



Ymgyrch Diogelu Cymru Wledig Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales

NEWS RELEASE

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CPRW welcomes Minister's agriculture pollution regulations

The Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales welcomes the Minister's announcement on agri-pollution regulations this week. CPRW has long fought, alongside other organisations, for actions that enhance and protect water quality in Wales within our rivers, estuaries and seas.

While the measures announced mark a crucial step change in the approach to diffuse agricultural pollution, the problem of phosphate pollution remains unaddressed, and it must not be forgotten that other sources, including sewage discharges, are also contributors to this problem. CPRW notes that financial support is available to assist compliance and urges the Welsh Government to ensure that this is sufficient to encourage all farmers to move to more sustainable farming methods.

Jon Parker, CEO of CPRW said: "While Minister Griffiths has acted decisively, it is unfortunate that the voluntary approaches put forward to Welsh Government were not given a fair trial before this statutory approach had to be introduced.

As an independent organisation that advocates for the protection of Wales's rural communities, landscape and environment, CPRW's position on all matters of river pollution is one of a reduction to incidents and while agriculture has been a contributor, it is important that it is not singled out as the only offender."

Jonty Colchester, Chair of CPRW, further commented: "Farming is a dominant feature of our landscape and of our rural communities in Wales and must reflect the sustainable management of our key natural resources.

"The announcement of these agricultural pollution regulations on the same day as the launch of The State of Natural Resources Report 2020 is a very welcome demonstration that the Welsh Government is truly committed to practical action to start to address the climate and nature emergencies that face us, and the land uses involved. In particular, this sends a clear message to local planning authorities that applications for new intensive livestock units must comply with the aims of the Regulations. Taking everyone with us on the journey to a sustainable future in rural Wales is essential to achieving success and we urge all parties concerned to work towards the integrated approach required to achieve this."



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"Standing up for the people and places of rural Wales"

CPRW is a charity registered in England and Wales. Charity number: 239899
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- Notes for Editors: The Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales (CPRW) established in 1928 and Wales' foremost countryside Charity. Through its work as an environmental watchdog it aims to secure the protection and improvement of the rural landscape, environment and the well being of those living in the rural areas of Wales.  www.cprw.org.uk

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