

**BMC Cymru**  
**Policy Updates in Wales**  
**October 2022**  
**Eben Muse**

1. **Access reform:** Working on a campaign to produce a bilingual video to target inaction by the Welsh government in making the promised changes to access. Still in early stages but work is very much underway.
2. **Visitor Levy Consultation:** Brought members' concerns to the Welsh Gov. consultation in Portmeirion emphasising the need for it to be proportional (so as to avoid pricing those on the low end of the income scale out), the importance of benefits filtering back to the community in a way that also is visible to tourists (e.g. green transport infrastructure), concerns about an overcomplicated tax burden, the opportunity to address, and put resources towards, overtourism, particularly in honeypot areas.
3. **Agriculture Reform Wales:** Continuing to link up with the co-design process which is ongoing. Access is currently part of the legislation but could be more central to it, and my goal is to ensure that it is not watered down further or removed.
4. **Represented BMC Cymru** at conferences such as the Cymdeithas Eryri Conference at Plas y Brenin, learning lots about the challenges and opportunities facing designated landscapes – much discussion around proposed Dee and Clwydian Range national park. Also attended the Sport Positive summit with Cath Flitcroft, a forum for sports organisations to share their journey towards sustainability. We are signed up to the UN Sustainability in Sport framework and there was a meeting there to discuss the status and ongoing challenges of the framework.
5. Held **discussions with the Urdd** around a national competition for Welsh climbers at their Urban Games in June, with the possibility of funding to make it happen – internal meetings in the BMC are lined-up to explore this option. It would require a volunteer working group. This would be an important step towards showing that we are a capable governing body for climbing as a sport in Wales, as we try and develop this aspect of our work.
6. **Filmed and produced** a Welsh installation of an upcoming BMC video series with Niall Grimes (won't give it away but it was fun) prominently featuring the Welsh language.
7. **Aspirations** for the New Year (if time and energy allow):
  - a. Welsh carbon sequestration project
  - b. Establishing BMC Cymru status for Sport Wales funding for Welsh competition climbers.
  - c. Adoption of a fit-for-work internal Welsh language scheme.