



Ein Cyf/ Our ref: WQ86945

Andrew R.T. Davies
Member of the Senedd for South Wales Central
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22 December 2022

Dear Andrew

Thank you for your Written Question tabled on 7 December; 'What action is the Welsh Government taking to reduce the threat of extinction to species in Wales?'. My apologies that this wasn't responded to on 14 December.

It is not always possible to prevent the loss of some species given their mobility and that nature is a dynamic system having to also adapt to the effects of climate change.

Our approach in Wales is to build ecological resilience so our most precious habitats and species are given the best chance to recover and thrive improving all our wellbeing.

That is why over the summer, I worked with a group of key experts and practitioners to undertake a Biodiversity Deep Dive to develop a set of collective actions we can take in Wales to support nature's recovery. The Deep Dive was held ahead of the landmark UN Conference of the Parties (COP15) in Canada in December that I attended, where global leaders met and agreed targets for the next ten years to combat the nature emergency.

This work builds on the multi-year Nature Networks Programme we have developed with NRW to help create resilient ecological networks, so our most precious habitats and species are given the chance to recover and thrive improving all our wellbeing. We are doing this in partnership with NRW and Heritage Lottery and investing £15m to support the delivery of the Nature Networks Programme in 2022/23. We are also investing £800k in the NRW led 'Natur Am Byth' project over the next 4 years which aims to help save our most threatened species in Wales.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

I recognise we need to be ambitious and the Deep Dive identified a series of [key recommendations](#) to ensure meaningful delivery of the target to designate 30% of land and ocean areas as protected by 2030.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Julie" and the last name "James" clearly distinguishable.

Julie James AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change