A Sustainable Wales
Better Choices for a Better Future

Sustainable Development White Paper
Better Procurement Choices for a Better Future

Peter Davies Sustainable Futures Commissioner and Chair of the Climate Change Commission for Wales
We want to make to the lives of people in Wales: healthy people living productive lives in a more prosperous and innovative economy; safer and more cohesive communities, with lower levels of poverty and greater equality; a resilient environment with more sustainable use of our natural resources and a society with a vital sense of its own culture and heritage.

Carwyn Jones
First Minister
Foreword to the Programme for Government
The focus

For me, real value is about being absolutely focused on the outcomes we are achieving out there in the real world.

If people can’t see and measure the impact we are having. There’s something wrong.

Carwyn Jones
First Minister
“This is our Welsh account of sustainable development: an emphasis on social, economic and environmental well-being for people and communities, embodying our values of fairness and social justice.”

“All our policies and programmes will reflect this commitment to sustainability and fairness so that we make sustainable development our central organising principle”
Commitments

Legislate to make sustainable development the central organising principle of the Welsh Government and public bodies in Wales.

Create an independent sustainable development body for Wales
Sustainable Development

Sustainable development in Wales

Sustainable development means enhancing the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of people and communities, achieving a better quality of life for our own and future generations in ways which:

• promote social justice and equality of opportunity; and

• enhance the natural and cultural environment and respect its limits – using only our fair share of the earth’s resources and sustaining our cultural legacy.

Sustainable development is the process by which we reach the goal of sustainability.

White Paper 2012
How did we get here?

1998
Government of Wales Act
S.121 “Sustainable Development”

2000
‘Learning to live differently’
Sustainable Development Scheme

2003
1st Effectiveness Report
CAG

2004
Starting to Live Differently
Sustainable Development Scheme

2006
Government of Wales Act
s.79 “Sustainable Development”
s.60 “well-being”

2008
2nd Effectiveness Report
Flynn, Marsden, Netherwood & Pitts

2009
One Wales: One Planet
Sustainable Development Scheme

2011
3rd Effectiveness Report
PwC

2011
Programme for Government

2011
Sustainable Development Bill
Engagement
Evidence

One Wales: One Planet
The Sustainable Development Scheme of the Welsh Assembly Government
May 2009

Effectiveness Review of the Sustainable Development Scheme
A Report to Welsh Government

Final Report
The Sustainable Development Effectiveness Report for the Welsh Assembly Government

Sustainable Development Commission
Govern for the Future
The opportunities for mainstreaming sustainable development

Welsh Government
Consultation Document
Proposals for a Sustainable Development Bill

Date of issue: May 2012

www.cymru.gov.uk
Key Requirements

To support the **embedding** of Sustainable Development as the central organising principle of public services in Wales.

To empower and drive positive **change**.

To **avoid** adding layers of additional bureaucracy and cost and becoming a **tick box exercise**.

To **avoid** stifling innovation and removing the **flexibility** from organisations to reach the solutions that are best for their circumstances.

To ensure that SD will have a **practical effect** and not simply a set of high level principles.
White Paper Proposals

- Embedding sustainable development as the central organising principle (duty)
- Based on Collaborative working
- A focus on support
- Robust accountability
- Phased implementation
Central organising principle

- A clear focus on what the organisation is seeking to deliver in support of the future wellbeing of Wales.
- Ensuring decisions taken on how the outcomes can best be achieved are fully informed by consideration of the effect on economic, social, environmental and long term wellbeing.
Central organising principle

Integration (working across boundaries)
(economic, social and environmental wellbeing)

Long term (inc early prevention)
(economic, social and environmental wellbeing)

Engagement and involvement
Sustainable Development Governance Framework

Long term wellbeing of Wales
(economic, social and environmental)

Indicators

Strategic Activity

How:
- economic
- social
- environmental

Now and in the long term

Support

Sustainable Development Body

A Sustainable Wales - Better Choices for a Better Future
Collaborative working

- Consolidate the current practice regarding the production of single integrated plans by Local Service Boards

- Strengthen the strategic role of SIPs in identifying partners contributions to improving long term outcomes for an area

- Ensure the SD duty applies to collaborative working as well as to individual organisations
Collaborative working

- Simplify the wide range of statutory duties on which integrated planning currently depends
- Consider making LSBs statutory so duties and powers can be conferred and in order to strengthen the link between integrated planning and delivery
- Strengthen the role of evidence (strategic needs assessment) and accountability – role for the Auditor General Wales re. collaborative working
A focus on support

An independent sustainable development body

- Provide expert advice and guidance to organisations to help them embed sustainable development.

- Support collaboration between organisations, emphasising and integrated and collaborative approach to sustainable development.

- Be an independent advocate for the future
Robust accountability

- Effective governance framework for sustainable development requires effective accountability.

- Accountability through the existing framework for public service

- A key role for the Auditor General for Wales

- Examination on how organisations have embedded sustainable development as their central organising principles.
# Phased implementation

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<td>• Welsh Government</td>
<td>• Local Authorities</td>
<td>• Registered Social Landlords</td>
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Independent Sustainable Development Body
Summary

In these tough times public services are facing various challenges, which mean that we need to improve the way in which we deliver those services so that they become more effective in improving outcomes and providing a better future for people in Wales.

Proposals to require public service organisations in Wales to consider social economic and environmental aspects in making the best choices for the future wellbeing of Wales.

To help support this change and the challenge to achieve it we the Welsh Government propose to establish an independent body to help us improve what we do and drive we do it.
Procurement – the key issue 1

The impact on procurement practice is seen by many to be the acid test of effectiveness and outcomes in respect of the Bill?

How will the high level governance framework of the SD Bill be translated into procurement policy?

How will Wales Audit Office view procurement practice in the light of the new Bill?

Does a focus on collaboration facilitate against improving local impacts?

Can we use procurement to better drive down carbon emissions as key long term issue?
Procurement – the key issue 2

Scotland is proposing placing “an overarching duty on public bodies to act in a way that promotes economic, social and environmental well-being through procurement activity”

Should Welsh Government’s established work on Community Benefits be developed into a legal requirement, through the Sustainable Development Bill?

Are there voluntary models – Compacts: use of specific standards eg “Food for Life”

What is the role of the new SD Body in providing support – providing the evidence base?
Next steps

Consultation Close
(4th March 2013)

Consultation Analysis

Summary Report

Introduction of the Bill
(Autumn 2013)