

Annex B - Answers to questions asked by the inspector at issue specific hearing (23/11/2016):

Will Planning Policy Wales (v9) affect NRW's responses / advice given on the project?

Edition 9 of Planning Policy Wales amends paragraph 4.2.1 to include reference to the statutory purpose for the planning system introduced by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015.

NRW is satisfied that this advice is consistent with its general purpose of pursuing the sustainable management of natural resources in relation to Wales, and applying the principles of sustainable management of natural resources. In particular, NRW acknowledges that the principles of sustainable management include taking account of all relevant evidence and gathering evidence in respect of uncertainties, and taking account of the short, medium and long term consequences of actions.

NRW further acknowledges that it is an objective of sustainable management to maintain and enhance the resilience of ecosystems and the benefits they provide and, in so doing meet the needs of present generations of people without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs, and contribute to the achievement of the well-being goals in section 4 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

We therefore do not consider that our advice to date on the proposed scheme requires further revision in light of amendments made to national planning policy under edition 9 of Planning Policy Wales.

Can NRW confirm the date of the release of a guidance note regarding the Environment Wales act 2016?

Paragraph 4.3.2 of Planning Policy Wales (edition 9) states that further advice on acting in accordance with the sustainable development principle and guidance on the implementation of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act will be published by the Welsh Government. We do not have further information on this matter, and advise that any additional information on the nature and timetable of any new guidance should be sought from the Welsh Government.