhos 1</u></a>	345. <a href="#"><u>Cors Cromlech</u></a>
44. <a href="#"><u>Quarry Wood</u></a>	196. <a href="#"><u>Rhydd Rhos 2</u></a>	346. <a href="#"><u>Afon Wygyr</u></a>
45. <a href="#"><u>Bodlende</u></a>	197. <a href="#"><u>Coed y Chwarel</u></a>	347. <a href="#"><u>Cors Cae Owen</u></a>
46. <a href="#"><u>Bryn teg</u></a>	198. <a href="#"><u>Coed Tan-yr-allt</u></a>	348. <a href="#"><u>Tir Gwlyb Teilia Neuadd</u></a>
47. <a href="#"><u>Y Clawdd Mawr</u></a>	199. <a href="#"><u>Coed Allt-wen</u></a>	349. <a href="#"><u>Arfordir Trwyn y Buarth - Porth Wen</u></a>
48. <a href="#"><u>Mynydd Nefyn 2</u></a>	200. <a href="#"><u>Cefn Du</u></a>	350. <a href="#"><u>Tir Lleidiog Llanlleiana</u></a>
49. <a href="#"><u>Mynydd Nefyn 1</u></a>	201. <a href="#"><u>Bwlch-y-groed Quarry</u></a>	351. <a href="#"><u>Tir Lleidiog Ty Du</u></a>
50. <a href="#"><u>Mynydd Nefyn 4</u></a>	202. <a href="#"><u>East Talysarn Quarry</u></a>	352. <a href="#"><u>Mynydd y Garn</u></a>
51. <a href="#"><u>Bodeillas Quarry</u></a>	203. <a href="#"><u>Coed Cegin</u></a>	353. <a href="#"><u>Trwyn Pencarreg</u></a>
52. <a href="#"><u>Mynydd Nefyn 3</u></a>	204. <a href="#"><u>Clwt y Bont</u></a>	354. <a href="#"><u>Arfordir Mynydd y</u></a>
53. <a href="#"><u>Cerniog Bach &amp; Isaf</u></a>	205. <a href="#"><u>Clwt y Bont (East)</u></a>	
54. <a href="#"><u>Pont Penmaen</u></a>	206. <a href="#"><u>Tyddyn-Ilwydyn</u></a>	
	207. <a href="#"><u>Rhyddallt-bach</u></a>	
	208. <a href="#"><u>Afon Beuno</u></a>	
	209. <a href="#"><u>Bodwyn</u></a>	
	210. <a href="#"><u>Lletty</u></a>	
	211. <a href="#"><u>Ty'n-y-coed</u></a>	
	212. <a href="#"><u>Croesywaen</u></a>	
	213. <a href="#"><u>Garreg-fawr Slate</u></a>	

55. <a href="#">Pont Pensarn</a>	<a href="#">quarry</a>	<a href="#">Wylfa - Trwyn Penrhyn</a>
56. <a href="#">Ffynnon Felin Bach</a>	214. <a href="#">Cyrnant</a>	355. <a href="#">Tir Gwlyb Dwyran/ Afon Braint</a>
57. <a href="#">Gwynfryn</a>	215. <a href="#">Coedydd Glyn Rhonwy</a>	356. <a href="#">Gwinllan y Gors</a>
58. <a href="#">By Penlon Caernarfon</a>	216. <a href="#">Glyn Rhonwy Quarries woodland mosaic</a>	357. <a href="#">Rhos y Llyn</a>
59. <a href="#">Marian-y-mor (Lon Cob Bach)</a>	217. <a href="#">Glyn Rhonwy Quarries 1</a>	358. <a href="#">Chwarel Llanidan</a>
60. <a href="#">Yr Ala, Pwllheli</a>	218. <a href="#">Glyn Rhonwy Quarries 2</a>	359. <a href="#">Bryn Rhedyn, Niwbwrch</a>
61. <a href="#">Pont y Carreg-fechan</a>	219. <a href="#">Glyn Rhonwy Quarries 3</a>	360. <a href="#">Gwydryn</a>
62. <a href="#">Pwllheli Harbour</a>	220. <a href="#">Ty'n-y-mynydd</a>	361. <a href="#">Cors Llynfaes</a>
63. <a href="#">Coed Farchog</a>	221. <a href="#">Y Fron Slate Quarries</a>	362. <a href="#">Llyn Frogwy</a>
64. <a href="#">Hafodlon</a>	222. <a href="#">Moel Smytho</a>	363. <a href="#">Coed Henblas</a>
65. <a href="#">Glyddyn Mawr</a>	223. <a href="#">Ty-newydd</a>	364. <a href="#">Dingle (Nant y Pandy)</a>
66. <a href="#">Bryn Golau</a>	224. <a href="#">Cerrigllwydion</a>	365. <a href="#">Gorchudden Gylched</a>
67. <a href="#">Tyddyn Ronnen</a>	225. <a href="#">Above Dinorwig</a>	366. <a href="#">Fferam Parc</a>
68. <a href="#">Covered Reservoir</a>	226. <a href="#">Nr. Chwarel Fawr</a>	367. <a href="#">Cytir Llangristiolus</a>
69. <a href="#">Nr. Bryn Llangedwydd</a>	227. <a href="#">Dinorwic Slate Quarries</a>	368. <a href="#">Cors Hendre Fawr</a>
70. <a href="#">Pont Hendre-garcin</a>	228. <a href="#">Ty Mawr</a>	369. <a href="#">Clegyrdy-bach/Neuadd Wen/Ty'n Beudy</a>
71. <a href="#">Bryn-penrhyn</a>	229. <a href="#">Pen-y-Bwlch</a>	370. <a href="#">Cors Tregarnedd Fawr</a>
72. <a href="#">Penraig (North)</a>	230. <a href="#">Maes-y-coed woods</a>	371. <a href="#">Tir Pori Talwrn</a>
73. <a href="#">Llwyn</a>	231. <a href="#">Pen-y-bryn</a>	372. <a href="#">Coed Cae Mawr</a>
74. <a href="#">Llanarmon</a>	232. <a href="#">Bronygarth Hospital</a>	373. <a href="#">Tir Gwlyb Glan-y-gors / Ty'n-y-mynydd</a>
75. <a href="#">Bryn Gwynt</a>	233. <a href="#">Abergafren</a>	374. <a href="#">Coed Bodafon-y-Glyn</a>
76. <a href="#">Plas Llanarmon</a>	234. <a href="#">Cae Canol</a>	375. <a href="#">Maen Eryr</a>
77. <a href="#">Gwinllan y Gromlech</a>	235. <a href="#">Nursery Wood</a>	376. <a href="#">Mynydd Bodafon</a>
78. <a href="#">Llys Padrig</a>	236. <a href="#">Carreg-goch</a>	377. <a href="#">Coed Cefn Du</a>
79. <a href="#">Bryn Bachau Farm</a>	237. <a href="#">Parc y Borth</a>	378. <a href="#">Cors Traeth Dulas</a>
80. <a href="#">Gwinllan Cefn Rhosgyll</a>	238. <a href="#">Gwernddwryd</a>	379. <a href="#">Rhostir Ponciau</a>
81. <a href="#">Rhos Gwaq-y-noe</a>	239. <a href="#">Glan Morfa Bach</a>	380. <a href="#">Cors Frigan</a>
82. <a href="#">Chwilog Bach</a>	240. <a href="#">Dyffryn Nantlle Slate Quarries (East)</a>	381. <a href="#">Coed Llysdulas</a>
83. <a href="#">Tyn Coed Uchaf</a>	241. <a href="#">Quarry below Marchlyn Bach</a>	382. <a href="#">Llyn Llwyn-Crwn/ Sgarp Caerhos Lligwy</a>
84. <a href="#">Cefn Coed</a>	242. <a href="#">Holyhead Road woodland</a>	383. <a href="#">Prysan/ Galchfaen/ Faqwyr Fawr</a>
85. <a href="#">Bryntirion</a>	243. <a href="#">Talhenbont Wood</a>	384. <a href="#">Chwarel Frigan</a>
86. <a href="#">Llynnoedd Afonwen</a>	244. <a href="#">Coed Mawr</a>	385. <a href="#">Pont Lligwy</a>
87. <a href="#">Pen y Bryn</a>	245. <a href="#">Pebelig Graveyard</a>	386. <a href="#">Nant y Perfedd/ Traeth Lligwy</a>
88. <a href="#">By Butlins</a>	246. <a href="#">Bryn Coch</a>	387. <a href="#">Coedydd Plas Lligwy</a>
89. <a href="#">Pont Llwyn-gwyn</a>	247. <a href="#">Dol Elidir</a>	388. <a href="#">Afon y Marchogion ac Ynys Isaf</a>
90. <a href="#">Pen-y-bryn</a>	248. <a href="#">Llainwen Isaf</a>	389. <a href="#">Caeau Brynteg</a>
91. <a href="#">Drwsdeugoed</a>	249. <a href="#">Coed Penmaen-mawr</a>	390. <a href="#">Tir Pori Traian</a>
92. <a href="#">Abererch Station</a>	250. <a href="#">Waggoner's Covert</a>	391. <a href="#">Caeau Capel</a>
93. <a href="#">Pen Sarn</a>	251. <a href="#">Coed Tai-draw</a>	
94. <a href="#">Below Cwmgwared</a>	252. <a href="#">Coed Llannerch yr Eryr</a>	
95. <a href="#">Afon Llifon</a>	253. <a href="#">Coed Craig Wenallt</a>	
96. <a href="#">Garth Darwen (West)</a>	254. <a href="#">North west of Ty isaf</a>	
97. <a href="#">Garth Darwen (East)</a>	255. <a href="#">Coed Ty-nant</a>	
98. <a href="#">Dafarn Dudur</a>	256. <a href="#">Coed Craig-crogan</a>	
99. <a href="#">South of Coch y Rhwd</a>	257. <a href="#">Coed Bryn Melyn</a>	
100. <a href="#">Afon Llyfni (North 1)</a>	258. <a href="#">Wern Dywyll</a>	
101. <a href="#">Afon Llyfni (North 2)</a>	259. <a href="#">Caecano Mawr</a>	
102. <a href="#">Afon Llyfni (South 1)</a>	260. <a href="#">Carreg Ddu</a>	
103. <a href="#">South of Llenar Fawr</a>	261. <a href="#">Cefn Trwsq</a>	
	262. <a href="#">Ffestiniog Slate Quarry</a>	
	263. <a href="#">Llyn Cwmorthin</a>	

104. <a href="#">Llanlyfni</a>	264. <a href="#">Oakeley Square</a>	<a href="#">Brynrefail</a>
105. <a href="#">Butlins 1</a>	265. <a href="#">Mynydd Cymerau</a>	392. <a href="#">Graigfryn</a>
106. <a href="#">Afon Wen</a>	266. <a href="#">Ffridd Coed</a>	393. <a href="#">Arfordir Porth Wen</a>
107. <a href="#">Lon Penrallt</a>	267. <a href="#">Tan-yr-allt</a>	- <a href="#">Porth Llechog</a>
108. <a href="#">Lon Tan-y-Bryn</a>	268. <a href="#">Corris quarry</a>	394. <a href="#">Porth Llechog</a>
109. <a href="#">Tuhwnt-i'r-gors</a>	269. <a href="#">Coed Braich Goch</a>	395. <a href="#">Llyn Llaethdy</a>
110. <a href="#">Bodlondeb Home</a>	<a href="#">northwards</a>	396. <a href="#">Cors Tal-y-Dyffryn</a>
<a href="#">Woods</a>	270. <a href="#">Aber Corris</a>	397. <a href="#">Arfordir Llam Carw</a>
111. <a href="#">Plas Brereton</a>	271. <a href="#">Abercwmmeiddaw</a>	- <a href="#">Porthyrychen</a>
112. <a href="#">Bont y Chrychddwr</a>	<a href="#">Quarry</a>	398. <a href="#">Arfordir Point</a>
113. <a href="#">Dol-wenith</a>	272. <a href="#">Mynydd Cymerau</a>	<a href="#">Llynas/ Freshwater</a>
114. <a href="#">Brithdir-isaf</a>	<a href="#">Quarry</a>	<a href="#">Bay</a>
115. <a href="#">Ty 'rallt Farm</a>	273. <a href="#">Coed Ty'n-y-pant</a>	399. <a href="#">Pyllau Pentrefelin/</a>
116. <a href="#">Rhos Broneifion</a>	274. <a href="#">Garregwen</a>	<a href="#">Dyffryn Adda</a>
117. <a href="#">Gell Farm</a>	275. <a href="#">Afon Seiont, Caernarfon</a>	400. <a href="#">Mynydd Parys</a>
118. <a href="#">Coed Mawr</a>	276. <a href="#">Glan-gynfi</a>	401. <a href="#">Mynydd Eilian</a>
119. <a href="#">Coed Trefan (South)</a>	277. <a href="#">Porth Penrhyn Mudflats</a>	402. <a href="#">Arfordir</a>
120. <a href="#">Nr.Talysarn</a>	278. <a href="#">Glan-y-don</a>	<a href="#">Porthyrychen -</a>
121. <a href="#">Below Ty'n-y-coed</a>	279. <a href="#">Sports ground &amp;</a>	<a href="#">Porth Eilian</a>
122. <a href="#">Nant Stigallt</a>	<a href="#">Sewage works</a>	403. <a href="#">Coed Glanyrafon</a>
123. <a href="#">Below Talysarn</a>	280. <a href="#">Groeslon South</a>	404. <a href="#">Llwyn Padoq/ Llwyn</a>
124. <a href="#">Gwinllan Tyddyn</a>	281. <a href="#">Above Bron Ogwen</a>	<a href="#">Bonc</a>
125. <a href="#">Clogwyn Melyn</a>	282. <a href="#">Henbarc</a>	405. <a href="#">Coed Moel y Don</a>
126. <a href="#">Mynydd y Cilgwyn</a>	283. <a href="#">Bontuchaf</a>	406. <a href="#">Coed yr Ardd</a>
127. <a href="#">Nant-noddfa</a>	284. <a href="#">Gerlan</a>	407. <a href="#">Coed Odyn Calch</a>
128. <a href="#">Dyffryn Nantlle Slate</a>	285. <a href="#">Gwaun-y-gwiall (West)</a>	408. <a href="#">Llwyn Chwarel-</a>
<a href="#">Quarries (West)</a>	286. <a href="#">Gwernydd</a>	<a href="#">Goch</a>
129. <a href="#">Bryn Beddau</a>	287. <a href="#">Bryn Derwen</a>	409. <a href="#">Coed Bryncelli Ddu</a>
130. <a href="#">Dolau Gwyn</a>	288. <a href="#">Coed Bryn Meurig</a>	410. <a href="#">Cors Bod-Ynys</a>
131. <a href="#">Pen-y-bryn quarries</a>	289. <a href="#">Coed Glasgoed</a>	411. <a href="#">Coed Plas Gwyn</a>
132. <a href="#">Dyffryn Nantlle</a>	290. <a href="#">Pen y Buarth</a>	412. <a href="#">Coed Ty Fry</a>
133. <a href="#">Woodlands in</a>	291. <a href="#">Deiniol House</a>	413. <a href="#">Coed Braint/ Siglen/</a>
<a href="#">Penrhyn Park 2</a>	292. <a href="#">Coed Blaen-y-cae</a>	<a href="#">Dyfnia</a>
134. <a href="#">Penrhyn Bridge</a>	293. <a href="#">Baron Hill</a>	414. <a href="#">Afon Nodwydd/</a>
<a href="#">Swamp</a>	294. <a href="#">Glan y Gors</a>	<a href="#">Traeth Coch</a>
135. <a href="#">Llandegai</a>	295. <a href="#">Llyn Pant Afon</a>	415. <a href="#">Bryn Hyrddin</a>
<a href="#">woodlands</a>	296. <a href="#">Tan-y-coed</a>	416. <a href="#">Planhigfa Clyddyn</a>
136. <a href="#">Tal-y-bont</a>	297. <a href="#">Glanffynnon</a>	417. <a href="#">Coed Vivian/ Cors</a>
<a href="#">woodlands</a>	298. <a href="#">Rhos ddu</a>	<a href="#">Wiber</a>
137. <a href="#">Felin Cochwillan to</a>	299. <a href="#">Clwt y Bont (West)</a>	418. <a href="#">Cors Durley Dene</a>
<a href="#">Talybont</a>	300. <a href="#">Clwt y Bont massif</a>	419. <a href="#">Coed Plas Cadnant</a>
138. <a href="#">Plas Maes-y-groes</a>	301. <a href="#">Bron-y-foel</a>	420. <a href="#">Cytir Llandegfan</a>
139. <a href="#">Roman Camp</a>		421. <a href="#">Coed Plas</a>
140. <a href="#">Nant Porth Farm</a>	<a href="#">Anglesey</a>	422. <a href="#">Yr Orchudden</a>
<a href="#">copses</a>		<a href="#">Wastad</a>
141. <a href="#">Penrhyn Arms Wood</a>	302. <a href="#">Porth Diana i Arfordir</a>	423. <a href="#">Llyn Pen-y-Parc</a>
142. <a href="#">Bangor Mountain</a>	<a href="#">Cefn y Borth a Rhos</a>	424. <a href="#">Coedydd Ystad</a>
143. <a href="#">Golf course scrub &amp;</a>	<a href="#">Ty'n y Mynydd</a>	<a href="#">Baron Hill</a>
<a href="#">woodland</a>	303. <a href="#">Pwll Porth Diana</a>	425. <a href="#">Ty'n y Berllan</a>
144. <a href="#">Lon Pobty</a>	304. <a href="#">Cors Cerrig-moelion</a>	426. <a href="#">Ty'n-y-mynydd/</a>
145. <a href="#">Llandegai Estate</a>		<a href="#">Rhos/ Glan-yr-afon</a>
146. <a href="#">Llandegai -</a>		427. <a href="#">Rhostir Bwlch</a>
<a href="#">Glasinfryn</a>		428. <a href="#">Cefn Llech</a>
<a href="#">woodlands</a>		429. <a href="#">Cae Marl</a>
147. <a href="#">Coed Lon Pobty</a>		430. <a href="#">Y Bonc</a>

<p>148. <u>Glanadda Hill</u>  149. <u>Bryn Glas</u>  150. <u>Minffordd to Pant  Caerhun</u>  151. <u>Cyttir Lane Woods</u>  152. <u>Perfeddgoed</u>  153. <u>Tair Ffynnon Uchaf</u></p>		<p>431. <u>Coedlas Marian-  glas</u>  432. <u>Cors y Bwlch</u>  433. <u>Cors Efail Newydd</u>  434. <u>Breeze Hill</u>  435. <u>Coed y Wern</u>  436. <u>Dingle Hafod-y-  Rhug</u>  437. <u>Rhos Castell/ Bryn  Offa</u>  438. <u>Parc Newydd</u>  439. <u>Tir Pori Hen Dy</u>  440. <u>Cae Tan Rallt Wen /  Bwlch y Ffos</u>  441. <u>Arfordir Tan Dinas</u>  442. <u>Dolydd Lleiniog</u>  443. <u>Chwarel Flagstaff/  Chwarel Penmon</u>  444. <u>Chwarel  Penhwnllys</u></p>
<p><u>UNESCO Global GeoPark</u></p>		
<p><u>Anglesey</u>  1. <u>GeoMôn</u></p>		
<p><u>UNESCO World Heritage Sites</u></p>		
<p><u>Gwynedd</u>  1. <u>Caernarfon Castle</u></p>	<p><u>Anglesey</u>  2. <u>Beaumaris Castle</u></p>	

## **Action Point S6/PG8 – Local Nature Reserves and Wildlife Sites**

*Present a short paper to describe Local Nature Reserves and Wildlife Sites: designation process, reasoning behind their designation etc.*

### **Councils' Response**

#### **1. Local Nature Reserves**

##### **1.1 Background**

1.1.1 A Local Nature Reserve (LNR) is an area of natural beauty where the main aim is to conserve and enhance the environment for the benefit of wildlife and people. Environments include native wildlife (flora and fauna), historical and cultural artefacts, all sitting within the visual landscape. LNRs recognise the legal and traditional rights of people, both local and visiting, to access and enjoy these areas, and seek to balance and integrate these with the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment.

1.1.2 LNRs can encompass all sorts of habitats, including semi-natural woodland, meadow grassland, heath land, river corridors, coastal headlands, and former quarries. The area covered by LNRs acts as an important resource for wildlife, contributing significantly towards biodiversity within the UK.

##### **1.2 The Purpose of LNRs**

1.2.1 A Nature Reserve is defined in Section 15 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, as:

“Land managed for the purpose of:

(a) providing, under suitable conditions and control, special opportunities for the study of, and research into, matters relating to the flora and fauna of Great Britain and the physical conditions in which they live, and for the study of geological and physiographical features of special interest in the area; or

(b) Preserving flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features of special interest in this area; or for both these purposes.”

1.2.2 LNRs are important within the context of Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs). Many afford the opportunity for community involvement, being popular places for recreation and enjoying natural surroundings, and are particularly important educationally, being used by schools, colleges and institutes of higher education.

##### **1.3 LNR Selection**

1.3.1 Potential LNRs are usually identified by members of the local community, the local Town or Community Council, and are selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- 1) High natural interest in the local context (Site of Special Scientific Interest - SSSI - or near equivalent).
- 2) Natural interest and of high value in the County/Community context for formal education or research.
- 3) Natural interest and of high value in the County/Community context for the informal enjoyment of nature by the public.
- 4) Any combination of 1-3.
- 5) Capable of being managed with the conservation of nature as a priority.

#### **1.4 Establishing LNRs - Consultation**

- 1.4.1 The 1949 Act requires that there is consultation with NRW (Natural Resources Wales), as successor to the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) at two levels:
  - 1) Informal consultation and comment on the draft management plan.
  - 2) Formal consultation initiated by the declaring authority.
- 1.4.2 Other organisations that may be consulted include, but are not limited to, Town or Community Councils, the Local Authority, local residents, relevant landowners, the National Trust, the RSPB, Coed Cymru, the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, CADW and the North Wales Wildlife Trust.

#### **1.5 Declaration**

- 1.5.1 LNRs are declared by the Local Authority under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949. In Anglesey, the adopted approach for the declaration of LNRs makes use of the Local Government Act, 1972, which allows Local Authorities to delegate to a Town or Community Council the power to declare a LNR. The declaring authority must have a legal interest in the land in order for a LNR to be established.

#### **1.6 LNR Management**

- 1.6.1 LNRs should be managed so that any features of special interest are maintained. Management plans are compiled for each LNR, describing the habitat, features of interest, practical management actions, timescales etc. A management committee is then set up which comprises the declaring authority (for example Menter Môn on Anglesey), and landowners within the reserve. Other organisations may be co-opted onto the committee as management advisers. The LNRs also have voluntary wardens - local people who generally keep an eye on the reserves. Some of their duties include checking the condition of paths, bridges etc., noting issues and incidents that need to be addressed, and reporting activities such as dog fouling and fly-tipping.

### **2. Wildlife Sites**

#### **2.1 Background**

- 2.1.1 Wildlife Sites are places that are considered to be of local importance for their biodiversity value. Wildlife Sites are identified by locally developed criteria and are the most important places for wildlife and biodiversity outside of the statutory sites, such as SSSIs.
- 2.1.2 The JLDP area has rich diversity of species and habitats and this is reflected in the coverage of sites designated for their national and international importance. The area is the stronghold for some rare species such as the red squirrel, chough and lesser horseshoe bat and has good examples of many threatened habitats such as, sand dunes, fens and lowland heaths. Wildlife Sites often contribute to the distinctive landscape character of the area.
- 2.1.3 The Councils have a duty to conserve our biodiversity resource for future generations. Wildlife Sites, together with statutory sites, form a basis for the wildlife resource of an area. Below a minimum level, wildlife cannot recover to a sustainable level. Loss or damage to Wildlife Sites and statutory sites should be prevented when possible, in a move towards a sustainable environment.

## **2.2 The Aims of Wildlife Sites**

- To protect important areas of biodiversity - Wildlife Sites are vital for enabling the planning system to recognise and thus protect areas of important biodiversity value outside the network of statutorily protected sites.
- To enhance the biodiversity resource - Wildlife Sites can be targeted for habitat improvement, which is an important component of Local Biodiversity Action Plan and National Biodiversity Strategies.
- To ensure that connectivity through the landscape is maintained - Wildlife is not restricted to boundaries and statutorily designated sites, species travel through the countryside and require habitat corridors and stepping stones to link together otherwise isolated wildlife areas. Connectivity provides an element of robustness to both Wildlife Sites and statutory sites.
- To contribute to sustainable development - The survival and conservation of Wildlife Sites is a key indicator of sustainable development and contribute to the quality of life and well-being of the community, providing opportunities for research and education.

## **2.3 Status in planning and law**

- 2.3.1 They are non-statutory sites that are not designated under any specific law, but a suite of policies and legislation. The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC) 2006 placed a duty on local authorities to conserve biodiversity through the exercising of their functions. This has now been replaced in Wales by the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 enhanced duty for LAs to seek to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
- 2.3.2 Article 10 of the EU Habitats Directive 1992 says that: *“Member states shall endeavour, where they consider it necessary, in their land use planning and development policies, and, in particular, with a view to improving the ecological*

*coherence of the Natura 2000 network, to encourage the management of features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild flora and fauna”.*

- 2.3.3 This has been transposed into national legislation as regulation 37 of the Habitats Regulations 1994 which calls for development plans to include policies for the protection of wildlife corridors and stepping stones. Wildlife sites will help fulfil these ecological functions.
- 2.3.4 Section 5.5.1 of Planning Policy Wales (2016) states that *“Biodiversity and landscape considerations must be taken into account in determining individual applications and contributing to the implementation of specific projects. The effect of a development proposal on the wildlife or landscape of any area can be a material consideration. In such instances and in the interests of achieving sustainable development it is important to balance conservation objectives with the wider economic needs of local businesses and communities. Where development does occur it is important to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to safeguard or enhance the environmental quality of land.”*
- 2.3.5 Planning Policy Wales (Section 5.3.11) states that *‘Such designations should not unduly restrict acceptable development’*. Section 5.5 of Technical Advice Note 5: Nature Conservation and Planning (2009) refers to ‘local sites’. It acknowledges the important contribution of Wildlife Sites to the implementation of Biodiversity Action Plans and to the management of landscape features of major importance for species. It states that developers should avoid harm to Wildlife Sites where possible. Where harm is unavoidable it should be minimised by mitigation measures.
- 2.3.6 All wildlife habitat quality is a relevant material consideration in planning contexts, to inform decision-making and choices. Most (if not, all) Wildlife Sites have habitats listed under Section 42 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006).

**2.4 Selection criteria**

- 2.4.1 Paragraph 5.3.11 of PPW states that *“Non-statutory designations, such as Special Landscape Areas or Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation, should be soundly based on a formal scientific assessment of the nature conservation, landscape or geological value of the site. Local non-statutory sites can add value to the planning process particularly if such designations are informed by community participation and reflect community values. Local planning authorities should apply these designations to areas of substantive conservation value where there is good reason to believe that normal planning policies cannot provide the necessary protection.”*
- 2.4.2 Table 1 below outlines the specific process which has taken place in both Anglesey and Gwynedd in the selection of ‘wildlife sites’.

Anglesey	Gwynedd
Government guidance recommends that only sites which are of “substantive conservation	Government guidance recommends that only sites which are of “substantive



value” are selected to be Wildlife Sites. Sites will hold habitats and/ or species of particular conservation interest, such as those listed under Section 42 of the NERC Act (2006) as being of ‘principal conservation concern’.

The main criterion for the selection of Wildlife Sites in Anglesey in all cases is their relative *naturalness*. Based mainly on the Wildlife Sites Handbook, Hawkswell, S. (Ed.) (1997) other criteria for the selection of Wildlife Sites are *rarity*, *size*, and *diversity*, with further considerations which may include:

*position in an ecological unit, connectivity (including to statutory sites) and educational/social value.*

Based on survey results, each site has its own citation noting habitats and species (unless access for survey has not been possible, in which case naturalness has been confirmed by aerial photography). Sites that have fulfilled one or more of the criteria (see above) are referred to as Wildlife Sites

About 140 Wildlife Sites are listed for Anglesey. This work was started in the 1980s, originally by North Wales Wildlife Trust, and sites have been subject to reviews and modifications since that time, and most recently a *condition assessment* in 2010 and *boundary review* in 2012-13 (with further updating in 2014 and 2015), involving Council staff, Cofnod and NWWT.

Wildlife Site boundaries and citations are maintained digitally on the Cofnod website on behalf of the Council: <http://safleol.lrcwales.org.uk/> (available to the public following site registration) This digital record of Wildlife Site boundaries was used to inform the JLDP’s Constraints Maps.

conservation value” are selected to be Wildlife Sites.

Criteria for the selection of Wildlife Sites in the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area are set out in “Gwynedd Wildlife Sites: a system for their selection and designation” (available at [www.gwynedd.gov.uk](http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk)) produced by the Gwynedd Biodiversity Team in consultation with the Countryside Council for Wales and the North Wales Wildlife Trust.

The criteria aim to select those sites that support habitats and species identified in Natur Gwynedd and those identified by the Welsh Assembly under section 42 of the NERC Act 2006 to be of principle importance to biodiversity in Wales. The importance of a site for nature conservation often relates to many different elements and qualities, and the evaluation of a site will examine several of these factors to try to gain a fuller appreciation of the site’s value for biodiversity. These key factors are:

Species, habitat, size, rarity, diversity, connectivity in the landscape, viability, local significance, potential and social value; as advised by the Wildlife Sites Handbook (Wildlife Trusts 1997 and Defra 2006).

A desk top study initially identified 1,300 candidate Wildlife Sites. These were selected using CCW’s habitat survey, aerial photographs together with habitat and species records from a range of sources. A copy of a map showing the location of these sites is available from Cofnod, the Local Biological Record Centre <http://safleol.lrcwales.org.uk/> (available to the public following site registration).

Approximately 300 of the candidate sites have been evaluated and recorded for their importance for nature conservation in the area. Sites that fulfil the criteria are considered to be Wildlife Sites (see ‘Gwynedd Wildlife Sites: A system for their selection and designation’).

A register of Wildlife Sites is held and maintained by Gwynedd Council in the form of a digital map and database. This digital record of Wildlife Site boundaries was used

	<p>to inform the JLDP's Constraints Maps.</p> <p>The remaining candidate sites require a survey and an assessment of their value and worthiness of Wildlife Site designation. However, due to the large number of candidate sites it is not currently possible to systematically survey and evaluate all them. The evaluation of a site is most likely to be triggered by a planning proposal on or near a candidate site. The JLDP Constraints Maps show the location of candidate Wildlife Sites.</p>
--	---