

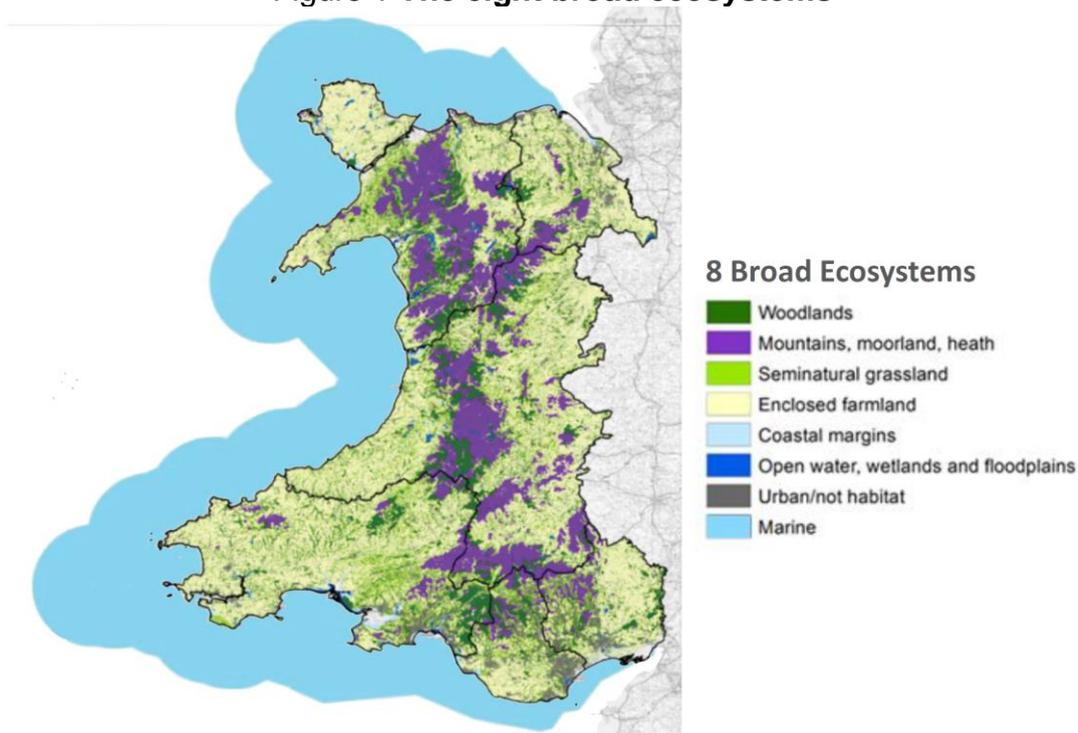
Transforming Wales' management of natural resources

What is the SoNaR Report?

The State of Natural Resources Report, or SoNaRR, is a five-yearly assessment of how sustainably Wales is using global natural resources. It brings together the current evidence on environmental pressures and suggests [a range of opportunities for action](#). The report is required by law, to inform Welsh Government policy, local development plans and Area Statements.

SoNaRR2020 was published in December 2020, with technical chapters published in March 2021. As the map below shows, SoNaRR2020 covers the whole of Wales, as well as our global environmental impact. The assessment splits Wales into eight different types of place, with chapters on each of the [eight broad ecosystems](#) showing the natural resources in that place and the links to other ecosystems:

Figure 1 The eight broad ecosystems



A second group of chapters then looks at [the crosscutting pressures facing these ecosystems](#), covering these themes:

- Climate change
- Land-use change
- Pollution
- Over-exploitation
- Invasive non-native species

SoNaRR2020 builds on the evidence base in the [first SoNaRR](#) produced in 2016.

Key messages

Wales is not currently achieving the sustainable management of natural resources
SoNaRR2020 uses four aims to assess Wales's sustainable management of natural resources. For the reasons set out on the links below, it found that Wales falls short of achieving:

1. [stable stocks of natural resources](#),
2. [resilient ecosystems](#),
3. [healthy places for people, free from environmental risks](#)
4. [a regenerative economy](#).

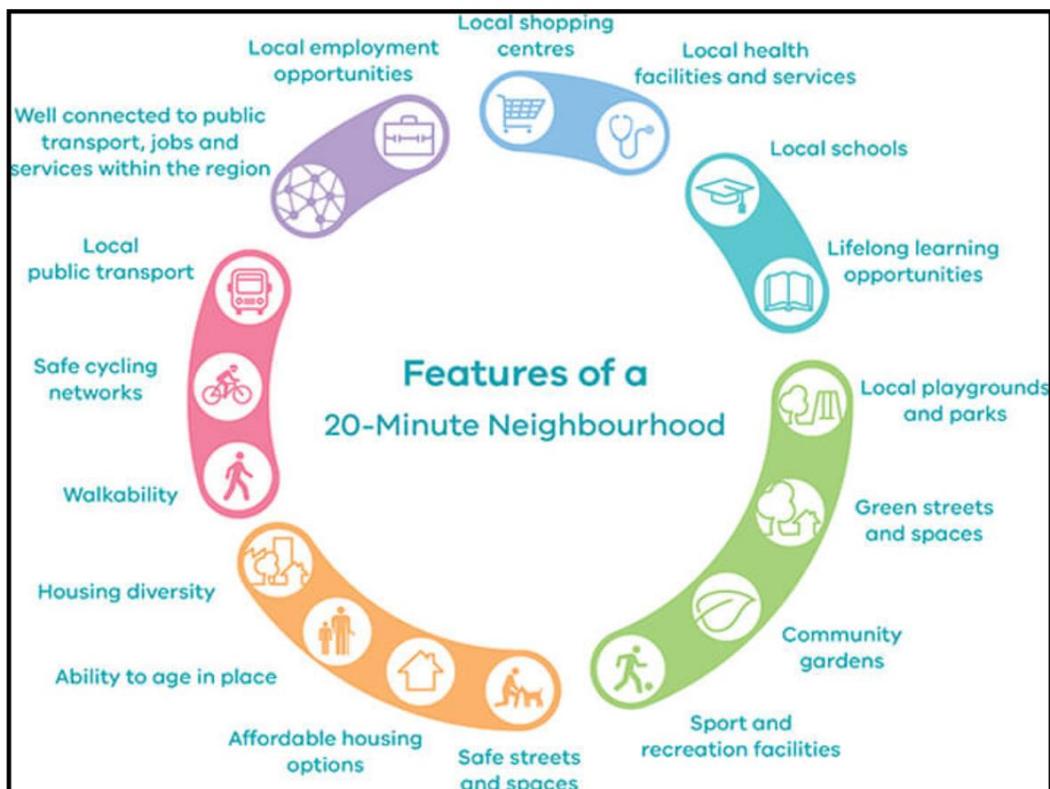
Wales needs to take a systems approach to tackling environmental problems

In order to make Wales's use of natural resources more sustainable, [transformational change](#) is needed to things like the [food](#), [energy](#) and [transport](#) systems. Although those three systems are not the only ones putting pressure on the environment, they are responsible for most of the impacts, so are good place to start a systems approach.

We need action in the environment, economy & society

The traditional mix of action on the ground, accompanied by regulation and economic incentives are needed, but we also need a greater focus on the role of civil society in enabling rapid, large scale change. The biggest potential to lower our environmental impact, is in changing the way we organise the systems that support everyday life. In the transport system, for example, changing the way we plan urban areas can design out the need for the private car:

Figure 2 Redesigning the transport system



The same is true for the energy and food systems, as well as the urban construction sector etc. where more options become available when we step back from the issue and look at the wider systems context for our daily activities

Further information about SoNaRR2020

The SoNaR Report Website

[Natural Resources Wales / State of Natural Resources Report \(SoNaRR\) for Wales 2020](#)

BBC News

The SoNaR Report as covered by BBC news:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-55814191>



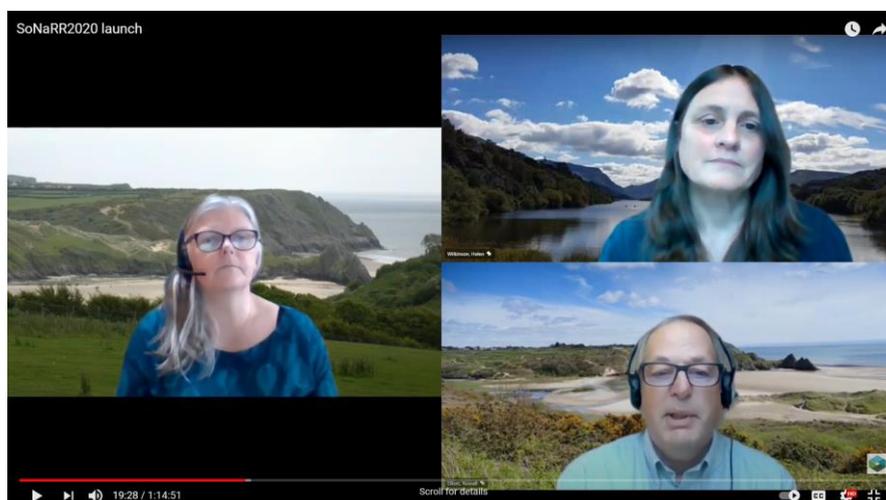
The screenshot shows the top portion of a BBC News article. At the top is a red navigation bar with the word "NEWS" in white. Below this is a horizontal menu with links for Home, Brexit, Coronavirus, UK, World, Business, Politics, Tech, Science, Health, and Family & Education. A secondary menu below that includes links for Wales, Wales Politics, Wales Business, North West, North East, Mid, South West, South East, Cymru, and Local News. The main headline reads "Wales' natural resources used at 'unsustainable rate'". Below the headline, it says "By Steffan Messenger, BBC Wales Environment Correspondent" and "27 January | Comments". A red share icon is visible at the bottom left of the article preview.



SoNaR Report Launch

The SoNaR Report as presented at its launch in January 2021:

[SoNaRR2020 launch - YouTube](#)



The screenshot shows a YouTube video player for a video titled "SoNaRR2020 launch". The video displays three participants in a virtual meeting. On the left, a woman with grey hair and glasses is speaking. On the right, a woman with long dark hair is listening. At the bottom right, a man with glasses and a headset is speaking. The background of the participants shows various outdoor scenes, including hills and a beach. The video player interface at the bottom shows a progress bar at 19:28 / 1:14:51 and a "Scroll for details" prompt.