

Confirmed Minutes Annex B

| Title of meeting: | NRW Board Meeting – Public Meeting |
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| Date of meeting: | 23 rd May 2024 |

Statement regarding Visitor Centres

Thank you to everyone who has contacted the Board Members, NRW Executive Team and NRW officers with regards to the current situation around Visitor Centres. I wanted to make a general statement with regards to their current position and address some of the questions that have been received at this public board. We have received lots of useful correspondence about the visitor centres which we have considered, and we are listening to the points you have raised. However, we know that because some letters have come into NRW via many different routes, there may have been a slight delay in our response back to some of you and for that we are sorry.

We have now allocated a dedicated person to manage this correspondence. We have had several questions for response by the Board and some of them are very detailed. We want to give you as full a reply as possible and so your questions and our responses will be shared in full with both the questioner and Board members.

We all know that public funding is exceptionally tight, and that we have an ongoing piece of work that is critically reviewing: what we can and must continue to do, what we stop, and what we slow or do differently to fulfil our <u>Corporate Plan</u> ambitions, with the environment at the heart of all our decision making.

We know that this is a significant piece of work and as we've been able to reduce our financial pressures, through things like tighter recruitment, we now have extended the timeline for this wider review.

This means that no final decision has yet been taken.

ENDS