

Press release

11 September 2023

NRW announces engagement event dates for a proposed fourth National Park in Wales

People are encouraged to mark their calendars as Natural Resources Wales (NRW) announces the dates of a series of online and in-person engagement events where they can have their say on an initial Area of Search map for a proposed new National Park in North East Wales.

Welsh Government has commissioned NRW, as the Designating Authority in Wales, to evaluate the case for a new National Park based on the existing Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The case for a new National Park will be considered within the existing Senedd term (2021-2026).

The engagement events will take place in October and November 2023 and will be an opportunity to learn more about the project, ask questions of the team and share feedback on an early map of the area being assessed.

Ash Pearce, Project Manager, said: "There will be a full consultation on a proposed boundary map in 2024 when we have completed our assessments and refined the map. At this stage the map simply defines the area to focus our assessment work, we are interested in listening to and understanding all stakeholders' points of view. I would urge anyone interested in the project to visit one of our online or in-person drop-in events to find out more about the work we are doing and share your feedback with us by completing a questionnaire."

The engagement period will run from Monday 9 October until 23:59 on Monday 27 November 2023. People will **only need to attend one event**, be that online or in-person as the information shared will be the same for each event.

Date	Time	Event type	Location
Wednesday 11 October	*1pm – 7pm	In-person (drop-in)	Canolfan Ceiriog, New Rd, Glyn Ceiriog, Llangollen LL20 7HE
Thursday 19 October	6pm – 7.30pm	Online	via Microsoft Teams
Saturday 28 October	*10am – 4pm	In-person (drop-in)	Loggerheads Country Park, Ruthin Rd, Mold CH7 5LH

Engagement events – October and November 2023:

Monday 6 November	*1pm – 7pm	In-person (drop-in)	Public Institute Committee, Park View/High St, Llanfyllin SY22 5AA
Tuesday 14 November	6pm – 7.30pm	Online	via Microsoft Teams
Saturday 18 November	*10am – 4pm	In-person (drop-in)	Llangollen Town Hall Castle St, Llangollen LL20 8NU
Wednesday 22 November	*1pm – 7pm	In-person (drop-in)	Trelanwyd Memorial Hall, The Record Journal, Trelawnyd LL18 6DN

*Drop-in at any time between these times.

People are encouraged to drop by at the in-person events, there is no need to book a place. If interested in taking part in one of the online events, email the project team at <u>designated.landscapes.programme@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk</u> with your name, state your interest (e.g. resident, community leader, landowner, farmer, business owner, organisation representative, etc) and which event you are interested in (the date). These will be bilingual events with simultaneous translation provided.

NRW have prepared procedural guidance setting out the statutory process that must be followed. It is evidence based and allows for engagement and consultation with statutory consultees, the public and other stakeholders. For more information on the project and evaluation process, visit the website at: <u>https://ymgynghori.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/north-east-gogledd-ddwyrain/north-east-wales-national-park-designation-project</u>

ENDS

Notes to editor

- Communications office: 029 2046 4227 / communications@naturalresources.wales (24hrs)
- We're leading the way in the challenge of ensuring Wales can survive and thrive against the backdrop of the nature, climate and pollution emergencies advising and regulating industry, and working with partners to improve the quality of our waters, the air we breathe and the land and special places that we manage sustainably. From flooding to pollution incidents, we're always braced to keep people and wildlife safe from the impacts of environmental incidents 24/7. Every decision we make is rooted in evidence, the expertise of our colleagues and the passion of the people living in the communities that we work alongside every day.

• For more information <u>www.naturalresources.wales</u>