



Bwrdd Tanau Gwylt Cymru
Wales Wildfire Board



Wales Wildfire Charter





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Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

Mid and West Wales
Fire and Rescue Service



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub
Fire and Rescue Service



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub
De Cymru

South Wales
Fire and Rescue Service



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Pori
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Threftadaeth



UNDEB AMAETHWYR
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Commitment 1



Partnership

Commitment 2



Environmental and
Community Resilience

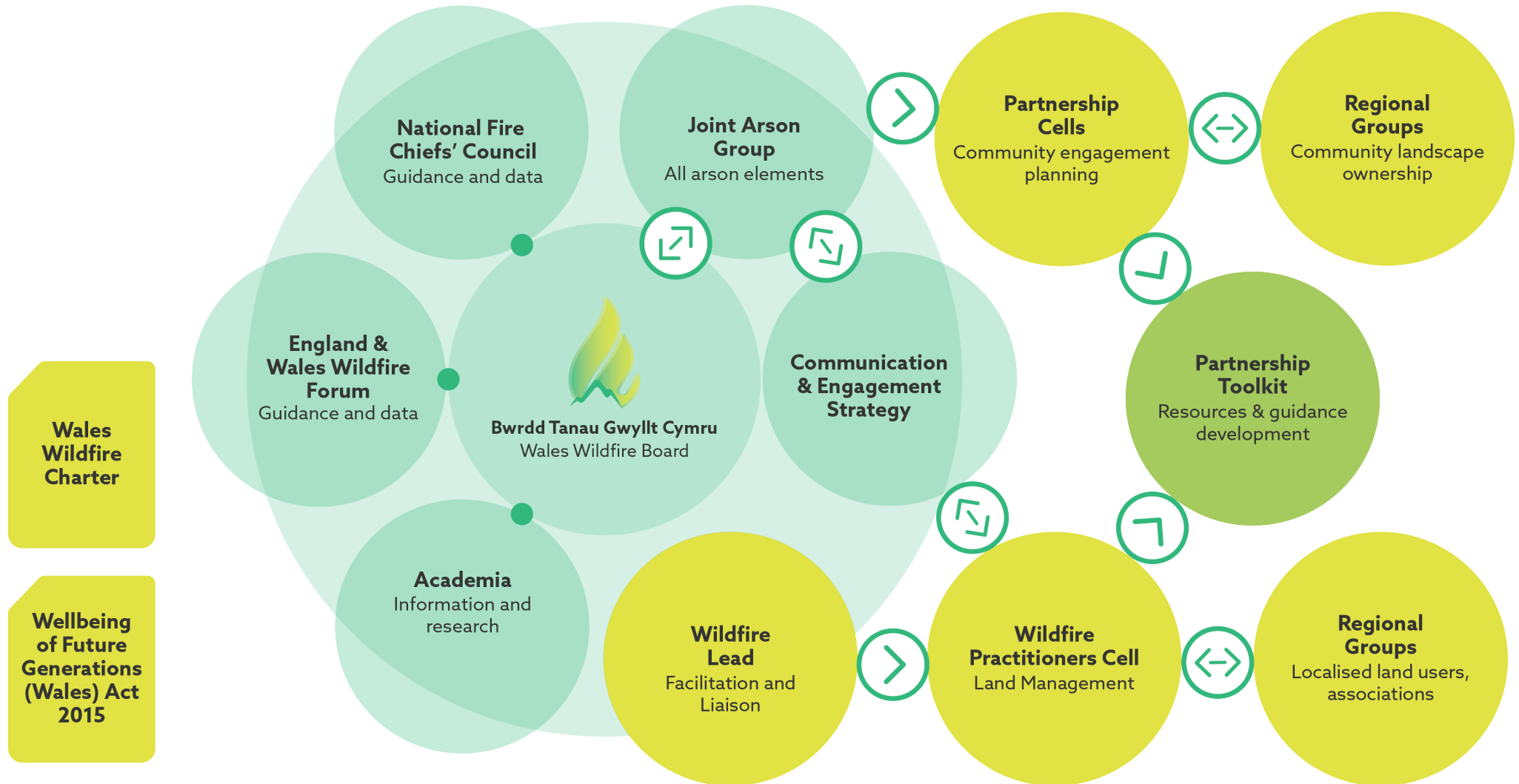
Commitment 3



Prevention and
Protection



Wales Wildfire Board Charter



Commitment 1



Partnership





Through an evolving partnership approach, we will bring together Welsh Government, Emergency Services, Public and Private Organisations, Landowners and Land Users to manage and develop our landscape.

Through leadership, collaboration and communication we will:

Understand and recognise each others impacts to develop a range of early interventions.

Deliver a one voice approach to wildfire messaging, awareness and education across Wales.

Have a better understanding of wildfire risk management across Wales.

Change perceptions and create a wildfire wise Wales.

Understand and recognise each others impacts to develop a range of early interventions

To understand and recognise each other's impacts and develop a range of early interventions for wildfires in Wales, it is important for partners to work collaboratively and communicate effectively.

We will achieve this by:

Risk assessment: We will conduct a comprehensive risk assessment of the wildfire problem in Wales, including the factors that contribute to wildfires, the potential impacts, and the existing interventions. This will help all partners understand the risks and impacts of wildfires in the region.

Identify and engage stakeholders: We will identify all relevant and new stakeholders, including community groups, local authorities, agencies, and private sector organisations. We will engage with these stakeholders to understand their needs, concerns, and perspectives on wildfire prevention and intervention.

Shared understanding: Develop a shared understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each partner in wildfire prevention and intervention. This will help ensure that all partners are aware of each other's impacts and can work together to develop early interventions.

Collaboration and knowledge sharing: Foster collaboration and knowledge sharing among partners by creating opportunities for them to work together and learn from each other. This could include joint projects, training workshops, and regular meetings to discuss progress and share best practices.

Early intervention strategies: Based on the risk assessment and the shared understanding of roles and responsibilities, develop a range of early intervention strategies that address the specific needs and concerns of each partner. These could include community education and awareness campaigns, vegetation management, early detection and reporting systems, and coordinated response plans.

Monitor and evaluate progress: Regularly monitor and evaluate the progress of the early intervention strategies to ensure that they are effective and that all partners are contributing to the effort.

By taking these steps, all partners can understand and recognise each other's impacts and work together to develop effective early interventions for wildfires in Wales.



Deliver a one voice approach to wildfire messaging, awareness and education across Wales

To deliver a one-voice approach to wildfire messaging, awareness, and education across Wales, it is essential to bring together all relevant stakeholders and work collaboratively.

We will achieve this by:

Working group review: We will review our working group composition of relevant stakeholders, including fire and rescue services, local authorities, landowners, community groups, and other organisations. The group will continue to develop and implement a consistent and coordinated approach to wildfire messaging, awareness, and education across Wales.

Shared understanding: Develop a shared understanding of the wildfire problem in Wales, including the factors that contribute to wildfires, the potential impacts, and the existing interventions. This will help ensure that all stakeholders are on the same page and can work together to develop consistent messaging and education materials.

Comprehensive strategy: We will develop a comprehensive strategy for wildfire messaging, awareness and education that outlines the specific actions, roles, and responsibilities of each stakeholder. The strategy should also include a clear plan for resource allocation and a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating progress.

Collaboration and knowledge sharing: We will foster collaboration and knowledge sharing among stakeholders by creating opportunities for them to work together and learn from each other. This could include joint projects, training workshops and regular meetings to discuss progress and share best practices.

Consistent messaging and education materials: Through the Operation Dawns Glaw campaign, we will develop consistent messaging and education materials that are tailored to different audiences, including the general public, landowners, and visitors to Wales. These materials will be developed with input from all stakeholders with consistency across all channels, including social media, websites, and signage.

Monitor and evaluate progress: We will regularly monitor and evaluate the progress of the wildfire messaging, awareness, and education strategy to ensure that it is effective and that all stakeholders are contributing to the effort.

By taking these steps, together we can deliver a one-voice approach to wildfire messaging, awareness, and education across Wales, ensuring that we are working together to prevent and mitigate the impact of wildfires in the region.





Have a better understanding of wildfire risk management across Wales

To have a better understanding of wildfire risk management across Wales, partners can take the following steps:

Risk assessment: We will conduct a comprehensive risk assessment of the wildfire problem in Wales, including the factors that contribute to wildfires, the potential impacts, and the existing interventions. This will help partners understand the risks and impacts of wildfires in the region.

Shared understanding: We will develop a shared understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each partner in wildfire risk management. This will help ensure that all partners are aware of each other's contributions to the effort and can work together to develop effective risk management strategies.

Collaboration and knowledge sharing: We will foster collaboration and knowledge sharing among partners by creating opportunities for them to work together and learn from each other. This could include joint projects, training workshops and regular meetings to discuss progress and share best practices.

Wildfire risk management strategy: We will develop this based on the risk assessment and the shared understanding of roles and responsibilities, develop a comprehensive wildfire risk management strategy that outlines the specific actions, roles, and responsibilities of each partner. The strategy should also include a clear plan for resource allocation and a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating progress.

Early intervention strategies: We will develop and implement a range of early intervention strategies that address the specific needs and concerns of each partner. These could include community education and awareness campaigns, vegetation management, early detection and reporting systems and coordinated response plans.

Monitor and evaluate progress: We will regularly monitor and evaluate the progress of the wildfire risk management strategy to ensure that it is effective and that all partners are contributing to the effort.

By taking these steps, partners can have a better understanding of wildfire risk management across Wales and work together to prevent and mitigate the impact of wildfires in the region.

Change perceptions and create a wildfire wise Wales

To achieve this, it is important to engage with communities and stakeholders across the region to build awareness, understanding, and support for wildfire risk management.

This will include:

Operation Dawns Glow: The maintenance and evolution of this campaign will continue to educate communities and stakeholders about the risks and impacts of wildfires in Wales. We will also ensure that it is tailored to different audiences and delivered through a variety of channels, including social media, websites and public meetings.

Community engagement: Engagement with communities across Wales to build awareness and support for wildfire risk management methodologies. This will include working with community groups, holding public meetings, and partnering with local organisations to develop targeted education and outreach initiatives.

Best practice: The promotion of best practices is essential for wildfire prevention and mitigation, including vegetation management, early detection and reporting, and coordinated response plans. This will be done through education and outreach initiatives that engage with landowners, local authorities and other stakeholders.

Collaboration: Increased collaboration among stakeholders will continue to build a shared understanding of wildfire risks and develop effective risk management strategies. This will include joint projects, training workshops and regular meetings to discuss progress and share best practices.

Community Empowerment: Empowering communities to take action on wildfire risk management by providing them with the information, tools, and resources they need to reduce risks in their own neighbourhoods. This will include providing guidance on vegetation management, early detection and reporting and community response/ownership plans.

Monitor and evaluate progress: Regularly monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of wildfire awareness and risk management initiatives to ensure that they are having the desired impact and making a positive difference in reducing wildfire risks.

By taking these steps, it is possible to change perceptions and create a wildfire-wise Wales that is better prepared to prevent and mitigate the impact of wildfires in the region.



Commitment 2



Environmental and
Community Resilience





We will contribute to management of our landscape to protect wildlife, forestry, and livelihoods, improve wellbeing, health, and amenity, facilitate sustainable food production and create sense of place and community ownership.

We will enhance the landscape in Wales by:

Managing the number, scale and severity (and impact) of wildfire incidents.

Adapting to nature and climate developments and restoring connections to green space and community.

Supporting cleaner air and protecting natural and heritage resources.

Protecting our carbon sources in soil and woodlands.



Managing the number, scale and severity (and impact) of wildfire incidents

Managing the number, scale, severity, and impact of wildfire incidents requires a comprehensive approach that focuses on prevention, early detection and rapid response.

Key strategies for managing wildfire incidents are:

Vegetation management: We will contribute to the reduction vegetation fuel available to wildfires by collaborative management through activities such as prescribed burning, mechanical means and sustainable grazing support.

Early detection and reporting: We will develop and implement our system for early detection and reporting of wildfires, to allow for rapid response and containment measures.

Coordinated response: We will improve our coordinated response system bringing fire and rescue services, local authorities, and other stakeholders closer together to quickly respond to and contain wildfires.

Public education and awareness: We will continue to develop and implement a public education and awareness campaigns to educate communities about the risks and impacts of wildfires, how to prevent them and how to respond in the event of a wildfire.

Risk assessment and planning: We will localise our risk assessments of the wildfire problem in the region and develop a comprehensive wildfire risk management plan that outlines the specific actions, roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder.

Preparedness and training: We will continue to ensure that fire and rescue services, local authorities, and other stakeholders are trained and prepared to respond to wildfires, including developing and implementing response plans, conducting regular training exercises, and having the necessary equipment and resources in place for wildfire resilience.

Monitoring and evaluation: We will regularly monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of wildfire management strategies and initiatives to identify areas for improvement and refine the approach over time.

By implementing these strategies, it is possible to manage the number, scale, severity, and impact of wildfire incidents in a way that minimizes the risks to communities and the environment.



Adapting to nature and climate developments and restoring connections to green space and community

To adapt to nature and climate developments and restore connections to green space and community while reducing uncontrolled vegetation burning, it is important to take a multi-faceted approach that focuses on community engagement, land management, and climate-smart practices.

Some key strategies are:

Community engagement: We will increase engagement with local communities to build awareness and support for nature conservation and wildfire risk management. This could include holding public meetings, partnering with local organisations and developing targeted education and outreach initiatives.

Land management: We will develop and implement a land management support plan that promotes biodiversity, reduces the risk of wildfires and restores connections to green space and community. This will include activities such as vegetation management, sustainable farming, reforestation and habitat restoration.

Climate-smart practices: We will adopt more climate-smart practices that help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase resilience to climate change, and promote sustainable land use. This could include practices such as agroforestry, renewable energy and sustainable agriculture.

Fire prevention and management: We will develop and implement a fire prevention and management plan that reduces the risk of uncontrolled vegetation burning while preserving biodiversity and natural resources. This will include activities such as prescribed burning, early detection and reporting, and coordinated response planning.

Restoration and regeneration: We will undertake restoration and regeneration projects that restore degraded landscapes, improve soil health, and promote biodiversity. This will include projects such as reforestation, erosion control, and wetland restoration.

By implementing these strategies, it is possible to adapt to nature and climate developments while restoring connections to green space and community and reducing uncontrolled vegetation burning. These strategies not only promote sustainable land use but also help to reduce the risk of wildfires and promote resilience to climate change.

Supporting cleaner air and protecting natural and heritage resources

To support cleaner air and protect natural and heritage resources while reducing the risk of wildfires, it is important to take a comprehensive approach that focuses on reducing emissions, promoting sustainable land use, and preserving natural and cultural resources.

Key strategies are:

Promoting sustainable land use: We will encourage and support sustainable land use practices that reduce the risk of wildfires, promote biodiversity, and protect natural and cultural resources. This will include activities such as sustainable agriculture, agroforestry and eco-tourism.

Reducing emissions: We will support the reduction of emissions from activities such as transport, energy production, and agriculture, which contribute to air pollution and climate change. This will include initiatives such as promoting electric vehicles, increasing renewable energy production and improving agricultural practices.

Preserving natural and cultural resources: We will support the protection and preservation of natural and cultural resources, such as forests, wetlands and heritage sites, that are vulnerable to wildfires and other environmental threats. This will include initiatives such as habitat restoration, cultural heritage preservation and the tactical mapping of protected areas.

Education and awareness: We will develop and implement public education and awareness campaigns that promote cleaner air, sustainable land use, and the protection of natural and cultural resources. This will include initiatives such as community outreach programs, school education and targeted public messaging.

Monitoring and evaluation: We will regularly monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of these strategies in protecting natural and cultural resources, reducing emissions, and promoting sustainable land use and refine the approach over time.

By implementing these strategies, it is possible to support cleaner air and protect natural and heritage resources while reducing the risk of wildfires. These strategies promote sustainable land use practices, reduce emissions, and preserve natural and cultural resources, creating a healthier and more resilient environment for communities and future generations.





Protecting our carbon sources in soil and woodlands

Protecting carbon sources in soil and woodlands is crucial for mitigating climate change and promoting carbon sequestration.

Strategies for achieving this are:

Protecting woodland areas: One key way to protect carbon sources in woodlands is to avoid deforestation and forest degradation. This can be achieved through forest conservation efforts, including the establishment of protected areas and sustainable forest management practices.

Promoting sustainable agriculture: Sustainable agricultural practices can also help protect carbon sources in soil. These practices include no-till farming, cover cropping, and the use of organic fertilizers, which help to maintain soil health and prevent carbon loss.

Restoring degraded areas: We will support the restoration of degraded areas, such as abandoned agricultural land and degraded forests, this will also help to protect carbon sources in soil and woodlands. This will be achieved through reforestation, restoration of degraded wetlands and other initiatives that promote the recovery of natural ecosystems.

Managing wildfires: Managing wildfires is also important for protecting carbon sources in soil and woodlands. This will be achieved through proactive measures such as fuel reduction, prescribed burning and effective wildfire suppression.

Promoting public awareness: We understand that promoting public awareness about the importance of protecting carbon sources in soil and woodlands is crucial for achieving long-term success. This will be achieved through public education campaigns, community outreach efforts and other initiatives that help to raise awareness and encourage action.

By implementing these strategies, it is possible to protect carbon sources in soil and woodlands, promoting carbon sequestration and mitigating the impacts of climate change. These strategies can help to maintain healthy ecosystems, protect biodiversity, and promote sustainable development for communities and future generations.

Commitment 3



Prevention and
Protection





We will implement a diverse range of management techniques to reduce the impact of wildfire on our communities and the landscape in Wales.

We will do this collaboratively to:

Adopt and support a Landscape Management approach to Wildfire Risk Management.

Share knowledge and provide training through a Wales-wide collaboration network.

Create a multi-functional Fire Risk Map and a toolkit for preventative land management techniques.

Reduce uncontrolled wildfire numbers and severity by sharing resources and implementing prevention measures.



Adopt and support a Landscape Management approach to Wildfire Risk Management

Adopting a Landscape Management approach to Wildfire Risk Management involves a holistic approach to managing the land and reducing the risk of wildfires.

Key steps for adopting and supporting this approach are:

Landscape Assessment: Assessment and localised mapping of the landscape to identify areas that are most vulnerable to wildfire is important for success. This includes mapping fuel loads, identifying areas with high wildfire potential, identifying development opportunities and assessing the overall health and resilience of the landscape.

Prevention Strategies: Development of a range of prevention strategies to reduce the risk of wildfires. This includes fuel reduction measures, creating fire breaks and collaborative land manager support.

Community Ownership: Engaging with communities and stakeholders to raise awareness about wildfire risks and the importance of landscape management. This includes developing cohesive education and outreach programs to help people understand the risks of wildfire and the actions they can take to protect themselves and their property.

Early Warning and Detection Systems: Further usage of existing and innovative early warning and detection systems to provide advanced warning of potential wildfires. This includes investing in technology, such as remote sensing and weather monitoring systems, to help detect fires early.

Emergency Response Planning: Development of comprehensive emergency response plans to ensure that resources are available to respond quickly and effectively to wildfires. This includes coordinating with emergency services, sharing resources, developing evacuation plans, and establishing communication systems.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Regularly monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of wildfire management strategies. This includes conducting post-fire assessments to identify areas for improvement and adapting strategies to changing conditions through a range of sources.

By adopting a Landscape Management approach to Wildfire Risk Management, it is possible to reduce the risk of wildfires, protect communities and the environment, and promote sustainable land management practices. This approach requires a collaborative effort between partnership members, communities, and other stakeholders to achieve long-term success.



Share knowledge and provide training through a Wales-wide collaboration network

Sharing knowledge and providing training through a Wales-wide collaboration network can be achieved through the following steps:

Establish a Collaborative Network: Bringing together stakeholders from various organisations involved in wildfire risk management in Wales, including new and existing partners, academic institutions, and community groups; establishing a network to facilitate communication and collaboration between these stakeholders.

Identify Knowledge Gaps and Training Needs: To conduct a needs assessment to identify knowledge gaps and training needs across the network. This includes identifying areas where training is required and determining the best methods and people to deliver the training.

Develop Training Materials: Development of training materials that address the identified knowledge gaps and training needs. These materials will be tailored to meet the specific needs of each group within the network.

Deliver Training: Delivery of training through a range of methods, including workshops, webinars, and online resources, ensuring that training is accessible to all stakeholders within the network and that it is delivered in a manner that is appropriate and effective for the intended audience.

Monitor and Evaluate: Monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of the training provided. This will include assessing the impact of the training on participants' knowledge and skills and identifying areas for improvement.

Share Knowledge and Best Practices: To establish a platform for sharing knowledge and best practices across the network. This could include a knowledge-sharing portal, repository or regular multi-level meetings to share experiences and learn from one another.

By establishing a collaborative network, identifying knowledge gaps and training needs, developing appropriate training materials, and delivering training through various methods, stakeholders can work together to build their capacity and improve wildfire risk management practices in Wales. Sharing knowledge and best practices will also help to strengthen collaboration, build trust, and promote a shared vision for wildfire risk management.

Create a multi-functional Fire Risk Map and a toolkit for preventative land management techniques

Creating a multi-functional Fire Risk Map and a toolkit for preventative land management techniques can be achieved through the following steps:

Identify Relevant Data: Gathering relevant data on factors that contribute to wildfire risk, such as weather conditions, vegetation types, topography and land use patterns. Data will be obtained from various sources, such as satellite imagery, ground surveys and historical incident information.

Develop a Risk Assessment Framework: Developing a risk assessment framework that integrates the data collected to identify areas at high risk of wildfire. The framework will consider the likelihood and potential impact of a wildfire in each area.

Create a Fire Risk Map: Use the risk assessment framework to create a multi-functional Fire Risk Map that provides an overview of the areas at high risk of wildfire. The map should be user-friendly, easily accessible and regularly updated with new data.

Develop a Toolkit for Preventative Land Management Techniques: Development of a toolkit that provides practical guidance on land management techniques that can reduce the risk of wildfires. This toolkit will be based on best practices and include a range of techniques, such as prescribed burning, vegetation management and fire break protection.

Pilot the Fire Risk Map and Toolkit: 'Test bedding' the Fire Risk Map and Toolkit in selected areas to test their effectiveness and gather feedback from stakeholders. The pilot should involve a range of stakeholders, including landowners, local communities, and wildfire management agencies.

Refine and Finalise the Fire Risk Map and Toolkit: Refinement of the Fire Risk Map and Toolkit based on the feedback received during the pilot; finalising the map and toolkit, ensuring that they are user-friendly, accessible and tailored to the needs of different stakeholders.

Launch the Fire Risk Map and Toolkit: Launch the Fire Risk Map and Toolkit through a range of channels, such as online portals, workshops, and training sessions. Ensure that the map and toolkit are widely promoted and accessible to all stakeholders involved in wildfire risk management in Wales.

By creating a multi-functional Fire Risk Map and a toolkit for preventative land management techniques, stakeholders can identify areas at high risk of wildfire and implement targeted land management strategies to reduce this risk. The map and toolkit can be used to inform land management decisions, target resources, and raise awareness of the importance of preventative measures in reducing the impact of wildfires in Wales.





Reduce uncontrolled wildfire numbers and severity by sharing resources and implementing prevention measures

To reduce uncontrolled wildfire numbers and severity by sharing resources and implementing prevention measures, the following steps will be taken:

Redevelopment of the Collaborative Approach: Improved, up to date, development of a collaborative approach to wildfire management that involves all stakeholders. This approach will aim to identify areas at high risk of wildfires and develop strategies to prevent their occurrence.

Share Resources: Sharing of resources, such as firefighting equipment, personnel, skills, and expertise, between stakeholders to respond effectively to wildfires. This will be through the creation of regional resource centres that provide tactical equipment availability and multi-agency personnel that can be deployed quickly to areas experiencing wildfires.

Implement Prevention Measures: Implementation of planned prevention measures, such as prescribed burning, vegetation management, and fire breaks, to reduce the risk of wildfires. These measures will be targeted at high-risk areas identified through the collaborative approach.

Develop Early Warning Systems: Development of early warning systems that use real-time data and weather forecasts to identify potential wildfire risk. These communication systems will be used to alert stakeholders to take preventative measures and deploy resources quickly to areas where wildfires are likely to occur.

Raise Awareness: Raising awareness of the risks of wildfires and the importance of preventative measures. This will include education campaigns targeted at different stakeholders and using various channels, such as social media, community meetings and school programs.

Monitor and Evaluate: Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of prevention measures and the collaborative approach. This will include tracking wildfire numbers, severity and causes over time, assessing the effectiveness of prevention measures and gathering feedback from stakeholders.

By sharing resources and implementing prevention measures, stakeholders can reduce the occurrence and severity of wildfires in Wales. A collaborative approach that involves all stakeholders can identify high-risk areas and develop effective strategies to prevent wildfires. Early warning systems can be used to respond quickly to potential wildfire risk, while awareness campaigns can help to raise public awareness of the importance of prevention measures. Regular monitoring and evaluation can ensure that prevention measures are effective and identify areas for improvement.



