

SUBJECT: Gwent Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA)

03.12.25 – Gwent PSB Scrutiny Committee

11.12.25 – Gwent Public Services Board

Report written and submitted by:

Steve Morgan, Head of SE Operations, Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

Dr Alan Netherwood, Netherwood Sustainable Futures (NSF)

1	Purpose of Report
	To provide a briefing from the Climate Risk Leadership Seminar on 4 November 2025. The seminar was the first step of the Gwent Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) which is delivered under the 'Climate & Nature' Area of Focus (AoF): <i>That everyone lives in a climate-ready community where their environment is valued and protected</i>
2	Background
2.1	The Climate and Nature Area of Focus Progress Report was discussed in the June PSB meeting and the following recommendation was approved: <i>To provide the leadership needed to support and enable a PSB Climate & Nature service leads/senior managers workshop in early Autumn 2025, to start improving the effectiveness of collaborative delivery to address the climate and nature emergencies in Gwent.</i>
2.2	In August, to support the Progress Report recommendation, Steve Morgan, Climate & Nature AoF Lead, confirmed that he was committing £100k from NRW budgets, this financial year, to support and enable the collaborative development of a Gwent CCRA and provide the leadership needed to address the climate and nature emergencies in Gwent.
2.3	A collaborative CCRA will inform a regional Climate Adaptation Plan and support local delivery, to ensure Gwent's infrastructure, transport systems, service delivery and community health and well-being are resilient to Gwent's changing climate and the impacts of more frequent and intense flooding, droughts and heatwaves. The CCRA will provide evidence for the PSB's next well-being assessment in 2026-27.
2.4	Following a competitive tender exercise run by NRW, the CCRA contract (Oct 2025 – Mar 2026) was awarded to Netherwood Sustainable Futures (NSF). Officers from across our organisations have formed the Contract Steering Group which oversee delivery of the CCRA contract. Our officers are working collaboratively to support the contractors with local intelligence, expertise and insights.
2.5	The first step of the CCRA was the Climate Risk Leadership Seminar on 4 November. It was agreed at the June PSB meeting that this, and subsequent Leadership Seminars (Feb and Mar 2026), are attended by those with the authority to make the required strategic decisions, or to commit resources, to deliver our organisations' shared climate and biodiversity priorities through regional collaboration, to support co-ordinated, local delivery.
3	Climate Risk Leadership Seminar on 4 November 2026

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	Please see Appendices – Briefing Note and PowerPoint slides to inform the Gwent PSB on the outputs from the Climate Risk Leadership Seminar.
4	Recommendations to the PSB Scrutiny Committee
4.1	Note and discuss the outputs from the Climate Risk Leadership Seminar.
4.2	Provide comments and/or recommendations for the PSB to consider.
5	Recommendations to the PSB
5.1	Note and discuss the outputs from the Climate Risk Leadership Seminar.
5.2	Provide comments and/or recommendations for the Climate & Nature AoF Lead and CCRA contractor (NSF) to consider.
5.3	Support the June PSB commitment that CCRA Leadership Seminars (Feb and Mar 2026) are attended by those with the authority to make the required strategic decisions, or to commit resources, to deliver our organisations' shared climate and biodiversity priorities through regional collaboration, to support co-ordinated, local delivery.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Briefing Note to inform Gwent PSB – Climate Risk Leadership Seminar 1

Appendix 2: Climate Risk Leadership Seminar PowerPoint slides

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