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Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

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One Wales: One Planet

The Sustainable Development
Annual Report 2008-2009

February 2010





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ISBN 978 0 7504 5508 4
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CMK-22-01-192
E6410910

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This is the Sustainable Development Annual Report 2008-2009, made under section 79 (6) of the Government of Wales Act 2006. It looks back at 2008-9 and begins to look ahead to the new Sustainable Development Scheme adopted in May 2009



Ministerial Foreword



I am delighted to present the Welsh Assembly Government's Annual Report on Sustainable Development for the financial year 2008-09. As well as looking back at the year - which was the last year of the Sustainable Development Scheme of 2004 - the report takes the opportunity to begin to look ahead at the work on the new Sustainable Development Scheme adopted in May 2009 and to set out the new impetus towards a more sustainable Wales.

Sustainable Development remains central to the work of the Welsh Assembly Government. We are one of only a handful of governments worldwide that have a legal duty towards sustainable development and we are proud of how this has increasingly shaped our approach to policy-making.

There is much still to do to ensure that we meet our aspirations for sustainable development. As a country we are consuming far more than our fair share of the earth's limited and precious resources; there are great inequalities of opportunity across communities in Wales; and our economy is not as resilient and ready for the future as we would wish. As a government, we have more to do to ensure that all our policies fully reflect the long-term investments needed to improve well-being and we are consistently working across our different Departments with common purpose.

This was the verdict of our 2008 Effectiveness Review and of the recalculation of Wales' Ecological Footprint that paved the way for the 2009 remaking of the Sustainable Development Scheme.

Our new Scheme has been welcomed by our partners in setting a new pace towards making Wales more sustainable - a target of using only our fair share of the earth's resources within a generation, and making the principles of well-being, social justice and resource efficiency over the longer-term central to our thinking and action within the Welsh Assembly Government and in how we work with others. This report sets out the first steps on this journey.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Davidson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jane Davidson AM
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing

Sustainable Development Commission commentary

About this commentary

The Sustainable Development Commission is the Welsh Assembly Government's independent advisory body on sustainable development. One of our key roles is to assess the performance of the Welsh Assembly Government in its delivery of sustainable development policies and the fulfilment of its statutory duty to promote sustainable development.

This eighth statutory report is the second in which the Sustainable Development Commission has provided an independent commentary. This commentary not only looks back and assesses government's performance during the financial year 2008-9, but also looks forward and identifies the key challenges the Welsh Assembly Government must meet if it is to realise its vision for a more sustainable Wales.

While the Government of Wales Act 2006 requires Welsh Ministers to 'publish a report of how the proposals set out in the sustainable development scheme were implemented in that financial year', the Sustainable Development Commission recommends that the Welsh Assembly Government also reports on its performance and outcomes delivered; either as part of the Sustainable Development Annual Report 2010 or in an alternative publication. In doing so, the Welsh Assembly Government should give greater prominence to the communication of its progress against the five headline sustainable development indicators and the supporting indicators; building on its production and use of an updated Ecological Footprint for Wales.

Challenge from last year

Last year the Sustainable Development Commission drew upon the independent analysis of the effectiveness of how sustainable development was being delivered across government, and concurred that while important innovation was taking place, government was still working in silos.

The Sustainable Development Commission therefore strongly welcomes the Welsh Assembly Government's new commitment to make sustainable development the central organising principle of government. Whether it be allocating resources, developing policy or delivering programmes, having sustainable development as the central organising principle will require the Welsh Assembly Government as a body corporate and individual departments (both internally and working together) to make the five principles of sustainable development the starting point rather than a staging post in planning and delivery. This will require a concerted effort at a political and official level to drive change forward. The Sustainable Development Commission would cite the creation of the post of Director General for

Sustainable Futures, and the redesigned Policy Integration Tool within the Policy Gateway process as two examples of progress in this area. The Sustainable Development Commission is aware that, as part of this sustainable development annual reporting process, individual departments have reported on progress; however, in our next assessment, the Sustainable Development Commission will be looking in more detail on sustainable development as the central organising principle has been integrated into the machinery of departments and seeking examples of where such an approach has positively impacted on delivery.

2008-9: the wider context

2008-9 witnessed unprecedented volatility and turbulence in the global economy; with the UK economy contracting in each of the four quarters of the financial year. The economic downturn has had an impact on sustainable development in Wales. Rises in energy prices threaten the Welsh Assembly Government's ability to meet its target of eliminating fuel poverty; and on climate change a reduction in economic activity in Wales is likely to lead to a net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Given that many of these external factors are beyond the control or influence of the Welsh Assembly Government, the key task for any government in Cardiff Bay is to build Wales' long-term resilience, so when the external shocks come, Wales is best able to cope.

While some shocks are unforeseeable, others are more predictable. We know that the very structure of the global economy is changing. In part as a result of the financial crisis, but also as a result of the ever-increasing strain on our ecology and the environment's finite base of resources. Allied to how we run the economy, climate change also poses a significant threat, both in terms of how we cope with mitigating activities and also how we pursue adaptation measures. Lastly, the fiscal pressures on the UK Government will be felt by the Welsh Assembly Government, local authorities and other public sector bodies in Wales. The need therefore to extract maximum gain out of every taxpayers' pound spent in Wales requires smarter financial choices, an approach that assesses costs in terms of long-term benefits rather than short-term pay-backs.

As is the nature of life, these three challenges do not present themselves in the form of neatly packaged, distinct problems; rather they create complex inter-woven and interdependent issues that can only be solved by taking an integrated, sustainable development approach.

Responding to the recession and recasting the Welsh economy so it can better weather future storms have driven a number of economic development and transport policies and programmes. The Sustainable Development Commission commends the All-Wales Economic Summit process as a means of engaging social and business partners like Wales TUC Cymru, CBI Cymru/Wales and FSB in the co-creation of policies. The announcement not to pursue the M4 relief road is the right decision given the financial and environmental unsustainability of the proposals. The Green Jobs Strategy provides a basis for government and its social and

business partners to begin to assess and plan for an economy where opportunities will lie in growing new environmental sectors, and securing and creating jobs in established sectors by enabling them to be more energy and resource efficient.

Outside the reporting period of this assessment, but nevertheless important to recognise, is the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to review and renew its entire approach to economic development. The retention and creation of jobs in sectors with long-term viability must be central any new approach.

Tackling climate change is an urgent need, and the Sustainable Development Commission is pleased with the leadership the Welsh Assembly Government has shown, and outputs thus far delivered. The emerging climate change strategy and programme of action provide a comprehensive framework for action across all devolved competencies, from transport, planning and energy through to healthcare, skills and behaviour change. The Sustainable Development Commission also strongly commends the work government is undertaking to assess the policy requirements and impacts of 6 % and 9 % annual cuts in emissions. The National Energy Efficiency & Savings Plan and the Fuel Poverty Strategy both attempt to not only reduce Wales' carbon emissions, but also tackle the social consequences that these problems present. The Sustainable Development Commission also strongly welcomes the ambition and leadership the Welsh Assembly Government has shown on its approach to waste, in particular its aspirations for Wales to be a zero waste nation by 2025 and targets of 70 % for the recycling of municipal waste.

The Sustainable Development Commission is pleased at the efforts Welsh Assembly Government is making in the management of its estate and resources, which is not only implicitly good (reducing government's ecological footprint and improving financial efficiency) but sends out a strong signal to others that such actions can and should be done. The Sustainable Development Commission will be reporting on the performance of the Welsh Assembly Government in the management of its core estate in a separate report providing a read across to the performance of departments of HM Government; however we would highlight the continued progress being made, not just within the Welsh Assembly Government's core estate, but across the wider public estate. Within the National Health Service, for example, all of the 57 largest NHS sites in Wales use zero carbon rated green tariffs, saving 72,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions annually. The NHS's energy efficiency programme is an example of where money can be saved, and potentially diverted to front-line services.

However, the opportunity for the Welsh Assembly Government is more than making smarter choices as a consumer of resources. An even greater opportunity lies in making smarter choices as a policy-maker and funding body; ensuring that challenges facing Wales are answered in an integrated, cross-departmental way.

In assessing the Welsh Assembly Government's progress next year, the Sustainable Development Commission will be looking for evidence on how government is translating sustainable development as a central organising principle into actual, on the ground delivery, across all departments. In particular, we will be assessing the extent to which the ambition and targets contained in key strategies are resulting in the required outcomes. Lastly, as Wales emerges out of recession, the Sustainable Development Commission will be assessing the extent to which sustainable development has become the central organising principle for the Welsh Assembly Government's approach to economic development.

A handwritten signature in grey ink, reading "Peter Davies". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the bottom of the name.

Peter Davies OBE
Commissioner for Wales, and UK Vice Chair,
Sustainable Development Commission
www.sd-commission.org.uk/wales

Introduction

The Annual Report fulfils a statutory commitment to report on how the proposals in the Welsh Assembly Government's Scheme were implemented during any given financial year.

The 2008-09 report's structure reflects the structure of the new Welsh Assembly Government Sustainable Development Scheme:

1. Sustainable Development as a Central Organising Principle
2. Sustainable Resource Use
3. Sustaining the Environment
4. A sustainable Economy
5. A sustainable Society
6. The Wellbeing of Wales.

The Annual Report sets out:

- Progress against the outcomes in our new Sustainable Development Scheme with reference to WAG strategic outcomes for 2008/9
- Progress against the outstanding issues in our previous Sustainable Development Action Plan
- Progress against the Sustainable Development Indicators

A fuller document on a range of departmental activities can be found on our website [<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/sustainabledevelopment/publications/?lang=en>].

We also highlight the views of the Sustainable Development Commission, the Welsh Assembly Government's independent advisors on sustainability issues, who have been invited to provide a commentary on the Welsh Assembly Government's progress on sustainable development.

Sustainable Development Indicators

The Sustainable Development indicators are published annually in August by National Statistics. In 2008, the report highlighted that:

- 15 of 39 indicators showed a clear improvement
- 12 of 39 indicators showed little or no change

- 6 of 39 indicators showed clear deterioration
- 6 of 39 indicators have insufficient or no comparable data.

The areas of improvement included economic output and social justice, housing, poverty, waste disposal, air quality, water quality and management, greenhouse gas emissions.

The key areas of little improvement or deterioration were in waste arisings, biodiversity, employment and benefit issues, electricity from renewable sources, health inequality, ecological impacts of air pollution, sustainable forms of mobility, community participation, and Welsh language.

Sustainable Development Action Plan 2004-7

The Sustainable Development Annual Report for the period 2007/8 was laid before the Assembly in January 2009. This largely reports on actions undertaken in the previous administration's Sustainable Development Action Plan that covered the period 2004-07. The report indicated that of the 94 actions, 79 had been completed whilst the remaining 15 were on their way to completion. We provide commentary on progress against these outstanding actions at Annex A. A small number are ongoing and will be taken forward in the context of our current work on sustainable development.

Sustainable Development: The Central Organising Principle

Our vision:

- The Welsh Assembly Government as an exemplar organisation demonstrates leadership on sustainable development, and encourages and enables others to embrace sustainable development as the central organising principle.
- Sustainable development considerations are at the core of the evaluation and development of our policies and our new and existing investment proposals.
- There are effective and participative systems of governance at all levels of society.

Summary

The Cabinet confirmed that sustainable development should be the central organising principle of the Welsh Assembly Government. In the wake of the global economic crisis of September 2007 on, and continuing pressure on public sector finances, it is even more critical that we are integrating social, economic and environmental issues, and actively managing any conflicts between these, in all our policies, programmes and delivery. This will ensure that our money goes further to improve wellbeing for people and communities in Wales over the longer-term. We recognise that there is some way to go on this, and note that the Wales Audit Office work on mainstreaming sustainability into business decision-making in WAG is due to be published in 2009/10.

The Welsh Assembly Government must be a leader and clearly demonstrate the positive impact that a sustainable development lens can have on the outcomes that we deliver. We will be reporting in 2009/10 on how each Department is embedding SD as a central organising principle. There are numerous examples of good work across Wales - in local authorities and beyond to the wider public sector, the private sector, third sector organisations and communities. In 2009/10 we will begin to show what is different when SD is the central organising principle of the Welsh Assembly Government, and to encourage partners across all sectors to embed this through our SD Charter which is due to be published in 2010.

Key achievements in 2008-09

- **Development of the new Sustainable Development Scheme**, setting out a vision for a sustainable Wales based on using only our fair share of the earth's resources, and with sustainable development as the central organising principle of the Welsh Assembly Government and the public sector in Wales.

- Work with Forum for the Future to develop the **‘Sustainability Standard’**, which is being used to set out criteria and progress for the Welsh Assembly Government and others to become exemplar organisations in sustainable development.
- **Application and development of the Policy Gateway**, used with all our major policy developments so that staff and partners can develop and test new policies for coherence against the Assembly Government’s strategic agenda and our commitments to sustainable development, equality of opportunity and social justice.
- **Application of the Sustainable Procurement Action Framework**, so that 33 organisations have used it to assess their sustainable procurement performance and developed an associated Action Plan for improvement (see Case Study at the end of the chapter).
- **Requirement for BREEAM Healthcare ‘Excellent’** for new NHS developments funded by the Assembly Government, with BREEAM Healthcare now integrated into the business case process for the procurement of major capital schemes.
- The previous work done by **HEFCW and HEI** in Wales to establish verified EMS systems in all HEIs in Wales came to fruition when Swansea Metropolitan University won the Business and Sustainability Award for environmental reporting, as well as having the lowest energy consumption per sq metre for any university in the UK.
- **Development of an SD integration tool within the Department for Economy and Transport** which provides a range of suggested solutions at 4 levels: Business Plan or Programme Development; Area Regeneration Strategies, Plans and Frameworks; Masterplans for sites or groups of sites; and Development and Regeneration Projects.
- **Development of the key role of Local Service Boards across Wales** to provide a basis for concerted action across organisational boundaries at the local level, focused on delivering citizen well-being and to address strategic challenges, such as promoting health and well being, affordable housing, reducing poverty, tackling economic inactivity and tackling climate change, which require co-production with citizens to achieve better outcomes.
- **Update of the Wales Spatial Plan**, to provide a framework for coherent and sustainable development on a regional basis, linking the delivery activities and priorities of the Welsh Assembly Government and its partners.
- **Development of the Local Authority Sustainable Development Framework** which provides authorities with practical guidance at both a corporate and individual service level on delivering sustainable development.
- **New advice on Community Strategies** stressing that Community Strategies should actively promote policy integration, underpinned by sustainable development principles, and with a firm focus on achieving sustainable outcomes.

- **Strategic Capital Investment Framework** representing a step-change in the way we plan and deliver major capital investment projects. Recognising the importance of sustainability and the environment has been embedded into the SCIF decision making process. There were a number of high profile projects in the first tranche, announced in December 2008, that will have a very positive impact on taking forward the sustainability and environmental agenda, particularly in terms of meeting our carbon emission targets.

Case Study: Sustainable Procurement - All Wales Catering Contract

The All-Wales Catering Contract was awarded to Eurest Catering Services in March 2009 bringing together and harmonising 6 key sites ie Cathays Park, Carmarthen, Llandrindod Wells, Merthyr Tydfil, Caernarfon and latterly in September Aberystwyth, with Llandudno Junction coming on line in July 2010, into one catering service. This means staff can purchase anything from a cup of tea to fish and chips for the same price across the WAG estate.

One of the key objectives for aggregating the AWCC was to place emphasis on locally sourced products and suppliers with fresh healthy ingredients leading to balanced nutritious choices developed in line with Food Safety Guidelines. All food is made using fresh seasonally available produce eliminating convenience foods. Since the contract commenced the number of Welsh suppliers has increased by 120% , and the number of Welsh products have increased by 369% with the next quantifiable information due in November. Eurest and PLSE Facilities are also working closely with the Food Farming and Marketing Department on a supplier development programme.

In line with the Sustainability Programme, Eurest Services also actively promote Fair trade tea/coffee, fruit, chocolate and confectionery in all areas of business and coffee is triple certified. They have sourced and introduced One Water which is a Welsh water bottled locally and sold by a non profit organisation to raise money to provide communities in Africa with fresh clean water.

As part of the AWCC Eurest have been commissioned to achieve site specific ISO 14001 within 9 months of the contract commencement ie January 2010, and are well on their way to achieving this goal. All disposable coffee cups, sandwich wrapping and wooded cutlery are biodegradable and Eurest and the Greening Operations Team are jointly supporting a WAG initiative to introduce a cup for life to reduce waste to landfill. Eurest use the “trim track” system to reduce/segregate food waste, and a 6-month composting trial is to commence in Cathays Park in November. The majority of food deliveries are made using Eurest’s central logistics network, and a robust set of key performance indicators (KPIs) are in place to monitor every aspect of the contract.

PLSE - Facilities and Eurest Services have developed a collaborative working partnership and their aim is to continue in this vein as we move forward with this exciting and innovative new food venture.

Sustainable Resource Use

Our vision:

- We use less energy and are more energy efficient. More of our energy is produced at a community level close to where it is used and we are self-sustaining in renewable energy.
- Every community enjoys better local environments which contribute to health and wellbeing, and local people are involved to promote low-carbon, low-waste living as part of a One Planet Nation.
- We have a low carbon transport network which promotes access rather than mobility, so that we can enjoy facilities with much less need for single occupancy car travel.
- An NHS that leads on low carbon and sustainable development best practice and health services that focus on successful outcomes.

Summary

We commissioned a recalculation of Wales' ecological footprint in 2008 (using 2003 figures). It measured 5.16 global hectares per person, against a global average availability of 1.88 global hectares per person. This indicates that if everyone on the planet used resources to the same extent, we would need another 2.7 planets to sustain us. Reducing our use of resources and improving efficiency is a high priority for the Welsh Assembly - energy, waste, and water - and our indicators broadly show that greenhouse gas emissions are decreasing; production of commercial and industrial waste is decreasing; and recycling and composting is increasing. But we are not nearly close enough to where we would like and need to be. A new Low Carbon Energy Policy Statement for Wales will be published in 2009/10, along with the Climate Change Strategy, Waste Strategy, and the National Transport Plan. These will need to create a step-change in the speed and ambition with which we deliver this agenda.

We know that improved resource efficiency has a positive impact on businesses and organisations, and are showing more clearly how and where it has a positive impact for people - for example, through our Fuel Poverty Strategy, National Energy Efficiency and Saving Strategy, and community action on climate change. However, we still need to demonstrate the benefits better for low-carbon transport: the average number of trips per person, per year, made by walking or cycling has decreased from 291 in 1995/97 to 222 in 2005/06, whilst the average number of trips per person per year made by private motor vehicles steadily increased from an estimated 655 to 744 in the same period. We need to make low-carbon transport options more attractive to people - more accessible, more available, more acceptable, and to demonstrate the positive link with wellbeing (particularly in walking and cycling - see also the chapter on a Sustainable Society).

Key achievements in 2008/9

- **Help for home energy efficiency:** Since April 2001, over £123 million has been spent on energy efficiency measures in Wales through the Assembly Government's Home Energy Efficiency Scheme and over 108,000 households in Wales have benefited from improved energy efficiency as a result. New programmes planned for 2010-11 will create a step change in this level of support.
- **Action on Municipal waste:** The Welsh Assembly Government provided £50 million in Sustainable Waste Management Grant to support local authorities in meeting Welsh Assembly Government and EU Directive targets. Municipal waste again decreased in 2008/09, a trend that started in 2005/06.
- The start of a comprehensive programme to support **community action on climate change** and wider sustainable behaviours. For example, dissemination of a community information pack with advice and guidance on a wide range of sustainability projects that the communities could undertake and an accompanying DVD showcasing good practice examples.
- Work on a new **National Energy Efficiency and Savings Plan (NEESP)** with the aim of refocusing our support on the twin aims of radically improving the energy efficiency of homes throughout Wales and helping those most at risk from fuel poverty.
- Proposed changes to the **Home Energy Efficiency Scheme** so that energy efficiency measures can be more effectively targeted at those in fuel poverty, living in the most inefficient properties.
- Consultation early in 2008 on a **Renewable Energy Route Map for Wales**. The Route Map set out proposals to move Wales towards self-sufficiency in renewable electricity in a generation, whilst driving energy efficiency and with heating requirements being supplied from renewable sources.
- Consultation on a **Bioenergy Action Plan** for Wales launched in February 2009. The plan sets out the scope for increased use of bioenergy within a sustainable development context.

The consultation responses from the Route Map and the Bioenergy Action Plan will inform the development of the Welsh Assembly Government overarching Low Carbon Energy Policy Statement that will cover all low carbon energy issues.

- Launched **Severn Tidal Power**, the major government study of the potential to tap the resource of the Severn Estuary tides. A shortlist of schemes to generate clean, green electricity from the Severn estuary was unveiled on 26 January. As part of the programme, the Welsh Assembly Government is co-funding a £500,000 additional study, known as the Severn Tidal Power Embryonic Technology Scheme (SETS) to explore the potential for deployment of three innovative options for tidal power generation in the Severn Estuary: two tidal fence schemes and a low-head barrage.

- Commissioned research to inform a **Marine Renewable Energy Strategic Framework** to assist planning of marine renewables off our coasts.
- Consultation on plans to deliver the Assembly Government's One Wales commitment to achieve annual **greenhouse gas emission reductions** of 3% per year by 2011 in areas of devolved competence. The Climate Change Strategy - High Level Policy Statement Consultation was published in January and set out the challenges we face, our targets and the areas where we intend to focus action, and our response to the challenge of adapting to the impacts of climate change.
- Developed Welsh elements of **The Flood and Water Management Bill** providing a major opportunity to update the legislation governing flood and coastal risk and to take forward the recommendations in the Pitt Review.
- Secured significant additional funding for **flood and coastal erosion risk management** from the Structural Funds Programme. This investment, in addition to our existing flood risk management programme and Strategic Capital Investment Funding, makes a major contribution to sustainable development by providing enhanced flood risk protection.

Case Study: Afon Adda, Bangor

Flood alleviation scheme and Lôn Adda multi-use path

The Afon Adda culvert was 250 years old, ran for three miles under the town, was crumbling and under sized, threatening 469 properties with floodwater. The Environment Agency Wales, when upgrading the culvert, worked with other partner organisations to bring about additional benefits for the town of Bangor. Through creative thinking and cooperation, the town has gained more than just protection from flooding. The floodwater storage area doubles up as a valuable wetland habitat and work in the Hirael area resulted in a new children's playground. The Environment Agency Wales also worked alongside CCW, Gwynedd Council, WAG and Sustrans to create the first phase of the Lôn Adda 'Multi-Use' Path. This provides a shared traffic free path for walking and cycling through Bangor. The £8.3 million works were funded by the Environment Agency Wales, Gwynedd Council, the Welsh Assembly Government and EU Objective One money.

- Preparation of the draft **new Waste Strategy "Towards Zero Waste"** in co-operation with partners and launched for consultation in April 2009. *Towards Zero Waste* sets out an ambitious agenda for change and incorporates our commitments within the Environment Strategy "to minimise the amount of waste we produce at source and work towards achieving minimised waste to landfill by 2026". This will also address the *SD indicator decline on waste arisings*.

- Achieved **municipal waste targets** with the recycling and composting rate at 36 % and all Welsh local authorities meeting their Landfill Allowance targets, and the statutory EU Landfill Directive landfill allowances targets for 2009/10.
- Launched a **major long term waste treatment investment programme** to ensure the adequate availability capacity for local authorities to ensure Wales meets its EU diversion targets and aligns with the emerging Waste Strategy document. Two strands of the programme were mobilised: food waste treatment and residual waste treatment - the former contributing largely to the achievement of 2012/13 EU targets and the latter to 2019/20 targets.
- Work by the **Assembly Government's Greening Operations** team in implementing WAG's Environmental Management Policy Statement in its own estate. 18 of the Welsh Assembly Government buildings had reached Green Dragon Level 5, as of 2007. Annex B has a summary of our operations in the Accounting for Sustainability reporting framework, which was developed by the Prince of Wales' Accounting for Sustainability project as model of how to present organisational performance in a connected way.
- Welsh hospitals generated approximately 9 % of their total electricity requirement from **embedded Combined Heat and Power (CHP)** sets. At Wales' largest hospital complex, the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff, work has recently been completed to replace existing ageing CHP units with new models.
- The **NHS Central Energy Fund** supporting 149 individual schemes, with a total of 13,400 tonnes of potential CO₂ savings.
- Two new hospital developments in Wales are installing **biomass boilers** to provide heating and hot water services. The developments are Ysbyty Cwm Rhondda at Llwynypia where a 1.2 MW boiler plant has been installed and at Ysbyty Alltwen in Porthmadog where an 880 kW boiler is to be used.
- **Welsh Health Estates travel plan toolkit** which can help to contribute to reducing carbon emissions to help NHS Trusts to comply with WHC (2008) 058. This WHC required NHS Trusts in Wales to develop and implement Travel Plans for their 18 Major acute sites by 31/03/2009.
- Consultation on **land use planning** to make further amendments to the draft Ministerial Interim Planning Policy Statement on climate change. We also consulted on:
 - The design of developments to include climate change mitigation and adaptation measures;
 - The use of sustainable building standards (Code for Sustainable Homes and BREEAM) to drive up the sustainability of buildings in Wales;

- The incorporation of local renewable and low carbon energy sources in new developments to reduce carbon emissions further (from April 2009); and
- The ability for Local Planning Authorities to set higher standards in the above areas for strategic sites through their local development plans.

Sustaining The Environment

- Our land, freshwater and marine environment is best managed to provide the services of food, wood, water, soil, habitats and recreation.

Summary

In 2005, the number of priority species recorded as stable or increasing has increased from 22 % (2002) to 34 %, and for priority habitats the comparative figures show an increase from 30 % to 36 % in the same period. We are unlikely to meet the 2010 target for site condition or the 2010 target of halting loss for every species and habitat. Neither is any other country likely to meet these targets. However, Wales, unlike other countries, has put in place the necessary mechanisms to achieve the challenging Environment Strategy 2015 target of ensuring 95 % of Welsh SSSIs are in favourable condition, and to meet the 2026 target for all sites to be in favourable condition. We have made significant progress in taking an ecosystems approach to the natural environment, and have embedded this within our new agri-environment scheme, Glastir. However, we have some way to go to ensure that we are valuing properly our ecosystems, clearly recognising and protecting the services that they provide to us, and intervening at an early stage to prevent pollution and degradation. In 2009/10 we will be looking again at our long-term approach to improving biodiversity, one of our headline indicators of sustainable development, in the context of our ecosystem approach.

Key achievements in 2008/9

- A new **Farming Connect** programme was launched in July 2008. This offers fully funded services to farming and forestry businesses in Wales via the Development Programmes for Red Meat, Dairy, Organic and Land Management. Fully funded support is also provided by the Management Development Programme [Agrisgôp], Diversification Awareness raising seminars, Planning System Surgeries, Strategic Awareness Events, and Agri-environment Training.
- A consultation document was issued in September 2008 on the **Rural Development Plan Axis 2 review**. The consultation proposed that future agri-environment schemes should be outcome-based, delivering `ecosystem services` outputs as a result of changes in land management practices. It also proposed providing support for carbon sequestration and the provision of renewable energy on farms, thus leading to a contribution to carbon reduction. This led in May 2009 to the Minister for Rural Affairs announcing that from 2012, the five existing agri-environment schemes will be replaced by one scheme, Glastir, which is better positioned to meet current and future environmental challenges.
- Development of the **Farming, Food & Countryside strategy** fundamental to working in a collaborative way with all identified stakeholders towards achieving a common goal, and approach, to sustaining the land based economy in Wales. This resulted in the overarching Rural Affairs strategy, 'Farming, Food & Countryside - Building a Secure Future'

being launched in April 2009, which sets out a clear vision for the future of the Welsh land based industries towards 2020, and is supported by all sectors and interests in rural Wales.

- **Woodlands for Wales**, the Welsh Assembly Government's revised woodland strategy, was launched by the Minister for Rural Affairs on 27 March 2009. The previous strategy, published in 2001, needed revision to reconfirm existing priorities, to align it the WAG Environment Strategy and to identify forestry's response to new themes such as climate change.
- The Minister for Rural Affairs launched the **Wales Fisheries Strategy** in July 2008. Its vision is to 'support the development of viable and sustainable fisheries in Wales as an integral part of coherent policies for safeguarding the environment'.
- In July 2008, WAG published a **State of the Environment 2008** Statistical Bulletin, reporting the progress for 103 indicators, organised by the 6 main themes of the Environment Strategy.
- In October 2008, following a 6 week web-based consultation, the **second Environment Strategy Action Plan**, covering the period 2008-11, was launched. This contains 41 new actions, involving 22 different stakeholders in Wales. The second Action Plan recognises that other WAG policies and programmes, and other existing workstreams will help deliver Environment Strategy outcomes. The second Action Plan does not duplicate this effort, nor does it replicate other ongoing regulatory and legislative drivers.
- The UK **Marine & Coastal Access Bill** was introduced to the Lords in December 2008 and is due Royal Assent in November 2009. Covering a broad range of issues, the Bill has sustainable development as its overarching purpose and provides the tools for delivering the UK High Level Marine Objectives.
- Consultation on a **Strategic Position Statement on Water** published in January 2009. The statement builds on statutory requirements and expands upon the commitments in the Environment Strategy for Wales to manage water resources sustainably and to maintain and enhance water quality in Wales. The statement gives a strategic steer on Welsh priorities and policies relating to water in Wales.
- Input to **Ofwat's Periodic Review**, which will set prices and investment levels for the next five years, and the development of the River Basin Management Plans as a key step in the implementation of the **Water Framework Directive**.
- **Biodiversity Action Plan** Ecosystem groups and a Species Expert Group and Policy Group have been established. These groups have been identifying targets and the actions required to deliver positive gains for our priority habitats and species. These targets and actions are reflected in the 24 Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) across Wales.
- Working with local authorities to help them to integrate **biodiversity** considerations into the decision-making processes at all levels, including very importantly in the local

planning process following the duties under Section 40 of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act).

We note the SD indicators showing the decline in both habitats and bird populations as a marker for biodiversity in Wales. We anticipate that the above work will improve this situation, but recognise that this is a longer-term issue to address.

Case Study: The Cambrian Mountains Initiative

The Cambrian Mountains Initiative is a collaborative project involving the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG), Countryside Council for Wales (CCW), Princes' Charities, Tourism partnership Mid Wales, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency and the local authorities of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Powys. The initiative is a working collaboration between communities, projects and all levels of public, private and voluntary sector to achieve a sustainable future for the Cambrian Mountains.

The main aim is to achieve this through an integrated programme of action - developing the value of the Cambrian Mountains brand, connecting local producers to the consumer marketplace, promoting the visibility of the Cambrian Mountains as a tourist destination, caring for the natural and built environments and developing markets for the provision of eco system services. Together it is hoped these activities will help support the social and cultural vibrancy of the area and help retain young people in local communities.

The Cambrian Mountains Initiative (CMI) is now beginning to take shape as a Integrated Rural Development Project, with key staff appointments on produce marketing and eco systems, the launch of the website, the completion of an initial heritage regeneration survey and the beginnings of engagement with private sector tourism providers.

The Ecosystem Services work is pioneering carbon audit and underpins the brand message of environmental values.

A Farm Business Survey has been carried out on a sample of farms participating in the Lamb Producer Group to assist them to become more aware of the costs associated with business management, as well as providing information to the Eco systems group, on environmental payments for upland farmers. This builds on work undertaken by Technical Services Division (TSD, WAG), published in March 2009, looking at the impact of support payments made from central government (and their effect upon profit levels on all payments made from central government), and their effect upon profit levels on all farms (over 850 farming businesses exceeding 10 ha in size) within the Cambrian Mountains.

The Eco systems Services Matrix for the entire Cambrians Landscape Character Area (project boundary) has been produced and is still being updated as additional information becomes available. Following a scoping exercise assessing datasets listed within the matrix, the Leri, Ceulan and Rheidol catchments in North Ceredigion have been chosen to carry out a case study ('study of practical measures at a landscape-scale to provide for adaptation of biodiversity') utilising DEFRA funding. The case study led by Land Use Consultants involving Bangor University, CCW and West Wales Biodiversity Information centre will develop and refine tools to support the ecosystem approach assessment framework, as well as provide guidance for policy makers, planners and land managers to help them plan, create maintain and adaptively manage landscapes that will enable biodiversity to adapt to climate change.

As part of this project there will be large scale (38,000 ha) roll out of Polyscape, a multiple criteria GIS toolkit for negotiating landscape-scale ecosystem service and biodiversity provision. Polyscape has been developed jointly by the University of Bangor, the Centre for Hydrology and Ecology (CHE) at Bangor, Victoria University of Wellington, Nottingham University, Imperial College London, Forestry Commission and Forest Research, the Flood Risk Management Research Consortium (FRMRC) and the farmers of Pontbren.

The Ecosystem Services Working Group has let a contract to Bangor University to measure the carbon footprint for twenty-three Farms in the CMI region. This is to develop agricultural and farm woodland management prescriptions that maximise maintenance and increase carbon storage in the Cambrians and minimise other greenhouse gas emissions associated with agriculture.

The Produce and Ecosystem services are two key sources of economic value to sustain the communities of the Cambrians. Tourism represents the third under-valued source of economic sustainability, and the work of The Prince's Regeneration Trust and Prince's Foundation for the built environment has begun to identify ways in which the areas' cultural heritage can be better incorporated into a "sense of place" for the Cambrians - a key factor in developing both the tourism and food produce offer of the Cambrian brand.

The new web site www.cambrianmountains.co.uk begins to tell this story. It will be important to continue to develop this narrative with communities of the Cambrians; building connections across the many excellent community programmes being run through the local authorities and rural development programmes.

A Sustainable Economy

- A sustainable economy for Wales that is resilient to changes in the global economy.
- Our long term economic future secured by achieving the transition to a low carbon, low waste economy.
- Wales is the best place for business to locate, start up, grow and prosper.
- Regeneration involves and engages with local communities and is firmly based on sustainability principles, creating an infrastructure for the future that favours sustainable ways of living and working.

Summary

In 2008/9, the UK and world were deep in recession. We launched our programme of Economic Summits, covering issues including skills, investment and funding, housing, and support for business. In particular we brought forward £28m of spending from 2010/11 into 2008/9, additional to the Strategic Capital Investment Framework funding (of around £50m). We are proud of the impact that these Summits have had and will be continuing them into 2009/10. The Green Jobs Strategy has begun the process of promoting a stronger and more sustainable business environment in Wales over the longer-term, and we need to ensure that all our policies and programmes are supporting this.

Our indicators show that whilst the total electricity generated from renewable sources increased by 16 % between 2005 and 2006, this still accounted for only 4 % of the total electricity produced in Wales. Energy is fundamental in thinking about a sustainable future: energy supply, use and prices have a significant impact on our economy, our people (in particular the less well-off), and our environment. As noted in our chapter on Sustainable Resource Use, we will be publishing a Low Carbon Energy Policy Statement in 2009/10 to set out our approach to this issue.

Key achievements in 2008/9

- On 2 January, the pilot phase of **ProAct** was developing. We were working with a variety of stakeholders such as Sector Skills Councils, employers, and unions to ensure that the scheme was suitable to help companies retrain and up skill staff during the down time whilst they are on short time working. By the end of March 2009 we had contracted with around 25 companies and had paid out approx £2m to help those companies retrain.
- In October 2008, the Welsh Assembly Government introduced its latest redundancy support programme called **ReAct** to help people living in Wales who are made redundant as a result of the economic downturn return to work quickly. In the six months up to the end of March 2009 over 5300 participants had been helped by the scheme.

- The Communities Investment Fund administered by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) has provided £2.89 million in loans and £430,000 in development grants to help social enterprises become loan ready in former Objective One and Community First areas since 2006.
- **Sustainable Tourism Framework and Action Plan**
 - Sustainable Tourism Forum and action plan 2008 - 2011
 - Green Sea Partnership and Development Plan 2006 - 2015
 - Coastal Tourism Implementation Group
 - Cultural Tourism Partnership and action plan.
- The **Coastal Tourism Strategy** was launched in December 2008 and sets out a common strategy for developing the tourism potential of the coastline in a sustainable way whilst responding to the needs of growth markets.
- Two EU **‘Environment for Growth’ projects** - coastal tourism and sustainable tourism - worth £17.5m each in total investment - being developed and have been positively received by WEFO.
- A consultation on the **Green Jobs Strategy** was carried out in November 2008 and developed into the final strategy ‘Capturing the Potential’ which was launched on 9 July 2009. This strategy delivers the commitment made in the One Wales programme of Government and will be an important component in stimulating the recovery from the current economic downturn, as well as strengthening our commitment to combat the causes and impacts of climate change.
- In our work to foster **innovation and technology** we have continued to support high level research through the Higher Education Institutions in Wales, and associated centres such as the All Wales Low Carbon Research Institute.
- **The Heads of the Valleys Low Carbon Zone** - an excellent example of the Assembly Government creating opportunities for green jobs as well as positive social and environmental outcomes as part of its regeneration investment.
- **Flexible support for business environment and sustainability service** will allow companies across Wales to access the best possible knowledge on sustainable and cost-effective business practices, and will contribute towards Wales’ ambitions for a sustainable and low-carbon economy.
- **Skills that Work for Wales** addresses the whole range of the skills agenda, from the early years through schools, 14-19 Learning Pathways and on into higher education, training in the workplace and lifelong learning. It is designed to be a sustainable, whole-system approach to encouraging learning and skills development across the education spectrum, allowing access to training at several points.

- **Communities First**, the Assembly Government's flagship community programme, now covers over 160 areas and some 20% of the population of Wales. As part of the 'One Wales' commitment to take forward Communities First, an Outcomes Fund has been established to support activities which deliver real improvements at a local level and tackle key priorities such as child poverty, economic inactivity and job creation.
- Preparation of **The Social Enterprise Action Plan** setting out how the Welsh Assembly Government will work with partner organisations to promote social enterprises in Wales to create a thriving sector that will support community and economic regeneration and create local jobs. The plan contains 20 key actions to help the sector expand, to grow existing ventures and help new social enterprises to become established. Amongst other things, the plan includes the development of a Community Asset Transfer Fund to help third sector organisations and social enterprises renovate public buildings to offer services to their communities.
- **Strategic Regeneration Areas** were identified for the Heads of the Valleys Area (see Case Study on following page), Mon y Menai, North Wales Coast, Swansea and the Western Valleys. This approach takes a holistic view of the issues and opportunities, including the skills and employability needs of people and communities, social exclusion, health and well-being, alongside physical and environmental issues.

Collectively, we anticipate that these policies, and the programmes which are delivered through them, will have a positive impact on the SD indicators for employment (where the indicators show a small increase), reduce the number of workless households (where the indicators show a reduction for adults, but an increase in the number of children in workless households over the time period), education (where the proportion of adults of working age in Wales with at least an NQF level 4 qualification was estimated at 26 per cent in 2006, the same as in 2005), and benefit dependency (which reduced by a small amount over the period).

Case Study: Heads of the Valleys programme

Community, environment and economy working hand in hand to sustainably regenerate the Valleys

The Heads of the Valleys Programme is a 15 year regeneration strategy developed in full partnership with five local authorities (Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau-Gwent and Torfaen), and other local stakeholders to tackle the root causes of economic inactivity, and other key issues in the area within the context of the Wales Spatial Plan.

The aim is that the Heads of the Valleys will become a rich, dynamic network of communities helping to drive the success of south east Wales. Through working in partnership, the Welsh Assembly Government, local authorities, the UK Government and voluntary and private sectors can make a real difference to the Heads of the Valleys area.

How and why it is working:

- Top level Assembly Government and local authority commitment
- Early engagement with stakeholders to generate ideas
- Full use of the Assembly Government's Policy Integration Tool to assess strengths and weaknesses and thereby target activity and spend
- Recognition of the role of the environment in changing peoples' perceptions of the Valleys, as an economic driver and in improving peoples' health
- Alignment of spend across administrative boundaries to deliver better more co-ordinated environmental services and more value for money
- Joint working between all sectors on a dedicated 'landscape scale' to create real impact.

What has it delivered?

There are now Walking the Way to Health projects throughout the HoV area:

- The Loops and Links project to creating recreational routes for horse-riding, walking and mountain biking, linking communities to strategic routes such as the Taff Trail, the Cynon Trail and the national cycle network.
- Valleys Kids, a charity that works with young people from deprived areas in the Rhondda Valley, completed a North-South Wales bike ride with 15 such young people from Pen-yr-englyn and Dinas, Penygraig. It received £5,500 funding from CCW. The young people involved 'showcased' a documentary film of their expedition.

- The Clean Rivers Campaign organised several successful river clean-ups involving many local volunteers.
- CCW contribution of £200,000 to developing and implementing local Biodiversity Action Plans in the area supports many grounds and roadside maintenance services to conduct their maintenance regimes by putting wildlife first, leaving aside strips of grass verges for wildflowers, butterflies and insects, and small mammals to flourish.

New work includes:

- A465 road landscape enhancements with 6 local farmers on board to help with boundary and hedge restoration. This will again contribute to positively changing the perception of the Heads of the Valleys and road safety.
- The Valleys Heart and Soul Campaign provides an exciting opportunity to engage local people in promoting the very best aspects of life in the Valleys to a wider audience in and around the area.
- Forestry Commission Woodland Strategy to maximise community and environmental benefits.
- Identifying skills and training opportunities, including apprenticeships such as in woodland management.

A Sustainable Society

- A nation that values and promotes healthy living and improves the quality of life for all.
- All have access to better homes so that we reduce greenhouse gas emissions and tackle fuel poverty, and new homes and community facilities are sited in sustainable locations, free from the risk of flooding.
- Improved global impact by ensuring that Wales is an international exemplar of sustainable development, leading the world in promoting Fair Trade, and delivering strong community partnerships with sub-Saharan Africa.

Summary

We have put a significant amount of effort and funding towards improving the quality of life of the people in Wales - including in our public health strategic framework, our housing strategy, our education system, and our work on local environments. We are focusing on people's wellbeing over the longer-term in organisation of these services, for example, by promoting health and exercise in daily life; and work continually to understand people's needs and wishes from their services in order to improve delivery, for example through Local Service Boards. We recognise the scale of the challenge: 21 % of the population were recorded as living in relative low-income households (before housing costs) in the period 2003/4 - 2005/6; and in 2004, 4.8 % of houses were judged to be unfit. There are some areas of good news, including increasing life expectancy, reduction in infant mortality rates, and vehicle theft. Overall, this will continue to be an area of high priority for the Welsh Assembly Government and our sustainable development framework will support our focus on citizen-centred services and realising long-term benefits for people and communities in Wales.

2008-09 achievements

- **Public Health Strategic Framework for Wales**, 'Our Healthy Future' prioritising £190m of public health improvements.
- The launch of the **NHS 1,000 Live Campaign**. This highly innovative national programme of action aimed to mobilise the efforts of front-line clinical staff across Wales in achieving measurable improvements in patient safety.
- Local authority programme of 22 social housing schemes, up to 400 homes, to be built to the much **higher environmental standards** of code levels 4 and 5. Construction is expected to start during 2009/10.
- Good progress was made in extending the **All Wales Coast Path** which the Assembly Government is funding and aims to have in place by 2012. A further key section was completed between Penarth and Cardiff Bay and already over 100,000 people have made use of it.

- Produced a **Walking and Cycling Action Plan** (February 2009). This forms part of wider work towards a more sustainable approach to transport in Wales. The Action Plan should begin to address the findings from our *SD indicators that trips made by walking or cycling have decreased over the same period as trips made by private motor vehicles have increased.*

Case Study: Coastal Access Programme

The Improvement Programme (CAIP), which was launched in 2007 by the First Minister, aims to improve coastal access for walkers, cyclist, horse riders and those with mobility problems or with pushchairs. As part of this wider Programme there is a One Wales commitment to open up an all Wales Coast Path by 2012: an 800 mile long distance route. The Assembly Government has earmarked £2million/year for this Programme which is channelled through CCW. An additional £3.9 million of European money has also been secured under the Convergence Programme. Visit Wales have also been involved in developing a brand for the Coast Path and will continue to advise on marketing and promotion. The work on the ground is delivered by the coastal Local Authorities and the two National Parks, who will also be making a financial contribution.

The delivery of this ambitious Programme is therefore based on a strong partnership involving WAG, CCW and Local Government. A joint Project Board, chaired by CCW, oversees the work. A Coastal Access Stakeholder Group has also been established and this draws in voluntary sector groups and landowning interests. Once the Path is officially opened, the partnership approach will continue - in further improving and promoting the route.

The completion of the Path will be a major achievement and has the potential to make a significant contribution to the Welsh economy as well as providing health benefits to local communities.

- Launched the £4 million per annum **Tidy Towns programme**. Tidy Towns is a 2-part initiative between Keep Wales Tidy and all 22 local authorities. The aim of the project is to empower the people of Wales to take responsibility for the quality of their own local environment so they can contribute towards a clean, safe and tidy Wales.

Case Study: Valleys Regional Park

EAW are joint partners in the DE&T led Valleys Regional Park project through our 'Presenting a clean and pleasant environment for visitors' project. This project will make it harder for people to fly tip waste and make it easier to reduce, reuse and recycle waste. The Valleys Regional Park project will deliver a high quality, sustainable network of green space. It will offer outstanding recreational opportunities and create an environment that becomes an attractive destination for visitors and locals alike and stimulates inward investment.

- The **Wales for Africa** funding for the 'Gold Star Communities' project - led by the Wales Council for Voluntary Action - has assisted an extraordinary growth in links between Welsh and African communities that are focussed on mutual development. These links now represent a quarter of all UK community links with sub-Saharan Africa. With our International Learning Opportunities programme - led by Public Service Management Wales and delivered by Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) - we sent 22 public service managers from Wales on 8-week placements to national and local organisations in Africa. These Welsh volunteers helped deliver specific projects aimed at improving public services for African citizens, and developed their own leadership and management skills.
- In June 2008 an **international Fair Trade** conference was held in Newport, attended by 20 farmers and producers from developing countries, and Wales was declared the world's first Fair Trade Nation. All the cities in Wales had achieved the UK Fairtrade status, over half the towns had active Fair Trade groups and Welsh schools accounted for a fifth of all UK schools registered on the Fairtrade Schools scheme.
- Local Sourcing Action Plan "**Food and Drink for Wales**" was developed and launched on 2 April 2009.
- Consultation on a new national housing strategy, **Sustainable Homes**, to replace the existing strategy, *Better Homes (2001)*. Sustainable Homes incorporates the principles of sustainable development, and considers the broader role of housing. As well as addressing meeting housing needs and affordability, the strategy includes chapters on the role of housing in improving lives (social justice, health and wellbeing), strengthening communities (economic, physical and social regeneration) and reducing the carbon footprint (energy performance and climate change).
- The Assembly Government has adopted the **Code for Sustainable Homes** as the assessment framework for new housing and is requiring Code Level 3 for all new housing that we influence through grant funding, investment and land disposals.
- **Welsh Housing Quality Standard**. During 2008-09 residents in Ceredigion, Blaenau Gwent and Gwynedd voted in favour of transfer of local authority housing stock to new registered social landlords in order to attract investment to improve the quality of the stock.

The Assembly Government is encouraging local authorities to use the opportunity of long term investment streams to stimulate the economic regeneration of communities, such as training and employment programmes aimed at providing the economically inactive amongst local communities with real skills and employment prospects.

Case Study: Coalfields Regeneration Trust in Wales

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust is working in partnership with the Welsh Assembly Government and other grant giving bodies in Wales to provide support and to help reinvigorate and regenerate the former and current coalmining communities across Wales.

Mining communities exist in many counties in Wales including Bridgend, Blaenau Gwent, Carmarthen, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Torfaen and Wrexham.

The Trust operates two grant programmes in Wales:

Bridging the Gap

The Bridging the Gap Programme in Wales offers grants from £500 to a maximum value of £10,000 to groups and organisations, which operate in former coalfield communities. Voluntary and Community organisations including Town, Parish and Community Councils and Parent Teacher Associations can apply. Examples of typical uses include buying low-cost equipment, hiring rooms or facilities, paying travel costs, feasibility studies, group training courses, best practice exchanges etc.

Main Grant Scheme

The maximum grant possible is £100,000, with the minimum grant possible being £10,000.

To be eligible projects must:

- deliver public benefit in economically and socially disadvantaged coalfield areas;
- be a regeneration activity which is within the powers of the Trust to support and the applicant to deliver. The Trust will check for this during assessment and applicants can telephone the Pontypridd office for advice.

The Welsh Assembly Government has entered into a financial assistance agreement with the Trust to ensure that the work of the Trust continues to progress in Wales, and has agreed to provide funding of £1.42m per annum up to 2010-11. Although the Trust administers funds on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government, it remains independent of the Assembly. All grant allocation decisions are considered by the Trust's Board of Directors/Trustees, based on recommendations provided by a specially convened Welsh Grants Panel.

The Family Employment Initiative

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust introduced the Family Employment initiative into Wales through a highly successful pilot phase undertaken between 2006-9 in partnership with British Trust Conservation Volunteers Cymru.

The FEI partnership has recently attracted Welsh Assembly Government, European Convergence funding and a wide range of agency and Communities First partnership support to embark on a new three year programme targeted at some of the most deprived areas in Wales.

The project is a precursor to training and employment, using a specialist engagement programme designed to create supported pathways for individuals and families in targeted areas using many different techniques. These techniques will involve social inclusion interventions, such as volunteering, community and group activity. Given the high and increasing profile of environmental concerns and climate change, environmental activity will be one technique used to increase engagement and economic activity.

The key aim is to increase the number of local people in work, provide opportunities for families and individuals to participate in community environmental projects and to provide pathways to self employment, co-operatives, community businesses and the establishment of social enterprises.

This unique multi-agency partnership approach will ensure the hardest to reach are engaged and barriers have been addressed before participants enter training and employment. With these barriers broken down, the sustainability of training and employment will increase. The project will also increase sustained economic activity and also works in a model that the community accepts and encourages them to fully participate for the foreseeable future.

The Wellbeing Of Wales

- Equality for all is a core value to all our work, and the six equality themes of age, gender, race, disability, sexual orientation and religion are actively promoted.
- Every educational institution is embedding sustainable development and global citizenship within its education programmes and way of working; and this in practice is underpinning all our work including Human Rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Active citizenship is encouraged, with everyone meeting their personal and community responsibilities, both as a national and global citizen.
- Child poverty is eradicated and, more broadly, a real translation of wealth and power in our poorest communities has been achieved.
- Wales' rich culture, values and traditions are celebrated, particularly through encouraging diversity, distinctiveness and promoting the Welsh language; regeneration informed by heritage, fostering local character, a sense of place and a potent heritage and cultural tourism offer.

Summary

Wellbeing is the core value within our new Sustainable Development Scheme and we have committed to developing an indicator which will enable us to monitor how we are progressing on this. We are aware that a number of different factors contribute to people's sense of wellbeing, and these issues vary across the lifecourse - our indicator will seek to reflect this.

Within Wales, we still have too many people living in poverty (see previous chapter summary), and in particular too many children living in poverty. Equally, we need to be clear across all our work about the important role of schools and education in promoting skills, employability and social inclusion. Our existing indicators highlight that in 2006, 75 % of young people aged 19-21 had at least NQF level 2 qualification. The proportion of adults of working age with at least an NQF level 4 qualification was 26 %.

Our communities are central to promoting people's wellbeing, and they vary across Wales in their needs and preferences. Our funding, policies, programmes and delivery need to be focused on making improvements for people in their communities across Wales, in line with our flagship Communities First programme for our least well-off communities. The Welsh Assembly Government will be showing clear leadership both in doing this, and in demonstrating how we are doing this, within the 2009/10 report.

Key achievements in 2008/9

- In 2008-09 **Cadw** started a programme of urban characterisation studies which aim to capture the essence of local distinctiveness and help inform regeneration schemes in

order to deepen a sense of place and foster an appreciation of the historic environment. Three pilot studies have been carried out in Aberdare, Dolgellau and Flint and studies of Caernarfon Waterfront and Denbigh completed. Work in 2009/10 will include a study of Blaenau Ffestiniog and Pontypool. Further characterisation studies will include Merthyr, where a study will support a Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) bid as well as the wider regeneration needs of the town and Aberystwyth, where again it will support a THI bid and contribute to emerging proposals for the Strategic Regeneration Area.

- The Minister for Heritage's annual remit letter to **Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales** as an Assembly Government Sponsored Body requires the Museum to mainstream sustainable development into the way it undertakes its business, especially in developing its educational role. The Museum has been at the forefront of presenting environmental issues to the public, for example through its 'House of the Future' at St Fagans National History Museum and the touring exhibition 'Climate Change - What's Occurring?'. Sustainability will be one of the key themes of the redeveloped St Fagans site and in 2008/09 a Sustainability Officer was appointed to co-ordinate this work. In addition, during 2008/09 the Museum comprehensively reviewed, and took significant steps to reduce, its own carbon footprint.
- We have launched our new six stranded **Single Equality Scheme** for the Assembly Government.
- We are actively engaged in a preliminary round of discussion on what specific Welsh duties will flow from the **Equality Act** when in place.
- The national curriculum for schools in Wales places sustainable development and global citizenship as an integral aspect of learning. Our **Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship (ESDGC)** helps learning providers embed the principles of ESDGC into their management and delivery of learning, through a series of information documents that exemplify good practice.
- The **Flying Start** programme targets the 0 to 3 age group within the most deprived communities in Wales to ensure that these children are given support to ensure that they are not left behind.
- **Integrated Children's Centres**, which are based on the concept of providing integrated education, care, family support and health services. These centres play a key role in securing good outcomes for children and their parents, giving children the best start in life, and building social and community sustainability.
- Roll out of the new **Foundation Phase** based on the Scandinavian learning through play approach, breaking with 125 years of traditional formal education.
- The **new 14-19 curriculum** will provide alternative learning options, extending choice for learners, and helping young people achieve their potential and equip them so that they can be successful in their chosen fields in life.

- New legislative powers to add new impetus to its efforts to reduce child poverty in Wales. The proposed **Children and Families (Wales) Measure** will require Welsh Ministers to prepare and publish a new strategy in 2010 for contributing to the eradication of child poverty in Wales.
- Beginning of the second phase of the **Older People's strategy**, building on the achievements of the first phase which included free bus travel and free swimming for older people, to continue to improve the health and wellbeing of older people and enable them to stay independent and active for longer.
- Consultation on an **All Wales Community Cohesion Strategy**. Faced with such world wide phenomena we need to continue to strengthen our communities to ensure that they are safe, welcoming and cohesive.
- Work towards a Legislative Competence Order to transfer responsibility for matters relating to the **Welsh language** to the National Assembly and the proposed Assembly Measure that would follow which will:
 - confirm the official status of both Welsh and English;
 - deliver linguistic rights in the provision of services; and
 - establish the post of Language Commissioner.
- In the year Cadw commissioned an **all-Wales summary of listed buildings at risk**, which was published in October 2009. The aim was to provide a tool to help local authorities decide on priorities in addressing their responsibilities for listed buildings in their area, as well as helping Cadw to consider strategic directions for its grant giving. Further work on at risk listed buildings will be carried out in 2009-10 and 2010-11.
- Grant of £2m (under the SCIF programme) was announced in January 2009 for a 2 year **Welsh Cultural Heritage Initiative** focusing on 10 medieval sites closely associated with Welsh nationhood and culture. With match funding the total sums involved will exceed £3m for conservation works and improvements to public access and interpretation.
- **Heritage Tourism Project**, developed from the Cultural Tourism Plan and the Sustainable Tourism Framework, under which £19m (£8.5m from the European Convergence Fund) will be available to maximise the economic value of heritage through increasing the volume, length and value of visits to Wales. The project will also ensure that Wales' outstanding heritage is more accessible and enjoyable to visit for visitors and people who live in Wales.

Outstanding Actions from the 2004-7 SD Action Plan

2004-7 Action Plan outstanding action	Position At 31 March 2009	Future reporting
<p>By 2010 100 % of electricity used in all Assembly buildings will be supplied from renewable sources or good quality embedded generation; and we shall work towards a similar figure for other public sector buildings.</p>	<p>Green tariff contracts supply 73 % of electricity consumed in Welsh Assembly Government offices. (WAG will revise the Green Dragon Objectives and Targets for 2009-10 to align with SOGE targets for green tariff). WAG will now fall into line with the SOGE target to procure 10 % renewable electricity supplies and 15 % good quality CHP.</p>	<p>To be taken forward within reporting of Environmental Management within the Welsh Assembly Government in the Annual Report.</p>
<p>We will introduce a targeted top tier agri-environment scheme to encourage co-operative action, bringing about wider environmental benefits in the countryside across farm boundaries.</p>	<p>The top tier targeted element of Glastir, which is aimed at delivering these objectives, will be launched within the current RDP period.</p>	<p>Complete. Further work in this area will be reported within our Sustainable Environment chapter.</p>
<p>Implementing the Energy Saving Wales plan across all sectors by November 2004.</p>	<p>The Energy Saving Wales plan will be replaced by the National Energy Efficiency and Saving Plan which is a One Wales commitment. The Plan was consulted on earlier in 2009 and a final plan will be issued in 2009/10.</p> <p>Work on implementing aspects of the Plan has already begun, including a £30 million investment in area based energy efficiency programmes.</p>	<p>Complete. Further work in this area will be reported within our Sustainable Resource Use chapter.</p>

2004-7 Action Plan outstanding action	Position At 31 March 2009	Future reporting
<p>Driving forward our clean energy policies in Wales, by publishing and implementing a clean energy action plan, which will include establishing an increased role for Wales in developing next generation renewables technologies by December 2004.</p>	<p>The Consultation on the Renewable Energy Route Map generated more than 120 responses and the consultation on a Bioenergy Action Plan about 60 responses. These, together with a Ministerial Policy Statement on Marine Energy in Wales have been taken into account in the production of an overarching energy policy statement for Wales. This Statement, which will be published in 2009/10, will outline the contribution expected from a range of sources of renewable energy for the period beyond 2010 as well as setting out wider energy issues concerning energy efficiency.</p>	<p>Complete. Further work in this area will be reported within our Sustainable Resource Use chapter.</p>
<p>Formally appraise a revised transport framework for Wales against our sustainable development framework.</p>	<p>Work began on the development of the National Transport Plan. This was carried out in-line with the Wales Spatial Plan and sustainable development framework, and in tandem with the Climate Change Strategy Programme of Action.</p> <p>A number of appraisals were carried out as part of the development of the Plan, including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment and WelTAG.</p> <p>The 2007-2013 Structural Fund Programmes promote sustainable transport, including community sustainable transport schemes and Travel Plans for businesses/premises.</p>	<p>Complete. Further work in this area will be reported within our Sustainable Resource Use chapter.</p>
<p>Introduce tougher public health assessments for new land use developments by end of 2005.</p>	<p>The Coal MTAN was published in January 2009, and the policy for HIA to accompany all applications for opencast coal workings is being applied. HIA is also considered as an integral part of EIA for other land use planning developments such as waste disposal.</p>	<p>Complete.</p>

2004-7 Action Plan outstanding action	Position At 31 March 2009	Future reporting
<p>Implement our woodlands strategy, so that by 2023 50% of the Welsh Assembly Government's Woodlands will have converted from clear-felling to continuous cover. Clear fell will be replanted with species appropriate to specific sites; taking account of local ecological objectives; the carbon balance and economic potential where that is appropriate; or be left to natural regeneration.</p>	<p>As at March 2009, 36 % of the Assembly Government's woodland estate has been designated for management by continuous cover systems.</p> <p><i>Woodlands for Wales</i>, the Assembly Government's revised woodland strategy, was launched by the Minister for Rural Affairs on 27th March 2009. The previous strategy published in 2001 needed revision to reconfirm existing priorities, to align it the WAG Environment Strategy and to identify forestry's response to new themes such as climate change.</p> <p>Forestry Commission Wales is responsible for the delivery of the new woodland strategy through its revised Corporate Plan. This describes detailed actions based on the five themes of the strategy: Welsh Woodlands and Trees; Responding to Climate Change; Woodlands for People; Developing a Competitive and Integrated Forest Sector and Improving Environmental Quality.</p> <p>The Woodland Strategy and FCW Corporate Plan sets demanding targets aimed at increasing the amount of native woodland in Wales and promoting the creation and management of more diverse woodland. The Better Woodlands for Wales grant scheme also supports private owners to seek certification to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard to demonstrate sustainable woodland management.</p>	<p>Complete.</p> <p>Further work in this area will be reported under our Sustainable Environment chapter.</p>

2004-7 Action Plan outstanding action	Position At 31 March 2009	Future reporting
<p>Create consumer awareness as part of an overall awareness campaign, building on the study by the Consumer Council and WWF Cymru</p>	<p>In 2008-09 we ran a national communications campaign which focused on the small things people can do to reduce their carbon footprint. It included TV advertising, online advertising and PR, and linked to a carbon calculator on our website. The campaign succeeded in developing awareness and recognition of the issues. For the next phase this will be taken forward using the principles of community based social marketing in order to move from awareness to action.</p>	<p>Complete. Further work in this area will be reported under our Sustainable Resource Use chapter.</p>
<p>From January 2005, measure ourselves against the benchmark organisational standard being developed by Forum for the Future reinforcing sustainable development as a central driver of our internal change programme, Management Plan and policy planning.</p>	<p>Forum for the Future has developed the 'Sustainability Standard', which is being used to enable the Welsh Assembly Government to become an exemplar organisation for sustainable development. Forum's work has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified the criteria for a leading public sector organisation on sustainable development; • Established WAG's relative position as a leading public sector organisation; and • Identified 10 key implementation processes for WAG to take forward, in order to become a leading SD organisation. <p>The 'Sustainability Standard' has been made available to other organisations who themselves will be able to apply lesson learnt.</p>	<p>Complete. Further work in this area will be reported under our Central Organising Principle chapter.</p>

2004-7 Action Plan outstanding action	Position At 31 March 2009	Future reporting
	<p>Forum for the Future has been further commissioned to support WAG in implementing some of the key processes, as identified by Forum, to become an exemplar organisation. In particular, for 2009-10, Forum will be supporting WAG by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building the capacity of the sustainable development advocates network to make SD the central organising principle of the WAG; • Supporting SD advocates in implementing pilot projects to embed SD into their respective Departments; and • Benchmark WAG's performance on SD, as measured by the Sustainability Standard. 	
<p>Update the guidance on the use of the wellbeing power by local authorities in Wales, consulting on the revised guidance by the end of 2004.</p>	<p>This action has been delayed by the Beecham Review, the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act and the 2007 Assembly elections. In March 2008, statutory guidance on developing and delivering Community Strategies was issued to support the further development and delivery of community strategies which aim to bring together all those who can contribute to the future of communities within a local authority area. The guidance on the use of the wellbeing power has been consulted upon and final wellbeing guidance was published earlier this year.</p>	<p>Complete. Further work in this area will be reported under our Central Organising Principle chapter.</p>
<p>Work with partners to develop proposals over the next 2 years to implement the Assembly's commitment to becoming a Fair Trade country.</p>	<p>In June 2008 an international Fair Trade conference was held in Newport, attended by 20 farmers and producers from developing countries, and Wales was declared the world's first Fair Trade Nation.</p>	<p>Complete. Further work in this area will be reported under the Sustainable Society chapter.</p>

2004-7 Action Plan outstanding action	Position At 31 March 2009	Future reporting
Ensure grant giving is better able to support applications for funding that tackle the root causes of, and/or joined up solutions to, unsustainable trends.	The Welsh Assembly Government is undertaking a number of workstreams reflecting on the governance, management and delivery of grants to other bodies. These workstreams will report and deliver in 2009/10 and beyond.	Further work in this area will be reported under the Central Organising Principle chapter.
Ensure terms and conditions of grants maximise sustainable outcomes and enable the Assembly Government to deliver against its vision of a sustainable future for Wales.	The Welsh Assembly Government is undertaking a number of workstreams reflecting on the governance, management and delivery of grants to other bodies. These workstreams will report and deliver in 2009/10 and beyond.	Further work in this area will be reported under the Central Organising Principle chapter.
Produce by mid 2006, guidance on best practice procurement methods and environmental performance standards for Assembly funded construction.	Delivery confidence through Gateway Reviews are embedded within the Strategic capital Investment Framework (SCIF). Bids for SCIF funding are made following the 5 Case Business Model which highlights the need for project assurance through a Gateway Review. Gateway reviews address the adoption of best practice including sustainability issues.	Further work in this area will be reported under the Sustainable Resource Use chapter.
Achieve Green Dragon level 5	<p>Welsh Assembly Government has reached Green Dragon Level 5 for its Cathays Park, Merthyr Tydfil and 2 of its Carmarthen offices (Picton Terrace and Hill house) joining 12 offices from the merged organisations.</p> <p>A Roll Out project is in hand to extend Green Dragon Level 5 to the Bedwas and Llandrindod Wells Offices by September 2008 and across the Welsh Assembly Government estate during 2009/10.</p>	Further work in this area will be reported under our Sustainable Resource Use chapter.

Accounting for Sustainability

Key Indicators	Direct Company Impacts	
	← Non-financial indicators →	
Climate Waste and resource indicators	Achievements	Targets and narrative
<p>Emissions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO₂ equivalent emissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainability expenditure - Offset expenditure - Carbon equivalent liability • Other significant emissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainability expenditure 	<p>Green Dragon Level 5 extended from 4 to 8 offices.</p> <p>Project ongoing to extend Green Dragon across the entire estate.</p>	<p>Reach Green Dragon Level 5 across the WAG core administrative estate during 2009/10</p>
<p>Waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainability expenditure • Hazardous waste <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total disposal cost • Non hazardous waste <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total disposal cost <p>Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cathays Park - Other Green Dragon Offices 	<p>Total waste arisings down 5.4 % against the baseline.</p> <p>59 % of office waste sent for recycling.</p> <p>Reductions in waste arisings meet Sustainable. Development in Government 2010 target.</p> <p>All obsolete ICT equipment and miscellaneous waste electrical items from the office are sent for reuse and recycling.</p> <p>Recycling has risen in percentage terms since 2006, but there is still scope to reduce total waste and to recycle more. Total waste arisings rose slightly from last year to 308 tonnes, but this is still a 13.5 % reduction against the baseline year.</p>	<p>Reduce waste arisings by 5 % by 2010 relative to 2006-07 (25 % by 2020) per FTE [2 % per annum]</p> <p>Increase recycling to 80 % of waste arisings by 2010 [70 % in 2009 in Level 5 Offices]</p>

	Indirect Impacts	Industry
→	← Customer/Supplier indicators →	
Sustainable Development Commission Target ² / Benchmark Information		
Departments to work towards an accredited certified environmental management system such as ISO14001 or EMAS	Sustainable procurement is essential in reducing the environmental footprint of the organisation and its supply chains. Formulation of contract specifications and effective contract management is key to achieving improved sustainability of business operations across all areas of environmental impact.	
Reduce waste arisings by 5 % by 2010 relative to 2004-05 (25 % by 2020) Increase recycling to 40 % of waste arisings by 2010 (by 75 % by 2020).	A debate on sustainable procurement in Plenary on 25 November 2008 emphasised the importance and value of the Welsh Assembly Government leading the sustainable agenda by example, with its own sustainable practices held as a benchmark for Wales. In January 2009 the Assembly Government's Business Group (BG) reaffirmed their commitment to making the Welsh Assembly Government an exemplar organisation over sustainable procurement and to champion the sustainable agenda within Departments. BG tasked Value Wales with leading the establishment of a cross Departmental project to review the Assembly Government's sustainable procurement performance and deliver improvements through the integration of the Sustainable Procurement Assessment Framework (SPAF).	

Key Indicators	Direct Company Impacts	
	← Non-financial indicators →	
Climate Waste and resource indicators	Achievements	Targets and narrative
	<p>72 % of the waste produced in Cathays Park was sent for recycling, a 6 % increase on the amount sent for recycling in 2007-08.</p> <p>Progress made to trial composting.</p> <p>Merthyr Tydfil office went bin-less and opened a wormery; increasing recycling and reducing landfill.</p>	
<p>Finite resource usage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operating expenditure - Sustainability expenditure 		<p>Reduce water consumption by 25 % on the core administrative estate by 2020, relative to 2006/2007 levels. [2 % per annum from Level 5 Offices]</p> <p>Offices to not exceed 4m³ water/FTE/annum consumption benchmark</p> <p>Reduce water consumption to an average 3m³ per person/year for all new office builds and major office refurbishments</p>

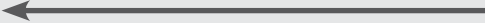
	Indirect Impacts	Industry
→	← Customer/Supplier indicators →	
Sustainable Development Commission Target ² / Benchmark Information		
<p>Reduce water consumption by 25 % on the office and non-office estate by 2020, relative to 2004/2005 levels.</p> <p>The target for the Government estate is based on an independent study carried out by CIRIA on water use in offices which suggests an average of 4m³ per employee per year for all offices</p> <p>Reduce water consumption to an average 3m³ per person/year for all new office builds or major office refurbishments</p>		

Key Indicators	Direct Company Impacts	
	← Non-financial indicators →	
Climate Waste and resource indicators	Achievements	Targets and narrative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy consumption - Operating expenditure - Sustainability expenditure 	<p>£700k invested in carbon management projects.</p> <p>361 tonnes CO₂ saved through carbon management programme.</p> <p>5 % reduction in CO₂ emissions from the built estate.</p> <p>Display Energy Certificates displayed in foyers of WAG offices over 1000m².</p> <p>11 % reduction in CO₂ emissions from Cathays Park.</p> <p>Change in Cathays Park opening hours is saving 270 tonnes CO₂ annually.</p>	<p>30 % reduction in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions by December 2010 from the core administrative estate and business travel from the 2006/07 baseline year¹. [10 % per annum from Level 5 Offices]</p> <p>Energy Efficiency To be considered¹</p>
<p>Construction and Building Maintenance</p>	<p>Aberystwyth and Llandudno Junction new builds on target for BREEAM 'Excellent'.</p> <p>Biomass heating planned for both sites.</p> <p>Natural ventilation design for both sites.</p>	<p>'Excellent' Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) for all new builds and 'very good', aspiring to 'excellent' for all major refurbishments.</p> <p>From 2011 all new build on WAG core administrative estate to be 'zero carbon' in operation^{1, 2}</p>

	Indirect Impacts	Industry
	Customer/Supplier indicators	
Sustainable Development Commission Target ² / Benchmark Information		
<p>CARBON EMISSIONS FROM OFFICES Reverse the current upward trend in carbon emissions by April 2007. Reduce carbon emissions by 12.5 % by 2010-11, relative to 1999/2000 levels. Reduce carbon emissions by 30 % by 2020, relative</p> <p>ENERGY EFFICIENCY FROM BUILDINGS Departments to increase their energy efficiency per m² by 15 % by 2010, relative to 1999/2000 levels.</p>		
<p>Departments to increase their energy efficiency per m² by 30 % by 2020, relative to 1999/2000 levels.</p> <p>The application of BREEAM excellent standards, or equivalent, to all new builds and major refurbishments (at least 'very good'). (Government to Mandate)</p>		

Key Indicators	Direct Company Impacts	
	← Non-financial indicators →	
Climate Waste and resource indicators	Achievements	Targets and narrative
<p>Procurement and Office Consumption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renewable Electricity - Paper - Publications 	<p>Project to embed sustainable procurement in the Assembly Government by end of 2010.</p> <p>85 % of electricity supply contracts are now green tariff (supplying 73 % of electricity consumed).</p> <p>20 % reduction in paper consumption saving £38,452.</p> <p>All our Publications are produced on recycled paper.</p>	<p>To meet Sustainable Procurement Assessment Framework (SPAF) Level 5 by 2009-10 [Level 3 by 2008-09]</p> <p>To utilise Sustainable Procurement Risk Assessment (SPRA) on all contracts over £25k</p> <p>SD ACTION PLAN 04-07 Procure 100 % renewable electricity across the estate by 2010</p> <p>SD ACTION PLAN 04-07 Procure 100 % renewable electricity across the estate by 2010</p>
<p>Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conferencing Technology - Ministerial Travel <p>Travel Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aberystwyth new build - Llandudno Junction new build - Commuting 	<p>5 % decrease in emissions from private car use.</p> <p>Emissions from air travel decreased by 4 % and train by 3 %</p> <p>Video Conferencing Monitoring indicates savings of 422 tonnes of CO₂ and 1.1 million miles - this equates to a cost saving of £440,000.</p> <p>New Ministerial vehicles will produce 15g/km less carbon dioxide.</p> <p>Building design includes 54 covered, secure cycle racks with lockers and shower facilities.</p>	<p>Reduce carbon emissions from road vehicles used for WAG business travel by 30 % by December 2010 relative to 2006/07 levels¹ [10 % per annum]</p>

	Indirect Impacts	Industry
→	← Customer/Supplier indicators →	
Sustainable Development Commission Target ² / Benchmark Information		
<p>Accepted elements from the Sustainable Procurement Task Force National Action Plan</p> <p>Source at least 10 % electricity from renewables (31 March 08) and 15 % electricity from CHP (2010)</p>		
<p>CARBON EMISSIONS FROM ROAD VEHICLES</p> <p>Reduce carbon emissions from road vehicles used for Government administrative operations by 15 % by 2010/11 relative to 2005/06 levels</p>		

Key Indicators	Direct Company Impacts	
	 Non-financial indicators	
Climate Waste and resource indicators	Achievements	Targets and narrative
	<p>Convenient pedestrian access points.</p> <p>Pilot pool-bike scheme launched at 2 locations in Aberystwyth.</p> <p>Close working relationships with other organisations to deliver improved public transport services for the benefit of commuters and customers.</p> <p>Parking Policy which provides incentives for car sharers.</p> <p>Priorities are improvements to public transport provision; car sharing; promotion of cycling opportunities; development of a Parking Policy.</p> <p>Tax free 'Cycle to Work' Scheme introduced.</p> <p>33 car sharing teams given preferential allocation of spaces in Cathays Park (saving over 120 car journeys in Cardiff each day).</p>	

	Indirect Impacts	Industry
→	← Customer/Supplier indicators →	
Sustainable Development Commission Target ² / Benchmark Information		



List of abbreviations

AWCC	All Wales Catering Contract
BREEAM	BRE Environmental Assessment Method
CCW	Countryside Council for Wales
CHE	Centre for Hydrology and Ecology, Bangor University
CHP	Combined Heat and Power
CMI	Cambrian Mountains Initiative
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
EAW	Environment Agency Wales
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMS	Environmental management systems
ESDGC	Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship
EU	European Union
FCW	Forestry Commission Wales
FEI	Family employment initiative
FRMRC	Flood Risk Management Research Consortium
GHG	Greenhouse gas emissions
HEFCW	Higher Education Institutions Funding Council for Wales
HEI	Higher Education Institutions
HIA	Health Impact Assessment
HoV	Heads of the Valleys

KPIs	Key performance indicators
LBAPs	Local Biodiversity Action Plans
LSBs	Local Service Boards
MTAN	Minerals Technical Advice Note
NERC Act	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
NHS	National Health Service
NQF	National Qualifications Framework
SCIF	Strategic Capital Investment Framework
SD	Sustainable Development
SETS	Severn Tidal Power Embryonic Technology Scheme
SSSIs	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
UN	United Nations
WAG	Welsh Assembly Government
WAG (TSD)	Technical Services Division
WCVA	Wales Council for Voluntary Action
WeITAG	Welsh Transport Planning and Appraisal Guidance
WHC	Welsh Health Circulars
WHC (2008) 058	Sustainable Travel Plans in NHS Wales (Site Specific)
WWF Cymru	World Wildlife Fund Wales