Cyswllt Amgylchedd Cymru | Wales Environment Link

For release: Friday 28th April

Welsh press release below.

Press Release: Loss of species can be reversed in Wales, but only by ensuring inclusion in new Agriculture Bill

Environment charities are calling for the Agriculture (Wales) Bill, currently at Stage 3 at the Senedd, to explicitly commit to reversing the decline of nature in Wales.

Karen Whitfield, Co-Director of Wales Environment Link:

"Everything we do affects nature and there is no deadline to save nature. The decline in species from butterflies to birds is happening now and this Bill could ensure that land management, forestry, farming and food could be part of the solution in reversing this devastating decline.

"We are calling on Senedd Members to table an amendment ensuring the Bill reflects the Welsh Government's commitment at COP15 to accelerate nature recovery in Wales; in its current form, the Bill does not match the ambition or vision of the '30 by 30' target or tackle the climate and nature emergencies the Senedd declared in 2019.

"This Bill is our opportunity to use all the levers at our disposal to create a more resilient, globally responsible, healthier Wales."

Wales Environment Link recently launched their 'Pathways to 2030' report, which sets out all the nature based solutions we need to rapidly implement in order to save Wales from the nature crisis. It includes what we need to see change in all habitats, including incentivising farmers to transition to "a low input, regenerative food system", in harmony with nature.

Notes to Editors

1. Wales Environment Link (WEL) is a network of over 30 environment NGOs which works together on the vision of a thriving environment for future generations. Our full list of current members is available online.

2. The Agriculture Bill was introduced to the Senedd on 26th September 2022. Stage 3, the final debate, will take place on Tuesday 16th May.

3. Previous positions and policy development on agriculture can be access on our recent blog post here, highlighting our key priorities for land management going forward: https://waleslink.org/what-is-the-sustainable-farming-scheme-and-what-does-it-mean-for-farmers-citizens-and-our-environment/

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Datganiad y Wasg: Gellir gwrthdroi rhywogaethau yng Nghymru, ond dim ond drwy sicrhau eu bod yn cael eu cynnwys yn y Bil Amaeth Newydd

Mae elusennau amgylcheddol yn galw ar y Bil Amaeth (Cymru), sydd ar hyn o bryd yng Nghyfnod 3 yn y Senedd, i ymrwymo'n benodol i wrthdroi dirywiad byd natur yng Nghymru.

Dywedodd Karen Whitfield, Cyd- Gyfarwyddwr, Cyswllt Amgylchedd Cymru:

"Mae popeth rydyn ni'n ei wneud yn effeithio ar natur a does dim terfyn amser i achub byd natur. Mae'r dirywiad mewn rhywogaethau o loÿnnod byw i adar yn digwydd yn awr a gallai'r Bil hwn sicrhau y gallai rheoli tir, coedwigaeth, ffermio, a bwyd fod yn rhan o'r ateb i wrthfroi'r dirywiad dinistriol hwn.

"Rydym yn galw ar Aelodau'r Senedd i gyflwyno gwelliant i sicrhau bod y Bil yn adlewyrchu ymrwymiad Llywodraeth Cymru yn COP15 i gyflymu adferiad natur yng Nghymru; a rei ffurf bresennol nid yw'r Bil yn cyd-fynd ag uchelgais na gweledigaeth y targed o '30 i 30' nac yn mynd i'r afael a'r argyfyngau hinsawdd a natur a ddatganodd y Senedd yn 2019.

" Mae'r Bil yn gyfle i ddefnyddio'r holl ysgogiadau sydd ar gael inni greu Cymru iachach, fwy cydnerth, sy'n gyfrifol ar lefel fyd-eang."

Yn ddiweddar lansiodd Cyswllt Amgylchedd Cymru eu ahdroddiad 'Llwybrau at 2030' sy'n nodi'r holl atebion sy'n seiliedig ar natur y mae angen inni eu rhoi ar waith yn gyflym er mwyn achub Cymru rhag yr argyfwng byd natur. Mae'n cynnwys yr hyn sydd angen i ni ei weld yn newid ym mhob cynefin, gan gynnwys cymell fferwyr i drowglwyddo i "system fwyd atgynhyrchiol, mewnbwn isel, mewn cytgord a natur.

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