**A Journey to**

# A Globally Responsible Wales

1: **Ensuring that our supply chains** are fair, ethical and sustainable

2: **Supporting sustainable behaviour** and making the connections

3: **Playing our part to ensure** that Wales is welcoming, safe and fair to all

4: **Ensuring that we understand** the importance of using the earth's resources efficiently and contribute to global well-being

5: **Making the right financial decisions now,** to enable future generations to thrive

## A Journey to
# A Globally Responsible Wales

In the Well-being of Future Generations Act, this goal is defined as

*"A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being."*

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# Defining the goal

It was Martin Luther King Jr. who said: 'before you finish eating breakfast in the morning, you've depended on half the world.'

Our daily actions, the decisions we take and the way we decide to spend our money have far-reaching consequences for other countries and people across the globe. Estimates show that we would need over 1.7 Earths to keep up with our current level of growth and consumption.

It is vital that when thinking about improving the well-being of people in Wales, we are also thinking about our impacts on others. We are not just global consumers but global citizens, and we have a responsibility to ensure we are not acting at the detriment to others. This means ensuring we are engaging in ethical supply chains, using our fair share of the earth's natural resources, adapting to climate change, working to make Wales a welcoming place for everyone, making the right financial decisions and educating others on the importance of global responsibility.

**Eg**

**Case studies**
Throughout the document you will find a number of reports relating to the topic subject. Please read the link if you see this symbol.



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## Defining the goal

## Where to focus action in contributing to this goal

**Procure goods and services in ways that makes a positive contribution to global well-being**
(See globally responsible Wales journey topic 1: Ethical Consumption and Procurement)

**Provide opportunities for people to learn about and understand our global impact**
(See globally responsible Wales journey topic 2: Global Citizenship and Leadership)

**Ensure that our communities are welcoming to all, contributing to social and cultural well-being**
(See globally responsible Wales journey topic 3: Solidarity and Peace)

**Use natural resources wisely, contributing to environmental well-being globally and in Wales**
(See globally responsible Wales journey topic 4: Our Fair Share of Natural Resources)

**Make financial decisions that improve economic well-being globally and in Wales**
(See globally responsible Wales journey topic 5: Fair and Ethical Investment and Divestment)

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## Other statutory requirements in relation to this goal

**The Modern Slavery Act 2015** was designed to combat modern slavery in the UK, and consolidates previous offences in relation to trafficking and slavery. There is government guidance for organisations on how to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in their business or supply chains here.

**St**

Some of the suggested steps and actions in this document complement the policies set out in legislation - specific steps and actions that adhere to these are highlighted in orange and with an 'St' symbol.

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## Enablers

Achieving this goal is **more likely to happen** when…

- **There is strong support from civil society for actions that have a positive global impact.**

- **It is accepted that diversity unites communities rather than divides them.**

- **The importance of global actions is appreciated and understood: they are not seen as a simple a nice-to-do 'add-on' to business as usual.**

- **Politicians and other senior leaders have the vision to support global projects, understand our positive contribution and welcome international visitors.**

- **There is an understanding of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their relevance to Wales.**

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## Disablers

Achieving this goal is **less likely to happen** when…

- **There is a fundamental lack of understanding about what being globally responsible means.**

- **Politicians and other senior leaders take a 'look after Wales first' approach alone.**

- **There aren't measures or indicators to map what impactful approaches to being globally responsible look like.**

- **Organisations are tied into existing arrangements – such as procurement contracts, which limit opportunities.**

- **Relevant expertise in organisations is limited and siloed.**

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## 4: Our Fair Share of Natural Resources

Ensuring that we understand the importance of using the earth's resources efficiently and contribute to global well-being

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## Defining the issue

We often hear in the news fish-stocks are being depleted and significant areas of rainforest are being lost. Managing our natural resources is vital to ensure that we continue to enjoy things we do today in the future. What we do in Wales, can have a positive/and or negative impact somewhere else on the planet, and therefore it is essential that public bodies in Wales are actively supporting the goal of a globally responsible Wales.

By reducing our emissions, particularly in our transport and waste sectors, we will also reduce our air pollution which will benefit our well-being and reduce our negative global impact. By reducing our water use, we ensure that we only use our fair share of earth's resources whilst also reducing waste and costs. We can also support those equatorial communities that are most at risk of climate change. It is vital that we do all we can to reduce our carbon footprint, act to mitigate against climate change, and contribute positively to protecting and enhancing biodiversity.

### Synergies and connections to other journeys

**Journey to a resilient Wales**
**Topic 5:** Using natural resources

**Journey to a prosperous Wales**
**Topic 1:** Fair and local procurement

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# Making **Simple** Changes

**Eg**

Consider **Twinning your Toilet** with one in a developing country.

E.g. **National Assembly for Wales** who have twinned their public toilets, as well as **Assembly Member Huw Irranca Davies** in his constituency office and Ysgol John Bright in Llandudno.

**Take part** in Earth Hour.

**Adopt** a single-use plastic free policy.

**Calculate** and understand your organisation's carbon footprint and support your staff and visitors to understand their personal carbon footprints too.

**Eg**

E.g. WWF have a helpful carbon footprint calculator and so does the Carbon Trust.

**Understand** how your organisation could support the use of electric and hydrogen vehicles.

**Support cycle to work schemes,** provide a pool bike and offer bike repair/maintenance sessions to your staff.

**Eg**

E.g. NextBike is a bike-sharing initiative that increases public access to bicycles and encourages active travel.

**Support car-sharing/pooling opportunities** and seek to support car-free days in your area.

**Review lighting** to fit suitable alternatives such as light-emitting diode (LED) where possible, avoiding excessive light pollution that can impact on the natural environment.

**Support tree–growing schemes** to equatorial countries, particularly those that are least developed, so they can adapt to climate change.

**Eg**

E.g. Plant! 36,000 trees a year are grown in Wales and Uganda for every child born or adopted in Wales .

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## Making **Simple** Changes

**Review your policy** on carbon emissions with a view to offset the carbon you produce by supporting positive initiatives elsewhere, through accredited schemes.

**Eg**

E.g. Carbon neutral is a helpful tool to support this.

**Provide learning opportunities** on climate change and empower others to learn how we can mitigate against it through personal choices - this could be done through info screens/videos in your reception areas and on your website.

**Eg**

E.g See how St Cenydd Community School did it.

**Eg**

**Use United Nations** "International Days of" to educate and inspire people to use their fair share of natural resources.

E.g. 22nd March is World Water Day, 5th June is World Environment Day.

**Explore** the use of electric and hydrogen vehicles in your fleet, where possible.

**Explore** how you can learn about the importance of reducing meat intake, through initiatives such as 'Meat Free Monday' and Part Time Carnivore.

**Support community** repair cafe initiatives where you and your community can repair or repurpose items, and divert them from landfill, and zero waste initiatives which reduce what goes to landfill, at source.

**Eg**

E.g. Care and Repair Café in Cardiff – [Podcast credit: Seismic Wales]

**Procure and plant native trees** and shrubs as a first choice, or ensure that every tree and plant that is planted has a value to nature.

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## Making **Simple** Changes

**Install water efficient fixtures** in your buildings, such as toilets, water-less urinals and water butts on buildings. Supply them to communities to conserve and utilise rainwater.

**Eg**

E.g. **Welsh Government's** first installation of waterless urinals at the Rhyd-y-Car office, Merthyr Tydfil in February 2016. The pilot was exceptionally well received so further units are being installed at other offices.

**St**

**Ensure** that all your land holdings are compliant with environmental legislation to reduce the potential for water pollution issues.

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## Being More **Adventurous**

**(Eg)** **Install grey water recycling** technology in your buildings to reduce the use of drinking quality water for non-drinking needs such as flushing toilets.

E.g. **Denmark Farm** Water Sustainability Policy - having systems in place that save water and treat waste water using natural processes.

**(Eg)** **Install energy saving** systems such as motion sensitive lights and heating and other initiatives.

E.g. **Amgueddfa Cymru - National Musuem of Wales** have installed ultrasonic humidifiers which save 90% of energy and of course cost. They have also installed solar panels on their roofs.

Bridgend CBC has invested in ground source heat to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels and reduce costs for the community.

**Ensure that all** development/ infrastructure/renovation projects contribute to global-well-being, including the materials you use, the lifecycle of the products, the pollution they create and the people who have helped to create them.

**(Eg)** E.g. 21st Century Schools is an innovative scheme to support sustainable school infrastucture projects. Swansea CC are building Passivhaus homes at 2 sites in the county for social housing and are introducing a "Swansea Standard" for high-energy efficient properties, and will also be maximising local labour and supply chains, with a target of 85% key suppliers being within a 20 mile radius.

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## Being More **Adventurous**

**Play an active role** in ensuring car free days in your area.

**Ditch your** single-use plastic and polystyrene cups, plates, cutlery, packaging.

**Eg**

E.g. **Sport Wales** have an on-site composting facility and use only compostable cups. They have a bore hole, a water refill station which is free for all and encourage reusables. They are also retrofitting lights to LEDs. They have Modular boilers, low emission pool cars, and recycling across the centre.

**Ensure that all your estates** have at least 1 electric vehicle charging point and that these are made available for work and personal vehicles where staff need to travel by car.

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**Switch your fleet vehicles** to electric/hydrogen such as Cardiff CC, Caerphilly CBC and Monmouthshire CC .

**Eg**

E.g. Check out the ground-breaking hydrogen car being produced in Wales.

**Increase** single-use plastic free zones and replace your use of plastic with suitable alternatives (ensuring that this can be recycled).

**Eg**

E.g. **National Assembly for Wales** single-use plastic free initiative

**Increase** access to mains water refill zones, free of charge across roads and other publicly accessible points.

**Publish** reports and engage the public on how you are reducing your carbon impact.

**Develop and publish** a strategy to become carbon neutral, including your supply chain.

**Offset 100%** of carbon emissions through your organisation's travel, and communicate any increase in carbon neutral travel.

**Eg**

E.g. **Welsh Government** initiative to support Size of Wales projects to help mitigate the impact of staff travel.

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## Being More **Adventurous**

**Offset other carbon emissions** through accredited schemes such as Carbon Offsetting Gold Standard through Fair Trade and United Purpose - a Wales-based charity that supports developing countries to respond to climate change including access to water and carbon offsetting.

**Increase the proportion** of plant-based foods in any catering or food outlets.

**Utilise a deposit return** scheme or similar method to minimise waste and attract participation in the lifecycle of products.

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## Owning your **Ambition**

### Collaborative or national actions

**Wales is a Zero Waste Nation** through sustainable production, sustainable consumption and end of life procedures in place for all products.

**100% of imports** into Wales are deforestation free.

**Wales has banned** domestic use of pesticides and educated on alternatives.

**Wales' biodiversity** is thriving, including good soil quality and clean air, and Wales is a marine conservation area

**Wales is a refill nation**

**Wales is a carbon neutral nation**

### Organisational actions

**You are 100% single use plastic free and a zero-waste organisation** through sustainable production, **sustainable consumption and end of life procedures in place for all products.**

**Your organisation is carbon neutral**, including your supply chain, and the people you work with are aware of this and know how important it is to maintain.

**Eg**

E.g. **Natural Resources Wales'** carbon positive project demonstrates how it is investing in a carbon free Wales.

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## Other examples and resources

The **Cost of Single Use Plastics**

The **Carbon Trust** has a whole host of helpful resources like these: www.carbontrust.com/client-services/advice/public-sector-advice

www.carbontrust.com/client-services/wales/

The **Welsh Government's Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales** is a helpful tool to support your journey of becoming zero carbon.

See pages 53-55 for public sector leadership which includes Policy 20 on **carbon neutrality,** Policy 21 on **district heat systems**, Policy 23 on **Procurement** which makes specific recommendations on Fleet Vehicles and Buildings.

The **Welsh Government's State of the Estate Reports** over the years include helpful and inspring case studies on Carbon Reduction (page 30), Efficiencies and Renewables (page 30) and Biodiversity (page 31).

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