

**Eryri Local Development Plan Examination:**  
**Action Points deriving from Hearing Session 3**

**Action Point 11: Dark Skies Clarification**

**Provide further information on the process of reviewing the Dark Sky Designation and timescales**

International Dark Sky Reserves (IDSR) have to submit an annual report to the IDA (International Dark Sky Association) by the 1<sup>st</sup> October each year detailing activities and progress towards fulfilling IDA IDSR goals during the previous year. The report serves to document that the Reserve continues to meet minimum program requirements: sustains partnership, outreach and interpretive efforts: and makes adequate progress toward at least 90% compliance with Lighting Management Plans.

There is no process or need to re-apply for Dark Sky status, the designation is permanent (pending that no sustained deterioration of the designation occurs)

**Action Points 12: Buffering of Category 1 Mineral Safeguarding Areas**

**Provide an explanation relating to the work undertaken by the Authority on buffering Category 1 mineral safeguarding areas around settlements**

In the document titled 'Aggregates Safeguarding Maps of Wales' by the British Geological Survey, under 'Stage 3: Application of a safeguarding margin to the aggregate resource dataset', it notes

*"PPW recognises the conflict between mineral workings and other land uses due to noise, dust and vibration, suggesting 'buffer zones' as an option around permitted and proposed mineral workings. In this zone, development proposals should be resisted for both extraction and sensitive development in order to reduce conflicts of land use."*

The Authority have not applied buffers around the hard rock resources or the sand and gravel resources. The Authority have used the GIS layers which have been provided by the British Geological Society as referred to in the Chief Planning Officers letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

The Authority have however placed buffer zones around existing settlements within the National Park, while this is not a requirement of National Policy the Authority considers it is sensible to do so because mineral workings will be not permitted within 200m of existing settlements. The BGS has placed buffers around some of the National Parks main settlements.

Therefore, SNPA have not buffered around the reserves, and the only buffering that has been undertaken is around the settlements.

**Action Point 13: Development Policy 2: Development and the Landscape.**

**The Authority to give consideration and their views on the two criterion proposed by NRW in their Statement relating to characteristic landscape features and the integration of existing development.**

The Authority has given consideration to the two criterion proposed by NRW in their Hearing Statement relating to characteristic landscape features and the integration of existing development. However, it has been concluded unnecessary to include the first proposed criterion as other policies within the LDP focus on enhancements, such as;

- Strategic Policy A: National Park Purposes and Sustainable Development
- Development Policy 1: General Development Principles
- Strategic Policy Ch: Social and Physical Infrastructure in New Developments
- Development Policy 6: Sustainable Design and Materials
- Development Policy 21: Tourism and Recreation
- Strategic Policy L: Accessibility and Transport

To further include a statement regarding enhancements within Development Policy 2 would therefore be considered unnecessary. With regards to the second proposed criterion relating to existing development, it is considered inappropriate to include this as a criterion, as it is not within the Authority's ability to demand existing development to be integrated into the Landscape. Despite this, the Authority can influence new planning applications regarding existing developments and characteristic landscape features in order to reduce detrimental effects on the landscape through the LDP policies, as can be seen in Development Policy 22: Chalet and Static Caravan Sites. It is therefore considered by the Authority that no additional wording to Development Policy 2 is required in regards to characteristic landscape features and the integration of existing development.

**Action Point 14:**

**Cross check for any subsequent knock on of any of the MACs**

There are no knock-ons to other parts of the plan from the MACs proposed for hearing Session 3.