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## A warm welcome to the second Newport Green and Safe e-bulletin!



This newsletter is being delivered to you by Natural Resources Wales on behalf of the One Newport Public Services Board partnership.



Thank you to those that attended the Green and Safe Network workshop in November 2020. It was great to get the Network back together and I hope you all found it useful. I am currently planning the dates for three workshops for 2021, so watch this space.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch and let me know if you have anything you would like to include in upcoming e-bulletins. I'm here to help promote your projects any time, so please do send them my way.

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# Green and Safe Spaces Refresh



In light of Covid-19 and the need to incorporate the Green Recovery recommendations (more information on this below), we are currently refreshing the Green and Safe Spaces intervention and its objectives. The current Green and Safe Network's Action Plan, created in 2019, is also part of the wider context being used as a guide during this refresh, and I will share the results with you in the next few months.

## Next Network workshop

I hope to hold the next Network workshop in March or April, to give us a space to interact and hear about each other's projects. I would also like to take the opportunity for us all to refresh the Network's Action Plan, again in light of Covid-19 and other challenges, and look to:

- build on more people realising the value of green space;
- explore the ways in which our work can contribute to a green recovery; and
- build momentum around our work on this agenda going forward.

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## Projects across Newport

Undoubtedly, there are many more projects happening around Newport, and I would love to hear from you to include them in the upcoming e-bulletins. Here are updates from just a few.



### Portland Street Allotments, Pillgwenlly

The once overgrown allotments have seen some exciting new changes. A new accessible path has been put in, a steel container for a community space and storage is in place, and the eight allotment plots are coming along nicely.

Several groups have contributed to shaping this exciting project to transform the site into a thriving, green, outdoor community space.

There has been fantastic continued support from Central Hub, Pill Unity, Local Housing Associations (Pobl, Newport City Homes and Melin Homes), Fusion Culture & Arts, Flying Start, DP Mowers, Keep Wales Tidy, Newport Yemeni Community Association, Exclusive Landscapes, Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations, Siemens and local residents. Without the support of all these partners this project would not be possible.

Just outside the community garden, apple trees have been planted with Keep Wales Tidy. This orchard area will be a quiet space with benches for residents to sit and be at one with nature. We look forward to seeing it develop further over the coming months.

### Green Prescribing

The Natural Resources Wales South East People & Places Team are supporting Aneurin Bevan University Health Board's [Integrated Wellbeing Networks](#) (IWNs) for projects to scope and pilot Green Prescribing in Newport. Newport IWN is collaborating with Coed Lleol (Small Woods Wales) as they scope the most effective pathways for green interventions in the city. In the meantime, [find out more about Coed Lleol on their website](#).



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## Monmouthshire and Newport Local Nature Partnership



*Photo Credit: Chris Harris/Living Levels Partnership.*

Monmouthshire and Newport Local Nature Partnership (LNP) has been established to build on the successful work of the previous Newport Biodiversity Partnership and extended coverage of coordinated action for nature to include the neighbouring county of Monmouthshire.

The Monmouthshire and Newport LNP will carry out informed and targeted local nature recovery action to deliver multiple benefits, including contributing to well-being objectives and supporting a Green Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, by

providing expert advice and support and ensuring the best action is carried out in suitable locations to provide multiple benefits for people and wildlife.

[More information on the launch](#)

To keep up to date or if you are interested in joining [@Mon Newport LNP](#)

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## Green Recovery

The Welsh Government's Green Recovery task force led by Natural Resources Wales chair, Sir David Henshaw, [has published its report](#) outlining the priorities to be taken forward as part of Wales' recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.



- Reducing carbon emissions and increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change
- Reversing the decline in biodiversity and connect people and nature.
- Contributing to tackling unsustainable levels of production and consumption by keeping resources in use for as long as possible, avoiding all waste and moving to more sustainable alternatives.
- Job creation, skills development and new markets.
- Groups, communities and places that are most vulnerable are prioritised to address the underlying inequalities and deprivation.

Public Services Boards (PSBs) have been tasked by Welsh Government with leading the Green Recovery in local authorities across Wales. One Newport PSB will look to incorporate these priorities into the renewed Wellbeing Plan, and in particular into the Green and Safe intervention via its upcoming 'refresh'.

*Photo Credit Chris Harris/Living Levels Partnership*

### Public Health Wales

Finally, [click here to read the new e-briefing, Green Opportunities](#), from Public Health Wales' Health & Sustainability Hub. The quarterly updates capture learning to aid Wales' green recovery from Covid-19, identifying sustainable opportunities to support population health.

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## Training



*Photo Credit Chris Harris/Living Levels Partnership.*

### **Living Levels Ambassadors**

The Living Levels Programme has kicked off an exciting new project in 2021 to create a sense of place toolkit and roll out **an ambassador training programme** to promote the wonderful Gwent Levels landscape. The project aims to:

- Optimise community ownership and wider understanding of the special qualities of the Gwent Levels through the development of a sense of place toolkit.
- Provide a co-ordinated welcome for visitors to the Levels by training and support for tourism businesses, facilities front of house staff, volunteers and ambassadors including for primary hubs and associated hubs, on what the Levels have to offer and how to best explore the area.
- Encourage businesses to promote sense of place through their own communications and marketing

We are eager to engage existing volunteers, volunteer managers, front of house staff, community members, and local businesses in our ambassador training which will both benefit them and visitors they cater to by utilising the toolkit showcasing the fantastic resources the Gwent Levels have to offer.

If you are interested to find out more or would like to get involved please get in touch with Elinor at [elinor.meloy@rspb.org.uk](mailto:elinor.meloy@rspb.org.uk)

### **Natural Resources Wales courses**

NRW will be running various courses on how to use the outdoors to support child development, learning and play:

- Naturally Happy and Healthy! Enhance learners' health and well-being through a connection to nature.

- A Natural Childhood – Early Years in the Outdoors (for those working with pre-school and foundation phase aged learners).
- Peat is neat! There's nothing bog standard about peatlands (aimed at KS2/3 educators).

For more information and to book your place please visit the [Tocyn Cymru](#) website.

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## Local Development Plan - Have your say



The Local Development Plan (LDP) is the development plan for Newport. It is the basis for land use planning within the council's administrative area and will run from 2021 to 2036.

Consultation is now taking place on two key LDP documents – the *Review Report* and the *Delivery Agreement*. The consultation ends 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

[Find out more and stay informed.](#)

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## Green Infrastructure Directory

As part of the first stages of a Green Infrastructure Assessment, One Newport PSB is utilising funding from Natural Resources Wales to gather information on greenspace across Newport. Looking at what green infrastructure already exists, where there is a deficit, the biodiversity value, and what condition they are in.

This will be used to inform planning decisions, aim to protect greenspace by demonstrating its value, contribute to the Replacement Local Development Plan, and help us focus our efforts on increasing and enhancing quality green space for those who need it most.



In future, we aim for this information to become widely available either with an app or online portal, and offline resources, so people can find out what's on their doorstep and improve health and wellbeing.

### Safety and green spaces

We are also exploring making better use of data between Newport City Council, Natural Resources Wales, the Police, Fire and Rescue Service and Fly-tipping Action Wales, to get a better picture of incidents that occur in green spaces to help us focus efforts and work together to make these places safer and reduce barriers.

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## Funding



The National Lottery Heritage Fund:

- [Local Places for Nature](#) to enable communities in Wales to restore and enhance nature. Deadline for applications March 2021.
- [Community Woodlands](#) to restore, create, connect and manage woodlands. Deadline for applications 21 October 2021.

*Photo Credit: Chris Harris/Living Levels*

*Partnership.*

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## Wales Outdoor Learning Week 19th-25th April 2021



Keep any eye on the website above and keep up to date on activities planned during this year's Outdoor Learning Week [@ OLW](#)

Find out more about [Newport Outdoor Learning Network here](#).

### Natural Resources Wales

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