

Jeremy Miles
For Wales' Future

Our mission for Wales' future



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Promoted by Deborah Davies on behalf of Jeremy Miles at Riverside House, Normandy Road, Swansea, SA1 2JA

Tackling the climate and nature emergencies

As First Minister I will ensure that Wales continues its leadership in tackling the climate and nature emergencies on the local and global stage during this decade of action.

We see all around us the devastating consequences of climate change – extreme heat waves, storms and flooding. They affect us all, but those with fewest resources are the most badly affected. So playing a leadership role in tackling the climate emergency is fundamental to our sense of justice and our responsibility to future generations.

To succeed, we must take people with us on this journey. We can do that by letting people see the chances it offers alongside the changes it demands, so the burdens and opportunities of this huge change are fairly shared – by delivering a just transition. I will engage with the work of the Net Zero 2035 challenge group who are looking at the impact on society and sectors of our economy and how any adverse effects may be mitigated, including how the costs and benefits are distributed fairly. We will use all our economic levers to support new green jobs and we will expand the benefits to communities of having renewable energy production and transmission on your doorstep. We will explore routes to extend community shareholding in all renewable energy projects, emphasise accessible community green spaces and make housing greener, expanding innovative housing and optimised retrofit programmes.

In all of this, we will focus our efforts on the best ways that Wales can contribute to urgent global efforts with the most impact,

drawing on the comparative advantage of our geography. We have been a global centre for energy before – and we can be again. This time with renewable energy. In particular, Wales is a coastal nation, and we must harness the power and richness of our marine economy – we will rapidly explore new forms of hydro, tidal and wave energy and offshore wind with a proactive and focussed offer for investors in renewables. Our coast and the Severn estuary offer particular opportunities, and we will support our Welsh ports to capitalise on the opportunities the Celtic Sea offers, as well as ensuring that Wales is well placed to host the new global industry for floating wind. Our science and research work holds the potential to multiply our impact by transferring our discoveries and innovations for free to the world. All of these actions bring with them opportunities for satisfying, sustainable employment and new skill development.

This is a nature as well as a climate emergency, and nature is our ally in tackling climate change. I am proud of the work we have done to look at how Wales can implement the target to protect 30% of the land, freshwater and ocean by 2030. We will drive forward actions to halt and reverse biodiversity decline, including ensuring the introduction of a Bill into the Senedd that will embed environmental principles into Welsh law, strengthen environmental governance in Wales by establishing a new body to oversee

compliance with environmental law by Welsh public authorities, and introduce a new and ambitious biodiversity targets framework. We will continue the water quality summit process including implementing the outcome of the Source to Sea Teifi river improvement project and ensure the lessons learned are applied at scale.

We have undertaken good work as a government in addressing the risks from coal tips, despite an abdication of responsibility by the UK Conservative government. We will work with our Valleys communities to build on this good work.

Our rural economy is crucial to our future, our economy and the Welsh language. We recognise the particular challenges it faces in a time of change, as it responds to the climate and nature emergency and adjusts to a new reality outside the European Union. We will deliver a modern, sustainable model for agriculture and rural life, harnessing technology to increase productivity and strengthen local, sustainable farm-to-fork

food supply for Wales. Extending existing work on clusters and networks is an important part of this. We will encourage local supply of food to schools, hospitals and other public services and grasp the benefits for local people and producers. There is already good practice in parts of Wales and beyond – we must spread it widely. We will work with farmers and rural communities to support the transition to more sustainable and ecologically friendly forms of land use, bringing forward the next stages of the Sustainable Farming Scheme as soon as is feasible.

Our compassion as a country must be reflected in our commitment to the welfare of animals. We will review dog licensing to help fund greater enforcement capacity, and will bring in a progressive ban on greyhound racing. We will maintain our opposition to the barbaric persecution of wild animals and look to work with the next UK Labour government to strengthen the Hunting Act and Dangerous Dogs Act.



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✓ My priorities

- Maintain the ban on fossil fuel extraction and fracking in Wales and support the divestment of public pension funds from investments in these sectors.
- Introduce a statutory target to reverse the decline in biodiversity with an improvement in the status of species and ecosystems by 2030 and their clear recovery by 2050.
- Maintain our commitment that at least 30% of our land, our rivers and seas are protected, connected, recovering, and positively managed to enable nature's recovery in line with Wales' international obligations.
- Maintain and expand our globally recognised peatland restoration and seagrass restoration projects.
- Establish a new environmental governance body and introduce a Bill to embed environmental protections into Welsh law.
- Engage with the work of the net zero 2035 climate challenge Group.
- Recommit to implementing the current and next carbon budgets.
- Extend community shareholding in renewable energy projects.
- Expand energy efficient retrofit for existing homes and buildings.
- Apply the lessons from the source to sea Teifi river pilot, and work with our local authority partners on flood alleviation.
- Take forward our vital work on coal tip safety, including passing and implementing a new governance and legislative framework, working with an incoming UK Labour government, and continuing to support councils on safety and restoration work.
- Bring forward the remaining tiers of the Sustainable Farming Scheme as soon as feasible.
- Encourage technological innovation in the rural economy.
- Reform dog licensing and bring in a phased end to greyhound racing.



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