



Rural Research Policy Snapshot

Rural – UK – October 2026

Wales

Our snapshot provides a brief update on the issues shaping the future of rural estates, agriculture and land management in Wales. Each topic covers policy commitments and targets, budgets, and other government announcements.

Food and farming	
Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS)	The SFS launched on 1 January 2026, with the Universal Layer beginning immediately and the transition away from the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) taking place over three years. The BPS payments are set at 60% of 2025 values in 2026, 40% in 2027, 20% in 2028 and zero from 2029. The scheme is built around 12 mandatory Universal Actions covering soil health, integrated pest management, professional development and habitat management. Payments include a universal baseline (up to £70/ha), habitat and woodland maintenance, a £107/ha Social Value Payment and a £1,000 Stability Payment for smaller farms. The 2026 budget allocates £238 million (70%) to Universal Payments and BPS, and £102 million (30%) to ongoing schemes and Optional and Collaborative actions. The first Single Application Form window closed on 15 May 2026; uptake figures have not yet been published. The Welsh Government refreshed the Universal Layer guidance during the summer, including updated rules and verifiable standards published on 3 July and detailed guidance for Universal Action 12 on animal health and welfare published on 3 August. For more details about the scheme structure, see our briefing note. Details of the Optional and Collaborative Layers were published on 23 March 2026, with support intended to become available progressively through 2026 and into 2027. For more information on the Optional and Collaborative Layers, see our briefing note.
Sustainable Agriculture Loan Scheme	Applications are now open for the Sustainable Agriculture Loan Scheme, which offers 3% fixed-rate loans (£25,000–£1 million) through the Development Bank of Wales, with £5 million available in 2026/27. The one-year pilot includes a six-month repayment holiday and can support investment in energy efficiency, renewable generation, waste management, land, buildings and equipment.
Farming Connect	The Farming Connect programme launched on 1 April 2026. It plays an important role in the initial implementation of the Sustainable Farming Scheme, helping farm businesses increase resilience and productivity by focusing on areas such as soil health, animal health and welfare, pest management, benchmarking, and developing additional skills and knowledge. The programme has a budget of £33 million and the contract is divided into five areas: knowledge transfer, lifelong learning and development, advisory services, the service centre, and marketing and communications. From 1 April 2026, Farming Connect offers FARMDATA+, a new online benchmarking tool covering horticulture, pigs, poultry and sheep, to help farmers meet SFS requirements. This will support Universal Action 3 on benchmarking and allows participants to submit relevant key performance indicators for the SFS. Two bespoke capital grant schemes are also available: the Agriculture Diversification and Horticulture Scheme and the Small Grants Horticulture Start-Up Scheme, as well as cross-sectoral efficiency and environmental grants. Businesses must re-register for Farming Connect through Rural Payments Wales online after migrating to GOV.UK. One Login (replacing Government Gateway) to continue accessing Farming Connect services. This enables completion of Universal Action 3 on benchmarking and Universal Action 4 on continuous professional development. Farming Connect delivered Phase 1 of the Welsh Sheep Genetics Programme, which concluded on 31 March 2026. Phase 2, led by Hybu Cig Cymru – Meat Promotion Wales, began in April 2026 and focuses on improving efficiency, productivity and environmental performance in the sheep sector. The main Phase 2 application window has now passed. Participating flocks can receive fully funded lamb DNA sampling and genotyping in the first year, genetic evaluations, ultrasonic backfat scanning, performance benchmarking and tailored breeding action plans.
Politics and budget	Following the Senedd election on 7 May 2026, Plaid Cymru formed a minority government under First Minister Rhun ap Iorwerth, with Llŷr Gruffydd MS appointed Cabinet Minister for Rural Resilience and Sustainability. On 11 June 2026, the new government announced a nine-month review of the bureaucracy affecting Welsh farmers. It appointed former NFU Cymru President John Davies to lead and assess the cumulative burden of regulation, assurance and support requirements on family farms. Farmers, agents and industry representatives can submit evidence to the review. From 2025/26, the Barnett formula applies to agricultural funding in Wales, replacing the previous ringfenced addition to the block grant. This means agricultural support now competes with other spending priorities such as health and education. The Farmers’ Union of Wales (FUW) has warned that the shift from the former CAP-based allocation (9.4% of UK agricultural funding) to a population-based Barnett share (~5%) could amount to a cut of around 40%. The Welsh Affairs Committee recommended in November 2025 that the Welsh Government ringfence

	agricultural funding internally and urged the Treasury to ensure the change does not become a backdoor route to reducing support. The 2026–27 Welsh agricultural support budget included £238 million for the Universal Layer of the Sustainable Farming Scheme, alongside £102 million for the Optional and Collaborative Layers. NFU Cymru and the FUW have jointly called for an overall agricultural budget exceeding £500 million a year, arguing that funding has failed to keep pace with inflation over the past 13 years. On 19 July 2026, the Welsh Government committed to maintain these SFS budget allocations until March 2030. An early outcome of the bureaucracy review will align the SFS Animal Health Improvement Cycle with participating farm-assurance schemes from 2027, allowing one form and one veterinary visit to count toward both farm-assurance and SFS requirements.
Wales National Food Strategy	The Welsh Government announced plans for a National Food Strategy in July 2026, bringing together policy across the food system from farming and fisheries through processing, retail and consumption. Its stated aims include strengthening food security, improving access to healthy food, and keeping more of the value generated by Welsh food in Wales. The government estimates that the Welsh food and drink supply chain is worth more than £28 billion and employs one in six workers. The government appointed an Expert Working Group chaired by Simon Wright in September. The work is organised around four linked areas: health and wellbeing, food security, economy and rural development, and the environment. The group will examine how food policy can support domestic production and more resilient supply chains, increase food processing and routes to market within Wales, and address the environmental impacts of production and distribution. Its initial areas of focus are food in schools, expanding edible horticulture, and the security of the Welsh meat supply chain. The group can recommend early measures ahead of the final strategy. It is expected to report on at least one of its initial priorities before January 2027, publish draft proposals in summer 2027 and present a final report to Welsh Ministers by autumn 2027.
Taxation	
Inheritance tax	The reformed inheritance tax (IHT) rules for agricultural and business property took effect on 6 April 2026. The first £2.5 million of combined agricultural property relief (APR) and business property relief (BPR) qualifying assets continues to receive 100% relief. Above this threshold, relief is reduced to 50%, creating an effective IHT rate of 20% on the excess. Any unused allowance is transferable between spouses or civil partners, including where the first death occurred before 6 April 2026, meaning couples can pass on up to £5.65 million of qualifying assets tax-free when combined with nil-rate bands. To ease liquidity pressures, the option to pay IHT in 10 equal, interest-free annual instalments now applies to all APR- and BPR-eligible property. The £2.5 million allowance is frozen until April 2031, after which it will rise in line with CPI. The reforms remain politically contested. In September 2026, as the 2026 Budget approached, more than 100 parliamentarians called for their reversal.
Environment	
Environment (Principles, Governance and Biodiversity Targets) (Wales) Act	The Act embeds four environmental principles in Welsh law, establishes the independent Office of Environmental Governance Wales (OEGW) and enables legally binding biodiversity targets. Environmental groups welcomed it, while the FUW warned of increased regulation. Key provisions took effect on 27 June 2026. Ministers and Natural Resources Wales must apply the principles from 31 March 2027, and the OEGW is expected to become operational in January 2028. The OEGW must have full powers by April 2028. By the same deadline, the Senedd must lay draft biodiversity targets covering species, ecosystems, genetic diversity, and evidence.
Ancient woodland protections	A November 2025 review found Wales's tree protection framework outdated and inconsistently enforced. It recommended stronger enforcement and replanting powers, and better monitoring of tree loss. The Welsh Government said it had addressed some recommendations and would consider others in the next Senedd term. In June 2025, the Welsh Government allocated £19.8 million to protect ancient woodland, strengthened planning policy and gave Natural Resources Wales greater powers to protect veteran trees and ancient woodland during felling. The Planning (Wales) Act 2026 is also relevant; it enables Welsh planning authorities to make woodland preservation orders. These protect all trees within the designated woodland, including those planted after the order was made. The draft regulations have been consulted on but are not yet in force.
Water review	The independent review of the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021, published on 31 March 2025, made 23 recommendations. These included better targeting of regulation towards polluting activities, reducing burdens on lower-risk farming, improving clarity, examining alternatives to closed periods and the 170kg nitrogen per hectare limit, supporting innovation, and addressing gaps concerning soil protection and nutrient-management planning. The previous Welsh Government accepted all 23 recommendations and established a Task and Finish Group to examine implementation in phases. Substantive amendments will require consultation and supporting impact assessments. At the January 2026 Water Summit, the Welsh Government said it had committed £69 million to nutrient-management and slurry-storage improvements. Natural Resources Wales reported that collaborative work with farmers had increased compliance with the regulations from 37% to 47%. The Nutrient Trading Group is also continuing work to explore and develop a nutrient-trading platform. Separately, the Interim Environmental Protection Assessor for Wales has run a call for evidence on the law relating to freshwater quality. Its report will cover agricultural pollution alongside wastewater treatment, sewage discharges, the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, chemical pollution, monitoring and enforcement.

RURAL RESEARCH POLICY SNAPSHOT

Woodland creation	The Timber Industrial Strategy for Wales aims to increase domestic timber supply and strengthen forest resilience. To support delivery, the Woodland Creation Grant reopened on 4 March 2026 with enhanced incentives, including a new £825-per-hectare one-off payment for native broadleaf woodland and revised grant rates of up to £13,294 per hectare over 12 years. New water-related capital items now support riparian planting, and contract lengths have been extended for larger schemes. The changes aim to make tree planting more accessible for farmers and landowners, including through shelterbelts and agroforestry. The current Woodland Creation Grant window remains open until 20 November 2026. The additional £825/ha payment applies to predominantly native broadleaf planting containing no more than 20% conifers and at least 800 stems per hectare.
River Wye research	A £1 million Defra and Welsh Government research programme was announced in March 2025 to investigate River Wye pollution, particularly agricultural runoff and changing farming practices. It will also examine wildlife decline, water flow and stakeholder-led research. The University of the West of England is leading the three-year project, working with Hartpury University, Herefordshire Rural Hub and the Wye & Usk Foundation. It will use farm-based “living labs” to test practical interventions with farmers and land managers. A March 2026 workshop identified evidence gaps concerning legacy phosphorus, soil health, wetlands, land-use change and soil type, and called for trials that quantify individual interventions. Eighty-four per cent of participants considered catchment-wide collaboration insufficient, with inconsistent funding and farm financial pressures seen as barriers. In May 2026, UK Water Minister Emma Hardy confirmed that the government and Environment Agency are considering a Water Protection Zone targeting the River Wye and its tributaries.
Planning	
Permitted development rights (PDR)	The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2026 was made on 10 March 2026 following consultation. The first changes took effect on 1 June 2026, expanding permitted development rights (PDR) for air source heat pumps. The previous 3-metre boundary rule has been removed; detached homes can now install up to two units; the size limit has increased from 1m³ to 1.5m³; highway-facing installations are now permitted; and air-to-air heat pumps are included for the first time. A new permitted development right for temporary recreational campsites came into force on 1 June 2026, with the previous general camping provisions ceasing to apply on 1 September. It allows land to be used as a recreational campsite for up to 60 days in a calendar year, reduced to 28 days in National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and World Heritage Sites. Before using the right, campsite operators must notify the local planning authority each calendar year so that it can determine whether prior approval is required for toilet and wastewater facilities, waste disposal and vehicular access. The campsite right does not apply in specified protected or sensitive locations, including scheduled monuments, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Ramsar sites, listed-building sites, Flood Zones 2 and 3, or land within 100 metres of a dwelling occupied by someone other than the campsite operator. It covers tents and qualifying motor vehicles used for human habitation, but not caravans more generally, and does not authorise permanent infrastructure or glamping units. The original consultation also proposed extending PDR for EV charging infrastructure, reverse vending machines, statutory undertakers, temporary affordable housing and the definition of major development. The March 2026 amendment omitted these measures, and their status remains unclear. The separate consultation outcome on EV charging requirements under the Building Regulations, published on 7 August 2026, did not address the outstanding PDR proposal for off-street charging units.
Flood risk policy	The Welsh Government has allocated more than £85 million for flood and coastal erosion risk management in 2026–27. Almost £43 million will support new capital schemes, while the Natural Flood Management Fund will finance nature-based measures expected to reduce flood risk to more than 1,400 properties. Delivery remains subject to the necessary business cases, permissions and implementation by local authorities and Natural Resources Wales.
Property	
Self-catering holiday lets – non-domestic rates	Self-catering properties in Wales must normally be available to let for at least 252 days and commercially let for at least 182 days a year to qualify for non-domestic rates rather than council tax. Since 1 April 2026, operators can meet the letting requirement using a two- or three-year average, and up to 14 days of holidays donated to charity can count toward the total. Around 8,000 self-catering properties are currently listed for non-domestic rates, compared with more than 11,000 at the 2023 peak. The Welsh Government is consulting until 23 October 2026 on a modest reduction to the 182-day threshold and five exemptions for properties that may be unsuitable for use as permanent homes. The proposed exemptions cover accommodation forming part of a wider business, large properties containing at least five self-catering units, properties subject to relevant planning restrictions, accommodation within the curtilage of the owner’s home, and units operated on the owner’s farm. Any resulting changes are intended to take effect from 1 April 2027. Separately, compulsory visitor-accommodation registration opens in October 2026 under the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) etc. (Wales) Act 2025. Providers taking bookings for stays of 31 nights or fewer must register free of charge with the Welsh Revenue Authority by 31 March 2027, including where their local authority does not introduce a visitor levy. Councils may introduce the levy on 1 April or 1 October after local consultation and at least 12 months’ notice; the earliest possible start date is April 2027.

Boiler Upgrade Scheme	The Boiler Upgrade Scheme provides upfront grants towards heat pumps and, in limited circumstances, biomass boilers in homes and small non-domestic buildings in England and Wales. Changes introduced on 28 April 2026 extended the scheme to March 2030, added a £2,500 grant for air-to-air heat pumps in residential properties, relaxed the requirement to provide an Energy Performance Certificate and made Microgeneration Certification Scheme certification mandatory for participating installers. Grants of £7,500 remain available for air-to-water, ground-source and water-source heat pumps, while biomass boilers receive £5,000. Until 31 March 2027, eligible off-gas-grid properties can receive £9,000 towards an air-to-water or ground-source heat pump. The uplift applies where the new system replaces oil, LPG, coal, direct electric heating or another qualifying fossil-fuel system.
Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs)	The UK Government confirmed on 21 January 2026 that, for domestic property, the current single A–G EPC rating will be replaced by four headline metrics: fabric performance, heating system, smart readiness, and energy cost. The first three will be banded A–G; energy cost will be displayed in pounds. Properties with fossil-fuel heating, including efficient gas boilers, cannot achieve above Band D on the heating-system metric. The new EPCs will be calculated using the Home Energy Model (HEM), replacing SAP and RdSAP. A consultation on the HEM EPC wrapper ran from January to March 2026; a government response is still awaited. Existing EPCs will remain valid for their usual 10-year term, while the current and new EPC systems will operate in parallel until at least October 2029. For Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards purposes, a property that achieves EPC C under the existing Energy Efficiency Rating before 1 October 2029 will continue to be treated as compliant until that EPC expires or is replaced. The launch of the new EPC has been delayed until the second half of 2027; the government was due to agree a specific launch date and implementation plan by summer 2026, but has not yet published either. The delay does not affect the 2030 Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) deadline for private rented homes in England and Wales. For more details, see our briefing note.
Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES)	The government has confirmed it intends to introduce a single compliance date of 1 October 2030 for all new and existing privately rented homes in England and Wales. Properties will need to meet a standard equivalent to Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) C or register a valid exemption. Previously, the proposal set staggered deadlines, requiring different groups of tenancies to reach EPC band C at different times. Under the new methodology, landlords must meet a standard set against the fabric performance metric and then either the heating system or smart readiness metric. However, properties rated EPC C or above against the existing Energy Efficiency Rating before 1 October 2029 will remain compliant until that certificate expires or is replaced. To bring properties up to the new standard, landlords will be required to spend up to £10,000 per property on improvements. This is lower than the originally proposed £15,000 cap, but much higher than the existing £3,500. Exemptions will remain available, and a new solid-wall exemption will be introduced, particularly relevant to rural homes where full compliance is not practical or affordable. These include a property-value adjustment for homes worth less than £100,000 and protection where measures would materially damage the property's fabric or value, both particularly relevant to older rural homes. The cost-cap exemption will remain valid for ten years. Other changes to MEES include: - Landlords must meet a standard set against the fabric performance metric and a secondary standard set against either the smart readiness metric or the heating system metric on new EPCs. - Rental properties will be required to have a valid EPC in place from the date of marketing, removing the current 28-day grace period. - Requiring all heritage buildings, short-term lets and HMOs to have an EPC. For a detailed analysis of MEES's impact and advice on developing a portfolio strategy, see our Spotlight: Future-proofing rural homes. The changes above apply to residential MEES only. For non-domestic private rented property (i.e. commercial), the government confirmed on 18 June 2026 a separate, targeted approach for England and Wales: - From 2031, privately rented non-domestic buildings over 1,000m² in England and Wales must reach EPC B, where cost-effective. - Buildings under 1,000m² will remain on the current EPC E minimum, with no set deadline for going further. - The previously consulted EPC C interim milestone for 2027 has been dropped. - The seven-year payback test and existing exemptions remain in place. - The changes will take effect following the passage of secondary legislation. For more details, see our briefing note.
Non-domestic rates	From April 2026, the 2026 revaluation and a two-year transitional relief scheme will shape non-domestic rates in Wales. The Welsh Government has committed £116 million over two years to phase in significant increases in rate liability, with eligible ratepayers paying 33% of any increase in 2026/27 and 66% in 2027/28, before moving to full liability in 2028/29. Relief applies automatically to properties that increase by more than £300 after revaluation. Alongside revaluation, Wales has moved to a three-tier multiplier system from April 2026, reducing the standard multiplier to 0.502, introducing a lower retail multiplier of 0.350 for small and medium-sized retail premises with a rateable value under £51,000, and applying a higher multiplier of 0.515 to the largest properties with a rateable value above £100,000. These changes are the first reduction in the standard multiplier in Wales since 2010. The previous 40% Retail, Hospitality and Leisure relief, which covered a broad range of businesses, including hotels, wedding venues and leisure properties, has been removed entirely as of April 2026. A narrower 15% food and drink hospitality relief has replaced it for 2026/27 only, capped at £110,000 per business across Wales, available on

	application to local authorities. From 2027, this temporary relief will end. Around two-thirds of non-domestic properties in Wales currently pay no rates or receive some form of support. Small business rates relief is also available: • Businesses with a rateable value of up to £6,000 will receive 100% relief. • Businesses with a rateable value between £6,001 and £12,000 will receive relief on a tapered basis from 100% to zero (subject to a maximum of two properties per business in each local authority area).
Renters' Rights Act	While most of the Renters' Rights Act applies only to England, the provisions regarding discrimination extend to Wales and came into force on 1 June 2026: • It is now unlawful for landlords and agents in Wales to discriminate against prospective tenants with children or those receiving benefits. • Existing agreements for mortgages or insurance that contain discriminatory clauses will remain valid until their expiration or renewal. However, similar terms will not be enforceable in future agreements. • The Welsh Government has the power to expand the ban on discriminatory practices to other groups.
Energy and infrastructure	
Energy	The Renewable Energy Sector Deal, published in March, established a strategic partnership between government and industry covering onshore and offshore wind, solar, marine energy and hydropower, alongside grid infrastructure, skills, investment and supply chains. In August, the Welsh Government announced that its forthcoming National Energy Strategy would map Wales' future energy requirements and the infrastructure needed to meet them, with greater emphasis on the location and impact of development, community ownership and retaining the economic value of energy generation within Wales. Community and locally owned energy remain a particular focus. The third round of the Welsh Government's Ynni Cymru capital grant programme provided £10 million in 2026/27 for locally owned renewable energy and Smart Local Energy Systems. UK-wide community-energy support is also available in Wales through Great British Energy's Local Power programme, while the UK Green Gas Support Scheme continues to provide a route for eligible biomethane produced through anaerobic digestion.
Solar	The Welsh Government's move towards a more spatially informed approach to energy planning is likely to affect solar development. In August 2026, the government announced that its forthcoming National Energy Strategy would develop a stronger evidence base for where energy development should take place, taking account of the scale, location and impacts of projects. It specifically identified protection of productive agricultural land as a consideration, alongside community ownership and ensuring that more of the economic value associated with energy development is retained in Wales. Strategic energy planning will also increasingly interact with decisions over future electricity-network requirements, although the detailed implications for individual solar developments will depend on the final National Energy Strategy and associated planning policy.
Onshore wind	The Welsh Government's emerging approach to energy policy is expected to influence where and how new onshore wind developments are delivered. Its forthcoming National Energy Strategy is intended to provide a stronger evidence base for where energy infrastructure should be located, taking account of the scale, location and impacts of development and placing greater emphasis on community ownership and local economic benefits. For onshore wind, this will sit alongside Wales's new infrastructure-consenting arrangements and Great Britain-wide reforms to grid connections and strategic network planning.
Infrastructure planning	Wales' new consenting process for Significant Infrastructure Projects came into effect on 15 December 2025. It covers major energy, transport, water, and waste projects and replaces the Developments of National Significance process for new applications within its scope. Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) examines applications, with Welsh Ministers making the final decision in most cases. Applications submitted before the change may continue under transitional arrangements. PEDW's separate power to decide renewable-energy applications of up to 50 MW has been in place since January 2025. In January 2026, the Welsh Government reported that it had made seven such decisions, each between 10 and 15 weeks ahead of the 36-week statutory deadline. It also reported that the average time taken to determine Developments of National Significance applications fell by six weeks to 30 weeks in 2025. Those figures relate to the earlier consenting arrangements, not to decisions under the new Significant Infrastructure Project process. On 30 September 2026, the Welsh Government announced that it was considering a more integrated approach to assessing infrastructure needs, overseeing major programmes and supporting project delivery. This work forms part of the design of a new economic development agency and consideration of the future role of the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales. In April 2026, the Welsh Government said Wales faces unprecedented grid development over the next 25 years after limited large-scale expansion in the previous quarter-century. At the national level, the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan will guide where future electricity generation and storage are located and inform longer-term network needs. In August, the Welsh Government published spatial data identifying two onshore zones in Wales for the draft and final plan. Under the National Energy System Operator's Gate 2 process, projects meeting readiness and strategic-alignment requirements can receive confirmed arrangements in a more strategically prioritised queue. Delivery has been delayed: on 2 October, Ofgem extended the deadline for around 62 outstanding Phase 1 offers to 31 October 2026, with later phases continuing into 2027.

Contracts for Difference (CfD)	Two offshore wind projects in Welsh waters secured support in the UK Government's seventh CfD allocation round, announced in January 2026. The published auction results list 775 MW for Awel y Môr, a fixed-bottom project off north Wales, and 100 MW for Erebus, a floating-wind project off Pembrokeshire. Their strike prices were £91.20/MWh and £216.49/MWh respectively, expressed in 2024 prices. The Welsh Government has linked the projects to opportunities for Welsh ports, supply chains and skills development. The application window for the UK Government's eighth CfD allocation round closed on 7 August 2026, having opened on 20 July. The round has five auction pots, including separate pots for solar, onshore and remote island wind, offshore wind, and floating and other deepwater offshore wind. The government will confirm budgets after applications have been assessed, with value for money for consumers informing the level of support allocated across the pots. Awards have not yet been announced.
Water sector reform	The Independent Water Commission's July 2025 report recommended major changes to water regulation and planning in England and Wales. For Wales, these included a separate economic regulator, a national water-system planning function and clearer long-term direction for the sector. The Welsh Government took these proposals forward in its Shaping the Future of Water Governance in Wales Green Paper, published in February 2026. It sought views on regulation, water quality, infrastructure investment and the resilience of the water system. The Welsh Government published a summary of the Green Paper's 92 consultation responses on 14 September 2026. Respondents broadly supported reform and a more coordinated approach to water planning. Many supported a dedicated Welsh economic regulator, although some raised concerns about cost and duplication. Responses also called for stronger enforcement, clearer accountability and better coordination across water supply, wastewater, land use and catchments. The Welsh Government will publish a separate policy response and, following further engagement, a White Paper setting out detailed proposals ahead of future Welsh legislation. It is also working with the UK Government on the powers needed to enable reform in Wales.



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