



SAFLE TREFTADAETH Y BYD
Llechi Cymru
Wales Slate
WORLD HERITAGE SITE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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Tirwedd Llechi Gogledd
Orllewin Cymru
Cofrestrwyd ar Restr
Treftadaeth y Byd yn 2021

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01. Introduction

The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales was inscribed as a World Heritage Site by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee on 28 July, 2021. The committee was held in Fuzhou, China, and the meeting was broadcast live to the National Slate Museum in Llanberis.

The inscription makes us the 33rd World Heritage Site in the UK, and the fourth in Wales, together with the Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd, Blaenavon Industrial Landscape and the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal.



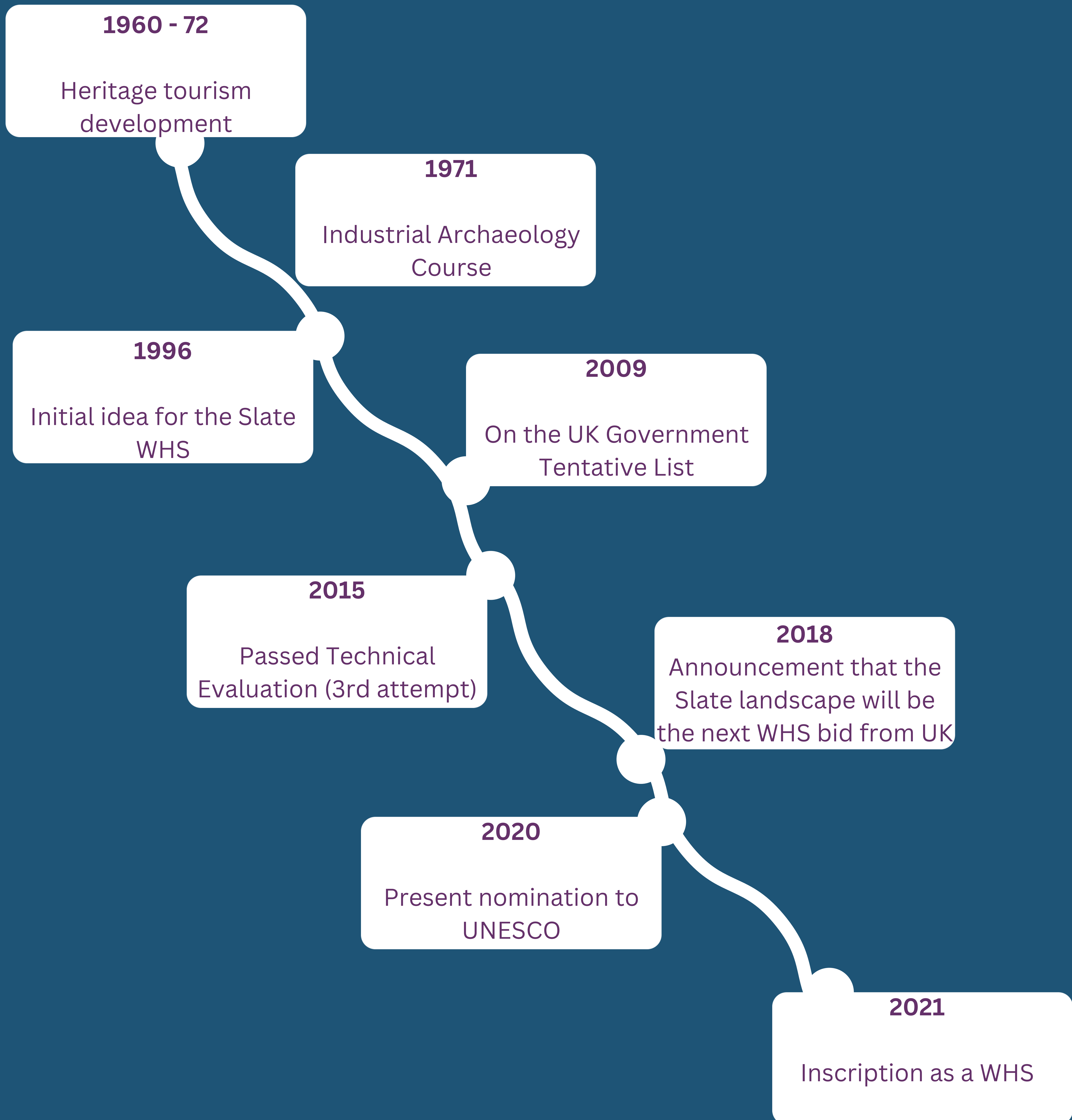
There was a great deal of media attention following the announcement, from news and radio programmes to the 'One Show' and 'This Morning', and a vast number of newspaper articles published in all parts of the world. There was also a great deal of social media attention, with the accounts of the UK National Commission only reaching over 1.2m people across their platforms.

The interest in our landscape continues with enquiries reaching us consistently for interviews, quotes, statistics and locations from individuals and companies from across the world.

02. Background

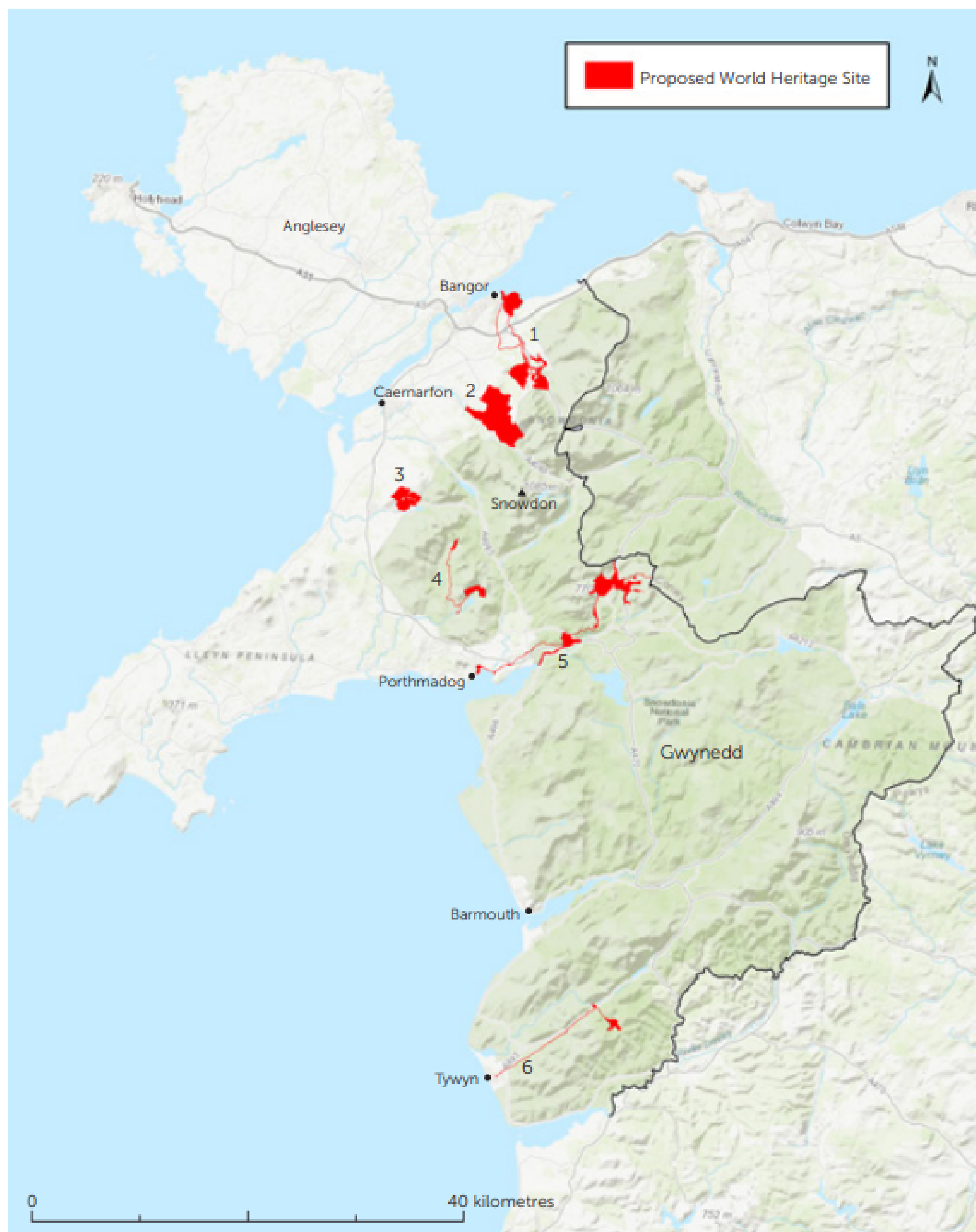
Timeline

Securing the World Heritage status has been a long process, with the initial idea discussed back in the mid nineties, developing the nomination did not happen overnight, and in the same manner, the benefits deriving from the designation will also take time.



The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales World Heritage Site Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

An outstanding example of an industrial landscape, formed by the excavation and mining of slate, and transported to national and international markets. From 1780 to 1940, the industry dominated world production of roofing slates, transforming both the environment and the communities who lived and worked in the mountains of Eryri.



The World Heritage Site has been inscribed on two criteria:

Criterion ii: The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales exhibits an important interchange, particularly in the period from 1780 to 1940, on developments in architecture and technology.

Criterion iv: The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales is an outstanding example of stone quarrying and mining landscape which illustrates the extent of transformation of an agricultural environment during the Industrial Revolution.

A copy of the Nomination Document can be found here: [Nomination Document](#)

The World Heritage Site comprises six distinct areas, called Component Parts, that are dispersed across Gwynedd. The World Heritage Site is over 3500 hectares with the boundaries formed around the most unique elements of the slate landscape.

Why is our Slate Landscape important to the world?

- Each relevant element of the landscape is readable, visible and accessible, it is possible to look at the landscape and follow the journey of slate from the rock to the world, with each step of the journey continuing to be visible around us including evidence of excavation, processing and transport, the dwellings of the workers' and their families, the homes of the quarry owners, along with the end use around us everywhere from gravestones to roofs, snooker tables and crawiau (slate fences).
- The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales demonstrates the transformation from an agricultural to an industrial society.
- The slate industry has reinforced a minority culture through international industrialisation.
- Northwest Wales was the world's largest slate exporter in the 19th Century.
- The area and the industry have exported technology, expertise and people to the world.



The Vision of the World Heritage Site

Protect, conserve, improve and convey the area's important features to reinforce the cultural uniqueness and strengthen the Welsh language, and become an important catalyst for economic regeneration and social inclusion.

The vision has been agreed by the World Heritage Site management structure, and drives all the site's work, as we work towards realising this agreed ambition. Partners have identified the following aims in order to realise the vision:

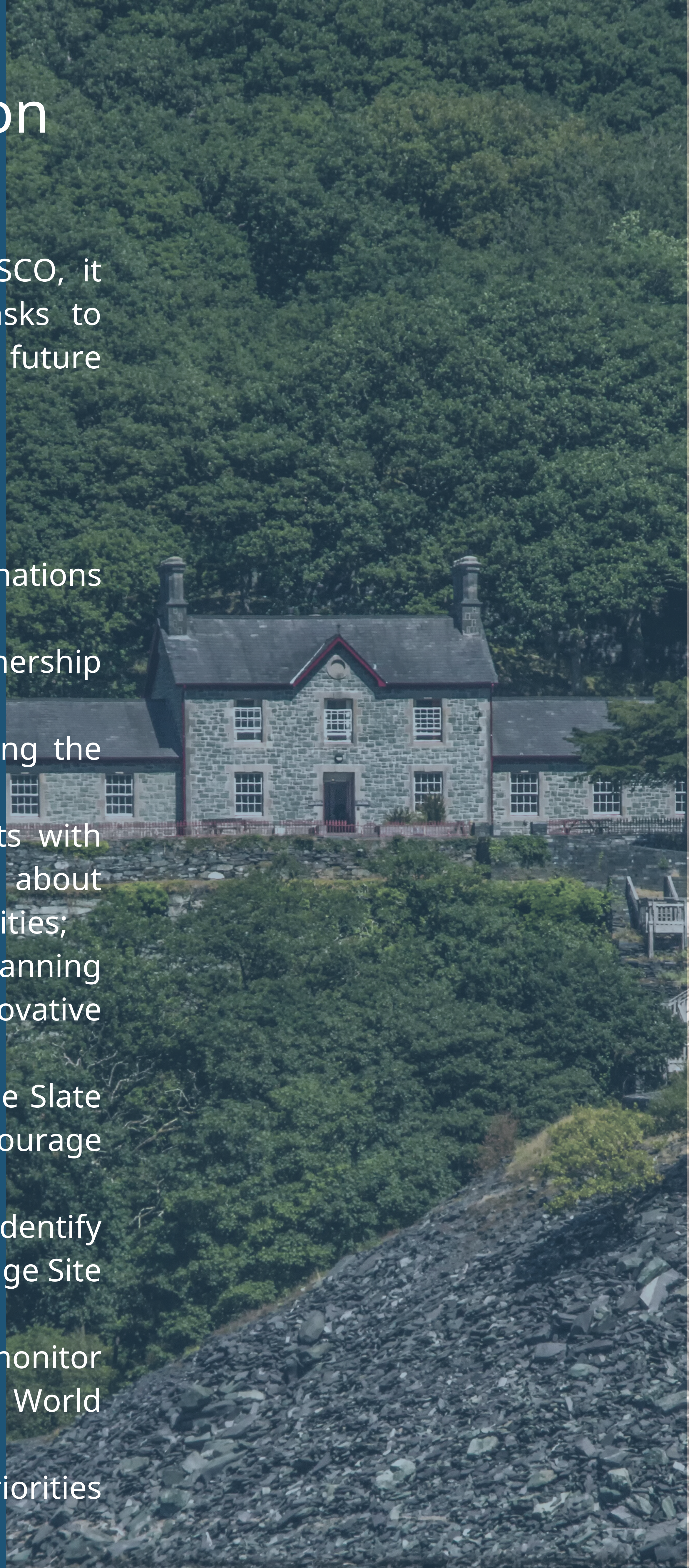
- A thriving regional economy
- Viable and lively communities that are proud of their community and heritage
- High quality skilled employment
- Tourism sector - heritage, culture, adventure and international markets
- The continuation of the slate industry
- A sustainable and living landscape
- Safeguard and improve physical heritage
- Pride in our language, culture and our role in roofing the world

Activities to reach Inscription

Before the nomination was submitted to UNESCO, it was necessary to undertake a number of tasks to ensure the sustainable and responsible future management of the Site.

The activities included:

- Undertaking a programme of statutory designations (listing, scheduling);
- Creating a Sustainable Tourism plan in partnership with the Eryri National Park Authority;
- Creating an Interpretation plan and launching the Wales Slate website;
- Community Design Guide to equip residents with information to make informed decisions about protecting the character of our slate communities;
- Developing and adopting a Supplementary Planning Guidance for the slate landscape in an innovative partnership method with landowners;
- Research regarding the safe enjoyment of the Slate Landscape, and a safety campaign to encourage visitors to prepare prior to visiting the area;
- Income generation assessment to try and identify sustainable methods to fund the World Heritage Site in the future;
- Language Baseline and arrangements to monitor the impact of activities associated with the World Heritage Site on the Welsh language;
- Economic Plan identifying the economic priorities for World Heritage Site;
- Risk Management Strategy;
- Developing Local Destination Plans for the seven slate communities identifying local regeneration priorities, and trying to identify funding sources to realise the priorities;
- LleCHI Project - a project funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund developing schemes for young people and communities using culture and heritage to regenerate, increase community confidence and strengthen the Welsh language.



Challenges since Inscription

A number of challenges face us when managing the World Heritage Site; we identify challenges and mitigation measures jointly with our partners.

The challenges include:

- Expectations have to be managed, people expect to see things happen immediately and getting benefits from the status will take time, resources and effort, and therefore it is essential to continue to work jointly in order to reach the objectives;
- The need to continue to include the voice of communities, especially members of society that are not traditionally involved with heritage;
- We have experienced an unprecedented number of visitors since inscription, that has coincided with the Covid-19 period;
- Managing people's expectations regarding access to the slate landscape is essential, although it is a World Heritage Site, this does not mean that the public have a right to have access to all parts of the site. Some areas are in private ownership, and parts of the site are dangerous due to its post-industrial nature;
- There are assumptions of a potential negative impact of the status on the Welsh language;
- A governance model that includes a broad representation of partners;
- The site's financial sustainability, receiving the status does not mean that specific funding will be received and therefore ways have to be identified to ensure future financial sustainability;
- Physical threats to the site due to climate change;
- Increase in the cost of living and energy costs.



The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales World Heritage Site Management Plan

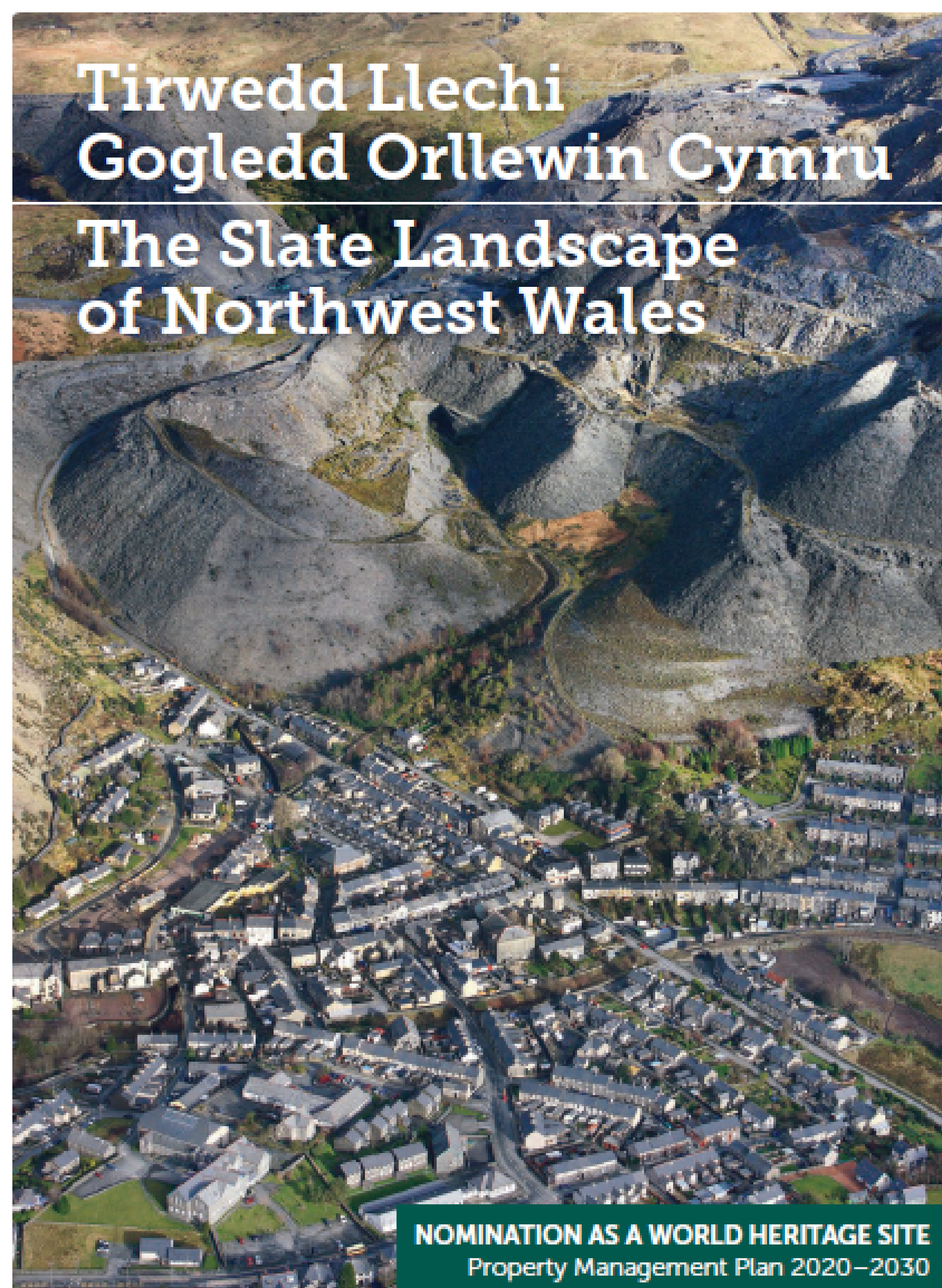
The Management Plan was submitted to UNESCO with the nomination. It is a document that outlines how we will use the status to protect and enhance the area for the benefit of communities, businesses and visitors.

The document is split into five themes, and gives guidance on the site's management for the decade following the nomination submission, namely 2020 to 2030.

The plan seeks to bring the site's management down to a local level, in coherent themes. It identifies priorities and action points for each theme, these have been identified in order to attain objectives that partners have identified for the World Heritage Site.

All the action points in the document are monitored by the Board and the relevant sub-groups, and organisations have been identified to be responsible for implementing the individual action points to ensure accountability, responsibility and progress.

A copy of the Management Plan can be seen here: [Management Plan](#)



03. Theme 1: Governance and Management

Governance and Management Achievements 2021/22:

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Strategic Partners of the World Heritage Site, namely Eryri National Park Authority, Bangor University, Cyngor Gwynedd, Welsh Government via Cadw, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, the National Trust, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust and the National Museum of Wales.

A statement of principles has been drawn up with all the site landowners stating the joint aims and the conservation and development priorities for individual sites. To correspond with the statement, Local Management Plans have been drawn-up. These are documents that follow the same format as the Property Management Plan. They have been created in partnership with site owners and managers to ensure that there is a cohesive effort in the development and management of the sites.

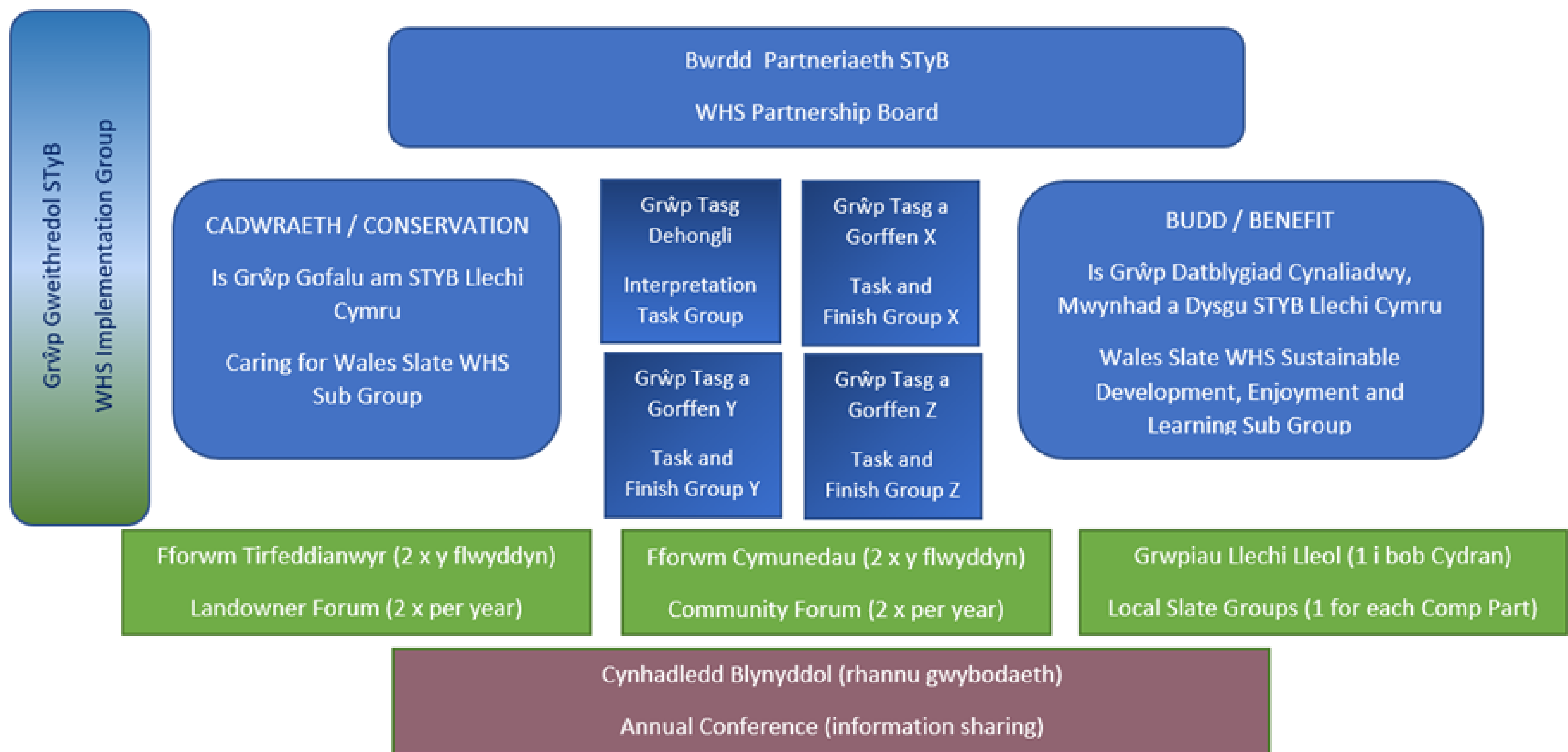
Local Management Plans have been drafted for all the elements of the World Heritage Site jointly with landowners, and the Risk Management Plan has been drawn-up for the World Heritage Site and is regularly reviewed by the Partnership Board.



Management Structure

In order to have a successful and sustainable World Heritage Site, a clear governance system is required. The governance of the site has evolved since the development of the nomination, with the new structure in place since inscription. The new structure has been designed in order to try and ensure the best possible input for communities, the public and private sectors in the structure.

Our Partnership Board includes representation from each of our Strategic Partners and is chaired by Lord Dafydd Wigley, there are two sub-groups and their purpose is to give advice to the Partnership Board on different fields, the Conservation Sub-Group and Benefitting Sub-group. Two forums are also part of the structure, namely the Landowners Forum and the Communities Forum. The structure's purpose is to ensure a voice for communities and landowners in the management of the Site.



Governance and Management Priorities for 2022/23:



- Appointment of a Northwest Wales World Heritage Site Coordinator. This will be a joint post with Cadw with responsibility for the Wales Slate World Heritage Site and the Castles of King Edward World Heirtage Site
- Review Local Management Plans with landowners to ensure that they are up to date and reflect current aspirations
- It is a requirement for every site in turn to complete an UNESCO Periodic Review, the review period of European and North America sites is during 2022/23 and therefore resources will be required to complete this work
- It is a permanent priority for us to implement and monitor progress against the key actions in the management plan, and to continue to give a voice to communities and the private sector within the Site management structure

04. Theme 2: Caring

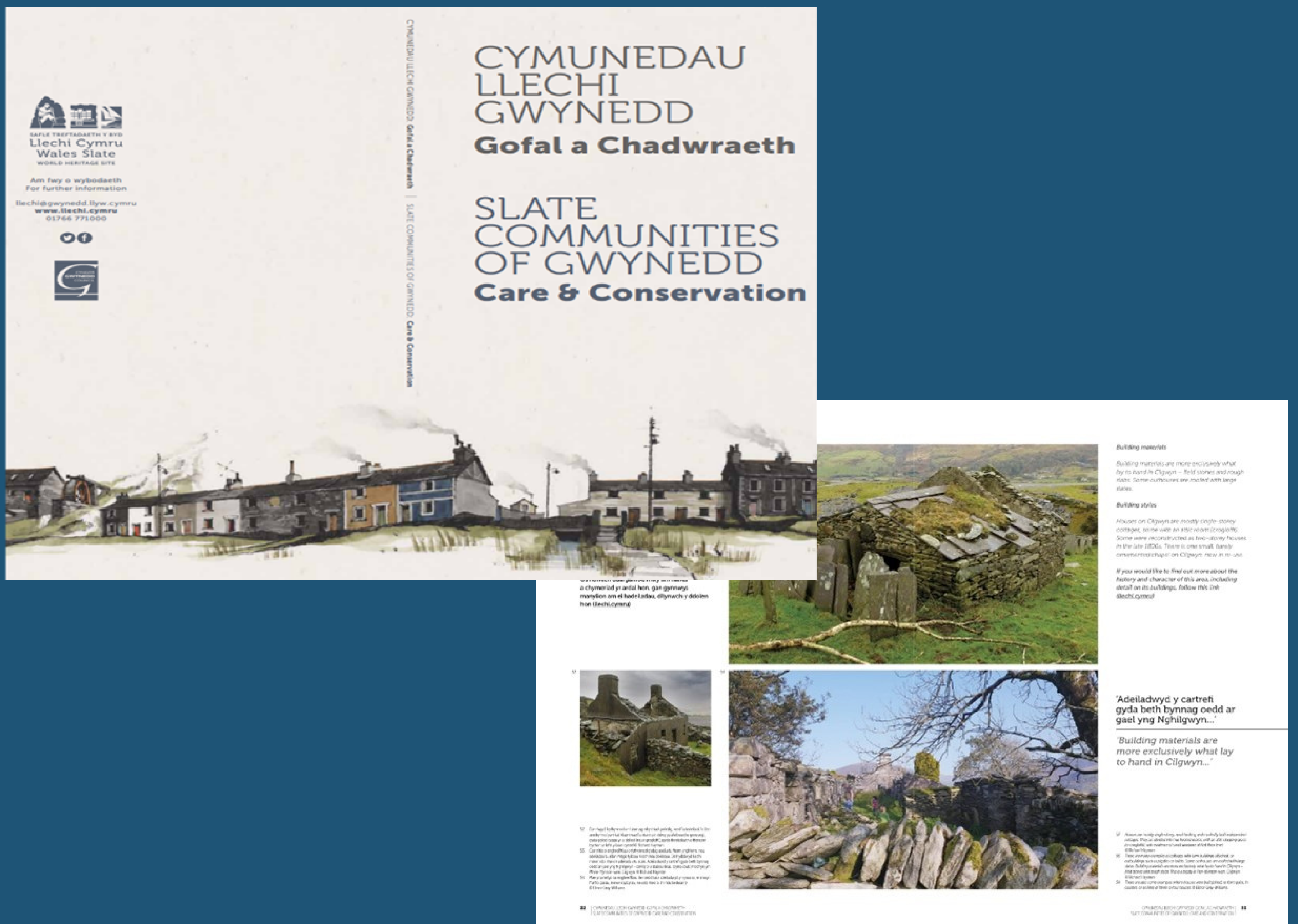
Caring Achievements 2021/22:

A Supplementary Planning Guidance has been jointly drawn-up between Cyngor Gwynedd and Eryri National Park Authority. The document was drawn up in an innovative way as the landowners of the World Heritage Site had an input to the process from the start and were an integral part of drafting the document.

A copy of the document can be seen here: [Supplementary Planning Guidance](#).

The Gwynedd Slate Communities: Care and Conservation was drawn-up to equip property owners in our slate communities to understand more about how to protect the important historical character of the slate valleys, while also working to maintain and upgrade our homes, shops or public buildings to correspond with the expectations of modern living standards.

A copy of the Gwynedd Slate Communities booklet can be seen here: [Gwynedd Slate Communities](#)



Work has also been achieved to review the Conservation Areas within the World Heritage Site to ensure that the information available is current and correct.

We have supported investigation and discovery work on sites including community archaeological sessions on the Pen y Bryn site at the Dorothea Quarry, and a visit by students from the Michigan Technological University to undertake excavation work at Ty'n Clwt, part of the Penrhyn Quarry Railway line.



Cwmorthin Quarry (CN425) designated February 2022

A programme of work to ensure statutory designations (listing, scheduling) has been undertaken. This has included revising designations that already exist to better reflect the uniqueness of the slate landscape, and also to designate new areas that previously had no statutory protection. All designation work has been undertaken in cooperation with landowners to ensure their commitment to protect our special landscape, and its most important attributes.



Penrhyn Quarry Railway and Railroad (CN415 & CN417) designated October 2022



Ffestiniog Railway (CN426) designated December 2021

A number of conservation projects have been supported via the World Heritage Site, through practical support, expertise of partners, direct financial contributions or through external funding sources. Support has been given for urgent work to protect Maenofferen Mill and Winding Hut, conservation work to Pont Marchogion and Cegin Viaduct, clearance of invasive plant species, rebuilding Tŷ Dŵr on the Talylyn Railway, and work to protect the Dorothea Quarry Beam Engine from the elements.

The work on the Dorothea Quarry Beam Engine is an example of an historic asset that has huge potential as we move forward, however, the conservation work completed this year means that the structure is now safe from the harmful impact of the weather, so that the owners can identify the most appropriate plans for the building's future. See below Highrope Access working on the Beam Engine, with financial support given to the owners by Cadw towards the work.



Caring for the Slate Landscape Priorities 2022/23:

- Adding to the series of Site guidance booklets by completing the work to create a Caring for the Slate Landscape booklet, and hold awareness raising sessions on the booklets to ensure an understanding about their purpose and content.
- Continuing to develop and implement conservation schemes across the site, and supporting partners in their conservation efforts of all scales.
- Completion of statutory designation work
- Conducting training for Elected Members, staff and those who make decisions in the planning process regarding the World Heritage Site.

05. Theme 3: Sustainable Development

Sustainable Development Achievements 2021/22:

As part of developing the Nomination, funding was secured from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig, Cronfa Eryri and Cyngor Gwynedd to develop and realise the LleCHI project. The intention of the project was to use heritage to increase confidence and pride amongst the slate communities by re-connecting people with their unique history. The scheme has brought organisations and communities together to realise a range of different schemes, including drama workshops, walks, murals, paths, websites, street banners, lectures and public art.

A Youth Ambassadors scheme was established as part of the LleCHI project, where there was an invitation for secondary age children to apply to be an Ambassador, and following this, were given an opportunity to attend events, contribute to the development of the World Heritage Site Nomination and represent the site at events, including giving presentations to an ICOMOS assessor during her visit in 2020.



Cyngor Gwynedd and the Eryri National Park Authority have developed independent Ambassadors' schemes, both with specific modules on UNESCO designations, and on the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales World Heritage Site. Both schemes have been developed to complement each other, and the completion of the courses mean a better understanding amongst our communities regarding the area's uniqueness, that can then be conveyed to other residents and visitors.

Information regarding the Gwynedd Ambassador Course can be seen here: [Gwynedd Ambassador](#)

Information regarding the Eryri Ambassador Course can be seen here: [Eryri Ambassador](#)

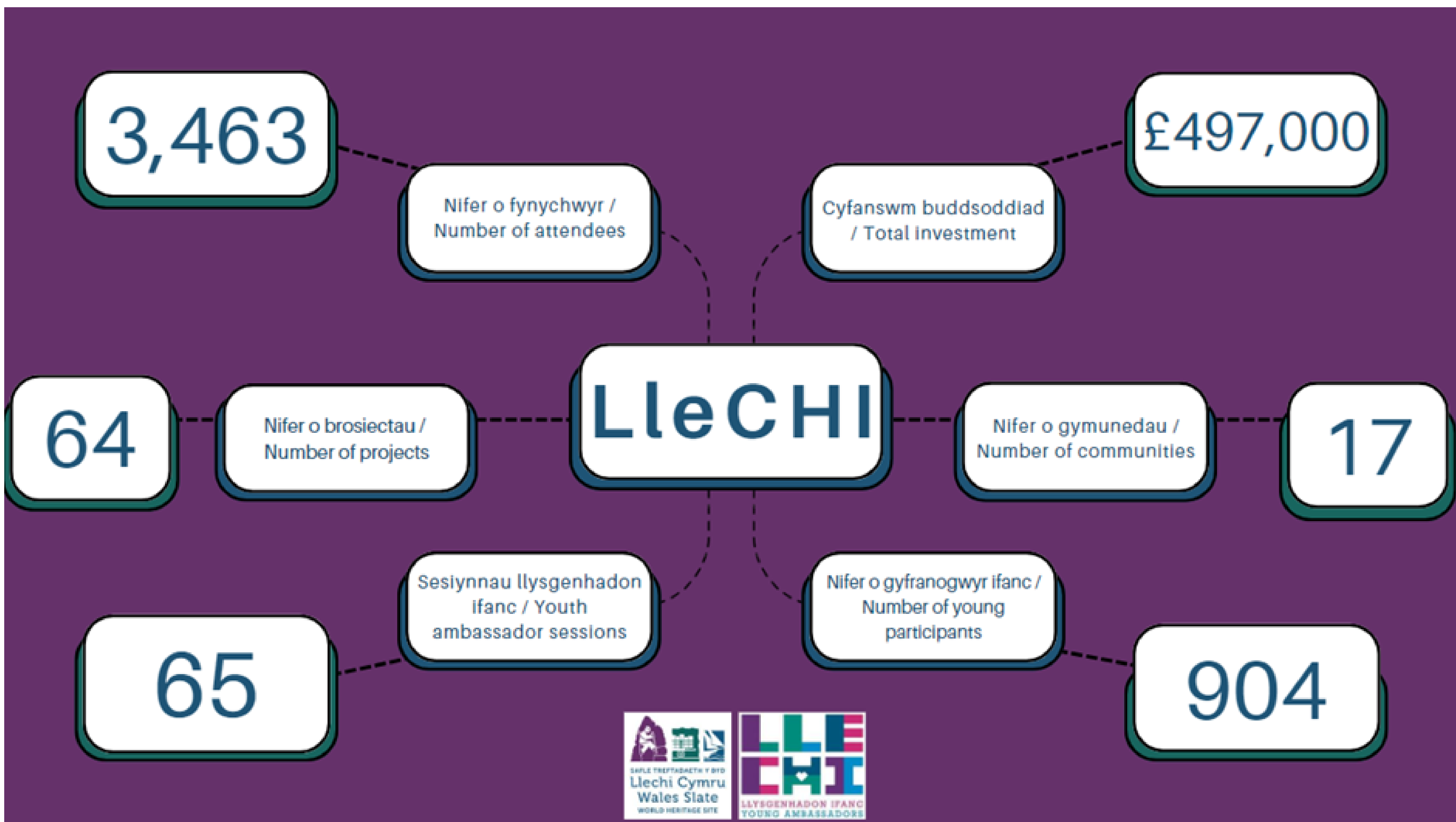
There have been various investments in our communities, via the LleCHI scheme and other grants. These investments are based on the priorities identified in the Local Destination Plans. These are documents that were developed jointly with the communities of the slate valleys via the LleCHI project in order to create a local profile, identify the strategic context and identify groups, plans and the ambitions to regenerate the area.

The Community Destination Plans for the individual areas can be viewed here:



Support has also been given to sites within the designation, be that financial support to undertake pieces of work, or practical support in terms of advice and expertise. The management structure has enabled landowners and site managers to network and foster relationships that offer an additional element of support to partners.

The LleCHI Project has now come to an end, there's a summary of the projects achievements and outputs in the diagram below. There are plans in the pipeline to develop a follow-up community scheme that will build upon the good work of LleCHI and move forward to work further with the communities and businesses of the slate landscape.



Examples of LleCHI Projects



LLANBERIS: ISAAC HUGHES

Isaac Hughes was the very first photographer to be based in Llanberis. His association with the village began as early as the 1860s. A whole attic full of his old photographic prints and glass plates were discovered in Thomas Street in the 1980s. They had been there for over 100 years. What they catalogued were the very first residents of the young village of Coed y Ddol (Llanberis) and the very first images by a photographer who had spent time with the quarrymen in their workplace.

The Lockdown allowed us to take the project much further than originally intended. A great deal of research was made into Isaac Hughes' life and paperwork. As a result, we have been able to 'name' some of the people in the photographs. This has been aided by help from three local historians and even present day locals who have identified a few of the characters photographed. The stories they tell are fascinating and each panel will convey that. Much of what we discovered was backed up by local papers at the time as well. The man pictured below for example turned out to be a famous local character called 'Hughes Druggist' after whom the bridge outside the Spar is named after.



Legend:
 - Green line: Lake Walk
 - Dashed line: Disused railway line
 - Blue line: Other paths
 - Red line: Park boundary

Llechi Cymru Wales Slate

Lake Walk

Essential information
 We want you to enjoy your visit to Padarn Country Park but please be aware that some areas of the Park can be dangerous and children should be supervised at all times.

- Only follow way-marked trails
- Do not enter buildings
- Keep away from old quarry structures
- Some paths have uneven surfaces and steep drops
- Some of the features of the Park include old quarry workings, steep woodland paths and deep waters

- 1 Start at the Giffeth Ddu information point. Bear left and cross the car park. Follow the white footprints and signs for the Quarry Hospital.
- 2 Look back across the lake to see the ruins of Dolbadarn Castle, dating from the 1200s.
- 3 Cross the bridge over the railway.
- 4 This railway line opened in 1843. It moved slate from Dinorwig to the port of P. Felinheli on the Mona Sirad. It was then shipped across the world from Liverpool.
- 5 The wooden steps lead to Dinorwig Quarry Hospital. The hospital opened in 1860 to care for quarry workers. It is now a museum. Bear left at the hospital to enter the woodland.
- 6 Pass the benches on the right. The summit of Ffynffelen can be seen from here on a clear day. The path on the left leads to the ruins of an old woolen mill and workers' cottages.
- 7 This former woolen mill was converted into a slate factory. It produced writing slates and pencils for schools.
- 8 Both paths lead to a wooden kissing gate. Cross Afton Fachew. There are disused quarries alongside the path so please take care. Slate was taken down the incline to the railway.
- 9 This path leads to Gern Dwenen, an environmental interpretation centre. Catch the train back to Giffeth Ddu ferns. Otherwise, walk around the lake to regain the path. Pass through the iron gates. This leads on to the road to take cars. Bear left to reach the end of the lake.
- 10 Cross the Pety Llyn bridge. The panoramic view on the left reveals the shape and structure of the valley. A huge flow of ice formed this landscape thousands of years ago.
- 11 Follow the road to the left. The rock outcrop next to the road is Craig y Uchaf or Union Rock. From 1874 it became the meeting place of the North Wales Quarrymen's Union. There is a plaque marking the Union's first meeting.
- 12 Look for the gap in the wall on the left. Follow the steps down to the disused track. This railway ran from Llanberis to Caernarfon.
- 13 Follow the track and pass Llyn Tan F. Pont. The railway was built by the railway. It separated this part of the lake from the main lake. This area is more sheltered than the main lake.
- 14 Pass the P. Glyn recreation area on the left to reach the main road.
- 15 Pass the village car park. Continue to the lakeside recreation area. Cross two footbridges. Follow the lakeside path. Cross the bridge over the river. This leads to the end of the trail at Giffeth Ddu car park.



LleCHI Evaluation

An independent evaluation of the LleCHI scheme was completed, this was very positive and offered constructive feedback about the project. The evaluation has also offered recommendations for activities in the future, and is an useful tool for us when forward planning.

Some observations received as part of the evaluation process:

"Continue the work with schools and communities"

"Expand the work with schools, to include all Gwynedd schools to teach children about the history and heritage of the slate industry"

"Need to ensure that the designation leads to more employment opportunities for local people"

"There is a need for something visual to celebrate and draw people's attention"

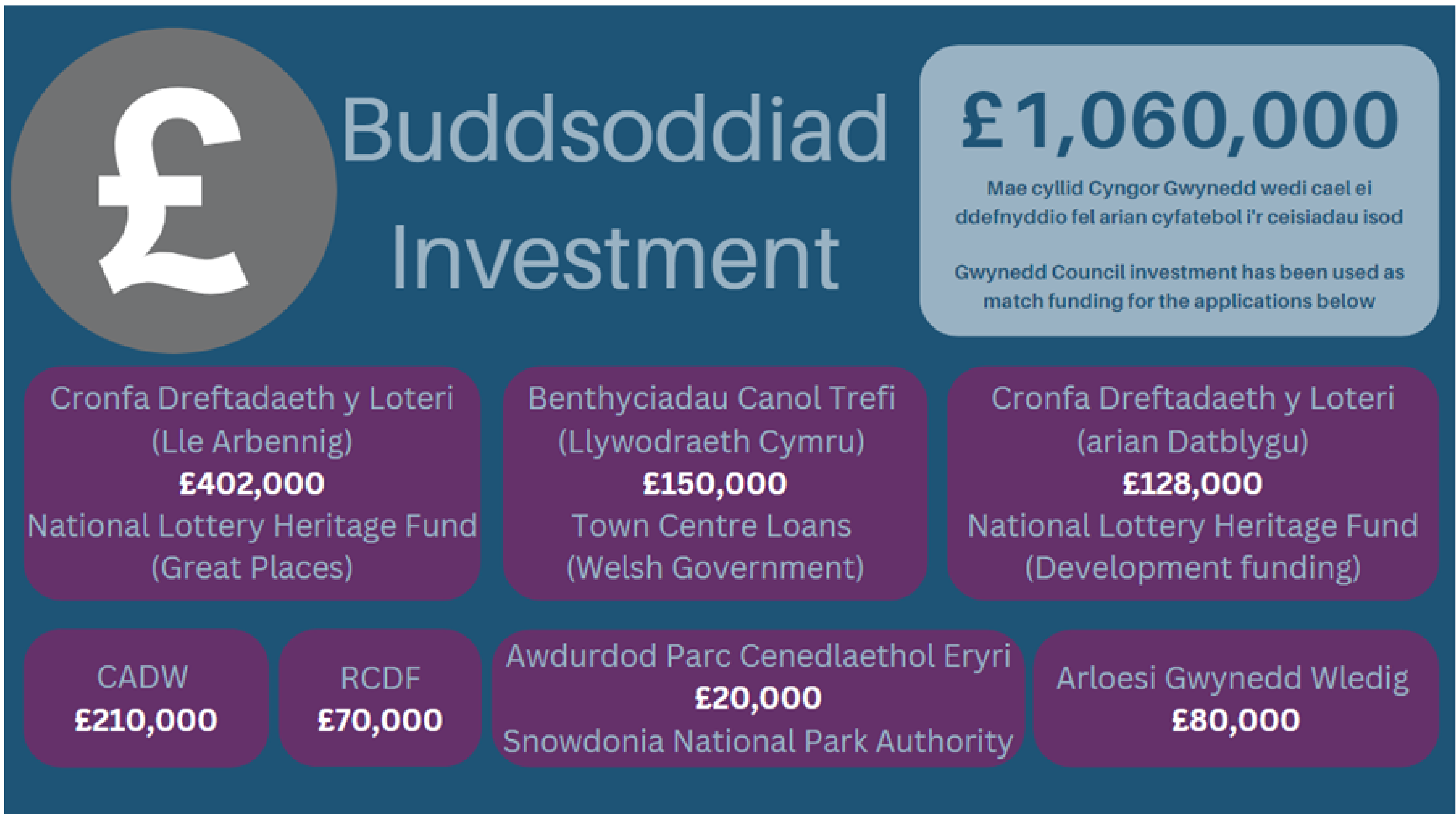
"It is necessary to ensure that the designation does not have a negative impact on local people, if attracting more tourists, there is a need to plan for them"



Catrin Williams was commissioned to celebrate receiving the World Heritage Site status to work with six secondary schools within the area; the masterpiece's journey commenced at the Slate Museum, and since then it has travelled around the slate areas and will end up in Dyffryn Ogwen before we find a permanent home for it to be displayed.

Investment in the Area

Over £1m of direct investment has been received for activities in the World Heritage Site, the investment was received as a result of developing the nomination, and after securing the designation. In addition to direct investment, a number of our partners have benefited from the designation to ensure their own investment such as the Ffestiniog Railway with their project at Boston Lodge, and members of the Dolan network in Penygroes, Bethesda and Blaenau Ffestiniog to ensure an investment in town and village centre buildings.



Sustainable Development Priorities 2022/23:

- Complete a strategic funding plan by working with partners to identify projects associated with the slate landscape, that are being developed to coordinate grant applications and ensure the maximum benefit to the area. The purpose of the document is to also set the strategic context for the World Heritage Site to outline how local projects fit in to regional and national policies. The document will also identify potential funding sources and will encourage collaboration.
- Supporting the Slate Museum's role as the main hub for the World Heritage Site and the redevelopment of the site as one of the Welsh Government's strategic priorities. There will be substantial investment at the Gilfach Ddu site to improve the visitor offer. Consultations have commenced and there will be more to follow in the new year. The redevelopment is an opportunity to achieve the hub and spokes model, as outlined in the Interpretation Strategy, by having a modern and bespoke hub for interpretation at the Slate Museum.
- We have received funding via the Heritage Lottery Fund for a succession plan to LleCHI. We have managed to secure £128,000 for the development phase that will lead to the submission of an application for the delivery phase of five years, and if successful, this will be an investment of over £1 million in the area.
- An application for £26m has been submitted for the slate valleys to the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund and we are awaiting a decision on the application by Christmas. The plan includes investments in three areas within the World Heritage Site to create slate hubs and also to improve the connectivity of communities with the slate landscape.
- We will investigate the potential of other funding sources for projects, such as Visit Wales and the Shared Prosperity Fund.
- Updating the Welsh language baseline in accordance with the data of the new census, and identify methods of monitoring the impact of projects associated with the World Heritage Site and the Welsh language locally.

06. Theme 4: Enjoying

Enjoying Achievements 2021/22:

Cyngor Gwynedd and Eryri National Park Authority are in the process of developing a Sustainable Tourism Plan, it is being developed in consultation with local industry representatives.

“Economi ymweld er budd a lles pobl, amgylchedd, iaith a diwylliant Gwynedd ac Eryri”
“A visitor economy for the benefit and wellbeing of the people, environment, language and culture of Gwynedd and Eryri”

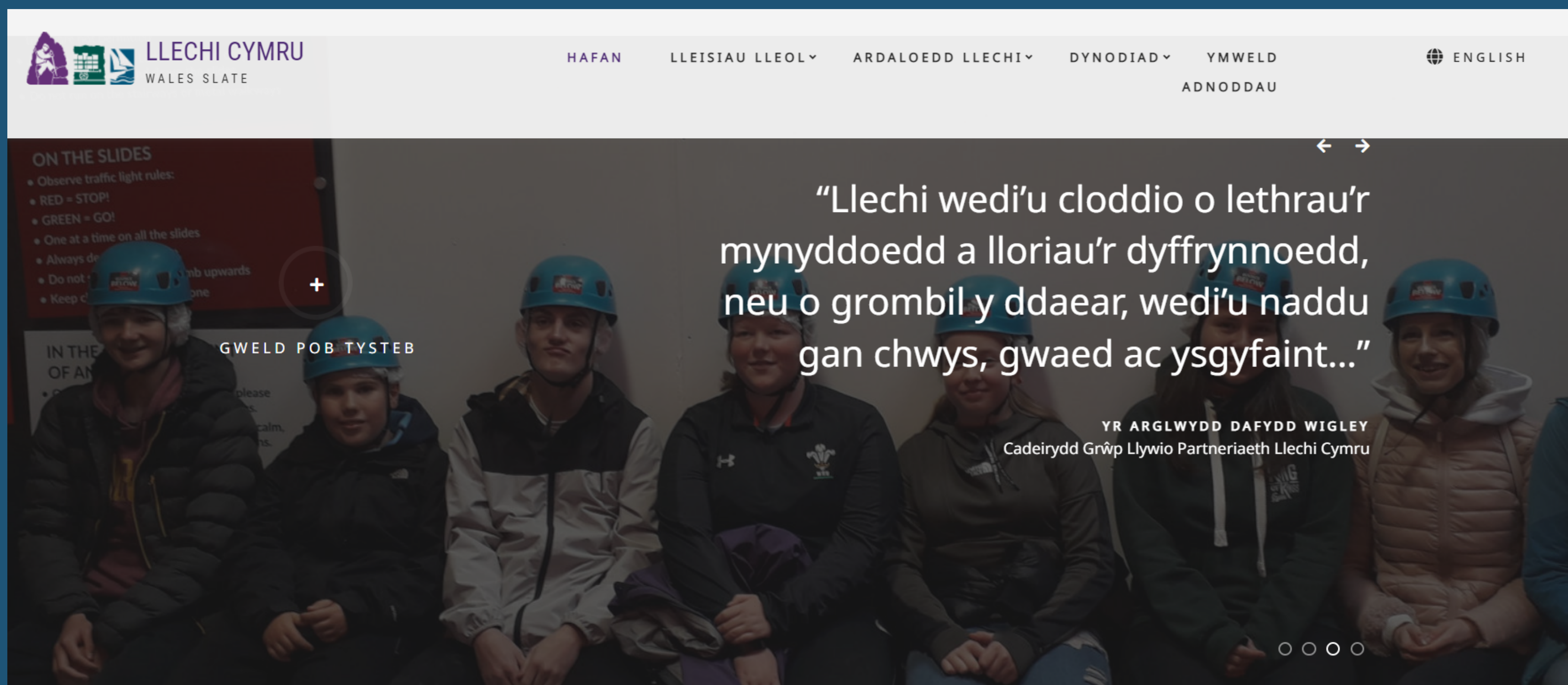
Dathlu, Parchu a Gwarchod ein iaith, Diwylliant a Threftadaeth
Celebrate, Respect and Protect our Language, Culture and Heritage

Cynnal a Pharchu ein Amgylchedd
Maintain and Respect our Environment

Sicrhau bod manteision i gymunedau yn fwy nac anfanteision
Ensure advantages to communities outweigh any disadvantages

A designated website has been created for the World Heritage Site which includes all the relevant information about the area, the designation process and management methods. The resources section includes useful information for partners, developers and local communities.

Go to Llechi Cymru for more information.



An Interpretation Plan has been created for the World Heritage Site to identify possible stories to be shared across the area and to place different stories within strategic themes that strive to convey the full history of the landscape.

The existing provision is not up-to-date, it does not convey the special features of the World Heritage Site and there is no cohesive effort to tell the story of slate. Interpretation across the World Heritage Site is piecemeal with each site telling its own story in their unique way.

The plan proposes a hub and spokes model to encourage visitors to move around the area to try and spread the benefit from the areas that are traditionally busier to those that are less busy. The interpretation model also creates opportunities for sites to benefit from each other not only by encouraging visitors to move between sites, but also at a practical level by sharing resources, educational programmes and expertise.



The first phase of interpretation at sites within the World Heritage Site is on-going, and will be installed soon. There are 23 locations across the site that will receive bespoke interpretation, with each panel giving the background to the site, the context of the Component Part where the site is situated, and then details about the location itself. The content of the panels have been developed jointly with individual locations, and the panel colours reflect the colour of the slates in the different Component Parts.



Priorities of Enjoying the Slate Landscape 2022/23:

- Supporting the redevelopment of the National Slate Museum and its development as the main interpretation hub for the World Heritage Site.
- Working with partners, businesses and agencies such as Visit Wales to target international markets when appropriate. This includes timing in terms of when communities feel that it is appropriate to re-open the area to visitors following the pandemic, and also when appropriate infrastructure is in place to be able to educate and address the needs of any visitors in the area.
- Completing the installation of phase 1 interpretation at the main World Heritage Site sites
- Erecting slate plaques in the main locations stating that they are 'proud to be part of the World Heritage Site'
- Distributing stickers to local businesses for them to show their support to the World Heritage Site
- The developmental phase of the Heritage Lottery Fund plan will include a review of the current Interpretation Plan to update information about sites and review themes and stories that have been identified to ensure that they continue to reflect the uniqueness of the slate landscape.
- Cyngor Gwynedd and the Eryri National Park Authority will launch the Sustainable Visitor Economy Plan during 2023 and implement the identified priorities.
- Identifying funding sources to realise the projects that promote the enjoyment of the landscape including the Visit Wales, Brilliant Basics Fund.
- Continuing to work with landowners and site managers to convey messages for safe visitation of the slate landscape.
- Developing and training staff and volunteers across the World Heritage Site to be site ambassadors for the designation.

07. Theme 5: Learning

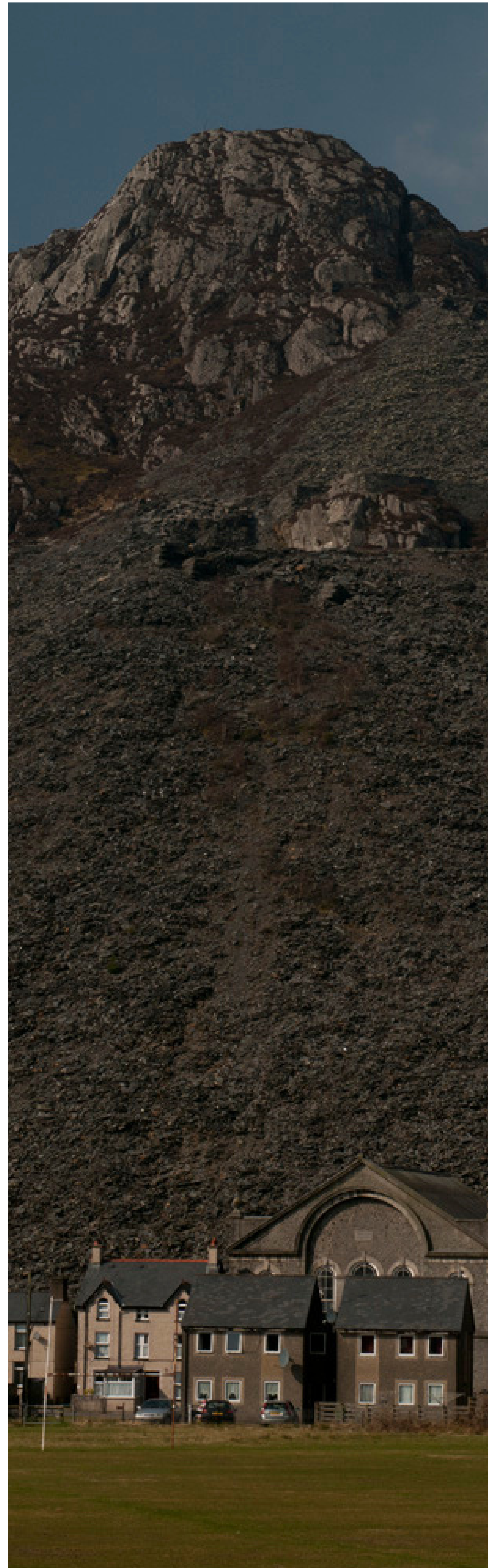
Learning Achievements of 2021/22:

- Bangor University has launched a new Global Heritage MA course and welcomed their first students in September 2022. Information about this course can be seen here [Global Heritage](#). Students will learn about conservation policies, UNESCO systems and will also undertake practical work with partners (e.g. interpretation, research, archaeology).
- A number of sessions have been undertaken with education establishments, including primary schools, secondary schools and colleges. Gwynedd Archives Education Service and Education Officers from the National Slate Museum have been very proactive holding various sessions to raise awareness and the understanding of young people about local heritage, and the global importance of the slate landscape.
- Efforts have commenced to establish links within the UK and across the world with other post-industrial sites to improve understanding and foster relationships. This includes the British Industrial World Heritage Sites Group and the European Slate Landscapes Network.
- Holding informal learning events to include a series of community lectures in partnership with the Dolan community network, and Ifor ap Glyn's slate journey around the slate communities that combined the arts and history to portray the uniqueness of each of Component Part.
- Conducting community archaeological sessions in partnership with the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust at Pen y Bryn Barracks.
- Creating links with Michigan Technological University, facilitating the University's first visit to Gwynedd in August 2022.



Learning Priorities 2022/23:

- Continuing to develop a partnership and share information with Bangor University, use MA students to complete work that contributes to achieving the World Heritage Site's vision.
- Research into the traditional skills field, identifying potential partnerships to increase awareness of the field, and also methods of increasing training, apprenticeships and employment opportunities in the sector.
- Gwynedd to hold a conference for the European Slate Landscapes Network in 2023.
- Taking advantage of the international contacts of partners
- Celebrating UNESCO Native Languages decade and using the opportunity to promote the importance of the Welsh language in the context of the World Heritage Site.
- Continuing to collaborate with Bangor University to undertake research relevant to the World Heritage Site, research projects for the impact on the Welsh language, and on the Visitor Economy are already on-going.
- Continuing to hold sessions with the County's schools to improve young people's understanding of local heritage.
- Bangor University is developing a Tourism Management Course for next year.
- Opportunities to intertwine with Curriculum for Wales, to ensure that the slate heritage and culture runs through all the educational activities of Gwynedd schools.
- Creating a relationship with areas that have historic connections with the slate valleys such as Bethesda USA.



We would like to thank everyone who has supported the work of Wales Slate over the past year, and we look forward to working together over the coming year.



For more information about the activities of The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales World Heritage Site go to www.llechi.cymru, or contact us via llechi@gwynedd.llyw.cymru.



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