

By email

Dear Anna

With regard to the above consultation, I can confirm that Snowdonia National Park Authority are fully supportive of the scheme. Snowdonia National Park has been fortunate to benefit from this funding – and the projects will clearly benefit electricity consumers (both locals and visitors from areas throughout the UK and beyond) through the mitigation of the landscape and visual impacts of existing transmission infrastructure.

In addition to the mitigation of visual impacts, it is anticipated that the projects will also create improved biodiversity, connectivity, economic activity (particularly for local contractors e.g. dry stone wallers) and better partnership working and community cohesion.

Whilst we are very supportive of this funding and would wish this to continue into the future, we do however have concerns about the length of time it took to approve the grants and the general level of bureaucracy involved. The efficient approval of such grants is important – the time of staff and volunteers have to be allocated to implement such projects – and waiting for several months for approval of schemes is frustrating and makes planning of other projects very difficult. There are also issues such as timing of planting seasons which project delays can detrimentally impact upon too.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this initiative and we hope this fund continues for many years to come.

Regards

Jonathan Cawley

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