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# North East Wales National Park Designation Project Engagement Leaflet

October – November 2023

# What is the North East Wales National Park Designation Project?



Welsh Government has commissioned Natural Resources Wales (NRW), as the Designating Authority in Wales, to evaluate the case for creating a fourth National Park in North East Wales based on the existing Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). This will be considered within the existing Senedd term (2021-2026) and, if designated, will be the first National Park to be established in Wales since Y Bannau Brycheiniog in 1957.

NRW have established a team to lead this work which will include data and evidence gathering, and engagement with local communities and other key stakeholders.

A statutory process will be followed, and after consultation, NRW will present a recommendation to Welsh Government based on the evidence gathered. If there is sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the statutory criteria relating to Natural Beauty and opportunities for open air recreation are met, and that the area is of such national significance that National Park purposes should apply, a Designation Order will be submitted to Welsh Government. Ministers will then consider this and decide whether to confirm, refuse or vary the Designation Order. If confirmed by Welsh Government, a new National Park will be designated.

## Why are we engaging with you now?

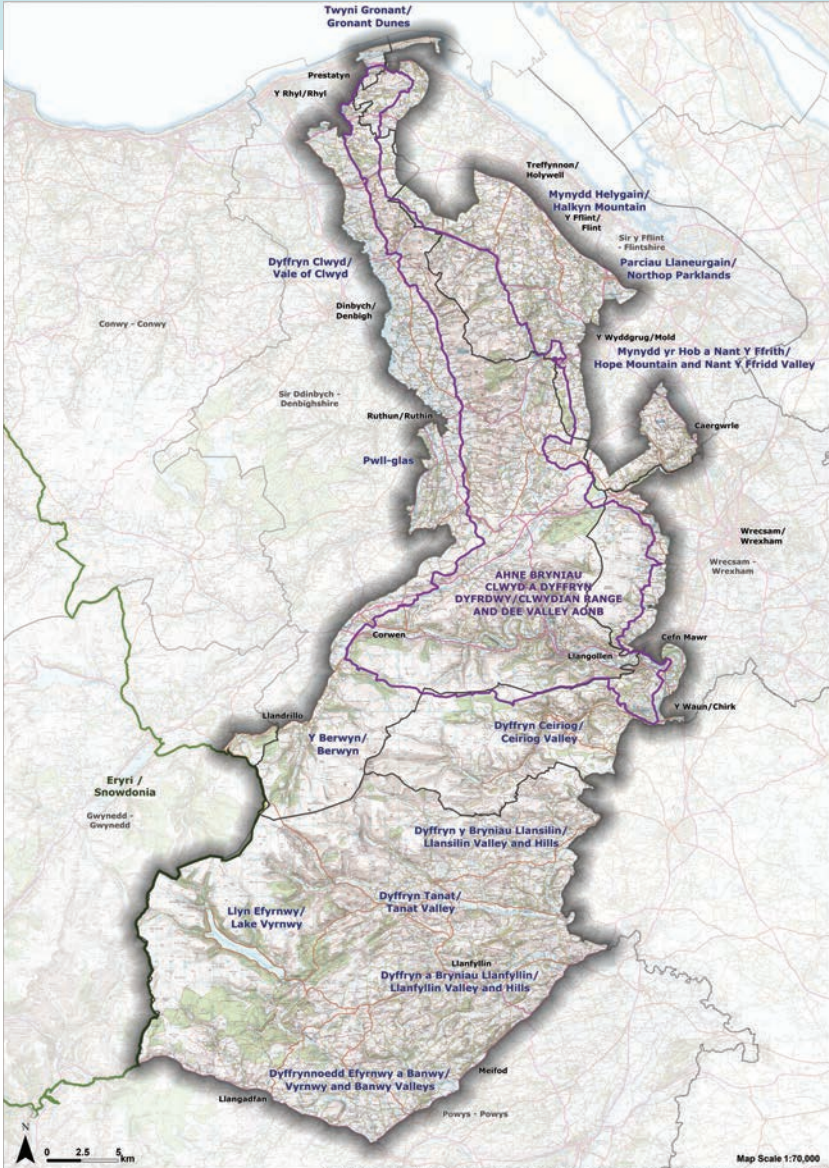
We want to ensure early engagement with you and to give you an opportunity to feed into the process from an early stage.

The engagement events are a chance to learn more about the project, ask questions of the team and share feedback on an early map of the area being assessed.

# The Area of Search

The Area of Search shows the geographical limits within which NRW will be evaluating if the statutory criteria for a National Park are satisfied. The area includes a number of landscapes that in combination with the existing Clwydian Range and Dee

Valley AONB have the potential to meet statutory landscape designation criteria. The Area of Search is not the boundary of a proposed National Park and further refinement is likely as we progress through the process.



# Get involved

We would like to get your feedback on the initial Area of Search map for the North East Wales National Park Designation Project.



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This is why we are holding these engagement events and to give you every opportunity to have your say. The engagement period will run from Monday 9 October until Monday 27 November 2023.

This engagement period is a vital step in the North East Wales National Park Designation Project. All of your feedback is important to us and will help shape our proposals going forward.

There are a number of ways that you can find out more about the project and then share your feedback. There will be events running throughout the engagement period. You only need to attend one engagement event (online or in-person). Dates of all the events are displayed online. Please feel free to encourage family and friends to contribute their feedback too.

## Share your feedback

### Questionnaire

You can provide feedback by completing our questionnaire.

The easiest way to do this is to complete it online. Scan the QR code.



Alternatively, you can complete a paper copy and send it back to us at no cost, using our Freepost address. All you need is an envelope.

Freepost Plus RTJJ-AAKE-HKKU, North East Wales National Park Designation Project, Natural Resources Wales, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2DW

**Accessibility:** If you would like this engagement leaflet in a different format, please email [designated.landscapes.programme@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:designated.landscapes.programme@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk) and we will do our best to help.

If you are unable to complete the questionnaire, you can email us with your feedback at [designated.landscapes.programme@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:designated.landscapes.programme@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk) please state clearly that your email is your *North East Wales National Park Designation Project engagement feedback*, to ensure it is accepted.

All responses need to be received by 23:59 on Monday 27 November 2023. Any responses received after this date may not be considered as part of this stage of engagement.

## Contact

Please get in touch with us if you have any questions about the North East Wales National Park Designation Project, the engagement process or need help with completing a questionnaire.

**Call customer care: 03000 653000**

**or email: [enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk)**

## What happens next?



All the feedback we receive will be carefully considered by the team working on the North East Wales National Park Designation Project who will advise the NRW Board on next steps.

It will be crucial in helping to shape the proposals in preparing the next draft boundary map which will be shared in our next round of engagement events in 2024.

All comments and suggestions will be logged as a record of feedback

received. We will then analyse these and produce an engagement summary report.

This report will summarise and respond to the feedback received and will be made available to the public on our project website [ymgynggori.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/north-east-gogledd-ddwyrain/north-east-wales-national-park-designation-project/](https://ymgynggori.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/north-east-gogledd-ddwyrain/north-east-wales-national-park-designation-project/)

It will show the changes we make, and explain if there are any suggestions we cannot accommodate.

# North East Wales National Park Evaluation timeline

