

Public Document Pack



CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Richard Parry Jones, BA, MA.
Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive

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RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD	NOTICE OF MEETING
PWYLLGOR GWAITH	THE EXECUTIVE
DYDD LLUN 15 GORFFENAF 2013 10.00 o'r gloch	MONDAY 15 JULY 2013 10.00 am
SIAMBR Y CYNGOR SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNGOR LLANGFNI	COUNCIL CHAMBER COUNCIL OFFICES LLANGFNI
Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Pwyllgor	Mr John Gould 01248 752 515 Committee Services Manager

Annibynnol/Independent

R Dew, K P Hughes, H E Jones and Ieuan Williams (Cadeirydd/Chair)

Plaid Lafur/Labour Party

J A Roberts (Is-Gadeirydd/Vice-Chair) and Alwyn Rowlands

Heb Ymuno (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru/Unaffiliated (Welsh Liberal Democrats))

A M Jones

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I Aelodau'r Cyngor Sir / To the Members of the County Council

Bydd aelod sydd ddim ar y Pwyllgor Gwaith yn cael gwahoddiad i'r cyfarfod i siarad (ond nid i bleidleisio) os ydy o/hi wedi gofyn am gael rhoddi eitem ar y rhaglen dan Reolau Gweithdrefn y Pwyllgor Gwaith. Efallai bydd y Pwyllgor Gwaith yn ystyried ceisiadau gan aelodau sydd ddim ar y Pwyllgor Gwaith i siarad ar faterion eraill.

A non-Executive member will be invited to the meeting and may speak (but not vote) during the meeting, if he/she has requested the item to be placed on the agenda under the Executive Procedure Rules. Requests by non-Executive members to speak on other matters may be considered at the discretion of The Executive.

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest from any Member or Officer in respect of any item of business.

2 URGENT MATTERS CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR HIS APPOINTED OFFICER - BUSINESS CASE INVEST TO SAVE - CHILD PLACEMENT TEAM (Pages 1 - 20)

On 10th July, 2013, the Chief Executive certified that the above matter be included as an urgent matter in the business and programme of the Executive for Monday, 15th July, 2013.

3 MINUTES (Pages 21 - 26)

To submit for confirmation, the minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on the following dates:-

- 6th June, 2013
- 10th June, 2013

4 THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 27 - 36)

To submit the report of the Head of Service (Policy).

5 2014/15 BUDGET (Pages 37 - 54)

To submit the report by the Head of Function (Resources).

6 GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS - ACCOMMODATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT (Pages 55 - 188)

To submit the report of the Head of Service (Housing).

7 LOCAL HOUSING MARKET NEEDS ASSESSMENT (Pages 189 - 212)

To submit the report of the Head of Service (Housing).

8 TRANSFORMING ADULT SOCIAL CARE ON ANGLESEY (Pages 213 - 228)

To submit the report of the Director of Community.

9 CHILDREN'S SPECIALIST SERVICES - AGREE FORMAL PARTNERSHIP (Pages 229 - 242)

To submit the report of the Head of Service (Children's Services).

10 ADULTS SAFEGUARDING - TOWARDS A NORTH WALES STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK (Pages 243 - 258)

To submit the report by the Head of Service (Adults' Services).

11 ISLAND GAMES 2013 (Pages 259 - 264)

To submit a report by the Director of Lifelong Learning.

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	Executive Committee
Date	15/07/2013
Subject	Invest to save proposal Child Placement Service
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Kenneth Hughes
Lead Officer(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anwen Huws (IOACC) – Head of Children’s Services • Kevin Hawkins Principal Officer Corporate Parenting Children’s Services
Contact Officer	Kevin Hawkins Principal Officer Corporate Parenting Children’s Services
Nature and reason for reporting	
<p>To request the Executive Committee’s approval for further investment in the Child Placement Service for additional resources to improve placement choice for children and reduce reliance on the purchase of external placements.</p>	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues

Whilst a small number of looked after children will need specialist residential facilities, Isle of Anglesey County Council is committed to providing those children who need to be Looked After by the Local Authority with high quality family based foster care placements locally, to meet their individual needs. The Fostering Service is based within Children's Services and is managed by the Operational Manager (Resources).

As at 19/12/2013 the service was responsible for 31 approved foster carers. 14 were approved as 'Kinship carers' for named children providing 9 long term placements and 12 respite placements whilst 17 families are approved for children generally and offering 30 placements.

The Isle of Anglesey is experiencing a shortfall of foster carer provision. The deficit has a direct impact on choice of placement for looked after children; permanence planning for children and retention of foster carers. The additional cost of purchasing placements from the Independent sector is significant and currently rests at 22 placements at considerable cost. Increasing the number of internal placements would reduce those costs by approximately 50% per placement.

The Local Authority position as a provider is therefore at odds with the increasing demand for Fostering Services. The shortfall in provision has been 'filled' by a growing private sector of Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA's). It is commonly understood that the private providers can be flexible and responsive, but are usually significantly more expensive than internally provided Local Authority placements.

The Local Authority is often the first port of call for prospective foster carers. The Local Authority has to implement an effective recruitment and retention strategy. For this to be successful we need to adapt our service planning and delivery to one which offers a best value, high quality and responsive service to children, their families, children's social workers and foster carers. Increasing resources within the service will enable a more focused strategy which will improve our interface with the public of Anglesey and increase the availability of internal placements and reduce costs.

B – Considerations

See Section 4 of Buisness Case – Appendix 1

C – Implications and Impacts

1	Finance / Section 151	While the actual level of savings that will be achieved is dependent on future performance, the proposal is soundly based, with the target level of
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CC-015195-RMJ/119742

C – Implications and Impacts		
		placements producing significant savings from Year 2 onwards. The additional cost incurred in Years 1 and 2 can be fully met if just over half of the target number is achieved.
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	NA
3	Human Resources	NA
4	Property Services (see notes – separate document)	N/A
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	N/A
6	Equality (see notes – separate document)	NA
7	Anti-poverty and Social (see notes – separate document)	N/A
8	Communication (see notes – separate document)	N/A
9	Consultation (see notes – separate document)	N/A
10	Economic	N/A
11	Environmental (see notes – separate document)	N/A
12	Crime and Disorder (see notes – separate document)	N/A
13	Outcome Agreements	N/A

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C – Implications and Impacts

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CH – Summary

The Business case evidences that in order to secure a range of sustainable foster placement options – both in terms of outcomes for children and cost – and reduce reliance on more expensive independent agency provision – a short terms investment is required on a spend to save basis.

D – Recommendation

For the Executive Committee to approve the invest to save proposal for further investment in the Child Placement Service to increase the number of internal foster placements for children and reduce costs.

E – Comments from the Partnership & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

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Name of author of report: Kevin Hawkins
Job Title: Principal Officer
Date: 10.07.13

Appendices:

1. Invest to save – fostering Report 19th February 2013

Background papers

Please see Appendix 1

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
REPORT TO:	Executive Committee
DATE:	15/07/2013
TITLE OF REPORT:	Invest to Save Proposal
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:	Seek approval for further investment in the child placement Service
REPORT BY:	Kevin Hawkins, Principal Officer
CORPORATE DIRECTOR:	Gwen Carrington, Director of Community

1. BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

The Child Placement Team is seeking to increase the number of internally recruited foster families in order to provide children with local foster care placements and decrease reliance on the independent sector and therefore reduce costs.

As at 19/12/2013 the service was responsible for 31 approved foster carers. 14 were approved as 'Kinship carers' for named children providing 9 long term placements and 12 respite placements whilst 17 families are approved for children generally and offering 30 placements.

The Isle of Anglesey is experiencing a shortfall of foster carer provision. The deficit has a direct impact on choice of placement for looked after children and permanence planning for children. The additional cost of purchasing placements from the Independent sector is significant and currently rests at 22 placements at considerable cost. Increasing the number of internal placements would reduce those costs by approximately 50% per placement.

2. DISCUSSION – Refer to Appendix 1

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Non Standard Agency Placements are those placements purchased from externally sourced providers. Non-standard agency costs vary between £672 and £1351 per week and during 2012/13 an estimated 7,796 nights of on standard agency foster care will have been commissioned.

Estimated expenditure on non -standard placements for 2012/13	£994,694
Average unit cost per placement per night.	£127.59
Average unit cost per placement per week.	£893.13

It can be seen that each child placed in an internal placement rather than an agency placement avoids an average additional cost of £467.05 per week and each child brought back to an internal placement produces a saving of the same amount. This would lead to significant savings in excess of £300,000 over the post investment period of three years and even more significant over the longer period.

Year	Cumulative (Cost)/Saving
2013-14	£45,421
2014-15	£110,946
2015-16	£469,263
2016-17	£827,580

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

For the Executive Committee to approve the invest to save proposal for further investment in the Child Placement Service to increase the number of internal foster placements for children and reduce costs.

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Appendix 1

Invest to save - fostering.

1. Introduction

Whilst a small number of looked after children will need specialist residential facilities, Isle of Anglesey County Council is committed to providing those children who need to be Looked After by the Local Authority with high quality family based foster care placements that meet their individual needs. The Fostering Service is based within Children's Services and is managed by the Operational Manager (Resources).

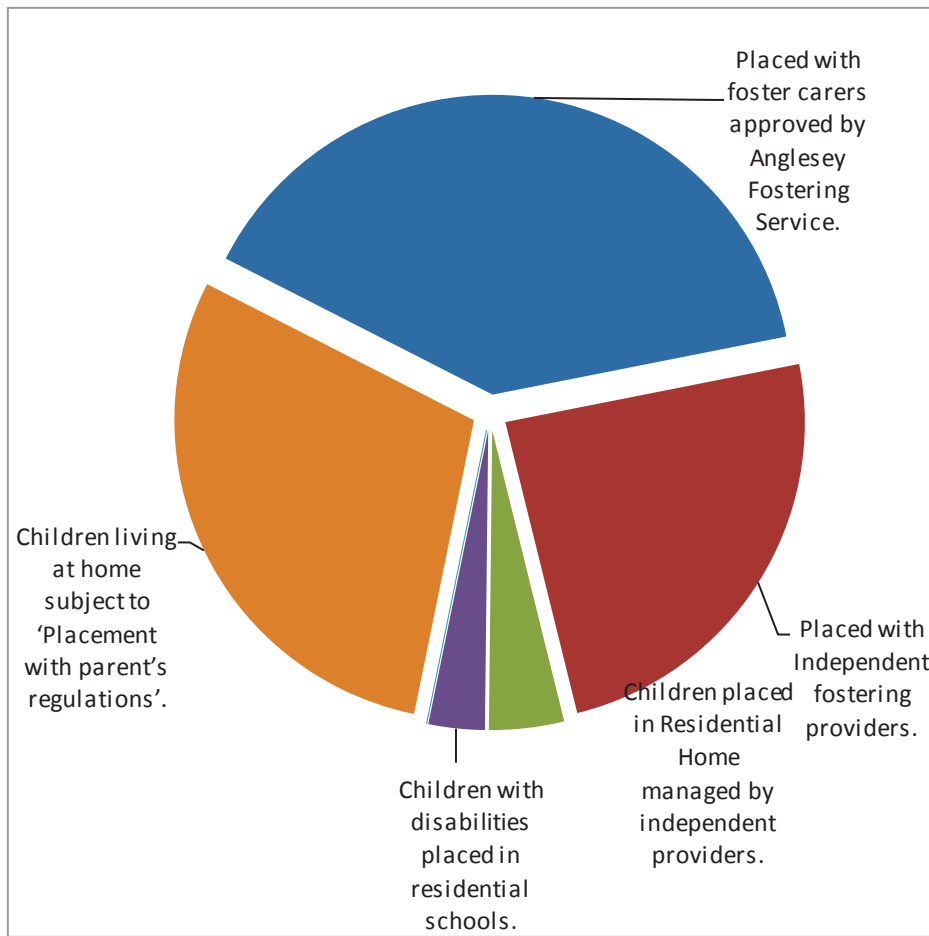
As at 19/12/2013 the service was responsible for **31** approved foster carers. 14 were approved as 'Kinship carers' for named children providing **9** long term placements and **12** respite placements whilst 17 families are approved for children generally and offering **30** placements.

By their nature, Kinship carers usually require more support and guidance by supervising social workers; the assessments are often more complex and take longer to complete.

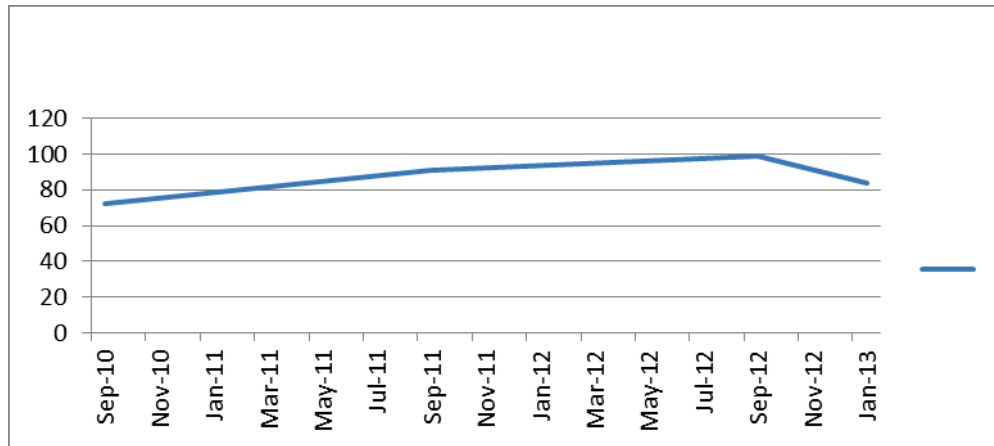
During the year a total of nine families were approved under regulation 38 Fostering Services (Wales) Regulations 2003 (An increase of 2 families on the previous year). Assessment for approval as foster carers commenced with seven out of the nine families and four of these have been approved and a further two families are in the process of being assessed. A full assessment was not required with two of the families as the children placed did not stay in placement. A full assessment commenced with another family but was halted due to safeguarding concerns.

As at 31st December 2012 the breakdown of 'Looked After' children was as follows:

Placement type	Number of children
Placed with foster carers approved by Anglesey Fostering Service	37
Placed with Independent fostering providers	21
Children placed in Residential Home managed by independent providers	3
Children with disabilities placed in residential schools	2
Children living at home subject to 'Placement with Parents.	19
Other (Adoption placement/missing)	2
Total	84



The service has seen a general increase in the number of looked after children over the past three years with a reduction becoming evident over the past 6 months.

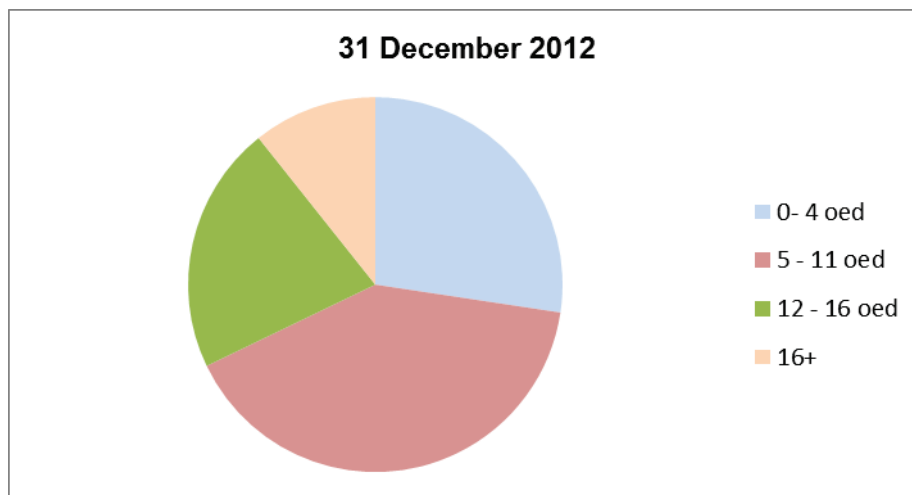


During the same period, the numbers of children placed with independent fostering agencies has increased from 5 in 2010 to 24 in 2012 with a corresponding increase in placement costs.

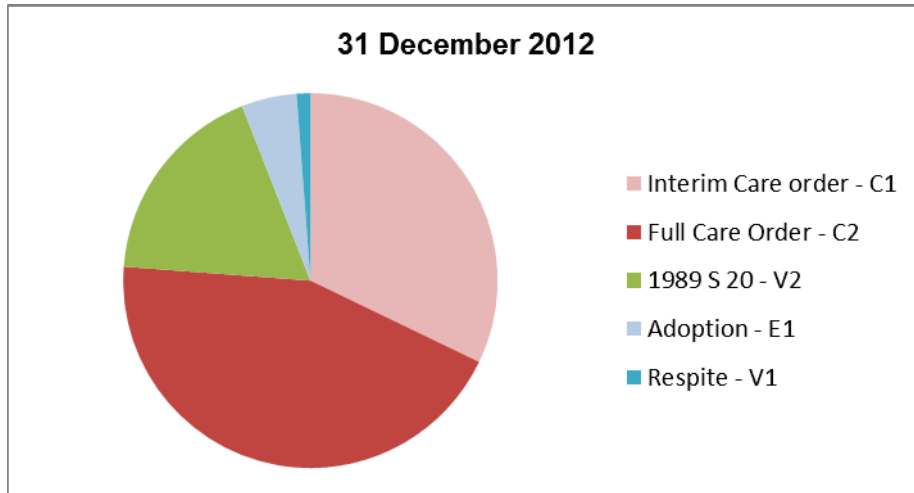
In addition, the authority's last remaining residential unit (5 Queen's Park Close) was closed in 2011 resulting in a reduction of 4 beds without the re-commissioning of residential beds or further investment in the fostering service at the time.

In modelling projected future LAC population, if the 3 year trend continues, an additional total of 10 placements will probably be required by 2015. However, care needs to be taken in modelling projections as Anglesey has seen a significant increase in the number of children placed under the Placement with Parents regulations (these children account for 23% of the total numbers of the LAC cohort). This figure is proportionately high and these cases should continue to be reviewed in order to assess a possible need for discharge of the Order.

The age spread for the LAC population is relatively even indicating that there is a need for additional placement across all age bands with a particular emphasis on the 5-11 cohort. 61% of the placements are for males.



In terms of legal status, the majority by far are on interim or full care orders.;



Local Authorities generally are experiencing a shortfall of foster carer provision within the fostering market place. The deficit has a direct impact for every local authority on choice of placement for looked after children; permanence planning for children; retention of foster carers; and cost outcomes.

The Local Authority position as a provider is therefore at odds with the increasing demand for Fostering Services. The shortfall in provision has been 'filled' by a growing private sector of Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA's). It is commonly understood that the private providers can be flexible and responsive, but are usually significantly more expensive than the Local Authority counterparts- this issue affects all aspects of provision including the recruitment and retention of prospective foster parents.

The Local Authority is often the first port of call for prospective foster carers who consider offering this service. We need be able to implement an effective recruitment and retention strategy. For this to be successful we need to adapt our service planning and delivery to one which offers a best value, high quality and responsive service to children, their families, children's social workers and foster carers.

2. Recruitment

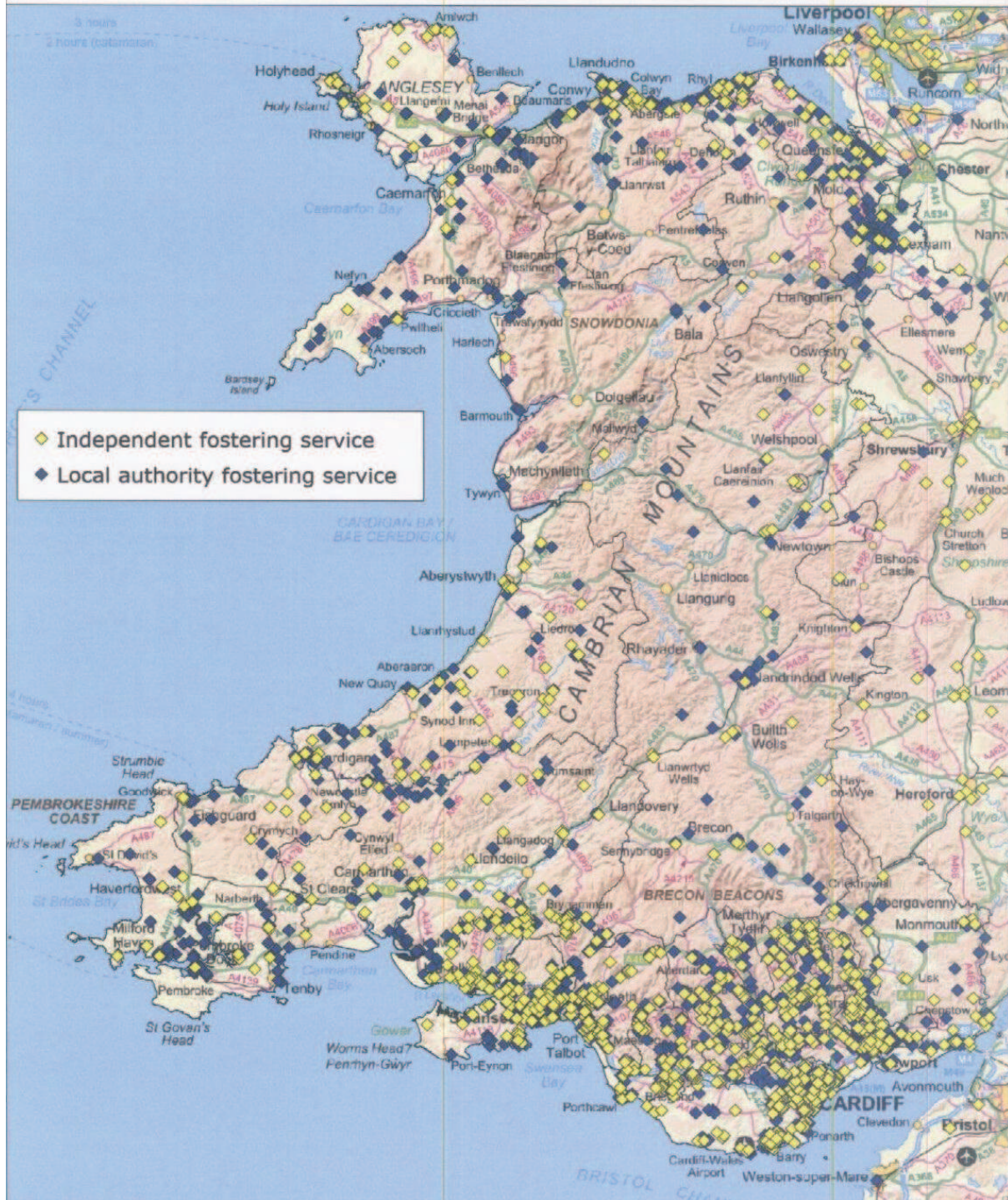
During 2011/12 there were fifty four initial enquiries regarding foster care.

Our final recruitment performance was:

Number of families (15 in total)	Assessment approvals
3	General Foster Care

Number of families (15 in total)	Assessment approvals
5	Kinship care under regulation 38
1	Kinship care NOT under regulation 38
3	Kinship care approved under regulation 38 but full assessment not required
1	Kinship care approved under regulation 38 and the full assessment is ongoing
2	General foster carers assessments on going and not been approved yet

Fostering Services in Wales and bordering area, June 2012



UNED DDATA LLYWODRAETH LEOL ~ CYMRU
LOCAL GOVERNMENT DATA UNIT ~ WALES

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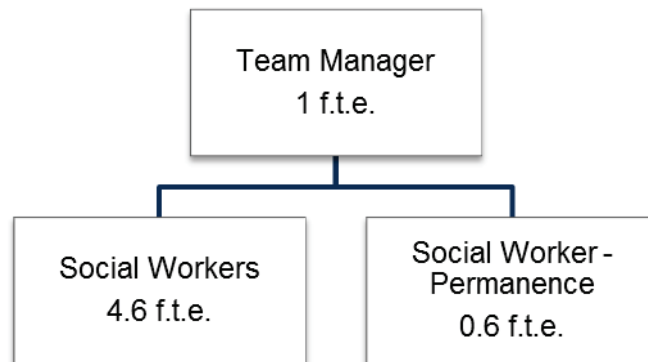
3. Key actions implemented during 2011/12 include:-

- Investments in the workforce. There has been a significant investment in terms of staffing within Children's Services with the addition of 1 f.t.e. post within the fostering team and the establishment of a .5 Principal Officer (Family placement and Corporate parenting) post. A number of Social Workers have been appointed within the service as well as senior practitioners. The service has recruited additional capacity in order to support new social workers in their first year in practice. In practice however the "added value" of these additional investments has yet to impact the family Placement service as the additional resources have been utilised to address staffing vacancies due to maternity leave and illness.
- A Quality assurance officer was also appointed to the service during the year and there is a quality assurance framework in place.
- Improvements in performance against a number of key areas underpinned by investments in key training.
- Improvements in performance management process and systems within the service.
- Developed opportunities with partner agencies to develop working relationships and clear understanding of roles/expectations.
- There is an aim to strengthen the development and understanding of members and senior managers with corporate responsibilities to understand the role and function of the Children services, how well they are meeting needs locally and give them appropriate priority
- The development of a written Fostering Recruitment Strategy for 2012/13
- Non Standard placements and out of county residential placements are managed by gatekeeping arrangements which include an accommodation panel and a senior accommodation panel for agency placements. All placements are authorised by the Head of Service.
- The Child Placement Team has introduced the new training plan for foster carers based on the Fostering Network Pathways Training. Further work needs to be undertaken in this area to ensure that carers have undertaken the basic training.
- Following the planned merger of Gwynedd and Mon Adoption panels in November 2012, the fostering panel was re-launched as the Fostering and Permanence Panel. Formal training on the subject of Planning for Permanence was held.
- A Permanence policy and procedure has been developed and formally agreed by CSMT. Training was held in 2012
- The Special Guardianship Policy and procedure was developed and implemented.
- Agency Decision maker compliance with Adoption Agencies (Wales) amendment regulations 2012 was achieved.
- The Private Fostering Policy has been reviewed and is awaiting approval by CSMT.

In addition, a regional project is currently being commissioned in order to:

- Develop a strategy that enables Local Authorities to maximise existing resource management to draw together a regional approach to ensure choice, capacity, and capability in the fostering carer market.
- Report on the current recruitment and retention practice within the six North Wales authorities.
- Compare and contrast existing marketing and recruitment plans with areas of best practice and describe and develop a regional marketing and recruitment plan.
- Describe a development strategy for how regional or sub-regional marketing should be implemented and managed which understands the need for a regional approach to be coupled to local sub-regional sensitivities.

2. Current Structure and capacity:



4.6 FTE social workers whose duties include:

- Recruitment of foster carers including attending promotional events
- Undertaking initial visits to prospective carers
- Assessment of foster carers
- Initial Training of foster carers (Skills to Foster)
- Support & Supervision to foster carers including support groups/Anglesey foster carers association
- Annual Reviews of carers
- Placement finding/duty for the team

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- Private fostering

0.6 FTE Social Worker whose duties include:

- Viability assessments of prospective permanent carers
- Full assessments of prospective permanent carers
- Assessment/support/contact arrangements/reviews of permanent arrangements – SGO’S/Residence order.
- Placement finding/Duty for the team

At present, there is a significant staffing deficit in the team due to sickness, retirement and maternity leave.

There is no dedicated recruitment officer within the team, and therefore team members take on this work as their capacity allows them. Having a dedicated recruitment officer within the team for a short period during 2012 enabled the officer to attend shows/fun days/following up on enquiries etc. In order to recruit more foster carers, more work is required to get the service out and known in the community, to follow up on any enquiries and to keep in regular contact with enquirers throughout the recruitment process.

The capacity of Child Placement social workers available to assess foster carers depends on the nature of the work in hand at the time. However, it is generally thought that two on-going assessments per full time worker together with supporting foster carers and undertaking duty tasks is within that worker’s capacity.

However, much depends on the individual caseload and complexity of the assessment. On occasions independent social workers undertake assessments for the team particularly complex friends & family assessments under regulation 38 (The Fostering Services (Wales) Regulations 2003).

3. Current Costs:

a) Internal placements

Budget 2012/13

Family Placement Team	£208,740
Fostering allowances/Travel equipment and panel	£655,080
Training and other costs	£18,436

minus .06 permanency post	-£18,160
Total	£864,096
Average unit cost per bed per night:	£49.90
Average unit cost per bed per week	£349.79
Average unit cost per placement per week	£426.08

b) Non Standard Agency Placements

Non standard agency costs vary between £672 and £1351 per week and during 2012/13 an estimated 7,796 nights of on standard agency foster care will have been commissioned.

Estimated expenditure on non -standard placements for 2012/13	£994,694
Average unit cost per placement per night.	£127.59
Average unit cost per placement per week.	£893.13

It can be seen that each child placed in an internal placement rather than an agency placement avoids an average additional cost of £467.05 per week and each child brought back to an internal placement produces a saving of the same amount.

4. Options Evaluation.

a) Continue with the status Quo

Within current capacity it would not be easy to significantly increase the number of available placements. The current dependency on agency placements and the corresponding expenditure would need to continue.

b) Collaboration with other Authorities

There are several opportunities for collaboration with neighbouring authorities and discussions are ongoing with Cyngor Gwynedd in order to identify efficiency savings and increased performance within the following areas:

- Joint training strategies delivering savings on unit costs.
- Joint recruitment campaigns
- Shared areas of specialist expertise
- Joint fostering and permanence panel
- Carers Annual review and disruption meeting arrangements.

c) Externalise the Service

This is possible but based on current costs this would mean a significant increase in costs. Our current contracting arrangements do produce discounts of 1 to 2% in respect of sibling groups and multiple placements but a significant further reduction is unlikely.

d) Strengthen the internal Fostering Service

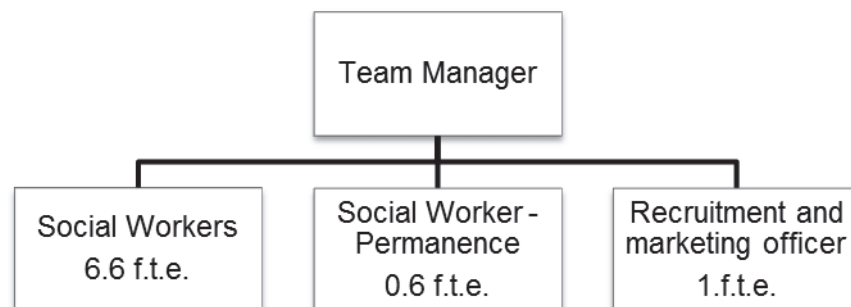
This is the only realistic option if the Local Authority is to increase placement choice, improve placement options (and subsequently improve placement outcomes for children) and reduce placement costs.

- The service needs a further 20 placements to meet current need and reduce the need to commission non- standard placements (15 additional sets of carers). Should the current numerical growth trend of the LAC population continue, an additional 10 placements will be required by 2016. However, it must be noted that not all of the children currently placed with agencies can be moved to new internal placements as they become available. Our analysis shows that without any further agency placements being made, within 3 years we will have 4 residual ongoing (long term) agency placements where a decision to move the

child would not be in his./her best interests. The aim must be to decrease the use of Agency placements for new care episodes.

- The initial recruitment of, and response to, interested families is crucial. Anglesey is not performing well in relation to generating interest and the % of eventual registered carers to enquiries is low at 4.8%. (9 registered carers from 54 enquiries but with 5 of these being kinship carers).
- Recruitment needs to be more focussed on age/needs of the LAC Population and a clear commissioning brief/analysis of this cohort needs to be completed to inform the recruitment strategy. In addition, targeted individual recruitment campaigns should be implemented with enhanced payment for long term sibling group placement.
- A realistic target is 10 additional placements (net increase) per year should to be set (allowing 60 hrs per Home Study)
- Placement support for 46 carers by 2014/15 and 65 by 2015/16 will need 2 additional support workers (18 each + new investment out of savings upon reaching target)

- Team Structure 2016



- The evaluation and possible commissioning of a salaried foster carers scheme in partnership with a third Sector partner. An Initial option appraisal has begun in Partnership with a Children's Voluntary Organisation.

- A recruitment process of 12 months from initial enquiry to registration needs to be established:
 - Enquiry to receiving information pack – 1 working day
 - Receiving pack to follow up contact – 10 working days
 - Follow up contact to initial visit – 20 working days
 - Initial visit to training and completion of statutory checks – 12 weeks
 - Training to allocation for Home study -10 working days
 - Allocation for home study to panel – 6 months

	2013/14	2014/15	2016/17
Projected increase in internal placements	0	10	20
Projected no; of commissioned agency placements	24	14	4
Additional expenditure (Invest to Save)	£45,420.90 Recruitment and marketing officer @ Sc 5 £30420.90 Recruitment budget: £15,000	0	0
Additional expenditure Recruitment support and retention	0	£86,432 Recruitment and marketing officer @ Sc 5 £30420.90 Recruitment budget: £15,000 1 additional S.W. post @pt 34-38 £41011.35	£127,443 Recruitment and marketing officer @ Sc 5 £30420.90 Recruitment budget: £15,000 2 additional S.W. posts @pt 34-38 £82,022.70
Increased LA Boarding out allowances to meet projected increase in internal placements	0	£221,561	£443,123

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Projected gross savings (agency placements)	0	£464,360	£928,883
Projected net savings	0	£156,367	£358,317

Year	Cumulative (Cost)/Saving
2013-14	£45,421
2014-15	£110,946
2015-16	£469,263
2016-17	£827,580

THE EXECUTIVE

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2013

PRESENT: Councillor Ieuan Williams (Chair)
Councillor J Arwel Roberts (Vice-Chair)

Councillors R Dew, K P Hughes, A M Jones, H E Jones and Alwyn Rowlands

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive
Director of Community
Head of Service (Highways and Waste Management)
Director of Lifelong Learning
Accountancy Manager (TF)
Principal Waste Management Officer (MPE)
Acting Principal Waste Management Officer (JRE)
Acting Service Accountant (AH)
Committee Services Manager (JG)

1 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None to declare.

2 **URGENT MATTERS CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR HIS APPOINTED OFFICER**

None to declare.

3 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED

“Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the press and public from the meeting during discussion on the following item on the grounds that it may involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the said Act and in the attached Public Interest Test”.

4 **WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLE PROCUREMENT**

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Highways and Waste Management) seeking Executive approval to instruct the Council's waste collection and street cleansing contracts to proceed with ordering the new vehicle fleet for the second half of the contract before the vehicle manufacturers increase their prices, due to a specification change brought about by European emission regulations.

The report also updated the Executive on how the type of collection vehicles used, affected the waste collection strategy and on the investigation of future waste collection models to increase recycling on Anglesey.

Six options and resultant costs were detailed at Paras 2.1 - 2.6 of the report. The Accountancy Manager explained the financial aspects of the six options considered.

It was reported that the decision taken today should be treated as an urgent matter and not subject to call-in in accordance with paragraph 4.5.16.10 of the Constitution. The agreement of the Chair of the County Council would be sought to this course of action and the Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee would also be kept informed.

The Leader and Councillor K P Hughes wished it to be minuted that they would wish to see the constitutional procedure adhered to by officers in future prior to the Executive reaching a decision on any matter.

RESOLVED

That Option 2 purchasing new Resource Recovery Vehicles (RRVs) and using the existing 240 litre residual bins is the preferred option for the start of the second half of the 14 year contract.

To agree that Biffa can proceed immediately to order new Resource Recovery, Waste Collection and Street Cleansing Vehicles to avoid additional costs of Euro 6 chassis.

To agree that the Finance Service discuss the viability of the Council funding the purchase of all new vehicles with Biffa and proceed with this funding, if it is advantageous to the Council and that sufficient guarantees are in place for the vehicles to remain Council property if the contractor were to experience financial difficulties.

That officers continue to review collection options during the second half of the 14 year contract with Biffa and provide the relevant Committees with further information on future systems to be considered and their costs, bearing in mind that a new procurement process will commence in 2019/20 for a new contract commencing in April 2021.

That in view of the circumstances described within this Report and of the need of urgency the Committee pursuant to CPR 4.5.16.10 agree that this decision shall not be subject to the call-in procedure as this will seriously prejudice the Council's interests (subject to confirmation by the Chair of the County Council and the matter being drawn to the attention of the Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee by the Head of Service immediately after this meeting).

That in the light of any challenge to the decision, the Chief Executive be requested to support and advise the Chair of the County Council.

The meeting concluded at 10.45 am

**COUNCILLOR IEUAN WILLIAMS
CHAIR**

THE EXECUTIVE

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2013

- PRESENT:** Councillor Ieuan Williams (Chair)
Councillor J Arwel Roberts (Vice-Chair)
- Councillors R Dew, K P Hughes, A M Jones, H E Jones and Alwyn Rowlands
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive
Director of Community
Director of Lifelong Learning
Director of Sustainable Development
Head of Function (Legal and Administration) (Item 8 only)
Head of Service (Policy)
Head of Service (Housing) (Items 9-12 only)
Accountancy Manager (TF)
Technical Services Manager (Housing Services) (DR) (Item 12 only)
Principal Development Officer (Housing Services) (AJ) (Item 10 only)
Senior Homeless Officer (Housing Services) (MP) (Item 9 only)
Policy and Strategy Manager (CWO) (Item 5 only)
Accountant (Capital) (Finance) (BD)
Committee Services Manager (JG)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillors Trefor Lloyd Hughes, Robert Llewelyn Jones, R.Meirion Jones and Robert G Parry OBE

The Leader and the Chief Executive referred to the sudden and tragic death on Friday last of Mr John Rees Thomas, Head of Service (Leisure and Culture). The Chief Executive mentioned that there would be an opportunity for Members and staff to pay their respects at the Extraordinary County Council meeting on 18th June, 2013. In the meantime, the Council's deepest sympathy was extended to his family and friends. Members and officers stood in silent tribute as a mark of their respect.

1 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor R.Meirion Jones declared an interest in Item 14 of these minutes (grants to Outside Bodies: Cwmni Fran Wen), remained at the meeting but did not take part in any discussion or voting thereon.

2 **URGENT MATTERS CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR HIS APPOINTED OFFICER**

None to declare.

3 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on the following dates be confirmed as true records:-

- 15th April, 2013
- 22nd April, 2013

4 THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Submitted – The report of the Head of Service (Policy) seeking approval of the Executive's updated Forward Work Programme for the period July to December 2013.

RESOLVED to confirm the updated work programme for the period July - December 2013 together with the minor amendments and additions referred to at the meeting by the Head of Service (Policy).

5 WELSH LANGUAGE SCHEME MONITORING REPORT

Submitted - The report of the Head of Service (Policy) seeking the Executive's approval to the annual Welsh language monitoring report and to authorise its submission to the Welsh Language Commissioners by 30 June 2013.

RESOLVED to accept the contents of the 2012/13 monitoring report and approve its submission to the Welsh Language Commissioner.

6 2012/13 CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Submitted for information - The report of the Head of Function (Resources) on the capital out-turn for the year just ended and drawing attention to any problems identified.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

7 2012/13 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Submitted for information - The report of the Head of Function (Resources) on the provisional position relating to under and overspend of service and corporate budgets and the effect on the Council's financial standing.

Reported – That the provisional outturn for the Council Fund for 2012-13 was an overall underspend of £1.1m representing a significant improvement on the previously forecast overspend of £1.0m.

RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

8 APPOINTMENT OF NON-VOTING CO-OPTees TO EACH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Submitted – A report by the Monitoring Officer seeking the Executive's approval to refer a constitutional change to the County Council, with regard to the appointment of non-voting co-optees to Scrutiny Committees.

RESOLVED to recommend to the County Council that it delegates to each Scrutiny Committee the discretion to appoint non-voting co-optees, for whatever period of time and terms each Scrutiny Committee considers appropriate, without having to obtain Council approval and that authority be given to officers to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution.

9 HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY

Submitted – A report by the Head of Service (Housing) seeking Executive approval to a proposal to amend the Council's Housing Allocations Policy and to also undertake a wholesale review of the policy.

RESOLVED:-

To agree to amend the Housing Allocation Policy with immediate effect, so as to incorporate those provisions contained in the attached draft ('showing proposed amendments for consideration on 10 June 2013') which amends the bedroom eligibility criteria, under-occupation priority criteria and overcrowding priority criteria, so as to address the compatibility of the policy with the housing benefit under-occupancy penalty amendments.

To agree to amend the Housing Allocation Policy with immediate effect, so as to incorporate those provisions contained within the attached draft, which amend the priority awarded to homeless applicants who are occupying temporary accommodation pursuant to section 193 of the Housing Act 1996;

To agree to amend the Housing Allocation Policy with immediate effect, so as to incorporate those provisions contained within the attached draft, which restrict the ability of main duty homeless households to exercise choice and preferences in connection with the areas in which they may be offered accommodation;

To agree to the setting up of a Housing Allocation Policy Review Task and Finish Group to work in conjunction with the Head of Service and Housing Services officers, to implement a wholesale review of the policy. Elected membership of the Task and Finish Group to be agreed in conjunction with the relevant Scrutiny Committee.

10 SUPPORTING PEOPLE PLAN

Submitted – The report of the Head of Service (Housing) seeking Executive approval to the contents and commissioning proposals contained in the Local Supporting People Commissioning Plan for 2013-14, prior to the submission to Welsh Government.

RESOLVED to approve the contents and commissioning priorities of the Local Supporting People Commissioning Plan 2013-14.

11 DISPOSAL OF HRA LAND FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Submitted - A report by the Head of Service (Housing) seeking Executive approval to adopt the draft amended policy previously approved on 24 August 2011, for application to all future disposal of HRA land for Affordable Housing Purposes.

RESOLVED to approve the draft disposal of HRA land for affordable housing policy.

12 THE PROCUREMENT OF UPDATED STOCK CONDITION SURVEY INFORMATION

Submitted - A report by the Head of Service (Housing) seeking Executive approval to ensure compliance with Contract Procedure Rule 4.9.2.4.2 in order to join a Framework Agreement procured by Places for People Group Limited in relation to the Client Professional Service Hub.

RESOLVED pursuant to Contract Procedure Rule 4.9.2.4.2, to approve the appointment of consultants to undertake a sample Stock Condition Survey via the People for Places Group Framework Agreement.

13 MUSEUMS SERVICE: FORWARD PLAN 2013-15

Submitted - A report by the Chief Executive seeking Executive approval for the Museums and Culture Service Forward Plan for the period 2013-15.

The Executive wished it to be minuted that the success of the Museums Service on Anglesey was legacy to the work of Mr. John Rees Thomas.

RESOLVED to approve the Isle of Anglesey Museums and Culture Service 'Forward Plan, April 2013-March 2015'.

14 PAYMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES: EDUCATION/LEISURE AND CULTURE

Submitted - A report by the Chief Executive seeking Executive approval to make annual payments to outside organisations which provide a range of education and youth as well as arts and cultural services. The payments were allocated to organisations operating in areas the Authority wished to support and which were consistent with the aims and objectives of the Council.

RESOLVED to accept the report and to authorise the officers to distribute the grants as indicated therein.

15 LOWERING AGE OF ADMISSION AT YSGOL DWYRAN

Submitted -The report of the Director of Lifelong Learning seeking Executive approval to publish statutory notices on the proposal to lower the age of admission at Ysgol Dwyran.

RESOLVED:-

To allow Authority officers to publish statutory notices on the proposal to lower the age of admission for Ysgol Dwyran.

To allow officers to move immediately on the proposal if no objection is received and to discuss on the best way forward with the school and the cylch to implement the proposal in September 2013. The process will be reported on to the Executive during the Autumn Term 2013.

The meeting concluded at 12 noon

**COUNCILLOR IEUAN WILLIAMS
CHAIR**

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	The Executive
Date	15 July 2013
Subject	The Executive's Forward Work Programme
Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Ieuan Williams
Lead Officer(s)	Deputy Chief Executive
Contact Officer	Huw Jones Head of Service – Policy (Tel. 01248 752108)
Nature and reason for reporting:	
To seek approval of the Executive's updated Forward Work Programme in accordance with the Council's Constitution.	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues
See CH – Summary

B – Considerations
See CH – Summary

C – Implications and Impacts		
1	Finance / Section 151	-
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	-
3	Human Resources	-
4	Property Services	-
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	-
6	Equality	Impact assessments will need to have been undertaken on all new or revised policies submitted to meetings of the Executive

C – Implications and Impacts		
7	Anti-poverty and Social	-
8	Communication	-
9	Consultation	-
10	Economic	-
11	Environmental	-
12	Crime and Disorder	-
13	Outcome Agreements	-

CH – Summary	
1.0	Background
1.1	The Executive’s forward work programme enables both Members of the Council and the public to see what key decisions are likely to be taken by the Executive over the coming months. It includes information on the decisions sought and who the lead officers and portfolio holders are for each item.
1.2	The Executive’s Forward Work Programme for the period September – December 2013 is attached.
1.3	It should be noted, however, that the forward work programme is a flexible document as not all items requiring a decision will be known that far in advance and some timescales may need to be altered to reflect new priorities etc. Arrangements are therefore in place to review the list of items and submit updates to the Executive on a monthly basis. Both strategic and operational issues are covered to inform the scrutiny process. Some items are likely to be determined by portfolio holders under delegated authority.

2.0 **Role of Scrutiny**

- 2.1 The Board of Commissioners have already acknowledged the importance of the scrutiny role, and in particular task and finish groups, in the process of supporting the corporate work programme.
- 2.2 This work programme offers a basis for further developing the work of the scrutiny committees. Further refinement of the work programme will be necessary to ensure better alignment of the schedule of meetings in the future in order to allow for pre-decision scrutiny.

D – Recommendation

Members of the Executive are requested to:

confirm the attached updated work programme which covers September – December 2013;

identify any matters subject to consultation with the Council’s Scrutiny Committees and confirm the need for Scrutiny Committees to develop their work programmes further to support the Executive’s work programme;

note that the forward work programme is updated monthly and submitted as a standing monthly item to the Executive.

Name of author of report: Huw Jones

Job Title: Head of Service - Policy

Date: 5 July 2013

Appendices:

Executive Forward Work Programme: September – December 2013.

Background papers

Previous forward work programmes.

THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Period: September – December 2013

Updated: 4 July 2013



The Executive's forward work programme enables both Members of the Council and the public to see what key decisions are likely to be taken by the Executive over the coming months. It includes information on the decisions sought and who the lead Officers and Portfolio Holders are for each item.

The Executive's draft Forward Work Programme for the period **September – December 2013** is outlined on the following pages.

It should be noted, however, that the work programme is a flexible document as not all items requiring a decision will be known that far in advance and some timescales may need to be altered to reflect new priorities etc. The list of items included is therefore reviewed regularly.

Some matters identified in the forward work programme may be delegated to individual portfolio holders for approval.

Reports will be required to be submitted from time to time regarding specific property transactions, in accordance with the Asset Management Policy and Procedures. Due to the influence of the external market, it is not possible to determine the timing of reports in advance.

Issues to be reported to the Council's Sustainability Board are currently under review.

* Key:

Strategic – key corporate plans or initiatives

Operational – service delivery

For information

THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Period: September – December 2013

Updated: 4 July 2013

	Subject and * Category (Strategic / Operational / For information)	Why the decision is sought from the Executive	Lead Department	Responsible Officer/ Lead Member & contact for representation	Pre-decision / Date to Scrutiny	Date to Executive	Date to Full Council
1	The Executive's Forward Work Programme Category: Strategic	To update the work programme.	Deputy Chief Executive	Huw Jones Head of Policy Cllr Ieuan Williams		9 September 2013	
2	Improvement Report (Performance Review of 2012/13) Category: Strategic	Adoption of report in accordance with Policy Framework	Deputy Chief Executive	Huw Jones Head of Policy Cllr Alwyn Rowlands		9 September 2013	10 October 2013
3	Corporate Plan 2013-17 Category: Strategic	Adoption of Plan in accordance with Policy Framework	Deputy Chief Executive	Huw Jones Head of Policy Cllr Alwyn Rowlands		9 September 2013	10 October 2013
4	Corporate Scorecard – Q1, 2013/14 Category: Strategic	Quarterly performance monitoring report.	Deputy Chief Executive	Huw Jones Head of Policy Cllr Alwyn Rowlands	29 July 2013	9 September 2013	
5	2013/14 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring – Quarter 1 Category: Strategic	Quarterly financial monitoring report.	Deputy Chief Executive	Clare Williams Head of Function – Resources Cllr Hywel Eifion Jones		9 September 2013	
6	Local Code of Governance Category: Strategic	To adopt the Local Code of Governance.	Deputy Chief Executive	Bethan Jones Deputy Chief Executive Cllr Alwyn Rowlands		9 September 2013	

* Key:

Strategic – key corporate plans or initiatives

Operational – service delivery

For information

THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Period: September – December 2013

Updated: 4 July 2013

	Subject and * Category (Strategic / Operational / For information)	Why the decision is sought from the Executive	Lead Department	Responsible Officer/ Lead Member & contact for representation	Pre-decision / Date to Scrutiny	Date to Executive	Date to Full Council
7	Heads of Service Review – Structure Considerations Category: Strategic	Approval.	Deputy Chief Executive	Bethan Jones Deputy Chief Executive Cllr Alwyn Rowlands		9 September 2013	9 September 2013
8	Nuclear new build-Blueprint for accommodation solutions Category: Strategic	To adopt recommendations as Council's formal response.	Community	Shan L Williams Head of Housing Services Cllr Kenneth P Hughes		9 September 2013	
9	HRA Subsidy Reform Category: Strategic	Changes and impact of the Housing Revenue Account subsidy system in Wales.	Community	Clare Williams Head of Function – Resources / Shan L Williams Head of Housing Services Cllr Kenneth P Hughes		9 September 2013	
10	Welsh Public Library Standards April 2011 – March 2014 : The Fourth Framework of Welsh Public Library Standards, Annual Return 2012-2013 Category: Strategic	Welsh Government / CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales require the approval of the Authority of the Annual Return.	Community	Pat West & Rachel Rowlands Leisure & Culture Cllr Ieuan Williams		9 September 2013	

* Key:

Strategic – key corporate plans or initiatives

Operational – service delivery

For information

THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Period: September – December 2013

Updated: 4 July 2013

	Subject and * Category (Strategic / Operational / For information)	Why the decision is sought from the Executive	Lead Department	Responsible Officer/ Lead Member & contact for representation	Pre-decision / Date to Scrutiny	Date to Executive	Date to Full Council
11	Adults' Safeguarding – Annual Report 2012/13 Category: Strategic	Approval.	Community	Anwen Davies Head of Adults' Services Cllr Kenneth P Hughes	29 July 2013	9 September 2013	
12	Measures to ensure that play areas are smoke-free Category: Strategic	Support for Welsh Government policy. In addition, the recommendations being made will have cost implications.	Lifelong Learning	Gwynne Jones Director of Lifelong Learning Cllr Ieuan Williams		9 September 2013	
13	Anglesey Primary Schools Modernisation – Llanddona School Category: Strategic	To agree the way forward.	Lifelong Learning	Gwyn Parry Head of Lifelong Learning Cllr Ieuan Williams		9 September 2013	
14	Aberffraw Conservation Area Character Appraisal Category: Operational	Support for approval by full Council.	Sustainable Development	Jim Woodcock Head of Planning and Public Protection Cllr J Arwel Roberts		9 September 2013	10 October 2013
15	Môn/Gwynedd Building Control Integration Category: Operational	Support the proposed joint working arrangements.	Sustainable Development	Jim Woodcock Head of Planning and Public Protection Cllr J Arwel Roberts	June 2013	9 September 2013	

* Key:

Strategic – key corporate plans or initiatives

Operational – service delivery

For information

THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Period: September – December 2013

Updated: 4 July 2013

	Subject and * Category (Strategic / Operational / For information)	Why the decision is sought from the Executive	Lead Department	Responsible Officer/ Lead Member & contact for representation	Pre-decision / Date to Scrutiny	Date to Executive	Date to Full Council
16	Market Hall, Holyhead Category: Operational	Support for development proposals.	Sustainable Development	Arthur Owen Director of Sustainable Development Cllr J Arwel Roberts		9 September 2013	
17	The Executive's Forward Work Programme Category: Strategic	To update the work programme.	Deputy Chief Executive	Huw Jones Head of Policy Cllr Ieuan Williams		21 October 2013	
18	2014/15 Budget Category: Strategic	To begin dialogue on the Executive's intentions.	Deputy Chief Executive	Clare Williams Head of Function – Resources Cllr Hywel Eifion Jones		21 October 2013	
19	The Executive's Forward Work Programme Category: Strategic	To update the work programme.	Deputy Chief Executive	Huw Jones Head of Policy Cllr Ieuan Williams		4 November 2013	
20	Corporate Scorecard – Q2, 2013/14 Category: Strategic	Quarterly performance monitoring report.	Deputy Chief Executive	Huw Jones Head of Policy Cllr Alwyn Rowlands	28 October 2013	4 November 2013	
21	2013/14 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring – Quarter 2 Category: Strategic	Quarterly financial monitoring report.	Deputy Chief Executive	Clare Williams Head of Function – Resources Cllr Hywel Eifion Jones		4 November 2013	

* Key:

Strategic – key corporate plans or initiatives

Operational – service delivery

For information

THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Period: September – December 2013

Updated: 4 July 2013

	Subject and * Category (Strategic / Operational / For information)	Why the decision is sought from the Executive	Lead Department	Responsible Officer/ Lead Member & contact for representation	Pre-decision / Date to Scrutiny	Date to Executive	Date to Full Council
22	Informal Carers – Commissioning Intentions and Priorities Category: Strategic	Approval.	Community	Anwen Davies Head of Adults' Services Cllr Kenneth P Hughes	28 October 2013	4 November 2013	
23	The Executive's Forward Work Programme Category: Strategic	To update the work programme.	Deputy Chief Executive	Huw Jones Head of Policy Cllr Ieuan Williams		2 December 2013	
24	Local Housing Strategy Category: Strategic	To approve the strategic direction.	Community	Shan L Williams Head of Housing Services Cllr Kenneth P Hughes		2 December 2013	
25	2014/15 Budget Category: Strategic	To finalise the Executive's initial draft budget proposals for consultation.	Deputy Chief Executive	Clare Williams Head of Function – Resources Cllr Hywel Eifion Jones		16 December 2013	

* Key:

Strategic – key corporate plans or initiatives

Operational – service delivery

For information

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
REPORT TO	MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
DATE	15 JULY 2013
SUBJECT	2014/15 BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS AND TIMETABLE
PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S)	Cllr Hywel Eifion Jones (FINANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER)
LEAD OFFICER(S)	Clare Williams SECTION 151 OFFICER
CONTACT OFFICER	Clare Williams
Nature and reason for reporting:	
To present an updated Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy and 2014-15 Budget assumptions.	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues

The Purpose of the report is to:

1. Update the Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy for 2014-15 to 2016-17 (Section 3).
2. Agree the principles which will underpin the 2014-15 budget (Section 4).
3. Agree the Savings Target for the Directorates and the strategies to achieve the savings (Section 5).

B – Considerations

The key considerations within the report are:

1. Protection of schools and to be reviewed in the context of Welsh Government's indications.
2. The assumptions within the Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy (Section 3.9).
3. Setting an appropriate savings target for the Authority to ensure a balanced budget can be achieved.
4. The associated risks within both the Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy and the 2014-15 budget strategy (Section 6).
5. The transformation programme which will aid in the Authority delivering services and driving efficiencies in future years.
6. The timetable for setting the 2014-15 budget.

C – Implications and Impacts	
1	Finance / Section 151
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer
3	Human Resources
4	Property Services (see notes – separate document)
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
6	Equality (see notes – separate document)
7	Anti-poverty and Social (see notes – separate document)
8	Communication (see notes – separate document)
9	Consultation (see notes – separate document)
10	Economic
11	Environmental (see notes – separate document)
12	Crime and Disorder (see notes – separate document)
13	Outcome Agreements
CH – Summary	
D – Recommendations	
<p>Approve the 2013-14 guiding principles – Section 4.</p> <p>Approve the savings Targets for the Authority. Para 5.1.</p> <p>Approve the savings directorates identify towards their respective target is over and above any previously identified efficiencies. Para 5.4.</p> <p>Approve the strategy to identify the Savings requirements.</p> <p>Note the risks and potential changes to the Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy and 2014-15 budget. Section 6.</p> <p>Note that the Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy will change as new information becomes available and views are sought. Para 3.13.</p> <p>Note the variables within the budget build at this stage. Para 4.3-4.</p>	

Name of author of report: Clare Williams Section 151 Officer

Date: 14 July 2013

Appendices:
<p>Appendix 1 – Summary 2013-14 Budget as approved at Council on 5 March 2013</p> <p>Appendix 2 – 2012-13 Revenue Budget Provisional Outturn</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Directorate Savings Scenarios</p>
Background papers
<p>Budget 2013-14 presented to Council 5 March 2013</p> <p>Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy and Final Revenue Budget Proposals for 2013-14 presented on</p> <p>Revenue Budget 2012-13 – Provisional Outturn – Presented to Executive 5-6-13.</p>

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1** The National Economic position has not improved as predicted. The spending round on 26th June 2013 set out how the government will spend £745 billion pounds of taxpayers' money between April 2015 and April 2016 and set out the planned spending reductions of £11.5bn to close the gap between taxes and expenditure. These included a 2% reduction on the block grant to devolved nations.
- 1.2** The economic picture in Wales is set to be far worse than predicted at the beginning of the year. Wales has not experienced the same level of cuts as English authorities who have experienced cuts of up to 33% of their budgets. The latest information available suggests a cash reduction of 4% for 2014/15, and possibly beyond, for Local Government in Wales. The actual reduction for Anglesey will not be confirmed until the Autumn.
- 1.3** The relative settlements for the last two financial years have produced the following results for this Council:-
 - The 2012-13 settlement saw Aggregate External Finance (AEF - ie the amount received by the Council in general grant) reduced by 1.2%, from £93.436m to £92.331m. This compared to an average increase across all Welsh authorities of 0.2% and this left the Council with the second least favourable settlement amongst the 22 authorities.
 - For 2013-14, AEF rose by £7.896m to £100.227m, but £4.625m of this was attributable to the transfer of responsibility for Council Tax Support and a further £2.155m to previous specific grants being incorporated into AEF. So the underlying increase was just £1.116m or 1.2%. Once all the elements were combined, the Council's settlement was the 16th most favourable of 22.

While this background is not necessarily a good guide to what will happen to 2014-15, nothing has been identified to suggest that the picture is likely to be more favourable.

- 1.4** It is worth noting the 2012/13 outturn (Appendix 2) in setting future budgets. Although the overall position was one of an £1.1m underspend, there was an overspend in social services and council tax collection fell short of the budget target.
- 1.5** During the first quarter of 2013/14 financial year, the Authority has begun to implement the savings required to deliver the 2013-14 budget. The budgets are now monitored monthly and May 2013 reports are currently being reviewed by finance and the services. Due to the scale of the savings and the risk set out in the budget report it is important to identify any emerging pressures that may require action. When setting the budget for 2014-15 and beyond any recurring implications of these will need to be considered.

2. PRIORITIES FOR 2014-15 AND BEYOND

- 2.1** The Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy needs to be aligned to the priorities and Corporate Plan of the Authority. The 2013-14 budget and Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy will need to be underpinned by individual Service Strategies and robust Business Plans which will include programmes within the Transformation Plan. The 2013-14 budget and Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy will need to be aligned to the six Themes identified:
 - 2.1.1** Theme 1 – Professional and well run.
 - 2.1.2** Theme 2 – Innovative, ambitious and outward looking.
 - 2.1.3** Theme 3 – Customer, Citizen and Community Focused.

2.1.4 Theme 4 – Valuing and developing our people.

2.1.5 Theme 5 – Committed to partnership.

2.1.6 Theme 6 - Achieving.

3. MEDIUM TERM REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY (MTRBS)

- 3.1** The Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy is intended to provide a robust, consistent and sustainable approach to establishing and maintaining a stable and prudent financial basis on which improvement and transformation of the Council's services can progress.
- 3.2** The MTRBS is the process which links the Council's vision and priorities with its financial budgets and shows how the Council's finances will be structured and managed to ensure that this fits with, and supports, the priorities of the Council and its partners.
- 3.3** The MTRBS will help the Council to:-
- 3.3.1** Meet its corporate strategic outcomes and priorities.
 - 3.3.2** Improve financial planning and financial management of the Council's revenue and capital resources.
 - 3.3.3** Maximise the use of internal and external resources available to the Council.
 - 3.3.4** Ensure provision of value for money and deliver budget efficiencies.
 - 3.3.5** Develop longer term budgets in support of strategic planning.
 - 3.3.6** Align financial resources to the Council's spending priorities.
 - 3.3.7** Ensure that the level of reserves is at an appropriate level.
 - 3.3.8** Respond to external pressures.
 - 3.3.9** Develop a sustainable budget over the medium term.
 - 3.3.10** Highlight financial risks and mitigate their potential impact.
- 3.4** Each year there is the short-term requirement to prepare an annual budget and set the council tax. The achievement of the Council's long-term objectives, however, with the planning of new initiatives, capital developments and the allocation of resources in response to changing service needs, requires service and financial planning to be undertaken over more than one year.
- 3.5** It is imperative that, for the up and coming budget setting process; the Authority not only plans for the next financial year, but also for at least the next 3 years. Therefore, while identifying savings for the next financial year through transformation of services, consideration should also be given to the medium term to meet the challenging saving targets Welsh Government will set. The transformation of services may require an initial investment and this investment will need to be funded through the MTRBS, which will increase the amount which must be either saved or funded from earmarked reserves.
- 3.6** The medium term revenue budget strategy presented to Council on the 5th March 2013 highlighted a potential gap of £3.1m for 2014-15 and £4.0m in 2015-16. At the time, this was a top level update of previous medium term revenue budget strategies, with the main assumptions being 5% year on year council tax increase and 1% year on year pay awards.

- 3.7 The medium term revenue budget strategy has been updated to reflect a greater detailed analysis of expenditure and anticipated increases, although further work remains to be done. The table below shows the updated strategy.

Table 1 – MTFP Prior to recent WG announcements

	2014-15 £m	2015-16 £m	2016-17 £m
Funding Available:			
Welsh Government	101.000	101.000	101.000
Council Tax	29.400	30.900	32.450
Total	130.400	131.900	133.450
Previous Year Budget (Adjusted)	128.200	130.400	131.900
Schools Budgets Inflation and Protection	0.500	0.500	1.500
Other cost increases	2.600	2.600	2.600
Demographic changes	0.500	0.500	0.500
Capital Financing & Interest	0.100	0.100	0.100
Financing unsupported borrowing	0.200	0.400	0.400
Salary & Grading Review	1.300	0.700	0.700
Investing in change/ severance	-0.100	-0.300	0.000
Contribution to balances	-0.500	0.000	0.000
Identified Pressures	0.000	0.000	0.000
Other growth	0.700	1.000	
Agreed Savings			
Funding Gap	-3.100	-4.000	-4.250
Budget	130.400	131.900	133.450

Table 2 – MTFP Scenario with 4% reduction

	2014-15 £'000	2015-16 £'000	2016-17 £'000
Previous year's budget	128,084	125,468	123,082
Schools Protection	449	449	449
Inflation	3,241	3,151	3,062
Increase Income	-855	-855	-855
Demographic change	500	500	500
Financing Unsupported Borrowing	160	240	320
Salary & Grading review	1,300	700	700
Investing in change	-100	-300	-500
Contribution to balances	-500	0	0
Identified Pressures	0	0	0
New Priorities	700	1,000	1,000
Savings	0	0	0
Funding Gap	-7,511	-7,271	-6,835
Total	125,468	123,082	120,923
Funded by WG	96,218	92,369	88,674
Council Tax	29,250	30,713	32,249
	125,468	123,082	120,923

- 3.8** Table 1 sets out the previous MTRBS position, which indicated a budget gap of £3.1m for 2014-15. This is based on an assumption that WG grant would grow slightly in 2014-15 and then remain the same. Table 2 sets out the updated MTRBS position with a 4% budget cut in external support, as indicated by WLGA and this is now seen as the most likely scenario. The savings will need to be met through transformation of services, efficiencies and savings. The savings required are estimated at £7.5m in 2014/15 and, across the three years to 2016/17, total £21.6m.
- 3.9** The medium term revenue budget strategy has the following assumptions built into the forecasts:
- 3.9.1** As stated above, Welsh Government (WG) Funding for 2014-15 will reduce by 4%, in line with the most recent indications. Certain specific grants may also be transferred into the overall settlement for 2014-15 and this could reduce funding still further. In addition certain grant funding could cease in the future.
- 3.9.2** Council Tax –Year on year increase of 5%.
- 3.9.3** Schools and Social services – The WG has set expectations of a 1.27% increase for schools. There are currently no plans to protect social services. The projections in the above table assume an increase of 1.27% for schools plus 1% pay award.
- 3.9.4** Other Cost Increases & Other Growth – Allowance has been made for 1% inflation in pay costs, 10% growth in energy costs and inflation of between 2% and 3% on other controllable expenditure (with the exception of non-pay employee costs, for which no increase has been allowed). Non-grant income is assumed to grow at an overall average rate of 5%.
- 3.9.5** During the year the MTRBS will be updated with savings identified and investment required through the Transformation Programme for 2014-15 and beyond. The MTRBS at this stage does not include any costs and savings for projects as these have not yet been finalised.
- 3.9.6** Demographic changes - The growth in Adults services users is increasing the Social Services budget by £500k and estimate of 2.25%. Pupil numbers are forecast as remaining more or less stable through the period of the MTRBS.
- 3.9.7** Capital Financing & Interest – There will be a requirement for proposals which depend on additional unsupported (Prudential) borrowing to demonstrate that they are self-financing over time. However, it has been recognised that some might require investment that will not be fully repaid over the term of the current MTRBS. Therefore, allowance has been made for an increase in borrowing costs over the medium term. (A particular example is the 21st Century Schools programme, where the associated capital receipts and revenue savings will not be realised immediately).
- 3.9.8** Job Evaluation and back pay (Salary & Grading Review) – Following discussions at the pay and grading panel there is an intention to complete the full Job Evaluation exercise rather than take a phased approach. This is a change to the previous MTRBS and is expected to cost in the region of £4m (based on the 2009 exercise), in addition to the costs for back pay and equal pay. This remains one of the highest risks facing the Authority.
- 3.9.9** Investing In Change – £1.5m funding has been allocated in 2013/14 for the cost of change. This will continue across the three years, but with a reduction of £100k in 2014/15 and a further £300k and £500k in 2015/16 and 2016/17 respectively. This funding will be used to support the transformation of services.

- 3.10** An important point to note is that there has been no allowance made within the MTRBS for contributions to be made to General Balances. The 2012-13 draft final accounts show that the General Balances were at £6.1m up from £4.4m assumed when setting the 2013/14 budget. The balances on both general and earmarked reserves will be reviewed over the summer to consider the level required for the council.
- 3.11** As noted above, the medium term revenue budget strategy assumes that council tax will increase by 5%. The table below shows the revenue that would be generated by a range of Council Tax increases and also the potential band D council tax rate for 2013-14 financial years for this range.

Percentage increase in Council Tax	Additional Council Tax Revenue £m	Estimated Band D Council Tax £
5.00%	1.393	986.11
4.70%	1.309	983.29
4.50%	1.254	981.41
4.00%	1.114	976.72
3.50%	0.975	972.02
3.00%	0.836	967.32
2.50%	0.697	962.63

- 3.12** If the Authority increase council tax by 5% this will leave a budget gap based on the potential cut of 4% of £7.511m. If the Council opts for a lower council tax increase, the gap will increase by the amounts shown in the table below, which would have to be covered by the identification of additional efficiencies and savings on top of the level already identified.

Reduction in Revenue if CT is not 5%		
Increase (%)	Additional Council Tax Revenue £m	Difference £m
5.00%	1.393	
4.70%	1.309	0.084
4.50%	1.254	0.139
4.00%	1.114	0.279
3.50%	0.975	0.418
3.00%	0.836	0.557
2.50%	0.697	0.696

- 3.13** As the budget round process progresses, the current assumptions will change as new information becomes available or as views change. The approach that has been adopted within the MTRBS is a high level analysis designed to provide an indication of the future years' financial position.

4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR 2014-15 BUDGET

- 4.1** A balanced budget will need to be presented for 2014-15. At the outset it is assumed that this is to be achieved without the one-off use of reserves.
- 4.2** Schemes based on additional Prudential borrowing will be required to demonstrate that they are self-funding.
- 4.3** The assumptions made about rates of inflation are set out in paragraph 3.9.4 above.

- 4.4 Whilst it is recognised that Welsh Government would like to protect Schools (adjusted as appropriate for pupil numbers and formula changes) by 1.27%, it is recommended that prior to agreeing this, support and challenge reviews are conducted to ensure that the budgets are at appropriate levels and that work is carried out to establish the remodelling of services.
- 4.5 More schools are reporting that they expect to go into deficit during 2014-15 with the support of the Authority, schools need to be planning to ensure that they are operating within budget.

5. SAVINGS TARGET AND STRATEGY

- 5.1 A number of savings scenarios have been developed (See Appendix 3) which includes options for excluding schools and social services, both individually and collectively, from making savings, or excluding one or both from the percentage calculation but requiring a fixed saving of £1m from schools. It should be noted that the scenarios below rely on a consistent reduction across services and this could prove to be very difficult for small services with a handful of staff. If schools and social services are entirely excluded, a savings target of 12.4% will be needed to enable the funding gap to be met. (Scenario 3A).
- 5.2 The table below summarises the level of savings achievable at certain levels of percentage reduction in net budgets. This also shows the levels achievable if schools and social services were excluded. The final section of the table identifies the level of saving required to meet the overall budget gap.

Scenario 1	Fixed Percentage All Services				
Scenario 2A	Exclude Delegated Schools Budget From Percentage				
Scenario 2B	Exclude Delegated Schools Budget From Percentage, But Require £1m Contribution				
Scenario 3A	Exclude Delegated Schools Budget And Social Care From Percentage				
Scenario 3B	Exclude Delegated Schools Budget And Social Care From Percentage, But Require £1m Contribution From Schools				
Percentage Saving	Scenario 1 £'000	Scenario 2A £'000	Scenario 2B £'000	Scenario 3A £'000	Scenario 3B £'000
3.0%	4,182	3,121	4,121	1,818	2,818
4.0%	5,574	4,159	5,159	2,422	3,422
5.0%	6,970	5,201	6,201	3,029	4,029
6.0%	8,364	6,241	7,241	3,635	4,635
7.0%	9,759	7,282	8,282	4,241	5,241
8.0%	11,153	8,322	9,322	4,847	5,847
9.0%	12,547	9,362	10,362	5,453	6,453
10.0%	13,940	10,401	11,401	6,057	7,057
11.0%	15,335	11,443	12,443	6,665	7,665
12.0%	16,727	12,481	13,481	7,269	8,269
<i>Y Canrannau Gofynnol i Gyflawni'r Arbedion Tybiedig</i>					
5.4%	7,511				
7.2%		7,511			
6.3%			7,511		
12.4%				7,511	
10.7%					7,511

5.3 The above percentages will be reduced to reflect both savings arising from initiatives within the Transformation Programme and any generic initiatives which apply across the Council. Two items which have already been identified are:-

- increasing the assumed rise in non-grant income from 5% to 10%, and
- reducing support to the Third Sector by 5%.

The impact of these has not yet been quantified and so is not included in the figures shown above.

5.4 The target level of savings from each service area under the respective Scenarios is set out in Appendix 3, although the identification and allocation of the savings across services within a specific directorate will be determined by the relevant Director/Deputy Chief Executive. It will be the responsibility of the Directors and Heads of Service to ensure that savings are identified which at least meet the savings target above by the 13th September 2013 at the latest.

5.5 Running alongside the services identifying savings individually, will be the strategies highlighted below, which will need to be project led. This will generate further options, which has the potential to ease the pressure on services.

5.6 These are difficult targets for the majority of services (particularly if schools and social services are protected). However, it needs to be emphasised that this is only a starting point for developing options and the final outcomes and decisions are likely to differ as Members exercise policy choice.

5.7 A number of strategies will need to be adopted to identify the efficiencies and savings. These include:

5.7.1 Identification of cross directorate savings – This may require one-off project support to ensure that the outcomes are achievable and delivered as per expectations.

5.7.2 Expenditure review – Services to review the base budget to identify budget lines for:

- Unused budgets – Expenditure lines which have budget, but no spend against them.
- Non-Essential use of budgets. Identification of budget lines which are not essential to the delivery of the service.
- Review budget against the council priorities;
- Review non statutory service budgets;
- Review budgets spent on statutory services;

5.7.3 Identification of other/new sources of revenue funding.

5.7.4 Identification of discretionary and mandatory services to ensure clarity of the services the Council must provide.

5.7.5 Agreeing levels of service that can be delivered within the financial constraints rather than a desirable level of service.

5.7.6 Identify how the use of ICT can transform the service and make efficiencies.

5.7.7 Using methodologies such as lean thinking and benchmark services against others;

5.7.8 Exploring further collaboration, partnership and joint working opportunities with other local authorities, private sector and third sector.

- 5.7.9 Seeking out best practice for delivering services, whether from other local authorities, other public sector bodies or the private sector.
- 5.7.10 Review of property and use of buildings.
- 5.7.11 Robust challenge of savings and growth proposals;
- 5.7.12 Consider what services we can stop providing and or review how these services could be provided by other providers in the community.
- 5.7.13 Consider the level of inflation on income and opportunities to generate income.

5.8 Services will be required to review how they deliver their services and identify the activities associated with that delivery. This can be aided through the service performance reviews and service review challenges to enable identification of alternative methods of delivering to drive out savings. This will be extended to future years as the services are transformed and savings may be dragged out over a number of years.

5.9 The Authority and Senior Leadership Team will also need to consider planning over the next 3 years. A programme needs to be developed incorporating a redesign on how the Authority delivers services which are fit for purpose (this should be along same principals as the Transformation Priority Programme).

6. RISKS WITHIN THE MTRBS AND 2014-15 BUDGET

6.1 There are a number of risks within both the Medium Term Revenue Budget Strategy and the 2014-15 Budget setting process, all of which will change the MTFP and the level of savings that need to be identified as the budget process progresses. These will need to be taken into consideration when deciding the level of savings to be identified and the priorities of the Council.

6.1.1 Welsh Government Funding - Whilst indications have been given in the 2014-15 settlement for the next 2 financial years, these are provisional, and the Minister has indicated that a significant cut of 4% is likely in 2014-15. The current indications last only until the next UK Comprehensive Spending Review. The indicative figures will be affected by transfers in and out of the settlement, and a number of large transfers are under discussion. Data changes will also affect the settlement and the trend is for Anglesey's data to deteriorate in comparison to other authorities, e.g. because of slower population growth. The AEF line in the MTRBS is, therefore, quite volatile. As in previous years, the main factor may whether or not a 'floor' is built in, to impose a maximum level on any decrease.

6.1.2 Grants – Notification of grant levels tend to either be received very late in the prior financial year or during the financial year in question. Some of these may be reduced substantially or cut altogether; we do not have a complete picture of all these and we will not even have this as the financial year begins.

6.1.3 Social Care Demand - Adult Services are also experiencing growth in demand across all areas. Whilst an annual allowance for demographic growth is built into the budget, this is based on 2013-14 estimated increases for adults over 65 and Learning Disabilities. Should demand increase, this will place additional pressures on the service.

6.1.4 Welfare reform - There are significant risks and pressures facing the Authority. The main strand is localisation of Council Tax Benefit.

6.1.5 Pension changes – Auto enrolment of employees into the LGPS will have an impact in 2013-14. This means that all staff not currently in a pension scheme will be automatically enrolled and it will be for them to opt out. The MTRBS has assumed that 25% of the Council's staff currently not in a pension scheme will continue membership. The opt out rate in these new circumstances is currently uncertain and a higher number of people remaining in the pension scheme will result in higher contributions from the Authority.

7. TIMETABLE

7.1 The proposed key dates within the timetable for the budget setting process are as follows:

- Provide Guidance and Templates to Directorates/Service Areas/Heads of Service/Budget Holders – 30th July 2012

- Member Workshops

- Executive

- End of August 2013
- September/October 2013 –To be confirmed

Note: Further workshops to be arranged as required.

- All members

- September/October 2013 –To be confirmed.

Note: Further workshops to be arranged as required.

- SLT/Heads of Service Workshops

- August 2013;
- September 2013.

Note: Further workshops to be arranged as required.

- Request submission of savings and growth proposals from Directorates – 13th September 2013
- Draft Budget – 18th October 2013
- Provisional Settlement notification – 17th October 2013 (Note: This is the nearest Thursday to the date of the announcement in 2012. No notification of the actual date has been received).
- Public Consultation – November 2013.
- Final Settlement notification – 5th December 2013 (Note: This is the nearest Thursday to the date of the announcement in 2012. No notification of the actual date has been received).
- Final Budgets for Approval – February 2013.
- Executive meeting to approve budget – 18th February 2013.
- Council Meeting to approve budget – 5th March 2013.

7.2 The timetable and the key dates (with the exception of Executive and Council meetings) are dependent upon any changes in Council views and new information which might be received during the 2014-15 budget setting process.

8. CAPITAL

- 8.1** The Capital Plan has been rolled forward as a base budget for the last two years without a bidding round. It is the intention to bring this process back onto a more strategic basis this year. At this stage no specific guidelines are suggested. The current capital plan was reviewed as part of the 2013-14 budget process and updated for known events and a reduction of £0.32m (to £4.05m) in General Capital Funding from the WG over the previous year.
- 8.2** The 2013-14 settlement also indicated a further reduction in the 2014-15 financial year of £0.44m (or 11% to £3.60m) and then no change in 2015-16. However, as with the AEF settlement, this could change and reduce significantly when the funding is announced in October 2013 (provisional) and December 2013 (final) settlements.

9. SUMMARY

- 9.1** The next 3 years (from 2014-15 onwards) are going to be an extremely challenging period in which the Authority will require to be prepared for delivering services with reduced resources (either in cash terms or real terms (taking account of inflation)). As a result, there is a need to move away from planning for one year at a time to more of a longer term planning process (this includes Budgetary and Service Delivery planning). The Authority not only needs to be planning for 2014-15, but also beyond this period to ensure sustainability.
- 9.2** A transformation agenda has been established to identify saving opportunities, which will ensure the Authority is prepared for the coming years. This will include determining what direction the Authority wants to travel and what are the essential services that need to be delivered. The agenda will need to cover how the Authority can deliver services in different ways with either the same or less resource, and also what services the council could stop providing.
- 9.3** The 2014-15 budget setting process needs to commence as soon as possible with the aim of establishing a draft budget as early as possible. The sooner this can be achieved, the greater the flexibility available to the Authority to react and make changes as and when new information and views are received.
- 9.4** The current recommendation is for Authority to look to find savings for 2014-15 of at least 12-13%. This would achieve savings totalling over £7.5m. The Directorates should not only be identifying savings for 2014-15, but as mentioned above, how they plan to deliver services (and generate savings) over the next 3 to 4 years. The illustrative figures shown for individual Directorates in Appendix 3 are based on the required saving being split evenly across all services. The greater the amount that can be saved through initiatives contained within the Transformation Programme, the lower will be the percentage that needs to be found through a traditional 'salami-slicing' approach.

BUDGET 2013-14					
	Draft Standstill Position after provisional settlement 3 Dec 2012	Final Settlement changes and other adjustments	Savings proposals	Proposed Growth	Proposed Budget
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Directorate					
Lifelong Learning (including schools)	47,485		-307		47,178
Community Services	31,883	-85	-978	84	30,904
Sustainable Development	22,592	-190	-1,336	300	21,366
Deputy Chief Executive	8,316	29	-239		8,106
Corporate and Democratic Costs	2,269	-235			2,169
Council Tax Support - additional responsibilities	4,468	357			4,825
Levies	3,223	-3			3,220
Capital Financing and Interest	7,185				7,185
Recharges to HRA/ DSO	-358				-358
Affordable Priorities Programme Initiatives (savings)	-480	125			-230
Total	126,583	-2	-2,860	384	124,365
Outcome Agreement Grant	-545				-545
Improvement and Education Recovery Board	190				190
Process Contingency	500	-500			0
General Contingency	0				0
Job Evaluation Contingency	900	-450			450
Sub Total Standstill Budget	127,628	-952	-2,860	384	124,460
From Medium Term Plan:					
Additional Job Evaluation Contingency	400	-400			0
Additional Unsupported Borrowing Contingency	200	-200			0
Pressures:					
- Looked after Children	600	250			850
- Autoenrolment	200	-200			0
- Welfare Reform	200	-150			50
- Schools Protection	500				500
Severances Contingency	1,000				1,000
Cost of change Contingency	500				500
Other Specific Contingencies	0	600			350
Contribution from/ to Balances	0	500			500
Total before Savings	131,228	-552	-2,860	384	128,210
Funded by:					
Aggregate External Funding	99,961	266			100,227
Council Tax	27,867	156			27,867
Discretionary Rate Relief	-50				-50
Total Funding	127,778	422	0	0	128,210
Funding Gap	3,450	-974	-2,860	384	0

**GWARIANT AMODOL 2012/13
PROVISIONAL OUTTURN FIGURES 2012/13**

	CYLLIDEB ADDASIEDIG ADJUSTED BUDGET	GWIRIONEDDOL ADDASIEDIG ADJUSTED ACTUAL	GWAHANIAETH VARIANCE (Tanwario)/ Drosodd / (Under) / Over
	£000	£000	£000
Addysg Gydol Oes / Lifelong Learning	48,925	48,835	(90)
Cymuned / Community			
Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol/ Social Services	26,358	27,014	656
Gwasanaeth Tai/ Housing Service	925	926	1
Gwasanaeth Hamdden a Chymuned/ Leisure and Community Service	4,113	4,181	68
Datblygu Cynaliadwy / Sustainable Development			
Gwasanaeth Datblygu Economaidd/ Economic Development Service	1,507	1,507	0
Gwasanaeth Cynllunio ae Amgylcheddol / Planning and Environment	3,379	3,236	(143)
Gwasanaeth Eiddo/ Property Service	977	797	(180)
Gwasanaeth Priffyrdd a Thrafnidiaeth/ Highways and Transportation Service	11,068	10,814	(254)
Gwasanaeth Gwastraff / Waste Service	8,479	8,209	(270)
Dirprwy Brif Weithredwr / Deputy Chief Executive			
Uwch Reolwyr / Senior Management	1,224	1,176	(48)
Gwasanaethau Pwyllgorau a Cyfreithiol/ Committee and Legal Services	175	139	(36)
Gwasanaeth Polisi/ Policy Service	(216)	(144)	72
Gwasanaeth Cyllid/ Finance Service	1,073	1,066	(7)
Gwasanaeth Archwilio/ Audit Service	1	8	7
Gwasanaeth Adnoddau Dynol / HR Service	201	129	(72)
Gwasanaeth Technoleg Gwybodaeth a Chyfathrebu/ Information Communication Technology Service	317	63	(254)
	108,506	107,956	(550)
Cyllidebau sy'n Risg Corfforaethol/ Budgets treated as Corporate Risks			
All Sirol Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol/ Out of County Social Services	1,559	1,469	(90)
All Sirol Addysg/ Out of County Education	1,028	879	(149)
Digartrefedd/Homelessness	307	(26)	(333)
Budd-daliadau/ Benefits	28	(155)	(183)
Cyllido Cyfalaf a Llog / Capital Financing and Interest	8,075	8,176	101
Costau Corfforaethol a Democraidaidd / Corporate and Democratic Costs	1,461	1,403	(58)
	120,964	119,702	(1,262)
Grant Cymorth Refeniw / Revenue Support Grant	(73,544)	(73,544)	0
Incwm Treth Annomestig / Non Domestic Rate Income	(18,787)	(18,787)	0
Y Dreth Gyngor / Council Tax	(26,704)	(26,550)	154
Grant Cymell Perfformiad / Performance Incentive Grant	(729)	(729)	0
Newid mewn Cronfeydd Clustnodedig a Balansau Cyffredinol / Change in Earmarked Reserves and General Balances	1,200	92	(1,108)

APPENDIX 3

Scenario 1	Fixed Percentage All Services
Scenario 2A	Exclude Delegated Schools Budget From Percentage
Scenario 2B	Exclude Delegated Schools Budget From Percentage, But Require £1m Contribution
Scenario 3A	Exclude Delegated Schools Budget And Social Care From Percentage
Scenario 3B	Exclude Delegated Schools Budget And Social Care From Percentage, But Require £1m Contribution From Schools

SAVINGS AT REQUIRED LEVEL	5.4%	7.2%	6.3%	12.4%	10.7%
Directorate	Scenario 1 £	Scenario 2A £	Scenario 2B £	Scenario 3A £	Scenario 3B £
Lifelong Learning					
Delegated Schools Budget	1,904		1,000		1,000
Central Education	714	956	829	1,642	1,424
Communities					
Social Care	2,340	3,135	2,720	0	0
Leisure and Culture	247	331	287	568	492
Housing	121	162	140	277	240
Sustainable Development					
Economic Development	75	101	87	173	150
Highways	585	784	679	1,348	1,165
Planning	97	129	112	222	193
Public Protection	98	131	113	224	195
Property	264	354	306	607	526
Directorate Management	3	4	4	7	6
Waste	422	565	490	970	841
Deputy Chief Executive					
Corporate- Other Services	74	99	86	170	148
Audit	12	17	14	28	25
Corporate And Democratic Costs	56	75	65	128	111
Corporate Management	63	84	73	144	125
Finance	173	232	201	398	345
Human Resources	39	52	45	90	78
ICT	98	132	114	226	196
Legal and Administration	93	124	108	213	185
Policy	33	44	38	76	66
	7,511	7,511	7,511	7,511	7,511

SAVINGS AT: 4.0%					
Directorate	Scenario 1 £	Scenario 2A £	Scenario 2B £	Scenario 3A £	Scenario 3B £
Lifelong Learning					
Delegated Schools Budget	1,415		1,000		1,000
Central Education	530	530	530	530	530
Communities					
Social Care	1,737	1,737	1,737	0	0
Leisure and Culture	183	183	183	183	183
Housing	89	89	89	89	89
Sustainable Development					
Economic Development	56	56	56	56	56
Highways	434	434	434	434	434
Planning	72	72	72	72	72
Public Protection	72	72	72	72	72
Property	196	196	196	196	196
Directorate Management	2	2	2	2	2
Waste	313	313	313	313	313
Deputy Chief Executive					
Corporate- Other Services	55	55	55	55	55
Audit	9	9	9	9	9
Corporate And Democratic Costs	41	41	41	41	41
Corporate Management	47	47	47	47	47
Finance	128	128	128	128	128
Human Resources	29	29	29	29	29
ICT	73	73	73	73	73
Legal and Administration	69	69	69	69	69
Policy	24	24	24	24	24
	5,574	4,159	5,159	2,422	3,422

SAVINGS AT: 6.0%					
Directorate	Scenario 1 £	Scenario 2A £	Scenario 2B £	Scenario 3A £	Scenario 3B £
Lifelong Learning					
Delegated Schools Budget	2,123		1,000		1,000
Central Education	795	795	795	795	795
Communities					
Social Care	2,606	2,606	2,606	0	0
Leisure and Culture	275	275	275	275	275
Housing	134	134	134	134	134
Sustainable Development					
Economic Development	84	84	84	84	84
Highways	651	651	651	651	651
Planning	108	108	108	108	108
Public Protection	109	109	109	109	109
Property	294	294	294	294	294
Directorate Management	3	3	3	3	3
Waste	469	469	469	469	469
Deputy Chief Executive					
Corporate- Other Services	82	82	82	82	82
Audit	14	14	14	14	14
Corporate And Democratic Costs	62	62	62	62	62
Corporate Management	70	70	70	70	70
Finance	193	193	193	193	193
Human Resources	43	43	43	43	43
ICT	109	109	109	109	109
Legal and Administration	103	103	103	103	103
Policy	37	37	37	37	37
	8,364	6,241	7,241	3,635	4,635

SAVINGS AT: 8.0%					
Directorate	Scenario 1 £	Scenario 2A £	Scenario 2B £	Scenario 3A £	Scenario 3B £
Lifelong Learning					
Delegated Schools Budget	2,831		1,000		1,000
Central Education	1,060	1,060	1,060	1,060	1,060
Communities					
Social Care	3,475	3,475	3,475	0	0
Leisure and Culture	366	366	366	366	366
Housing	179	179	179	179	179
Sustainable Development					
Economic Development	111	111	111	111	111
Highways	868	868	868	868	868
Planning	143	143	143	143	143
Public Protection	145	145	145	145	145
Property	392	392	392	392	392
Directorate Management	5	5	5	5	5
Waste	626	626	626	626	626
Deputy Chief Executive					
Corporate- Other Services	110	110	110	110	110
Audit	18	18	18	18	18
Corporate And Democratic Costs	83	83	83	83	83
Corporate Management	93	93	93	93	93
Finance	257	257	257	257	257
Human Resources	58	58	58	58	58
ICT	146	146	146	146	146
Legal and Administration	138	138	138	138	138
Policy	49	49	49	49	49
	11,153	8,322	9,322	4,847	5,847

SAVINGS AT: 10.0%					
Directorate	Scenario 1 £	Scenario 2A £	Scenario 2B £	Scenario 3A £	Scenario 3B £
Lifelong Learning					
Delegated Schools Budget	3,539		1,000		1,000
Central Education	1,325	1,325	1,325	1,325	1,325
Communities					
Social Care	4,344	4,344	4,344	0	0
Leisure and Culture	458	458	458	458	458
Housing	224	224	224	224	224
Sustainable Development					
Economic Development	139	139	139	139	139
Highways	1,085	1,085	1,085	1,085	1,085
Planning	179	179	179	179	179
Public Protection	181	181	181	181	181
Property	490	490	490	490	490
Directorate Management	6	6	6	6	6
Waste	782	782	782	782	782
Deputy Chief Executive					
Corporate- Other Services	137	137	137	137	137
Audit	23	23	23	23	23
Corporate And Democratic Costs	104	104	104	104	104
Corporate Management	116	116	116	116	116
Finance	321	321	321	321	321
Human Resources	72	72	72	72	72
ICT	182	182	182	182	182
Legal and Administration	172	172	172	172	172
Policy	61	61	61	61	61
	13,940	10,401	11,401	6,057	7,057

SAVINGS AT: 12.0%					
Directorate	Scenario 1 £	Scenario 2A £	Scenario 2B £	Scenario 3A £	Scenario 3B £
Lifelong Learning					
Delegated Schools Budget	4,246		1,000		1,000
Central Education	1,590	1,590	1,590	1,590	1,590
Communities					
Social Care	5,212	5,212	5,212	0	0
Leisure and Culture	550	550	550	550	550
Housing	268	268	268	268	268
Sustainable Development					
Economic Development	167	167	167	167	167
Highways	1,302	1,302	1,302	1,302	1,302
Planning	215	215	215	215	215
Public Protection	217	217	217	217	217
Property	588	588	588	588	588
Directorate Management	7	7	7	7	7
Waste	939	939	939	939	939
Deputy Chief Executive					
Corporate- Other Services	165	165	165	165	165
Audit	27	27	27	27	27
Corporate And Democratic Costs	124	124	124	124	124
Corporate Management	140	140	140	140	140
Finance	385	385	385	385	385
Human Resources	87	87	87	87	87
ICT	219	219	219	219	219
Legal and Administration	206	206	206	206	206
Policy	73	73	73	73	73
	16,727	12,481	13,481	7,269	8,269

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	Executive Committee
Date	July, 2013
Subject	Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Ken Hughes
Lead Officer(s)	Shan L Williams, Head of Service, Housing
Contact Officer	Shan L Williams
Nature and reason for reporting	
To present the findings of the North Wales Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Needs Assessment study, and agree future actions.	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues	
1.0	BACKGROUND
1.1	<p>Section 2.2.5 of the 2004 Housing Act places a duty on Local Authorities to assess the level of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation requirement as part of the Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) process. “Gypsies and Travellers” are defined in this context as persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan, and other persons of a nomadic lifestyle, whatever their ethnic origin (SI 2007, 3235).</p> <p>The GTANA makes an important contribution towards affords tackling any Inequalities experienced by Gypsy and Traveller communities.</p>
1.2	Where needs are identified, the WG Circular 30/2007 ‘Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites’ requires that provision should be made in a Local Development Plan (LDP) through site allocations along with criteria-based policies.
1.3	The GTANA study was conducted in partnership with Bangor University, Conwy County Borough Council, Denbighshire Council, Flintshire Council, Gwynedd Council and the Snowdonia National Park. The GTANA study was managed and commissioned by a steering group of officers from the partner organisations with input from members of the Gypsy Traveller community.
1.4	This regional approach follows the guidance issued by WG in their publication ‘Travelling to a better future’ – Gypsy and Traveller framework for action and delivery plan.

1.5 The purpose of the GTANA is to assess the accommodation needs across the study area and sets out requirements for residential and transit Gypsy and Traveller sites across the study area. A number of recommendations have also been made for the partners involved in the study.

1.6 The results of the attached GTANA are being presented to the five Local Authorities and Snowdonia National Park who participated.

2.0 RESIDENTIAL PITCH REQUIREMENTS

2.1 The GTANA has identified a shortfall of 62 residential pitches across the study area by 2016, with a need for 11 residential pitches in Anglesey. The Welsh Government definition of a pitch is:

“an area of land designated for the stationing of mobile homes (caravans) and should, as a minimum, be capable of accommodating an amenity block, large trailer, touring caravan and parking for two vehicles”.

2.2 Although the calculations are presented on an individual authority basis this does not imply that future provision cannot be made jointly between authorities. Current WG guidance supports the view that collaborative approaches are to be preferred.

2.3 Residential accommodation needs arising from existing district level Gypsy and Traveller populations

Authority	Current position	Total additional residential pitch requirements (2011- 2016)	Total additional transit caravan provision (2011 – 2016)
Anglesey	0	11	28*
Conwy	0	3	
Denbighshire	0	2	
Flintshire	66	36	
Gwynedd	12	10	

*shared

2.4 After 2016, the base calculation is that the number of pitches required may continue to increase by 3% per annum.

3.0 UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS AND TRANSIT REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Currently there is one unauthorised encampment on the Island but no transit sites. Evidence for transit sites came from local authority data on unauthorised encampments during the period 2009 to 2010, together with feedback from stakeholders.

3.2 The calculation of the transit site requirements is based on the following assumptions:

- >annually around 55 encampments occur in the study area;
- >approximately six (10%) during the year shall be from those looking for permanent site accommodation;
- > 90% would require transit accommodation;
- >maximum stay would be 1 month, although some encampments would be for a shorter period;
- >accommodation for 7 caravans would deal with most transit encampments.

4.0 DATA COLLECTED BY OFFICERS FROM ANGLESEY

4.1 Twice annually, the Welsh Government requires Local Authorities to undertake Gypsy and Traveller counts, which occur in July and January.

Findings from the January 2013 count were that:-

- There were additional caravans and vehicles at the tolerated site in Pentraeth (an increase from 9 to 11 vehicles since July, 2011)
- There were no travellers located in the usual Holyhead sites – although the Holyhead Sports Centre site had recently been used twice during the winter period by travellers returning to or arriving from Ireland.
- The trees, plants, shrubs and waste left at the Mona Industrial Estate still required clearing, and the new waste left at the entrance to the UK Highways Depot required clearing. In addition, their CCTV system (one camera pointed to the location of the illegal dumping) should be checked.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE N.W. GTANA REPORT

Recommendations	Progress made to date
<p>Recommendation 1: Following the guidance from the Welsh Government on adopting a collaborative approach, a North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group comprising of representatives from local authorities and sub-regional partners should be formed to continue the development of a meaningful and co-ordinated approach to Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and related issues, as well as ensuring that the findings from the GTANA are disseminated to departments within the partner Authorities and other stakeholder. The existing Gypsy Traveller Working Group would provide an excellent foundation for such a group, together with representation from the Gypsy and Traveller community.</p>	<p>The inaugural meeting of the re-formed N.W. GT Co-ordinating Group was held on 5/6/13 in Flintshire. Task & Finish Groups will be formed to take forward recommendations which can best be actioned on a Regional basis.</p>
<p>Recommendation 2: A North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Representative Group, with as wide a geographical representation as possible, should be established representing the views of the local Gypsy and Traveller population, and contribute to the consultative process. A Chair and Administrative support for the group should be provided from the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group.</p>	
<p>Recommendation 3: All partner authorities should ensure that an internal working group exists within each authority. This group should cut across service areas, in order to better co-ordinate the response and approach on Gypsy and Traveller issues and avoid potential duplication of work.</p>	<p>Anglesey has a virtual group which is consulted twice annually during the WG GT counts. A core group also meets as and when necessary to respond to any unauthorised encampments – Terms of Reference are required.</p>
<p>Recommendation 4: Each authority should identify a lead officer who manages each authority's response to Gypsies and Traveller issues.</p>	<p>Head of Service Housing is the designated lead – officer. Her role will be supported by the new Housing Strategic Manager and a team of specialist officers from within each department.</p>

<p><i>Recommendation 5:</i> In order to adhere to Equalities legislation, and to ensure the high quality of on-going monitoring, local authorities should ensure that Gypsies and Travellers are recognised in ethnic monitoring forms, most urgently in relation to housing and planning</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 6:</i> Local authorities should ensure that principles of equality, in relation to Gypsies and Travellers, are embedded in the wide range of Services provided. In particular this includes: housing, planning and homelessness policies.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 7:</i> Local authorities should be sensitive to the different cultural and support needs of Gypsies and Travellers who may present as homeless and those who may require local authority accommodation.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 8:</i> Residential site waiting lists Should be: accessible to all Gypsies and Travellers in the area, and clear and transparent in terms of allocation policies</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 9:</i> The management of permanent sites needs to be evaluated at regular intervals in accordance with the guidance issued by the to the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG, 2008)</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 10:</i> Social Housing Agencies to establish if any such pattern results from positive choices, or negative decisions due to perceived threats or other causes.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 11:</i> The methods and approaches used by local authorities in promoting affordable accommodation to members of the non-Traveller communities should be adapted to the accommodation used by members of Gypsy and Traveller communities.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 12:</i> A progressive campaign which would promote the lifestyle and culture of Gypsies and Travellers in a positive light may help alleviate some of the racial discrimination experienced by young and older Gypsy and Travellers across the study area.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 13:</i> Ensure that staff working in primary and secondary schools have sufficient training about Gypsy and Traveller culture in order to tackle bullying more effectively.</p>	

<p><i>Recommendation 14:</i> Local Authorities should Consider collectively providing the resources to recruit and train outreach workers (possibly from Gypsy and Traveller communities) to engage with young people.</p>	<p>In Flintshire and Wrexham, the GT Youth Education Service is active – LA’s need to match-fund some of the funding</p>
<p><i>Recommendation 15:</i> Further research is needed With Travelling Show people, in conjunction with the Showmen’s Guild, before recommendations can be made</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 16:</i> An aspiration of many Members of the Gypsy and Traveller community is to be owner-occupiers, as such there is a need to develop a constructive dialogue between Gypsies and Travellers seeking to develop private sites and Planning authorities.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 17:</i> Planning departments should offer appropriate advice and support to Gypsies and Travellers on the workings of the planning system And the criteria to be considered in applications. This advice may require some tailoring for this particular client group.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 18:</i> All issues relating to access to services issues need to be disseminated as widely as possible by the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group in consultation with the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Representative Group resulting in a strategy on how to improve the experiences of the local Gypsy and Traveller community as well as a facility to report other examples.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 19:</i> Local authorities should seek to identify possible sites where permission for a residential site might be granted.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 20:</i> that all counties complete the biannual caravan count.</p>	<p>Anglesey has completed this task on-time for WG in each of the last three years. The task takes an experienced officer a day to visit and inspect all sites, and three hours to update a database and to prepare a report together with any photographic evidence.</p>

<p><i>Recommendation 21:</i> that a common protocol for reporting the presence of unauthorised encampments and addressing the issues is agreed by the local authorities.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 22:</i> All authorities within the study area, or whatever group continues the GTANA process, should decide on a common format for the recording of encampments. Ideally this should contain at least the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date encampment was reported ○ Date encampment ended ○ Location, nature of site [public/private; industrial or business park, retail car park, other] ○ Number of caravans, ○ Estimated number of adults and children. 	<p>At the last meeting of the re-formed NW GT Co-ordinating Group, it was agreed that GT movements and a more consistent register of encampments would be kept centrally, and that such data would be updated dynamically and available for analysis – delivery method to be confirmed.</p>
<p><i>Recommendation 23:</i> It is also recommended that Data from North Wales Police be included, to aid consistency and completeness.</p>	
<p><i>Recommendation 24:</i> It is recommended that the local authorities work jointly to identify appropriate sites for temporary accommodation. These may be transit sites, with a relatively full range of facilities where stays of up to three months may be permitted, or temporary stopping places with more restricted provision, where stays may be limited to 28 days. The nature, as well as the location, of provision, should be informed by data on the patterns of unauthorised encampment in recent years. That stated, analysis of the existing data indicates different patterns between the local authorities in the consortium.</p>	

B - Considerations

1.0 PROPOSED LEGISLATION CHANGES TO LOCAL AUTHORITY GYPSY AND TRAVELLER SITES

1.1 Amendments to those provisions in the Mobile Homes Act 1983 which relate to permanent GT site pitches, are due to be debated by the National Assembly on 9 July, 2013 and expected to come into force on July, 2013. In particular, a written agreement will outline the terms and respective rights relating to particular pitches. Any disputes will in the future be resolved through the Residential Property Tribunal Service, rather than by the local authority.

1.2 Changes relating to transit pitches are as follows:

- Maximum 3 month stay
- Occupier can leave upon 28 days written notice given to the owner
- Owner can evict the occupier after 28 days' notice

1.3 The proposed Housing (Wales) Bill 2014 is expected to include a statutory duty to provide Gypsy and Traveller sites (see *'Homes for Wales'* White Paper, WG, pages 6 & 37).

1.4 A new 'Managing Unauthorised Camping Guidance' document will be consulted upon from mid-June until mid-September, 2013 by Welsh Government.

2.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

2.1 Local Authorities can access funding from WG towards the cost of developing new Gypsy and Traveller sites. A letter has been sent to all Local Authority Chief Executives to request information around what our intentions are around planned developments over the next 5 years, as part of their internal budget planning process.

2.2 The North Wales GT Co-ordination Group has recently been re-formed and there may be some resource implications of joint working, but collaboration will result in greater overall savings and improved Regional co-ordination.

3.0 RISKS IF THE COUNCIL DOES NOT RESPOND TO THE GTANA STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Unauthorised encampments will continue if the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers are not met. Such sites are unsatisfactory and unsafe for occupants, not least because they lack appropriate design and facilities. Further, unauthorised sites arguably have a greater detrimental impact upon relations between the settled community and the GT Community. In addition, there are significant cost implications to the Council and the affected land owners.

3.2 Failure to demonstrate that the need for GT sites is being adequately addressed at a district and regional level makes it more likely that the WG shall introduce a specific duty on local authorities to secure the provision of sites.

3.3 The Council could be seen as a poor partner if there was any lack of commitment towards delivering the recommendations outlined in the Regional Report.

3.4 Non-compliance with WG legislation from summer 2014. Officers are unaware whether a penalty will be imposed for breach of the proposed duty.

3.5 The issues surrounding Gypsies and Travellers – including site provision - is increasingly being covered by the media. The Authority has received several requests of late from newspapers as well as television companies preparing for documentaries on the subject. The Council's reputation will need to be managed, which is likely to require acceding to future legal requirements in respect of GT's.

3.6 Whenever a transit or residential site is earmarked for a particular location, there is a potential for legal challenges to the establishment of sites. Sites are of course extremely contentious. However, future legislation will demand local provision.

3.7 Failure to include site allocations in the Deposit Joint LDP and reliance solely on a criteria based policy to contribute to addressing the regionally identified need without a firm commitment by other partners of the GTANA to address that identified need is likely to:-

(i) lead to a direction by a Planning Inspector to remedy the matter thus delaying the Joint LDP's adoption, or

(ii) a direction from a Planning Inspector that the Joint LDP is unsound and cannot be adopted.

C – Implications and Impacts		
1	Finance / Section 151	There are no direct financial implications to the Council's budget arising from the recommendations of this report.
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	The Council owes duties to travellers which must be complied with. The recommendations contribute towards ensuring that compliance.
3	Human Resources	No comments
4	Property Services (see notes – separate document)	

C – Implications and Impacts		
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	
6	Equality (see notes – separate document)	
7	Anti-poverty and Social (see notes – separate document)	
8	Communication (see notes – separate document)	
9	Consultation (see notes – separate document)	
10	Economic	
11	Environmental (see notes – separate document)	
12	Crime and Disorder (see notes – separate document)	
13	Outcome Agreements	

CH - Summary

D - Recommendations
<p>R1 That the Authority as part of a consortium of North Wales local authorities adopts the recommendations of the North Wales Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Needs Assessment (NW GTANA) report as an evidence base.</p> <p>R2 That the Head of Service, Housing be given the support of key officers in Corporate Directorates to formalise the Terms Of Reference for the local Gypsy Travellers Operational Officers Group.</p>

R3 That a new Gypsy Travellers action plan be prepared based on the recommendations of the NW GTANA and that tasks be allocated to lead officers in appropriate departments to promulgate.

R4 That Anglesey continues to support Regional collaboration to the Gypsy Traveller communities' agenda through the newly re-formed NW GT Co-ordination Group.

R5 That the Council works collaboratively with neighbouring authorities and other key stakeholders to meet identified need for pitch requirements;

R6 That appropriate sites are identified to meet requirements;

R7 That mechanisms are established to enable effective engagement with Gypsy Traveller communities when identifying potential future sites

R8 Those possible sites are included within the Local Development Plan.

R9 To submit an outline application for capital grant for a local GT site from Welsh Government.

Name of author of report: Shan L Williams

Job Title: Head of Service, Housing

Date: June 2013

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Executive Summary and Full GTANA Report

Background papers

Executive Summary

1.1 This summarizes the main findings and recommendations of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment [GTANA] conducted for a consortium of five authorities in north Wales, and the Snowdonia National Park Authority. The objective of the GTANA is to assess the accommodation needs of members of the Gypsy and Traveller communities, giving them a direct voice in the process. The GTANA was managed by a Steering Group including local authority representatives, and members of the Gypsy and Traveller communities. Fieldwork also employed community members as interviewers. This Report has been written by members of the University of Bangor, on behalf of the Steering Group. Any conclusions are the responsibility of the authors alone.

1.2 The study draws of three sources of information:

- An analysis was made of existing sources of information, including research literature and other GTANA surveys identifying strengths and weaknesses of the sources available.
- Information was obtained from key stakeholders within the local authorities
- The views of the community were obtained through questionnaires, focus groups and discussions. A total of 93 responses from adult Gypsies and Travellers, and a further 43 from a survey of young Gypsies and Travellers, from a range of tenures and community groups, were received. The community questionnaire invited respondents to identify their aspirations for sites and their preferred location.

Background

1.3 Since 2006, the Welsh Government has encouraged local strategic housing authorities to collaborate in producing Local Housing Market Area assessments of the future level and nature of housing demand. The LHMA process feeds into the production of Local Development Plans. An essential part of the LHMA process is the production of a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment. For this GTANA, the counties of Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Ynys Môn joined together to conduct the GTANA, in collaboration with Bangor University. The Study was managed and commissioned by a steering group consisting of representatives of the local

authorities [and SNPA], members of the Gypsy and Traveller community and the University of Bangor.

1.4 The broader objectives of the study are:

- To produce, in consultation with local Gypsies and Travellers, detailed information about in relation to their demographic profile, household formation, current accommodation needs, accommodation related service and support needs and barriers to accessing services.
- To generate reliable estimates of future accommodation need.
- To assess the current and potential future needs within the Gypsy and Traveller communities in the North West Wales Housing Market Area & Flintshire, i.e. the Study Area, for learning, health services and other services provided by local authorities and their partner organisations.
- To assess the relevance of the policies and strategies in relation to Gypsies and Travellers used by the Partner authorities.

Main Findings

Local Gypsies and Travellers

1.5 Very little information is available on the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers in the UK as a whole, in Wales, or in the study area. Estimates for the UK as a whole vary from 82,000 to 300,000, including those living in Bricks and Mortar housing. It is agreed that in Wales most Gypsies and Travellers are concentrated along the key transport routes in the North and South of Wales. In the study area, there are currently 78 authorized pitches, and a further four caravans on unauthorized developments. Ten vehicles occupied by New Travellers are situated on an unauthorized but tolerated encampment on Ynys Môn. It is estimated that between half and two-thirds of the Gypsy and Traveller population of the UK now live in 'bricks and mortar' housing, either through choice, but may also be through necessity, due to the shortage of pitches on authorized sites. There is no reliable estimate of the total numbers of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar in the study area, but from the survey it is clear the number is significant, and distributed between the local authorities. They occupied both private and socially rented accommodation, and owner occupiers.

Characteristics of local Gypsies and Travellers

- 1.6 24 per cent identified as Romany Gypsy, 58 per cent as Travellers, of whom 34 per cent were Irish Travellers, 17 per cent as New Travellers, and 1 per cent as Travelling Showman.
- 1.7 Mean household size was 4.37 persons, median size was four persons. Younger families predominated. The survey did not contact any persons aged 65 or over.
- 1.8 Most respondents described themselves as local to the area.

Gypsies and Travellers and local services

- 1.9 The survey questioned Gypsies and Travellers about their use of local services and their views on the services provided. The Traveller Education Service Some accounts of perceived discriminatory behaviour by local services, health and welfare agencies, and police and local authorities were reported, but other respondents were considered they were treated 'as other people' The Traveller Education Service was generally praised, and the availability of dedicated liaison staff such as the GTLO welcomed.

Accommodation preferences and aspirations

- 1.10 Respondents were asked for their views on the location and nature of further permanent site provision. It should be noted Gypsies and Travellers who want to develop sites privately are face significant obstacles in obtaining planning permission, though more permissions are obtained through the planning and legal appeal processes.

Accommodation need and supply

- 1.11 Using standard calculations, a shortfall of 62 pitches was identified by the year 2016. It should be noted that while the calculations to 2016 are presented on a local authority basis, this is not to imply that future provision should automatically be confined within the boundaries currently existing. Both the WAG guidance (WAG, 2006) and current policy proposals (WG, 2011) support the view that collaborative approaches to these issues are to be preferred.

Table 1: Residential accommodation needs arising from existing district level Gypsy and Traveller populations

Authority	Current provision	Total additional residential pitch requirement (2011-2016)	Total additional transit pitch provision (2011-2016)
Ynys Môn	0	11	28*
Conwy	0	3	
Denbighshire	0	2	
Flintshire	66	36	
Gwynedd	12	10	
Study Area	78	62	28*

*Shared

Note: For pragmatic reasons these figures have been rounded up to the nearest whole pitch

1.12 After 2016, assuming all current need has been addressed; the base calculation is that the number of pitches required will continue to increase at 3 per cent per annum compound. This would produce an overall requirement of 167 pitches (rounded up to nearest whole number) by 2021, an increase of 25 on the 2016 figure, and 194 pitches, a further increase of 27 (both estimates by 2026). Other factors might increase this requirement.

Unauthorized encampments and transit requirements

1.13 Currently, there is no transit site located within the study area. Part of the Gypsy and Traveller site at Llandegai in Gwynedd was previously used as a transit site, but this was discontinued in 2005, following significant management issues relating directly to this part of the site. The discussion of transit site need derives its evidence from local authority data, on unauthorized encampments in the GTANA area during the years 2009 and 2010, together with an input of stakeholder experience.

1.14 Addressing unauthorized encampments can lead to considerable outlay, by both public authorities and the private sector, and may have a significant

impact on relationships between the settled community and the Gypsy and Traveller community

1.15 This calculation of the transit site requirement is based on assumptions set out below. These are:

- Annually, about 55 encampments occur in the study area
- 10% of temporary encampments, about six during the year, will be from those looking for permanent site accommodation, and are discussed under the permanent site requirement
- Thus 90% of encampments, about 49 in total, would require transit accommodation
- The maximum stay would be for one month, though some encampments would be for a shorter period
- Accommodation for 7 caravans would deal with most encampments.

1.16 Using 7 as a working figure, transit requirements would be for (49 multiplied by 7) caravans per annum, or 343 over the year. On a monthly basis, this amounts to 28.5 caravans. However, for reasons discussed, this can involve some element of double counting. Proportionately, about 47% of encampments are recorded in the Gwynedd and Ynys Môn area, 15% in the central area of /Conwy and Denbighshire, and 37% in Flintshire.

1.17 It is therefore suggested that the authorities work together to consider three or four transit sites accommodating up to seven caravans. More than one site is to be preferred, for a number of reasons

- They are more likely to be used if close to traditional stopping places
- The size of each site would be reduced
- Difficulties about ethnic or inter-family tensions would be reduced.
- A single transit site for the area would not resolve the issues. It is important that there is somewhere for occupants to move on, and a network is required. The local authorities should work jointly to identify appropriate sites for temporary accommodation on a regional basis.

1.18 It is recommended that the local authorities work jointly to identify appropriate sites for temporary accommodation. These may be transit sites, with a relatively full range of facilities where stays of up to three months may be permitted, or temporary stopping places with more restricted provision, where stays may be limited to 28 days. The nature, as well as the location, of provision, should be informed by data on the patterns of unauthorized encampment in recent years

- 1.19 There are a number of recommendations for action:
- 1.20 *Recommendation 1:* Following the guidance from the Welsh Government on adopting a collaborative approach, a North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group comprising of representatives from local authorities and sub-regional partners should be formed to continue the development of a meaningful and co-ordinated approach to Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and related issues, as well as ensuring that the findings from the GTANA are disseminated to departments within the partner Authorities and other stakeholder. The existing Gypsy Traveller Working Group would provide an excellent foundation for such a group, along with representation from the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 1.21 *Recommendation 2:* A North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Representative Group, with as wide a geographical representation as possible, should be established representing the views of the local Gypsy and Traveller population, and contribute to the consultative process. A Chair and administrative support for the group should be provided from the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group.
- 1.22 *Recommendation 3:* All partner authorities should ensure that an internal working group exists within each authority. This group should cut across service areas, in order to better co-ordinate the response and approach on Gypsy and Traveller issues and avoid potential duplication of work.
- 1.23 *Recommendation 4:* Each authority should identify a lead officer who manages each authority's response to Gypsies and Traveller issues.
- 1.24 *Recommendation 5:* In order to adhere to Equalities legislation, and to ensure the high quality of on-going monitoring, local authorities should ensure that Gypsies and Travellers are recognised in ethnic monitoring forms, most urgently in relation to housing and planning
- 1.25 *Recommendation 6:* Local authorities should ensure that principles of equality, in relation to Gypsies and Travellers, are embedded in the wide range of services provided. In particular this includes: housing, planning and homelessness policies.
- 1.26 *Recommendation 7:* Local authorities should be sensitive to the different cultural and support needs of Gypsies and Travellers who may present as homeless and those who may require local authority accommodation.
- 1.27 *Recommendation 8:* Residential site waiting lists should be: accessible to all Gypsies and Travellers in the area, and clear and transparent in terms of allocation policies

- 1.28 *Recommendation 9*: The management of permanent sites needs to be evaluated at regular intervals in accordance with the guidance issued by the to the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG, 2008)
- 1.29 *Recommendation 10*: Social Housing Agencies to establish if any such pattern results from positive choices, or negative decisions due to perceived threats or other causes.
- 1.30 *Recommendation 11*: The methods and approaches used by local authorities in promoting affordable accommodation to members of the non-Traveller communities should be adapted to the accommodation used by members of Gypsy and Traveller communities.
- 1.31 *Recommendation 12*: A progressive campaign which would promote the lifestyle and culture of Gypsies and Travellers in a positive light may help alleviate some of the racial discrimination experienced by young and older Gypsy and Travellers across the study area.
- 1.32 *Recommendation 13*: Ensure that staff working in primary and secondary schools have sufficient training about Gypsy and Traveller culture in order to tackle bullying more effectively.
- 1.33 *Recommendation 14*: Local Authorities should consider collectively providing the resources to recruit and train outreach workers (possibly from Gypsy and Traveller communities) to engage with young people.
- 1.34 *Recommendation 15*: Further research is needed with Travelling Show people, in conjunction with the Showmen's Guild, before recommendations can be made
- 1.35 *Recommendation 16*: An aspiration of many members of the Gypsy and Traveller community is to be owner-occupiers, as such there is a need to develop a constructive dialogue between Gypsies and Travellers seeking to develop private sites and planning authorities.
- 1.36 *Recommendation 17*: Planning departments should offer appropriate advice and support to Gypsies and Travellers on the workings of the planning system and the criteria to be considered in applications. This advice may require some tailoring for this particular client group.
- 1.37 *Recommendation 18*: All issues relating to access to services issues need to be disseminated as widely as possible by the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group in consultation with the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Representative Group resulting in a strategy on how to improve the experiences of the local Gypsy and Traveller community as well as a facility to report other examples.

- 1.38 *Recommendation 19*: Local authorities should seek to identify possible sites where permission for a residential site might be granted.
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- Date encampment was reported
 - Date encampment ended
 - Location, nature of site [public/private; industrial or business park, retail car park, other]
 - Number of caravans,
 - Estimated number of adults and children.
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Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment

**FINAL REPORT
March 2013**

By Dr David Hirst

And

Teresa Crew

School of Social Sciences, Bangor University.

On behalf of the Gypsy and Traveller Working Group.

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Thanks are also due to the local authority staff who answered the stakeholder questionnaires, to GTAC and the community interviewers for conducting the fieldwork, and all the Gypsies and Travellers who answered the questionnaires or shared their experiences.

We hope this report accurately reflects their opinions and needs. This analysis of the data may not reflect the views and opinions of the local authorities, or other stakeholders.

Draft

Glossary and Acronyms

The following terms are used in this report. In the case of those terms which are related to Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and culture, it is noted that a number of these terms are often contested and debated. It is not the intention of the authors to present these terms as absolute definitions rather; the explanations provided are those the authors used in this assessment as their frames of reference.

Amenity unit basic plumbing facilities (bath/shower, WC and sink) usually provided at the rate of one per pitch on most Gypsy and Traveller sites. Sometimes grouped into an Amenity block

Authorised site A site with planning permission which may include:

- sites with planning permission owned by Gypsies and Travellers for their own and/or their family's occupation and/or for commercial letting;
- sites owned by any other private individual or body with planning permission for use as a Gypsy or Traveller site. These sites can be owner-occupied, rented or a mixture of owner-occupied and rented pitches.
- sites owned by a local authority or Registered Social Landlord but leased to, or managed by, a non-local authority body or individual under arrangements which do not give the local authority control of site management (critically of rent setting and lettings).
- local authority or Registered Social Landlord Gypsy site owned and managed by the authority

Bricks and mortar Permanent mainstream housing

Caravan Mobile living vehicles used by Gypsies and Travellers. Also referred to as trailers.

A 'caravan' can include any of the following:

- mobile homes, caravans, trailers and other living-vehicles on Gypsy or Traveller sites and encampments, whether or not they meet the strict legal definition of a caravan;
- touring caravans on Gypsy or Traveller sites and encampments even if not lived in permanently;

Concealed household Households, living within other households, who are unable to set up separate family units and who are unable to access a place on an authorised site, or obtain or afford land to develop one.

Country People/Buffers Term used by Irish Travellers to refer to settled people/non-Travellers.

DCLG Department for Communities and Local Government.

Doubling-up To share a pitch on an authorised site.

EHRC Equality and Human Rights Commission.

Gaujo/Gorger Literal translation indicates someone who is not of the Romany Gypsy race. Romany word used mainly, but not exclusively, by Romany Gypsies to refer to members of the settled community/non- Gypsies and Travellers

GTAC Gypsy Traveller Advocacy Cymru

GTLO Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer. An officer (usually in a local authority but also found in police forces) whose specific remit is concerned with Gypsies and Travellers.

Gypsy Romany Gypsies were recognised as an ethnic group in 1989. This term is not acceptable to all Travellers.

Gypsies and Travellers The definition used in the Housing Act 2004, inclusive of: all Gypsies, Irish Travellers, New Travellers, Show People, Circus People and Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation.

Irish Traveller: Irish Travellers have a distinct indigenous origin in Ireland and were recognised as an ethnic group in 2000.

LDP Local Development Plan. A detailed framework for planning policy and proposals for specific sites over a 10-year period consisting of a written statement and a map of the proposed sites. The written statement contains general policies on the use and development of land as well as specific proposals for sites and areas. In particular, it allocates sites to meet the requirement for housing set out in the structure plan. The map identifies the precise areas of land to which the policies and site-specific proposals apply.

LHMA Local Housing Market Assessment.

Mobile home Legally classified as a caravan but not usually moveable without dismantling/or lorry.

NAW National Assembly for Wales. In this context this refers to all publications by the elected National Assembly for Wales since it was established in 1999.

New Traveller: Term used here to refer to members of the settled community who have adopted a nomadic lifestyle. New Travellers are sometimes also referred to as New Age Traveller.

NWWLHMA North West Wales Local Housing Market Assessment.

ODPM Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

Pitch Area of land on a Gypsy and Traveller site normally occupied by one licensee family, sometimes referred to as a plot.

PLASC Pupil Level Annual School Census. Now **ASC** Annual School Census. Includes collection of data on ethnicity.

Pulling-up To park a trailer/caravan

Residential site A Gypsy site intended for long-term or permanent occupation by residents. No maximum length of stay is set.

Settled community/people Reference to non-Travellers (those that live in houses).

Site – Generically, an area of land laid out and used for Gypsy and Traveller caravans. An authorised site will have planning permission (and a site licence, if privately owned) for use as a Gypsy caravan site.; an unauthorised site will not have planning permission. Sites vary in type and size and can range from one-caravan private family sites on Gypsies' and Travellers' own land, through to large local authority sites.

SI Statutory Instrument.

Stopping place An area of land identified for use by Gypsies and Travellers in transit; the maximum stopping time may be more limited than for a Transit Site.

Supporting People A funding programme which provides grants in order to assist in the provision of housing related support to develop and sustain an individual's capacity to live independently in their accommodation.

TES – Traveller Education Service A local education authority support service, which works closely with schools and families to ensure access, and to raise Traveller pupils' achievement.

Tolerated A 'tolerated' site is one where the local authority has decided not to seek the removal of the encampment and where the encampment has been, or is likely to be, allowed to remain for an indefinite period of months or years.

Trailer Term commonly used by Gypsies and Travellers to refer to a moveable caravan.

Transit site An authorised site intended for short stays. Such sites are usually permanent, but there is a limit on the length of time users can stay.

Travelling Show people Commonly referred to as Showmen, these are a group of occupational Travellers who work on travelling shows and fairs across the UK and abroad

Unauthorised Development – Caravan sites are among the types of development which require planning permission. This term is used where Gypsies and Travellers are living on their own land in caravans/moveable

dwellings without planning consent or established use rights. Such sites may vary in size and in the extent to which the land has been 'developed' with roadways, distinct plots, hard-standings, amenity blocks etc.

A 'not tolerated' site is one where:

- a planning enforcement notice has been served (including Temporary Stop Notices);
- the results of a planning enquiry are pending;
- an injunction has been sought;
- or where the compliance period has been extended.

Unauthorised Encampment Stopping at the roadside, or on private/public land not owned by Gypsies or Travellers which does not have planning permission.

A 'tolerated' encampment is one where the local authority and/or the land owner have decided not to seek the removal of the encampment, and where the encampment has been or is likely to be 'tolerated' for an indefinite period of months or years.

A 'not tolerated' encampment is one where: the local authority or police are using, or are preparing to use, their powers under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 to remove the encampment, or where the landowner (including the local authority) has instigated, or is preparing to instigate, action either through the courts or under common law rights to regain possession of the land.

WAG Welsh Assembly Government. In this context, the term Welsh Assembly government is used for all publications of the executive between the establishment of the NAW and the May 2011 referendum.

WG Welsh Government. Following the referendum in May 2011 which supported greater law-making powers, the term Welsh Government became generally used.

WO Welsh Office. Disbanded July 1999 and many functions transferred to NAW. Many Welsh Office publications mirrored those of other Departments, particularly, in this context, those responsible for housing and local government..

Yard Term used by Travelling Show people to refer to a site

Executive Summary

- 1.1 This summarizes the main findings and recommendations of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment [GTANA] conducted for a consortium of five authorities in north Wales, and the Snowdonia National Park Authority. The objective of the GTANA is to assess the accommodation needs of members of the Gypsy and Traveller communities, giving them a direct voice in the process. The GTANA was managed by a Steering Group including local authority representatives, and members of the Gypsy and Traveller communities. Fieldwork also employed community members as interviewers. This Report has been written by members of the University of Bangor, on behalf of the Steering Group. Any conclusions are the responsibility of the authors alone.
- 1.2 The study draws of three sources of information:
- An analysis was made of existing sources of information, including research literature and other GTANA surveys identifying strengths and weaknesses of the sources available.
 - Information was obtained from key stakeholders within the local authorities
 - The views of the community were obtained through questionnaires, focus groups and discussions. A total of 93 responses from adult Gypsies and Travellers, and a further 43 from a survey of young Gypsies and Travellers, from a range of tenures and community groups, were received. The community questionnaire invited respondents to identify their aspirations for sites and their preferred location.

Background

- 1.3 Since 2006, the Welsh Government has encouraged local strategic housing authorities to collaborate in producing Local Housing Market Area assessments of the future level and nature of housing demand. The LHMA process feeds into the production of Local Development Plans. An essential part of the LHMA process is the production of a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment. For this GTANA, the counties of Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Ynys Môn joined together to conduct the GTANA, in collaboration with Bangor University [SNPA?] [1.7]. The Study was managed and

commissioned by a steering group consisting of representatives of the local authorities [and SNPA], members of the Gypsy and Traveller community and the University of Bangor.

1.4 The broader objectives of the study are:

- To produce, in consultation with local Gypsies and Travellers, detailed information about in relation to their demographic profile, household formation, current accommodation needs, accommodation related service and support needs and barriers to accessing services.
- To generate reliable estimates of future accommodation need.
- To assess the current and potential future needs within the Gypsy and Traveller communities in the North West Wales Housing Market Area & Flintshire, i.e. the Study Area, for learning, health services and other services provided by local authorities and their partner organisations.
- To assess the relevance of the policies and strategies in relation to Gypsies and Travellers used by the Partner authorities.

Main Findings

Local Gypsies and Travellers

- 1.5 Very little information is available on the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers in the UK as a whole, in Wales, or in the study area. Estimates for the UK as a whole vary from 82,000 to 300,000, including those living in Bricks and Mortar housing. It is agreed that in Wales most Gypsies and Travellers are concentrated along the key transport routes in the North and South of Wales. In the study area, there are currently 78 authorized pitches, and a further four caravans on unauthorized developments. Ten vehicles occupied by New Travellers are situated on an unauthorized but tolerated encampment on Ynys Môn. It is estimated that between half and two-thirds of the Gypsy and Traveller population of the UK now live in 'bricks and mortar' housing, either through choice, but may also be through necessity, due to the shortage of pitches on authorized sites. There is no reliable estimate of the total numbers of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar in the study area, but from the survey it is clear the number is significant, and distributed between the local authorities. They occupied both private and socially rented accommodation, and owner occupiers.

Characteristics of local Gypsies and Travellers

- 1.6 24 per cent identified as Romany Gypsy, 58 per cent as Travellers, of whom 34 per cent were Irish Travellers, 17 per cent as New Travellers, and 1 per cent as Travelling Showman.
- 1.7 Mean household size was 4.37 persons, median size was four persons. Younger families predominated. The survey did not contact any persons aged 65 or over.
- 1.8 Most respondents described themselves as local to the area.

Gypsies and Travellers and local services

- 1.9 The survey questioned Gypsies and Travellers about their use of local services and their views on the services provided. The Traveller Education Service Some accounts of perceived discriminatory behaviour by local services, health and welfare agencies, and police and local authorities were reported, but other respondents were considered they were treated 'as other people' The Traveller Education Service was generally praised, and the availability of dedicated liaison staff such as the GTLO welcomed.

Accommodation preferences and aspirations

- 1.10 Respondents were asked for their views on the location and nature of further permanent site provision. It should be noted Gypsies and Travellers who want to develop sites privately are face significant obstacles in obtaining planning permission, though more permissions are obtained through the planning and legal appeal processes.

Accommodation need and supply

- 1.11 Using standard calculations, a shortfall of 62 pitches was identified by the year 2016. It should be noted that while the calculations to 2016 are presented on a local authority basis, this is not to imply that future provision should automatically be confined within the boundaries currently existing. Both the WAG guidance (WAG, 2006) and current policy proposals (WG, 2011) support the view that collaborative approaches to these issues are to be preferred.

Table 1: Residential accommodation needs arising from existing district level Gypsy and Traveller populations

Authority	Current provision	Total additional residential pitch requirement (2011-2016)	Total additional transit caravan provision (2011-2016)
Ynys Môn	0	11	28*
Conwy	0	3	
Denbighshire	0	2	
Flintshire	66	36	
Gwynedd	12	10	
Study Area	78	62	28*

- *Shared

Note: For pragmatic reasons these figures have been rounded up to the nearest whole pitch

1.12 After 2016, assuming all current need has been addressed; the base calculation is that the number of pitches required will continue to increase at 3 per cent per annum compound. This would produce an overall requirement of 167 pitches (rounded up to nearest whole number) by 2021, an increase of 25 on the 2016 figure, and 194 pitches, a further increase of 27 (both estimates by 2026). Other factors might increase this requirement.

Unauthorized encampments and transit requirements

1.13 Currently, there is no transit site located within the study area. Part of the Gypsy and Traveller site at Llandegai in Gwynedd was previously used as a transit site, but this was discontinued in 2005, following significant management issues relating directly to this part of the site. The discussion of transit site need derives its evidence from local authority data, on unauthorized encampments in the GTANA area during the years 2009 and 2010, together with an input of stakeholder experience.

1.14 Addressing unauthorized encampments can lead to considerable outlay, by both public authorities and the private sector, and may have a significant impact on relationships between the settled community and the Gypsy and Traveller community

1.15 This calculation of the transit site requirement is based on assumptions set out below. These are:

- Annually, about 55 encampments occur in the study area
- 10% of temporary encampments, about six during the year, will be from those looking for permanent site accommodation, and are discussed under the permanent site requirement
- Thus 90% of encampments, about 49 in total, would require transit accommodation
- The maximum stay would be for one month, though some encampments would be for a shorter period
- Accommodation for 7 caravans would deal with most encampments.

1.16 Using 7 as a working figure, transit requirements would be for (49 multiplied by 7) caravans per annum, or 343 over the year. On a monthly basis, this amounts to 28.5 caravans. However, for reasons discussed, this can involve some element of double counting. Proportionately, about 47% of encampments are recorded in the

Gwynedd and Ynys Môn area, 15% in the central area of /Conwy and Denbighshire, and 37% in Flintshire.

1.17 It is therefore suggested that the authorities work together to consider three or four transit sites accommodating up to seven caravans. More than one site is to be preferred, for a number of reasons

- They are more likely to be used if close to traditional stopping places
- The size of each site would be reduced
- Difficulties about ethnic or inter-family tensions would be reduced.
- A single transit site for the area would not resolve the issues. It is important that there is somewhere for occupants to move on, and a network is required. The local authorities should work jointly to identify appropriate sites for temporary accommodation on a regional basis.

1.18 It is recommended that the local authorities work jointly to identify appropriate sites for temporary accommodation. These may be transit sites, with a relatively full range of facilities where stays of up to three months may be permitted, or temporary stopping places with more restricted provision, where stays may be limited to 28 days. The nature, as well as the location, of provision, should be informed by data on the patterns of unauthorized encampment in recent years

1.19 There are a number of recommendations for action:

1.20 *Recommendation 1:* Following the guidance from the Welsh Government on adopting a collaborative approach, a North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group comprising of representatives from local authorities and sub-regional partners should be formed to continue the development of a meaningful and co-ordinated approach to Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and related issues, as well as ensuring that the findings from the GTANA are disseminated to departments within the partner Authorities and other stakeholder. The existing Gypsy Traveller Working Group would provide an excellent foundation for such a group, along with representation from the Gypsy and Traveller community.

1.21 *Recommendation 2:* A North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Representative Group, with as wide a geographical representation as possible, should be established representing the views of the local Gypsy and Traveller population, and contribute to the consultative process. A Chair and administrative support for the group should be

provided from the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group.

- 1.22 *Recommendation 3:* All partner authorities should ensure that an internal working group exists within each authority. This group should cut across service areas, in order to better co-ordinate the response and approach on Gypsy and Traveller issues and avoid potential duplication of work.
- 1.23 *Recommendation 4:* Each authority should identify a lead officer who manages each authority's response to Gypsies and Traveller issues.
- 1.24 *Recommendation 5:* In order to adhere to Equalities legislation, and to ensure the high quality of on-going monitoring, local authorities should ensure that Gypsies and Travellers are recognised in ethnic monitoring forms, most urgently in relation to housing and planning
- 1.25 *Recommendation 6:* Local authorities should ensure that principles of equality, in relation to Gypsies and Travellers, are embedded in the wide range of services provided. In particular this includes: housing, planning and homelessness policies.
- 1.26 *Recommendation 7:* Local authorities should be sensitive to the different cultural and support needs of Gypsies and Travellers who may present as homeless and those who may require local authority accommodation.
- 1.27 *Recommendation 8:* Residential site waiting lists should be: accessible to all Gypsies and Travellers in the area, and clear and transparent in terms of allocation policies
- 1.28 *Recommendation 9:* The management of permanent sites needs to be evaluated at regular intervals in accordance with the guidance issued by the to the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG, 2008)
- 1.29 *Recommendation 10:* Social Housing Agencies to establish if any such pattern results from positive choices, or negative decisions due to perceived threats or other causes.
- 1.30 *Recommendation 11:* The methods and approaches used by local authorities in promoting affordable accommodation to members of the non-Traveller communities should be adapted to the accommodation used by members of Gypsy and Traveller communities.
- 1.31 *Recommendation 12:* A progressive campaign which would promote the lifestyle and culture of Gypsies and Travellers in a positive light may help alleviate some of the racial discrimination experienced by young and older Gypsy and Travellers across the study area.

- 1.32 *Recommendation 13*: Ensure that staff working in primary and secondary schools have sufficient training about Gypsy and Traveller culture in order to tackle bullying more effectively.
- 1.33 *Recommendation 14*: Local Authorities should consider collectively providing the resources to recruit and train outreach workers (possibly from Gypsy and Traveller communities) to engage with young people.
- 1.34 *Recommendation 15*: Further research is needed with Travelling Show people, in conjunction with the Showmen's Guild, before recommendations can be made
- 1.35 *Recommendation 16*: An aspiration of many members of the Gypsy and Traveller community is to be owner-occupiers, as such there is a need to develop a constructive dialogue between Gypsies and Travellers seeking to develop private sites and planning authorities.
- 1.36 *Recommendation 17*: Planning departments should offer appropriate advice and support to Gypsies and Travellers on the workings of the planning system and the criteria to be considered in applications. This advice may require some tailoring for this particular client group.
- 1.37 *Recommendation 18*: All issues relating to access to services issues need to be disseminated as widely as possible by the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group in consultation with the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Representative Group resulting in a strategy on how to improve the experiences of the local Gypsy and Traveller community as well as a facility to report other examples.
- 1.38 *Recommendation 19*: Local authorities should seek to identify possible sites where permission for a residential site might be granted.
- 1.39 *Recommendation 20*: that all counties complete the biannual caravan count.
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- Date encampment was reported
 - Date encampment ended

- Location, nature of site [public/private; industrial or business park, retail car park, other]
- Number of caravans,
- Estimated number of adults and children.

1.42 *Recommendation 23*: It is also recommended that data from North Wales Police be included, to aid consistency and completeness.

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Draft

Overview

Introduction

- 1.44 In 2006 the Welsh Assembly Government, in its Welsh Housing Market Assessment Guide, suggested that local authorities should act collaboratively to conduct Local Housing Market Assessments
- 1.45 Housing Market Assessments are best conducted jointly between groups of authorities. Such a partnership approach is certainly best placed to deal with housing markets that cross administrative boundaries. (WAG, 2006:10)
- 1.46 In 2007, local authorities in the North West Wales region - Conwy, Denbighshire, Gwynedd, and Ynys Môn, together with the Snowdonia National Park Authority, formed a consortium with Bangor University to undertake a North West Wales Local Housing Market Assessment (NWWLHMA). The assessment provides an overview of housing needs, demands, requirements and aspirations for the sub-region.
- 1.47 Under s. 225 the Housing Act 2004, local authorities are required to develop and implement strategies to respond to the accommodation needs of the Gypsy and Traveller communities living in their areas as part of their wider housing strategies.
- 1.48 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTANAs) are designed to provide the evidence needed to inform these strategies and are an essential component of Local Housing Market Assessments
- 1.49 Guidance from the Welsh Government, both in *Local Housing Market Assessment Guide* (WAG, 2006) and more recently, has consistently recommended that local authorities should address the needs of Gypsies and Travellers collaboratively. In 2011 the Welsh Government urged '*local authorities to work in a regional capacity and share the legal, moral, financial and political responsibility to address the accommodation inequality experienced by the Gypsy and Traveller community in Wales.*' [(WG 2011a:20)
- 1.50 The Welsh Assembly Government guidance stresses the need to engage with and include representatives of the Gypsy and Traveller community in conducting the GTANA.
- 1.51 Flintshire joined the members of the consortium for this process. The GTANA was managed by the Gypsy and Traveller Working Group comprised of officers representing the partner local authorities, North

Wales Police, members of the local Gypsy and Traveller community, and representatives of national Gypsy and Traveller organisations. A Project Coordinator, provided by Bangor University, had overall responsibility for overseeing the GTANA project.

- 1.52 This report presents the findings of the GTANA of Gypsies and Travellers across North West Wales, including Flintshire (known henceforth as the 'Study Area').

Background.

- 1.53 The Housing Act 2004 places a duty on local authorities to conduct an assessment of the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers in their Local Housing Needs Assessment process and to have a strategy in place which sets out how any identified need will be met as part of their wider housing strategies. (Richardson, 2007:14).

- 1.54 These duties under sections 225 and 226 of the Act were implemented in relation to Wales from December 2007.

- 1.55 For the purposes of the 2004 Act Gypsies and Travellers are defined as:

Persons with a cultural tradition of nomadism or of living in a caravan; and all other persons of a nomadic habit of life, whatever their race or origin, including –

(i) such persons who, on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependant's educational or health needs or old age, have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently;

and

(ii) members of an organised group of travelling show people or circus people (whether or not travelling together as such).

(SI 2007, 3235 (W. 285))

Aims of the assessment

- 1.56 The overall aim of the GTANA study is to assess "if there is a need to provide further accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers within the study area" and, if so, how it should be provided to best meet the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community".

- 1.57 The broader objectives of the study are:

- To produce, in consultation with local Gypsies and Travellers, detailed information about in relation to their demographic

profile, household formation, current accommodation needs, accommodation related service and support needs and barriers to accessing services.

- To generate reliable estimates of future accommodation need.
- To assess the current and potential future needs within the Gypsy and Traveller communities in the North West Wales Housing Market Area & Flintshire, i.e. the Study Area, for learning, health services and other services provided by local authorities and their partner organisations.
- To assess the relevance of the policies and strategies in relation to Gypsies and Travellers used by the Partner authorities.

1.58 As part of the project, evidence was obtained from four key areas

- An analysis was made of existing sources of information, identifying strengths and weaknesses of the sources available
- A study of the research literature and other GTANA surveys was undertaken
- Questionnaires were directed at key stakeholders within the local authorities
- The views of the community were obtained through questionnaires, focus groups and discussions with key participants

1.59 Many GTANA surveys have already been completed, and this study was able to draw on some of the experiences of other projects, and reflective discussion about the way in which future consultations with the Community could be structured. In particular, the Steering Group would wish to acknowledge the helpful advice given by Dr Philip Brown (University of Salford), while the study by Pat Niner (Niner, 2008) provided a benchmark for measuring progress.

1.60 The GTANAs will feed into the Local Housing Market Area Assessment process, which in turn will help inform local authority strategic housing strategies, and assist in the preparation of Local Development Plans.

Legislative background.

1.61 Current local accommodation provision for Gypsies and Travellers has been influenced by past legislation and policies, It is important to have a historical perspective since local Gypsy and Traveller sites, and the present overall pattern of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation are the

product of past, and not current, legislation and funding regimes. The relevant policy context for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation includes legislation and guidance specific to site provision and management, unauthorised camping, land use planning, human rights and equal opportunities, social exclusion and housing. This chapter presents a summary of some of the main issues.

- 1.62 The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, aimed to regulate static residential caravan sites within the planning system and to raise standards for caravan dwellers. Under this Act a caravan site needed both planning permission for that use and a caravan site licence
- 1.63 While not specifically aimed at Gypsies and Travellers, the effect was to force many off traditional sites and on to temporary encampments. While the 1960 Act had a discretionary power to provide sites, this was not used frequently. Only 14 sites had been provided by 1967 (HoC, 2003)
- 1.64 To address this issue, the Caravan Sites Act, 1968 both created a statutory duty on local authorities (County Councils and London Boroughs) to provide sites for Gypsies and Travellers, and protected the residents from summary eviction. However, many local authorities did not act on the statutory duty, and some (London Boroughs and County Boroughs) were able to fulfil their duty by providing fifteen pitches. No specific financial aid was given, but under the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980, 100 per cent Exchequer grants became available (ODPM, 2003:33).
- 1.65 The Mobile Homes Act 1983 extended certain rights in relation to stationing a mobile home on a 'protected site' where it is to be occupied as the person's only or main residence. This applied to private sites for Gypsies and Travellers, and to park homes, but not to local authority sites, which were excluded (section 5). The Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 (section 318) amended the Mobile Homes Act 1983 to remove the exclusion of local authority Gypsy and Traveller sites. This was implemented in England from April 2011, but has yet to be implemented in Wales (Community Law Partnership, 2012:3).
- 1.66 The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 also affected Gypsies and Travellers, though ostensibly passed to deal, inter alia, with 'rave culture'. This gave local authorities civil powers to recover land from trespassers, including unauthorised campers. This Act gave local authorities in England and Wales powers to order itinerant groups to leave the land being used, with it becoming an offence to fail to comply

with such a direction. The 1994 Act also gave the police powers to direct trespassers to leave the land. It has been argued that these powers criminalised unauthorised camping with disproportionate consequences for Gypsies and Travellers.

- 1.67 In 1994 also the government repealed the duty imposed on local authorities under the 1968 act to provide sites for Gypsies and Travellers, though the discretionary power under the 1960 Act remains. Effectively, this was a shift towards self-provision of sites by the Gypsy and Traveller community, though others suggest it was an attempt to force Gypsies and Travellers into settled accommodation (O'Nions, 1995). The 100% exchequer subsidy available for site provision under the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980 was also withdrawn
- 1.68 Following this Act Welsh Office Circular 2/94 drew attention to local planning authorities' continuing requirement to indicate in development plans the regard that they have had to meeting accommodation need among Gypsies and Travellers. It noted that unitary development plans should, wherever possible, identify locations suitable for Gypsy and Traveller sites and, where this is not possible, should set out clear, realistic criteria for suitable locations. It also encouraged local authorities to consult Gypsy and Traveller communities and assist them in making planning applications (WO, 1994a). These requirements are reiterated by the Welsh [Assembly] Government in successive editions of *Planning Policy Wales* (WAG, 2002:104; WG, 2011b:133-4).
- 1.69 Under new measures introduced in the Housing Act 2004, local authorities are required to include Gypsies and Travellers in their Local Housing Market Assessment process and to have a strategy in place which sets out how any identified need will be met as part of their wider Housing Strategy.
- 1.70 In 2007 the Welsh Assembly Government Circular C30/07 Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites (WAG, 2007) strengthened the requirement that local authorities identify and make provision for appropriate sites in their local plans. It also places a new emphasis on consulting Gypsies and Travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups in the planning process.
- 1.71 The Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 amends the Mobile Homes Act 1983 to offer Gypsies and Travellers on local authority sites further protection, but the relevant section [318] has yet to be implemented in Wales (WG, 2011a).

1.72 Other legislation relevant to Gypsies and Travellers includes the Human Rights Act 1998, especially Article 8 (right of respect for private and family life) and Article 14 (discrimination). There is now some case law relevant to these Articles. They are also covered by the Equality Act 2010, which places a duty on public authorities to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and harassment and advance equality of opportunity. As recognised ethnic minorities, Gypsies and Travellers are covered by these provisions.

1.73 The recent Welsh Government White Paper *Homes for Wales* notes:

There are eighteen Gypsy and Travellers sites owned by thirteen local authorities, spread unevenly across the country. Demand for permanent residential sites outweighs supply.

This results in unauthorised encampments which are illegal and unsafe for both Gypsies and Travellers and the surrounding communities. Currently, there are no transit sites to accommodate transient groups requiring short stay places. The last new sites were built in Carmarthenshire, Flintshire and Pembrokeshire in 1997.

Evidence in Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments and Local Development Plans identifies a clear and urgent need for new sites. However, local authorities have been unable to progress plans to develop new sites. Current legislation imposes various duties on local authorities. It requires them to have regard to the provision of suitable and sufficient sites in their area but falls short of an explicit statutory requirement and problems are experienced when trying to obtain planning consent.

The situation cannot continue. Where the need for Gypsy and Traveller sites has been identified and not met by the relevant local authorities, we will place a duty on them to ensure they take action to provide them.

We will:

- *Introduce a statutory duty on local authorities to provide sites for Gypsy and Traveller communities where need has been identified (WG 2012:37)*

Planning

1.74 All Gypsy and Traveller sites, whether for residential or transit use, including those provided by local authorities, must have planning permission. However, gaining planning permission has been identified as one of the major obstacles to further site provision. Gypsies and

Travellers seeking to provide sites for themselves fall foul of the planning system when they buy land and occupy it without permission and are faced with enforcement action.

- 1.75 While some 80 per cent of planning applications in general are approved, the success rate for Gypsies and Travellers who buy land and apply for planning permission for pitches for caravans is estimated to be less than 10 per cent. Of those applications which subsequently go to appeal, the percentage of appeals allowed (for England) has varied between 52 and 67 per cent over the years 2006 to 2010. (Hansard, 2011).
- 1.76 In 2007 the Welsh Assembly Government Circular C30/07 Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites (WAG, 2007) strengthened the requirement that local authorities identify and make provision for appropriate sites in their local plans. It also places a new emphasis on consulting Gypsies and Travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups in the planning process.
- 1.77 Ultimately, the GTANA informs the preparation of both Local Housing Market Assessments (LHMAs) and Local Development Plans (LDPs) by the individual local planning authorities,
- 1.78 *Recommendation 1:* Following the guidance from the Welsh Government on adopting a collaborative approach, a North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group comprising of representatives from local authorities and sub-regional partners should be formed to continue the development of a meaningful and co-ordinated approach to Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and related issues, as well as ensuring that the findings from the GTANA are disseminated to departments within the partner Authorities and other stakeholder. The existing Gypsy Traveller Working Group would provide an excellent foundation for such a group, along with representation from the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 1.79 *Recommendation 2:* A North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Representative Group, with as wide a geographical representation as possible, should be established representing the views of the local Gypsy and Traveller population, and contribute to the consultative process. A Chair and administrative support for the group should be provided from the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group.

2. Gypsies and Travellers in the Study Area.

Introduction.

2.1 the Welsh Government acknowledges, 'reliable data on the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers in Wales is not available.' Among the reasons identified are:

- The Bi-annual Caravan Count only counts caravans, not individuals living in them;
- Gypsies and Travellers in settled accommodation do not always identify themselves as Gypsy or Traveller as they fear discrimination; and
- Low literacy levels means that a large number of the community are unable to participate in the census (WAG, 2011:10).

Indeed, very little information is available on the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers in the UK as a whole, in Wales, or in the study area. Estimates for the UK as a whole vary from 82,000 to 300,000, including those living in bricks and mortar housing.

Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Count.

2.2 Until recently the only official government dataset on the population was the Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Count. The caravan count was introduced in 1985, but discontinued in Wales in 1997, without replacement. Following recommendations from the NAW Equalities Committee (NAW, 2003) and Niner (2006), it was reintroduced in July 2006.

2.3 The bi-annual count of Gypsy and Traveller caravans is carried out each January and July by local authority officers and is coordinated by the Welsh Government. The Caravan Count presents the numbers of pitches and caravans on authorised (socially rented and private) sites; unauthorised developments on land owned Gypsies and Travellers; and unauthorised sites on land not owned by Gypsies or Travellers. In the latter categories, distinction is now made between sites which are 'tolerated' and those which are 'not tolerated'.

2.4 The Gypsy and Traveller Caravan count is useful as it provides a snapshot of approximate caravan numbers at local authority level and is helpful for examining trends over time. However the adequacy and accuracy of the Caravan Count has been criticised by official agencies and Gypsy representative groups (Brown and Niner, 2009) because it is only a snapshot of the members of the community who reside in

caravans (either on sites or in transit) at the time of the published counts in January and July each year. It does not include those who live in housing or individuals who may or may not wish to self-identify as Gypsy or Traveller (Niner, 2006). As such, it skews the distribution of Gypsies and Travellers to those areas with caravan sites.

- 2.5 Not all local authorities in the study area have participated in the all the caravan counts, with Gwynedd not submitting a return in July 2010, January 2011 and January 2012, and Conwy not submitting a return in July 2010 and July 2011. In compiling Chart 1 below, indicating the caravan count data since resumption, non-submission has been addressed by taking the last submitted figure for the authority concerned.

Other evidence

- 2.6 In 2003 the NAW Equality of Opportunity Committee attempted to calculate the Gypsy-Traveller population in Wales through a survey of local authorities which asked about the number of Gypsy-Traveller adults and children in their areas. This survey suggested there were a total of 1,412 Travellers (642 adults and 770 children), 59% of whom were living on local authority sites, 9% on private sites, 3% on unauthorised sites and 28% in houses. However it should be noted that this data is only based on a sample of 11 of the 22 Welsh local Authorities. This estimate is clearly likely to be a significant under-count. Of the local authorities involved in this GTANA only Gwynedd (20 adults, eight children, all living on a local authority site) was included. It is also likely that housed Gypsy-Travellers were under-counted, but to an unknown extent (NAW, 2003)
- 2.7 Following on from this study, the Welsh Assembly Government commissioned a research study from the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, University of Birmingham. Authored by Pat Niner, it suggested there were at least 2000 Gypsies and Travellers in Wales. (Niner 2006:2) However, one study of the Welsh Gypsy and Traveller population in 1998 calculated that there were 1,809 Gypsy and Traveller children alone, before counting resident adults (Morgan & Melhuish, 1998).
- 2.8 More recently, in January 2009 a desk based study by the Welsh Assembly Government suggested the numbers in bricks and mortar accommodation almost matched the numbers on sites, suggesting a population of about 4,000 throughout Wales. (WG 2011:11)

- 2.9 In terms of geographical distribution, there is agreement that most Gypsies and Travellers are concentrated along the key transport routes in the North and South of Wales, which is also the location of most of the settled population in Wales. It is also recognised that the Gypsies and Traveller population is ethnically diverse and it is likely that all the groups found in Britain will be present in Wales, including in particular Welsh and English Gypsies, Scottish and Irish Travellers. There are also numbers of 'New Travellers' (Niner, 2006).
- 2.10 Niner also drew on PLASC data recording the ethnicity of school children in Wales. The 2004 figures showed 767 children recorded as of Gypsy and Traveller origin. It should be noted that PLASC data understates the numbers, as some parents are reluctant to declare ethnicity. Children under school age, and some non-attendees, particularly among adolescent females, give an overall total of about 1,100. (Niner, 2006)
- 2.11 Some evidence of the population distribution can also be inferred from the claims by local authorities for specific grant for educating Gypsy and Traveller children, though this relates to those of school age. In 2005 Estyn recorded 1,415 children in Wales as benefiting from the specific grant to meet the needs of Gypsy and Traveller learners (Estyn, 2005). For the 2011-12 financial year, Flintshire claimed for 93 primary school pupils and 20 secondary school pupils, with a further two children of primary school age and 22 children of secondary school age being supported by the Traveller Education Service outside school. In Gwynedd, funding was granted for 12 primary school pupils and six secondary school pupils, with 2 more being supported outside school. Secondary school numbers are likely to be an underestimate of the total population of this age, as some Gypsy and Traveller children, especially females, are withdrawn from education. Conwy and Denbighshire made a joint application to support 18 primary school pupils. No grant application was made by Ynys Môn (WG, 2011). These pupils will be resident not only on sites, but in bricks and mortar accommodation, and the figures give an indication not only of the wider population, but its distribution over local authority areas other than those containing residential sites (Information from Welsh Government, 2011).
- 2.12 Until 2011, neither the national census nor many ethnic monitoring schemes identified Gypsies and Travellers. However, for the first time in the 2011 Census, Gypsy and Travellers were provided with a Gypsy and Traveller tick box. This represented a compromise between the desire of the stakeholder groups to have data captured separately in

recognition of their distinct ethnic identities, and operational constraints on the Census (ONS, 2009).

2.13 The Census data released in December 2012 provided the following results:

Authority	Total population	White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller
Isle of Anglesey	69,751	65
Gwynedd	121,874	153
Conwy	115,228	65
Denbighshire	93,734	34
Flintshire	152,506	95
Total		412

(ONS, 2013)

While this indicates Gypsies and Travellers living in all the authorities in the study area it is likely that this may include a general underestimation due to the reluctance of some members of the community in Bricks and Mortar to declare themselves. However, the total of 412 includes also some clear anomalies, including the small numbers recorded in Flintshire, which has the highest number of authorised pitches in the region. Indeed, the total numbers for Flintshire are less than the 137 Flintshire children receiving the Section 466 grant. On this basis, taking the average numbers in each household, and assuming half their population in Flintshire is living in bricks and mortar accommodation, the Flintshire numbers should be revised upward to around 567, making a total population for the study area of at least 884.

Site provision: Local Authority sites.

2.14 There are two local authority sites in the area, both long established, and mentioned in the survey by Niner (2006). The Llandegai site in Gwynedd was built in 1981 and was previously managed by the Gypsy Council but is now managed by the local authority. At the time of Niner's 2006 report Gwynedd had 24 pitches (12 residential, 12 transit), but the transit pitches were subsequently closed by the council, and that part of the site fenced off, while residential pitches were reduced to seven.

Difficulties between permanent residents and users of the transit site were one contributory factor in the decision.

- 2.15 Riverside, Queensferry, in Flintshire is a local authority permanent residential site run by the Gypsy Council. It has 20 pitches and is occupied mainly by Irish Travellers. The site is bounded to the north by the River Dee, and is in a predominately industrial area adjacent to an existing scrap yard and within close proximity to a large sewage works. The existing site is accessed directly off the A494, which is both a dual carriageway and a trunk road.
- 2.16 The site which was previously developed for industrial uses was granted planning permission in 1990 and was built shortly after that date with hard standings and amenity buildings. No improvements to the infrastructure of the site had been undertaken since its initial construction and therefore some updating was required. The electrics to the buildings and the static caravan were recently updated through a Welsh Assembly Government grant under the site refurbishment program.
- 2.17 The site has had varying degrees of occupancy over its lifetime, however it is currently in a period of stability and the past caravan counts have shown the site to be fully occupied and there is an informal waiting list for pitches. A request has been put forward by the site occupants through the site manager to expand the existing site and is being considered by the Council at present.
- 2.18 Although the Council is in control of some of the adjacent land, any expansion of the site is constrained by the current access arrangements which lead directly onto the A494 dual carriageway. The Welsh Assembly Government Highways department will not accept any additional increase in vehicles through the existing access and the future of any road widening in relation to the A494 is also still uncertain. Therefore alternative access proposals are being considered by the Council which would require the acquisition of third party land.
- 2.19 The Niner Report (2006) suggested that it was difficult to ascertain the number of private sites. The reasons for this varied:
- In most local authorities Gypsy and Traveller issues are not a major issue or policy priority.
 - The survey questions were framed in terms of Gypsy and Traveller sites. Most local authorities do not regard family owned single developments as sites and thus do not record them as sites.

- Planning permissions and site licenses do not identify caravan sites where Gypsies and Travellers live as Gypsy and Traveller sites.

2.20 Due to these issues it is suggested that local authorities under estimate the number of private Gypsy and Traveller sites. Niner (2006) estimated that there were between 65 and 100 private Gypsy and Traveller sites across Wales.

Site Provision: Private Sites

2.21 The authorised sites (one with a five year planning permission) currently within the study area are:

2.22 Corbetts/Lyons Yard, Sandycroft is a historic private site of 22 pitches within the settlement boundary of Pentre surrounded by residential and industrial uses. The planning history in relation to the use of the site as a caravan park dates back to 1952. The site has a Caravan Site Licence for permanent residential use. The site is privately owned and the plots are rented on a private basis. The site is open plan with hard standing and each pitch is small with room for either a static or a touring caravan and a shed. The site is mainly occupied by Irish Travellers. In general this site is usually fully occupied or only has a few vacant pitches at the time of any caravan count.

2.23 Mitford Caravan Site, Mounds, Gwespyr is an established private site within the Mounds holiday caravan sites dated back to circa 1978. The site is surrounded by holiday caravan parks and is located in the open countryside and green barrier in terms of the development plan. The site is also in an area of flood risk. The plots are rented on a private basis. The site has a mixture of static and touring caravans with some buildings attached to caravans. There is one building on the site which is a shared facility for waste provision for the site residents. The site has a Caravan Site Licence for permanent residential use.

2.24 Dollar Park, Bagillt Road, Holywell is a private site occupied by Welsh Romany Gypsies since March 2007. The site is in the open countryside between the settlements of Bagillt and Holywell. It is surrounded by woodland protected by a group Tree Preservation Order and is opposite a Grade II Listed Building. The site has a temporary planning permission for 5 years which expires on February 2016. This was granted on appeal following two retrospective planning applications.

2.25 The above permission is personal to six named families and their resident dependants who own their individual plots. The permission is for

6 plots each with permission for a static caravan, a touring caravan and a brick built amenity building on each plot. The temporary permission was granted on the basis that the site was unsuitable as a permanent site due to the impact of the site on the rural area and the setting of the Listed Building opposite. It was therefore allowed on a temporary basis of 5 years due to the lack of alternative site provision and based on a realistic time period for the Local Planning Authority to have reached an advanced stage of their Local Development Plan process following a needs assessment.

- 2.26 Gwern Lane is a private site occupied by Irish Travellers since June 2010. The site is in the open countryside to the east of the village of Hope. Planning permission was granted on appeal on 11th May 2011, following the submission of a retrospective planning application. The permission is a permanent consent for four caravans, two of which are permitted to be static and a day room. The site is occupied by one extended Irish Traveller family who previously resided on the Local Authority site in Wrexham; however the permission is not restricted to them personally although they are the land owners.
- 2.27 Dee Bank Caravan Park, High Street, Bagillt, is a small private site between the railway line and the A548 adjacent to industrial uses outside the settlement boundary of Bagillt. The site is in a flood risk area and is close to the Dee Estuary. There are three static caravans on the site. This is an established site and little is known about the site or its occupants. It has not been included in the annual caravan counts. The site has a Caravan Site Licence for permanent residential use, but has not been included in the biannual Caravan Count.
- 2.28 Two caravans opposite Waen Farm, Gorsedd; this is a small private site north of the village of Gorsedd in the open countryside. The site is an area of hard standing opposite Waen farm with two static caravans. It is well screened from the road by a mature landscaping bund. A Certificate of Lawful Use was approved for this site in 1996 for the siting of one permanent residential caravan and one caravan for occupation only between March and September in any calendar year. The site has been in operation since 1962 when a caravan site licence was applied for and the site has a Caravan Site Licence for permanent residential use. Little is known about the site or its occupants and it has not been included in the biannual caravan count.
- 2.29 In Gwynedd, a private site with permission for 5 caravans exists near Bethesda

- 2.30 Not all these sites have been included in some of the biannual caravan counts, an indication that Niner (2006) was correct in suggesting the numbers might be underestimated.
- 2.31 There is a small unauthorised development, with two caravans, at Llanaelhearn, Gwynedd
- 2.32 The study area contains one long term unauthorised encampment which now has tolerated status. Pentraeth is an encampment of New Travellers in a lay-by off the A5025 Menai Bridge to Pentraeth Road. Established in 2007, after the occupants moved from other sites within the study area, the encampment was given tolerated status in 2011.

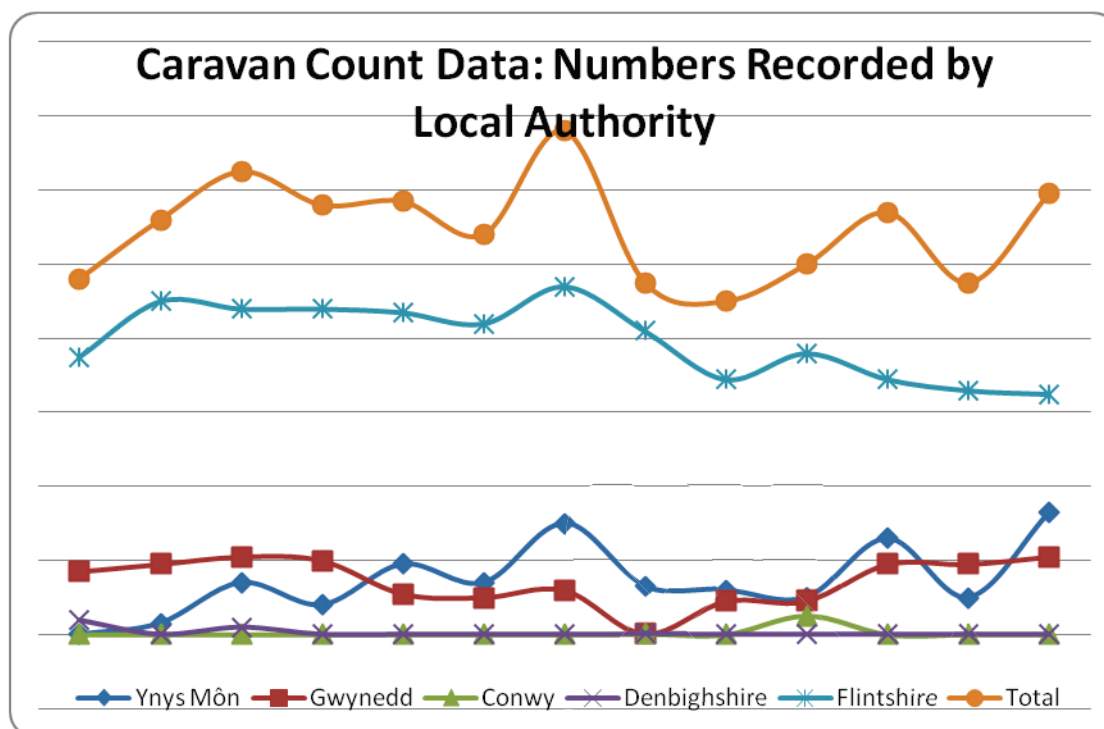
Caravan numbers and trends from the Caravan Count

- 2.33 The data provided in this chapter is derived from the Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Counts from the recommencement in July 2006 up until the last available count in July 2012
- 2.34 From the recommencement of the caravan count, the number of local authority pitches available has not changed. There are no socially rented sites, either permanent or transit, in Conwy, Denbighshire or Ynys Mon.
- 2.35 The Llandegai site is both owned and administered by the local authority. The site in Flintshire is on local authority land, but run by the Gypsy Council.
- 2.36 There are no recorded transit pitches across the study area, though Riverside has been wrongly allocated to the transit category in the caravan counts since January 2011. The transit site at Llandegai has been closed since Niner reported.
- 2.37 In the July 2012 Count, the total number of caravans counted in the area was 76, distributed as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Caravan Count Data, July 2012 (WG:2012)

	Authorised sites (with planning permission)		Unauthorised sites (without planning permission)				
	Number of caravans		Number of caravans on sites on Gypsies own land		Number of caravans on sites on land not owned by Gypsies		
	Socially rented	Private	Tolerated	Not tolerated	Tolerated	Not tolerated	Total
Ynys Môn	0	0	0	0	12	21	33
Gwynedd	7	2	0	0	0	12	21
Conwy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denbighshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintshire	18	40	0	5	0	2	65
Total	25	42	0	5	12	35	119

Chart 1: Caravan Count Data, July 2006-July 2012



://data.gov.uk/dataset/gypsy_and_traveller_caravan

2.38 After adjusting for non-returns by including the previously recorded figure where an authority did not make a return, the number of caravans reported in the study area has not shown any clear trends since the reintroduction of the caravan count. Individual counts fluctuate according to time of year or coincidence with events. In July 2011, 15 of the caravans on Ynys Môn were associated with a visiting fair, while Welsh counts can also vary according to the proximity of events such as the Royal Welsh Show at Builth Wells

2.39 Other than Pentraeth, there are no long term unauthorised encampments identified through the caravan count data.

3 Survey methodology

- 3.1 assessment was undertaken in three distinct stages which are described in more detail below:
- Stage one – collation and review of existing secondary information
 - Stage two – consultation with service providers and other stakeholders
 - Stage three – survey with Gypsies and Travellers across the Study Area.
- 3.2 The first stage comprised a review of the available literature and secondary sources, obtained from central and local government, as well as regional, community and academic bodies. This provides an historical, social and political overview of Gypsies and Travellers in the Study Area.
- 3.3 The second stage involved gathering the views of various service providers and other stakeholders and drew on their experience and perceptions of the main issues for Gypsies and Travellers. Much of this information was collected via an extensive self-completion questionnaire sent out to a representative from each local authority. Joint-working between housing, planning, and education departments was required in order to provide a completed questionnaire.
- 3.4 The questionnaire was structured around three broad issues:
- The particular experiences that stakeholder have in relation to the accommodation and related needs of Gypsies and Travellers across the Study Area;
 - The current working practices of stakeholders in relation to Gypsies and Travellers across the Study Area, and;
 - Stakeholder perspectives on what the priority needs are for Gypsies and Travellers across the Study Area.
- 3.5 All local authorities completed this questionnaire. Chapter 5 provides a discussion of the data collected from this questionnaire.
- 3.6 One of the most important aspects of a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment involves consulting with local Gypsies and

Travellers. This took place between October 2010 and February 2011. These consultations mainly took the form of face-to face interviews and focus groups in order to gather information about their characteristics, experiences, accommodation and related needs and aspirations.

- 3.7 Informal conversations were also used as a tool to collect data from individuals who were reluctant to fill in the questionnaires or take part in focus groups. The survey with Gypsies and Travellers is discussed in further detail below under three sections: sampling strategy and response rates; questionnaire design; and fieldwork and interviewers.

Sampling methods and response rates.

- 3.8 A sampling frame was difficult to produce as reliable data on the numbers of Gypsies and Travellers living in north Wales is unknown. Niner (2006) suggests the population in Wales is approximately 2,000 people, with the biggest concentration along the key transport routes in the north and south of Wales. She also refers to local authority estimates which suggest that the number of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation is around 1800. Best estimates suggest that there are approximately 4,000 Gypsies and Travellers in Wales (Niner, 2006) with between 1,000 and 2,000 of those living in North Wales. Following consultations with the Gypsy and Traveller Working Group, using the above statistics above as a guide, it was decided that the study should endeavour to interview 140 individuals.
- 3.9 A purposive sampling approach was utilised. Purposive sampling targets a particular group of people. This method is used when the desired population for the study is difficult to locate and (or) recruit (Kelly et al, 2003). As the population of Gypsies and Travellers is relatively hidden from official records, this method was judged to be the most appropriate approach.

Data Collection methods.

- 3.10 The North West Wales GTANA comes relatively late in the initial round of GTANAs cycle and a number of previous reports were available as models. Valuable advice was given informally by members of the Housing and Urban Studies Unit at the University of Salford, which has wide experience in conducting GTANAs. The questionnaires for this study were designed in consultation between the GTANA Working Group and the University of Wales Bangor. Draft questionnaires were trialled and amended after input from members of the Gypsy and Traveller community.

3.11 Three questionnaires were designed to collect data from individuals;

- living on permanent sites
- living in bricks and mortar accommodation, and;
- staying on encampments or unauthorised sites.

3.12 Questions were a mixture of tick-box answers and open-ended questions. This gave the opportunity to gather quantifiable information, but also allowed the interviewer more scope for narrative responses. Whilst the three questionnaires were not exact replicas, all covered issues such as:

- current accommodation;
- travelling patterns;
- household details;
- local services, and;
- future accommodation preferences/aspirations.

3.13 In May 2010 a tender was then prepared for the collection of data, for a three month period, of Gypsy and Travellers living in bricks and mortar and established sites across the study area. This required evidence that the local Gypsy and Traveller community would be involved in the data collection process. Gypsy Traveller Advocacy Cymru (GTAC) was appointed to carry out the data collection field work. Members of the local Gypsy and Traveller community were recruited and trained as interviewers. In order to engage with the Gypsies and Traveller population it was decided that the fieldwork team should rely on two main methods:

- contacts of Gypsies and Travellers who had already been interviewed as part of the assessment; and,
- the contacts of the Gypsy and Traveller Community Interviewers on the fieldwork team.

3.14 The GTANA Steering Group set a target for the number of adult respondents in local authority area. Table 2 indicates the target and actual number of interviewees

Table 2: Target and actual adult respondents from each local Authority area.

Local authority area	Target no of adult respondents	Achieved no of adult respondents
Ynys Môn	15	19
Conwy	10	9
Denbighshire	10	13
Flintshire	35	38
Gwynedd	30	14
Total	100	93

3.15 Ynys Môn, Denbighshire and Flintshire exceeded the target number of respondents. Conwy and in particular Gwynedd, underachieved with regards to the target number of respondents.

3.16 In terms of the target number of adult responses versus the number of achieved adult respondents the overall sample fell short of 7 respondents. Reasons why this occurred are discussed later in this chapter.

3.17 Target numbers were also set in relation to the type of accommodation occupied by the respondents. The target and actual numbers achieved are indicated in Table 3.

Table 3: Target and actual adult respondents by type of accommodation.

Type of accommodation	Target no of adult respondents	Achieved no of adult respondents
Bricks and mortar	30	36
Encampment	25	32
Site	45	25
Total	100	93

3.18 During the tender process GTAC expressed an interest to include younger members of the Gypsy and Traveller community in the data collection process. Following consultation with GTAC and the Gypsy

and Traveller Working Group the study team designed a further questionnaire suitable for use with young people. This shorter questionnaire consisted of twenty five questions regarding the main themes outlined above. The young person questionnaire was also designed so that it could be utilised when a shorter interview with other Gypsy and Traveller community members was needed (for example if the respondent had little time) or if there were literacy issues.

- 3.19 Due to the popularity of this questionnaire for the reasons above, utilising this questionnaire led to gaining more respondents who would not have responded if faced with a lengthier questionnaire. However it is noted that the utilisation of the additional questionnaire as well as another form of data collection (informal conversation) made data analysis more difficult.

Focus Groups.

- 3.20 Data was also collected from focus groups held with the Gypsy and Traveller community. Members of the Gypsy and Traveller community were recruited by GTAC as focus group facilitators – an example of good practice. A focus group topic guide, based on the topics outlined above, was prepared. All questionnaires and focus group material is available in the appendix to this report. Two separate focus groups were held in Gwynedd (local authority site), and Ynys Môn (unauthorised development).

Informal Conversations.

- 3.21 In order to maximise response rates data was also collected via informal conversations. This method was also useful to collect data from those who, due to time constraints or literacy issues, were unwilling to take part in a full interview. Informal conversations were mainly undertaken with individuals on encampments, however some individuals living on site accommodation and bricks and mortar also gave informal interviews.
- 3.22 Data collection took place between October 2010 and February 2011. A briefing note was distributed to Gypsies and Travellers when the fieldworkers' initially visited the site, explaining the purpose of the research and encouraging participation. At the completion of the data collection period the questionnaires were then checked for quality by the study team, before the data was analysed.

Overview of the results from data collection with Gypsy and Traveller population.

3.23 Ninety three adult respondents took part in the survey. Forty four respondents aged from 11 to 17 took part. Data collected from the young people interviewed will be discussed in a separate chapter. Table 4 provides an outline of the numbers of adults who took part via each method. Two focus groups were held – one in Gwynedd and the other in Ynys Môn.

Table 4: Number of target and actual respondents via each data collection method.

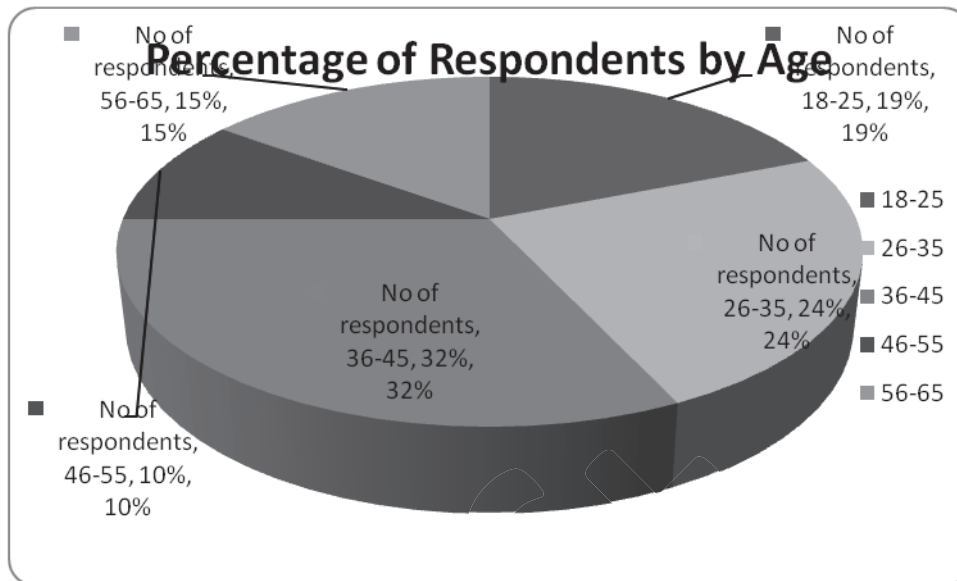
	Questionnaire	Focus groups	Informal conversations
Target interviews	75	25	0
Actual no of interviews	57	14	22

3.24 Fifty seven respondents filled in questionnaires. Fourteen took part in focus groups. Informal conversations were held with the remaining respondents, mainly those on encampments, where there were practical difficulties in obtaining detailed information. These conversations on average took five minutes.

3.25 52 females (55% of the sample) and 41 males (45%) were interviewed for the survey.

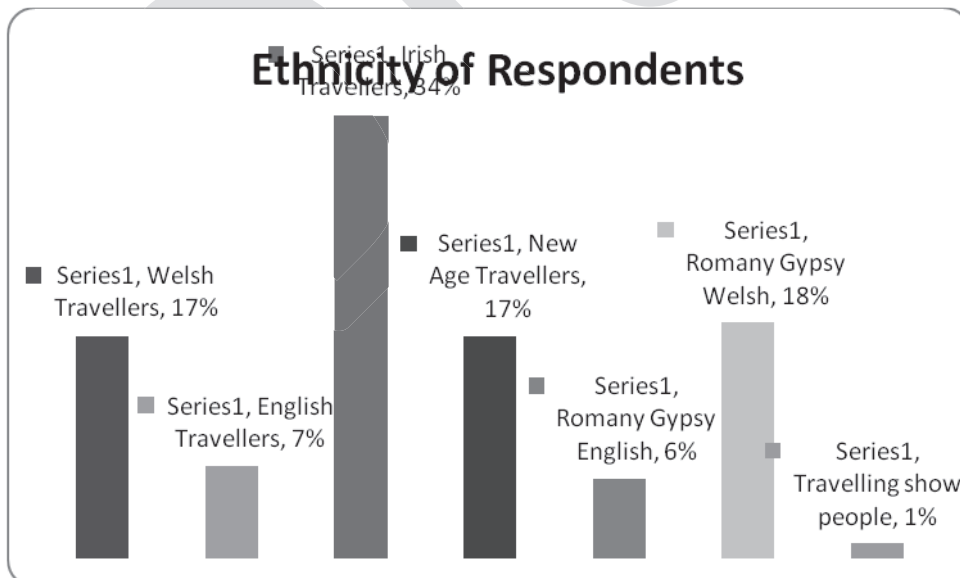
3.26 The stated age of interviewees is indicated in the graph below. 13% of respondents did not provide an age. The highest percentage of participants (32%) were those aged 36 – 45. The lowest percentage (10%) were aged 46 – 55. No one aged over 65 was interviewed.

Chart 2: Age of respondents.



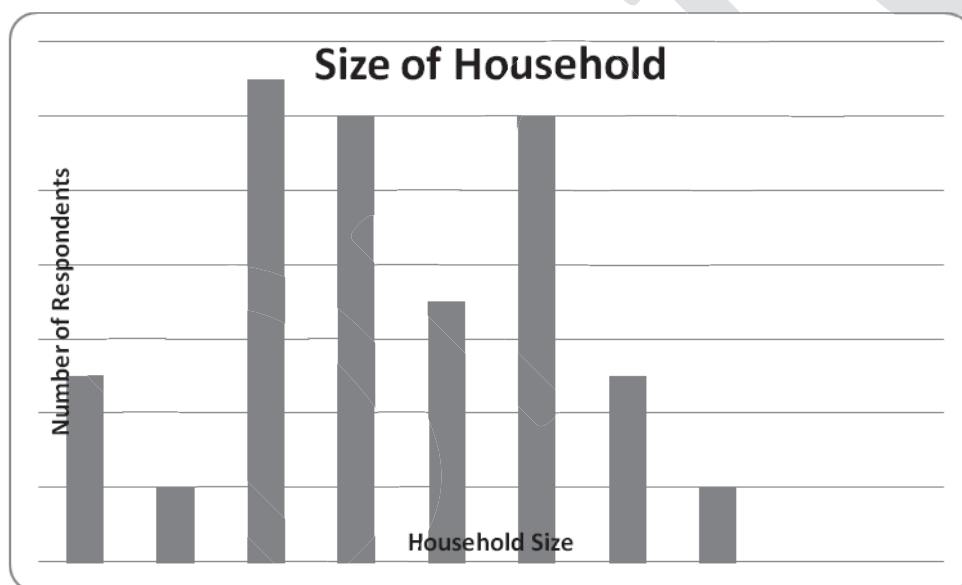
3.27 The declared ethnicity of respondents is indicated in the chart below. The highest number of respondents (34%) were Irish Travellers, with respondents from a Romany Gypsy background also comprising a large proportion of the sample (24%). There was one interview with a Travelling Show-person.

Chart 3: Ethnicity of respondents.



- 3.28 11% of respondents reported they had some form of disability. This is a high response rate, but is consistent with findings from other accommodation assessments carried out by local authorities.
- 3.29 Reported disabilities ranged from anxiety, asthma attacks to being paralysed after having a stroke and mobility issues. Half of those who reported having a disability suggested they had problems relating to anxiety or depression.
- 3.30 Mean household size, where this had been disclosed, was 4.37 persons per household. The median size was 4 persons. Whilst only 3% of respondents reported living in a household comprising of 8 individuals this is higher than the national average of 0.1%. While the lack of those over pensionable age in the sample might be a factor, these figures indicate that Gypsy and Traveller households are likely to be larger than the average.

Chart 4: Size of household.



Data Collection - What worked well

- 3.31 Prior to the start of the project the local Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer, had worked successfully to build relationships with members of the Gypsy and Traveller community living on a permanent site in her area. The project was promoted widely to the community by the local Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer, resulting in two members of the community joining the Gypsy and Traveller Working Group and then subsequently working as peer interviewers.
- 3.32 The study team also successfully recruited members of the Gypsy and Traveller community as peer interviewers. This was been extremely

beneficial in terms of identifying members of the community residing in bricks and mortar, and galvanising respondents trust to fully engage in the process, particularly in Gwynedd and Flintshire.

- 3.33 Offering an incentive to the Travellers in the form of supermarket vouchers often helped to secure the involvement of the community.

Data Collection – What didn't work well

- 3.34 A number of potential respondents were reluctant to take part in the survey as they felt that their participation could potentially have a negative effect on their tenancy – possibly resulting in them being asked to leave the site. Recognition of this issue led to a further method of data collection: some respondents took part in the survey through a self directed, informal conversation
- 3.35 Consistent with the experiences of other local authorities carrying out GTANA's, the study team found that pending planning hearings affected the possibility of obtaining the views of some individuals.
- 3.36 Respondents in areas without official sites were more difficult to locate due to lack of established networks. Previous GTANA reports carried out in other areas across the UK suggest that is because some Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation are unwilling to reveal their Traveller heritage due to fears that they will be treated differently in the community
- 3.37 A further, unexpected issue was a reality television programme that dealt with the experiences of Gypsies and Travellers in Britain. A Big Fat Gypsy Wedding started its second series in January 2011. Subsequently, some potential participants suggested they were uncomfortable about taking part in the accommodation assessment as they felt that they programme had portrayed the community in a negative light. Up until this point, the data collection had been going particularly well, with expectations that a greater number of respondents would be interviewed – over and above the 140 participant target. It is estimated that an additional 50 respondents did not take part in the study due to concerns over the above television programme.
- 3.38 It is appropriate at this point to make some recommendations as a result of the data gathering process.

Recommendations

- 3.39 *Recommendation 3:* All partner authorities should ensure that an internal working group exists within each authority. This group should cut across

service areas, in order to better co-ordinate the response and approach on Gypsy and Traveller issues and avoid potential duplication of work.

3.40 *Recommendation 4:* Each authority should identify a lead officer who manages each authority's response to Gypsies and Traveller issues

Draft

4. Stakeholder consultation

Introduction.

- 4.1 consultation was conducted with representatives from each local authority in order to provide in-depth qualitative information on the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. A stakeholder questionnaire was sent to a representative from each local authority. Themes covered in the questionnaire included: current site accommodation; the need for additional provisions and facilities; travelling patterns; the availability of land; accessing services and work currently taking place to meet the needs of the Gypsies and Traveller community.

Local Authority Gypsy and Traveller Sites.

- 4.2 Stakeholders confirmed that no local authority residential sites had been closed or sold since 1994. The 12 pitch transit site at Llandegai in Gwynedd had been closed in 2005, while one residential pitch had been lost in 2010 while providing facilities for a site manager. All stakeholders indicated that they did not have any current plans to provide or increase the number of local authority Gypsy and Traveller pitches in their area over the next 5 years.

Planning and private Gypsy and Traveller sites.

- 4.3 Stakeholders were asked if they had a development plan covering their local authority area against which an application for a Gypsy and Traveller site would be assessed. All replied in the affirmative. All stakeholders except for Ynys Môn stated that their development plan included a policy towards Gypsy and Traveller sites. Gwynedd indicated that its development plan did not include provision for New Travellers.
- 4.4 When asked if the numbers of authorised private sites and/or pitches had changed since 2007, all stakeholders, except Gwynedd suggested that they had remained static. Gwynedd reported that there had been one new private site approved.
- 4.5 Respondents were then asked if they expected the number of authorised private Gypsy and Traveller sites in their area to increase over the next five years. All respondents replied that they did not know.
- 4.6 Respondents were tasked to fill in a table that reflected how many planning applications for the development of Gypsy and Traveller sites had been received since 2007.

4.7 From 2007 to 2009 no local authority had recorded any applications received. The table below shows that in 2010 Ynys Môn, Conwy, Denbighshire and Gwynedd had no recorded applications. Flintshire had 2 recorded applications. No permissions were granted, and one application - in Flintshire - was refused (though a five year temporary permission was subsequently granted on appeal).

Table 5: Planning Applications for Gypsy and Traveller Sites, 2010.

Year	LA area	Applications received	Location	Permissions granted	Permissions refused	Granted on appeal
2010	Ynys Môn	0	0	0	0	0
	Conwy	0	0	0	0	0
	Denbighshire	0	0	0	0	0
	Flintshire	2	Bagillt, Ewloe	None to date	One, Bagillt	N/A
	Gwynedd	0	0	0	0	0

Unauthorised Developments.

- 4.8 Stakeholders were asked if their authority had experienced unauthorised developments of Gypsy and Traveller sites since 2005. Conwy and Denbighshire reported that they had experienced no unauthorised developments. Flintshire and Ynys Môn said they had two unauthorised developments, whilst Gwynedd had experienced one unauthorised development. Flintshire reported that there was one current case of enforcement activity whilst Ynys Môn had taken enforcement action twice at the time of response, Gwynedd was awaiting results of welfare enquiries and medical information before deciding how to proceed
- 4.9 Stakeholders were then asked if they expected further unauthorised private Gypsy and Traveller sites, to occur in their area over the next five years. All except Gwynedd said they did not expect an increase. Gwynedd's representative stated "*There is always a possibility given the area's location and past occurrences of unauthorised encampments. We have had three requests for plots at Llandegai over the last three weeks*".

Unauthorised encampments by Gypsy and Travellers.

- 4.10 Three stakeholders suggested that their local authority is developing a policy on provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers on a joint authority basis. Gwynedd and Ynys Môn are working on a Joint Local Development Plan.

Site Provision in a Strategic Context

- 4.11 All representatives, except Conwy and Gwynedd suggested that a review of policies on accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers was ongoing. Conwy noted that their policies had been reviewed in 2007, 2009 and 2010. Each local authority appeared to be awaiting results of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment and other collaborative work with North Wales authorities.
- 4.12 All except Conwy suggested that their local authority's Local Housing Strategy aimed to provide or facilitate the provision of accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers. Conwy reported that this was in preparation.
- 4.13 Stakeholders were also asked about any specific measures already in place to help Gypsies and Travellers who want it to access and/or retain bricks and mortar accommodation in their area. Ynys Môn and Denbighshire said there were no specific measures. Both Gwynedd and Flintshire identified:

- Housing related support provided to Gypsies and Travellers.
 - Gypsies and Travellers are included as an option on ethnic monitoring forms.
 - Gwynedd also identified:
 - Gypsy/Traveller Liaison Officer(s) in post.
- 4.14 All except Conwy suggested that their local authority's Homelessness Strategy aimed to provide or facilitate the provision of accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers. Conwy suggested that this was in preparation.
- 4.15 Conwy and Gwynedd were the only local authorities that suggested their local authority's Community Strategy aimed to assist Gypsies and Travellers accommodation needs and/or social integration.

Consultation with Gypsies and Travellers.

- 4.16 Respondents were also asked if Gypsies and Travellers were consulted in the process of preparing the local housing, homelessness or community strategies or in the review of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation policy.
- 4.17 Conwy and Flintshire said that Gypsy and Travellers were consulted for their community strategy. Ynys Môn suggested that Gypsy and Travellers were consulted for their review of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation policy. Gwynedd had consulted on the local housing and homelessness strategies, and the review of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation policy.
- 4.18 The stakeholder from Denbighshire suggested that Gypsy and Travellers were not consulted for the local housing and homelessness strategy, or their community strategy.
- 4.19 When asked how Gypsies and Travellers were consulted, the representative from Flintshire said that *"Current FCC Local Housing Strategy is being reviewed and as part of this review process all interested or affected groups will be provided with opportunity to contribute to the review process"*. Gwynedd had consulted through the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer. Ynys Môn, Conwy and Denbighshire did not respond to this question.
- 4.20 Accommodation issues relating to Gypsies and Travellers are specifically included in Conwy, Flintshire, Denbighshire and Gwynedd's plans required under the Race Equality Duty. Gypsy and Traveller

accommodation issues have been specifically included in Conwy, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Denbighshire's approach to the Equality Standard for Local Government in Wales (now being replaced by the Equality Improvement Framework for Wales). Ynys Môn suggested that Gypsy and Traveller accommodation issues had not been specifically included.

- 4.21 Interviewees were asked if their local Authority had carried out or facilitated specific training activities on issues related to Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and/or Gypsy and Traveller equality issues since 2007. Conwy and Flintshire said their elected members, senior and frontline staff had received training. Ynys Môn suggested their senior staff had received training, whilst Gwynedd suggested their frontline staff had the requisite training. Denbighshire said that none of the staff had been trained. Denbighshire suggested that this was because *"they are awaiting the outcome of GTANA in relation to site provision as well as awaiting agreement on North Wales Protocol on dealing with unauthorised encampments before adopting protocol and arranging training."*
- 4.22 All respondents were asked if their local authority had established a Gypsy and Traveller Interagency Forum, or made specific arrangements to improve relations with the local community, including Gypsies and Travellers themselves, to facilitate discussion of site provision. Only Gwynedd answered that there had been some specific arrangements in terms of a local Gypsy and Traveller forum. Conwy suggested they had made other arrangements in the form of a *"Gypsy and Traveller (G&T) Site Demand and Supply Study undertaken to determine the level and type of site required in the LDP. This involved direct contact with G&T communities"*.
- 4.23 When asked what other arrangements were in place regarding Gypsy and Travellers, Flintshire pointed out that they operate an internal officer working group. In addition the council is a member of the North Wales Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment. Denbighshire noted that educational provision was in place for a small number (currently four) of Gypsy and Traveller children living in bricks and mortar accommodation and for any individuals on temporary sites.

Strategic vision for Gypsies and Travellers.

- 4.24 Stakeholders were asked if overall, their local authority has a holistic strategic vision for Gypsies and Travellers - including site provision. All respondents apart from Gwynedd suggested they did not have a holistic strategic vision. Conwy suggested they *'partly'* had a holistic strategic

vision, *“In terms of the LDP a strategic approach has been established to determine any requirement identified through the GTANA including on-going monitoring of the effectiveness of the Policy approach. Under the current policy framework, the CBLP (1999) is the only local plan with a criteria based policy in place to assess planning applications. The CBLP only covers part of the Plan Area”.*

- 4.25 All respondents except Gwynedd suggested there were a number of priority actions that their local Authority intends to take in order to develop such a holistic strategic vision. Flintshire is shortly to commence development of a dedicated Gypsy and Traveller strategy linked to the review of the current Local Housing Strategy. This will form part of the council’s response to the national Gypsy and Traveller strategy. Ynys Môn intends to develop corporate policies to address Gypsy and Traveller issues; however the policies are unlikely to be holistic and comprehensive. Denbighshire reported that a working group of officers had been established to develop policies on site provision, communication, dealing with unauthorised encampments, etc. Consideration of Gypsy and Traveller issues alongside *those of* other groups in Community Strategies, LDPs, and other strategic plans will also be ensured. Conwy suggested that *“the completion of the GTANA is the first step in identifying any requirement for site(s) (temporary, transit or permanent) to identify a vision/strategy for accommodating any need. An approach is identified in the Council’s LDP to deal with any future need.”*

Barriers to site provision.

- 4.26 Each local Authority was reminded that the EHRC’s review of progress on site provision in England identified the main barriers to provision of additional sites for Gypsies and Travellers (Brown & Niner, 2009; This has subsequently been updated to include Welsh provision in Brown et al, 2010). The barriers identified are as follows:
- Lack of awareness of the issue among policy makers
 - Public/elected member opposition
 - Negative media issues
 - Difficulty in identifying appropriate land
 - The planning framework
 - Funding and finance
 - Gypsy and Traveller site provision not being a local priority
 - Leadership issues

4.27 Respondents were then asked to comment, from their own experience, on whether these or other specific barriers were relevant in their local authority. Comments included:

[There is a] “lack of up to date evidence base to demonstrate need as well as a strong community objection to site selection”.

“Whereas potential sites can be identified through the planning, the choice of sites often elicit strong objections from neighbouring residents and their elected members”.

[There is] “genuine concern that demand is so low in this area that the provision of a temporary site would create demand. Uncertainty about the size of site needed, if any, and the location within a large geographic rural area”.

4.28 All stakeholders were then asked to reflect on any further barriers to additional (or new) site provision.

- Wales being deemed an area of ‘natural beauty’
- Possibly because Gypsy and Travellers are not perceived as being ‘Welsh’
- Current policies or measures regarding Gypsies and Travellers.

4.29 Respondents were asked to outline what proactive measures were being taken by their local authority to tackle these barriers and increase site provision. Answers included:

- GTANA is being undertaken
- Frequently Asked Questions about Gypsies and Travellers leaflet available on website
- Gypsies and Travellers included in cohesion and diversity training provided for employees, school pupils and elected members
- Celebration of Gypsy and Traveller History Month
- Gypsy and Travellers Myth buster leaflet has been circulated to employees, public and partners
- Two local authorities have commissioned consultants to help identify possible sites for accommodating Gypsies and Travellers within the two counties as part of the Local Development Plan Process.
- An agreed draft site selection criteria policy in the forthcoming LDP

4.30 When asked if there were any additional comments respondents from each local authority would like to make about Gypsy and Traveller site requirements and/or provision the following responses were given:

“Advice would be useful on requirement for sites in an area where demand appears to be very low. The GTANA for North Wales may provide greater insight into the issues but it is difficult to devise a policy for such small numbers”.

“The deeply entrenched discrimination faced by the Travelling community and the general lack of understanding and awareness of different cultures and needs creates a significant barrier and undermines community cohesion which results in social exclusion of this group”.

“I have two youths who are coming of age, that require additional plots, plus a housed youth who requires to move back on site to be with family “

“I think Welsh Assembly Government should be more active in ensuring that proper provision is made for meeting Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation needs and if necessary should direct LA's to make suitable provision”.

In Gwynedd the closure of the transit site was noted as an ongoing issue:

“Bangor, and Llandegai in particular, has been a traditional stopping place for Gypsies and Travellers due to the existence of the Site. This pattern has maintained since closing the Transit site, and we believe this trend will continue. Just because there is no provision in a given area doesn't mean that the Community will stop travelling or resorting to that district.”

Recommendations.

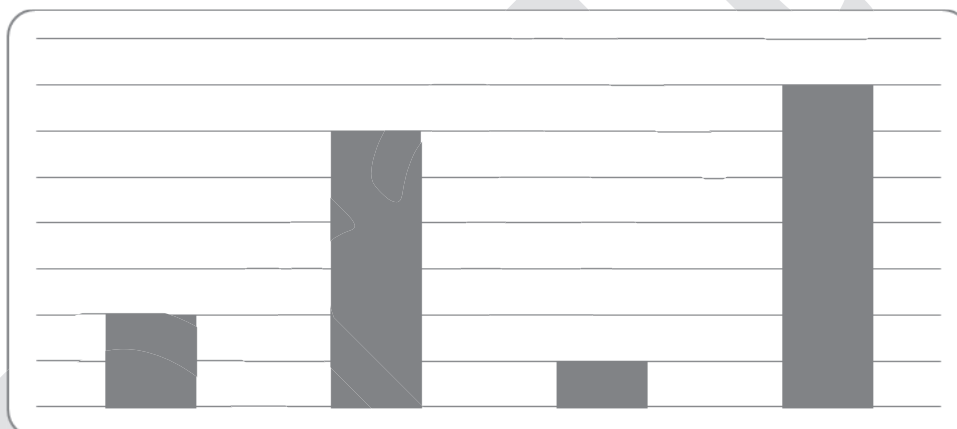
- 4.31 *Recommendation 5:* In order to adhere to Equalities legislation, and to ensure the high quality of on-going monitoring, local authorities should ensure that Gypsies and Travellers are recognised in ethnic monitoring forms, most urgently in relation to housing and planning
- 4.32 *Recommendation 6:* Local authorities should ensure that principles of equality, in relation to Gypsies and Travellers, are embedded in the wide range of services provided. In particular this includes: housing, planning and homelessness policies.
- 4.33 *Recommendation 7:* Local authorities should be sensitive to the different cultural and support needs of Gypsies and Travellers who present as homeless and those who require local authority accommodation.

5 Gypsies and Travellers on Sites with Planning Permission

Demographics of the sample population

5.1 Interviews were conducted at a selected sample of the sites with planning permission within the study area. Llandegai is a long established local authority site owned and run by the local authority. Dollar Park is a private site with authorisation for a five year period ending on February 2016. 25 respondents living on site accommodation were interviewed. 7 individuals were interviewed from Gwynedd and 18 from Flintshire. 15 respondents were female, whilst 10 interviewees were male. Over half (64 %) of respondents were aged 36-45. The respondents identified themselves as Romany Gypsies and Irish Travellers

Chart 5: Ethnicity of the sample population of Gypsy and Travellers living on site accommodation



5.2 Four respondents, two at Llandegai and two at Dollar Park, suggested they or a member of their household have a disability.

5.3 Respondents living on the council site in Gwynedd had lived there an average of 6 years. Those interviewed who lived on the private site in Flintshire had lived there an average of 3 years.

Site facilities and condition.

5.4 Participants were asked a series of questions about the facilities on their pitch and site and what additional facilities were required. Facilities on both sites include: hard standings, clear plot boundaries; water; bottled gas, electricity; drainage – cesspit; postal delivery, refuse storage in the form of bins on pitch; refuse collection from the local authority; a communal room; children's play area; bus stop nearby, an amenity block with toilets and bath/showers and for laundry. Overall respondents from

both sites note that their site is close to shops, schools, doctors and dentists as well as a public telephone.

- 5.5 Respondents were asked if they had any health and safety concerns. Residents on Llandegai site noted that it is not easy to manoeuvre vehicles and caravans around the site as the road is too narrow. They also noted that there had been a health and safety issue previously where an ambulance couldn't get in due to the height restriction at the entrance. This is a concern as there is one resident who has mobility issues due to a disability.
- 5.6 Residents on Dollar Park did not mention any concerns with manoeuvring vehicles around the site.
- 5.7 Overall residents at Llandegai were happy with safety precautions on site, but there were a few residents surveyed who were unaware of the location of the fire precautions notice or fire fighting equipment such as hydrants, hoses and extinguishers.
- 5.8 Respondents from Dollar Park did not completely fill in these sections in the questionnaire, so it is unclear how they felt regarding safety precautions, nor their awareness of the location of the fire precautions notice or fire fighting equipment. However informal interviews with nine residents on Dollar Park highlighted that some residents felt the services they received were *'terrible'*. These residents asked not to be identified in the report and were very uncomfortable speaking openly about any concerns they had on the site as they felt they be asked to leave.
- 5.9 A focus group held with participants of Llandegai site asked a number of questions including their impression of the facilities on site. Residents noted that *"There's no caretaker...there is not the same level of maintenance"*. Residents suggested that they needed more sheds and also requested that the site some be made more 'homely'.

Living on sites.

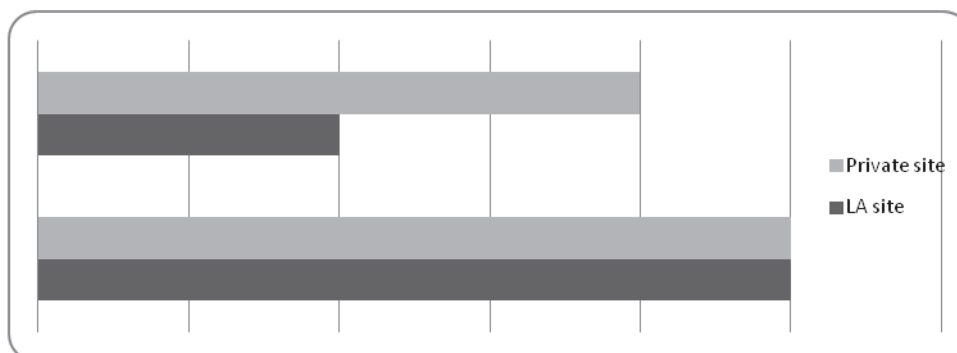
- 5.10 All respondents who live on the sites were asked: What are the good things about living on the site? Positive aspects of living on both sites were mainly related to being close to friends and family: *"Lots of my family live here. We have a proper site to live on"*, whilst another participant said that the site is: *"Close to children and grandchildren"*.
- 5.11 Respondents on both sites noted the peacefulness of the location: *"I like the peace and quiet. I love the animals that we see around here"* and *"It is quiet"*.

- 5.12 Respondents were then asked: What are the bad things about living on the site? Residents living on the Flintshire site appeared overall to have little problems with the site, but they did note that the road nearby was busy and dangerous. Residents living at the Gwynedd site had a number of concerns. The main concern was the appearance and facilities on the site. One resident noted: *“Even though it’s been refurbished it’s still not a nice site compared to other sites”*, whilst another resident felt the site had *“never been done properly, there is no living area”*.
- 5.13 Many respondents on the Llandegai site were unhappy with the fencing around the site as they felt it made the site look like a concentration camp. They also had concerns regarding the maintenance of the site, noting that *“there is no warden...the toilets are outside and that they need fixing”*. Llandegai residents also noted that a car was needed if you lived on the site as it was quite far away from the town centre.
- 5.14 Residents of both sites were then asked: How do you rate this site for neighbourhood, neighbours, location, noise and traffic”. Two respondents suggested they were neutral regarding all aspects relating to the neighbourhood, neighbours, location, noise and traffic whilst one respondent was very satisfied. As no residents from the Dollar Park site answered this section it is difficult to give a representative overview of their opinions.
- 5.15 Residents of both sites were then asked if they had had problem on the site regarding rodents, fly tipping, neighbours and (or) local, disputes. The residents from Llandegai site who did respond suggested there had been problems with rats and fly tipping. Residents from the Dollar Park site did not answer this question.
- 5.16 Residents at Llandegai agreed that they were involved in the consultation when there had been improvements to the site three years ago.

Travelling patterns.

- 5.17 Respondents were then asked if they had travelled away from home within the last twelve months. 62 % of respondents had travelled within the last few months.

Chart 6: Travel patterns of the Gypsy and Traveller sample population living on site accommodation.



- 5.18 Many respondents who had not travelled away from home suggested this was because there are no stopping places. One respondent said: *“where to go? [Its] getting harder, stopping places are blocked off”*.
- 5.19 Those that do travel did so in the summer and mainly did so due to work, visiting friends and family or going to special occasions such as weddings. Respondents travelled with their own households, or family members and friends. Respondents travelled within North Wales, the rest of Wales or Northern England. They might stop on either roadside/waste ground, farmers’ fields or at the side of a road. All respondents suggested that their travelling patterns had changed within the last few years.

Recommendations

- 5.20 *Recommendation 8:* Residential site waiting lists should be: accessible to all Gypsies and Travellers in the area, and clear and transparent in terms of allocation policies
- 5.21 *Recommendation 9:* The management of permanent sites needs to be evaluated at regular intervals in accordance with the guidance issued by the to the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG, 2008)

6. Gypsies and Travellers living on unauthorised sites and encampments.

- 6.1 encampments, and the development of unauthorised sites, have become a major issue in recent years. They are a major cause of tensions between Gypsies and Travellers and the settled population. The presence of Gypsies and Travellers at unauthorised locations leads to high levels of friction and the manifestation of racist and discriminatory behaviours from settled and sedentary communities. The CRE (2006) found that 67 per cent of local authorities reported they have had to deal with tensions between Gypsies and Irish Travellers and other members of the public
- 6.2 Whether through a shortage of authorised permanent site provision, or a lack of authorised stopping places while in transit through an area, Gypsies and Travellers can resort to unauthorised developments or set up encampments,. They may then be caught up in a cycle of eviction, using varying degrees of ingenuity to obtain a short respite before moving on. In one study, over one third of roadside residents said they had been evicted on at least 30 occasions in the previous five years (CRE, 2006:19).
- 6.3 Evidence also suggests that Gypsies and Travellers often park in secluded areas at the back of farms, resided in caravans in relatives' gardens, and doubled up on family sites in breach of planning restrictions. (CRE, 2006:10)
- 6.4 Research has suggested that repeated eviction and clean-up of unauthorised encampments costs taxpayers significantly more than would the provision of permanent residential or transit sites, when all the costs involved are considered (Morris & Clements, 2002) Research suggests that the financial costs to local authorities exceed six million pounds a year. Although this is 'almost certainly a substantial underestimate' as it fails to account for staff time. The costs of policing and evicting Gypsies and Travellers instead of providing adequate authorised sites is not cost-effective,
- 6.5 The North Wales GTANA survey included those on unauthorised encampments. These included both temporary encampments, normally of short duration, and residents of a longstanding tolerated encampment at between Pentraeth and Menai Bridge, on part of a now bypassed section of the old A5025.

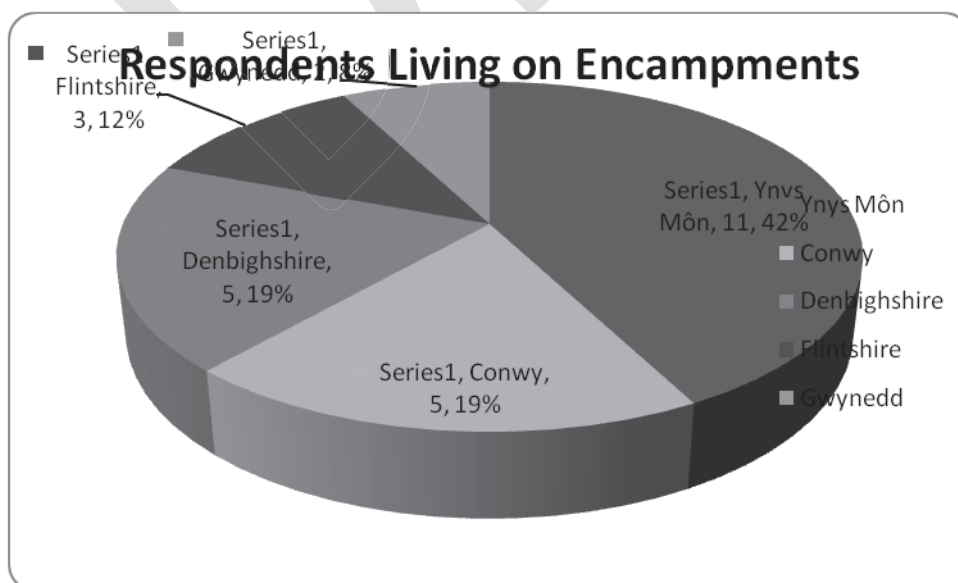
6.6 As with many accommodation assessments GTAC experienced difficulties when attempting to interview members of the community living on encampments and unauthorised developments. The main reasons for this were:

- There was not a coordinated and consistent policy for informing the project coordinator of when an encampment had arrived at a specific area.
- In the majority of cases, when GTAC were informed of a potential encampment, the encampment had moved on.
- Those encampments that were still in the locality were often very wary about taking part in the survey as there appeared to be concerns that this would affect their ability to stay at the site.
- Because of the difficulties associated with questioning occupants of temporary encampments, some of the data included here is drawn from notes of conversations, rather than responses to formal questionnaires.

Demographics of the sample population.

6.7 32 respondents were interviewed: 69 % of whom were living on encampments across the study area - interviewed via questionnaires, or informal conversations. The remaining interviewees, living on an unauthorised encampment in Ynys Môn, took part in a focus group.

Chart 7: Respondents living on encampments from each local Authority area.



6.8 It is difficult to provide detailed data on gender, age or ethnicity as in many interviews it was unclear exactly how many other individuals were

present when the participant was interviewed, whilst in other cases only brief information in the form of an informal conversation was collected.

- 6.9 4 individuals living on encampments suggested they had a disability ranging from mobility issues and depression and anxiety.
- 6.10 Complete data is also not available concerning the number of caravans at each location. The data that is available as well as conversations with GTAC, suggest that on average there is approx five caravans at each encampment - however one encampment in Denbighshire had ten caravans.

Current accommodation

- 6.11 Respondents were asked how long they had been at the encampment and how long they expected to stay at that location. Respondents across the study area had been on the encampment for approximately 2 – 8 weeks. Respondents suggested they hoped to stay at that location for approximately 2-8 weeks, however one respondent summed up the views of many who were interviewed by suggesting that “[We] will stay here until they kick us off”. All respondents stated they did not have a permanent base.
- 6.12 Participants were then asked where they would travel to once they left the location or were moved on from the site. Respondents indicated they would stay within north Wales.

Living on unauthorised encampments

- 6.13 Respondents were asked their opinion of the particular area as a stopping place. Most respondents did not answer this question, but anecdotal information from GTAC suggests that respondents felt the overall opinion of the location as a stopping place was that it was “OK, but there is nowhere else to go.”
- 6.14 Positive aspects of the current location focused on the location and the local community. One respondent liked the area as it was “fairly quiet, next to river [and] out of the way”, whilst another respondent suggested that they liked their location as “people seem nice”
- 6.15 Participants were also asked what they did not like about living on their site. The lack of facilities and amenities available to participants was clearly a negative for the majority of participants; one noted it was a “very temp site. No facilities”. Further to this there was a concern over safety issues. One respondent noted that:

"[There is] a large deep pond [that is] unsafe for children. Near a dual carriage way. Access to and from road is hazardous due to fast road."

Facilities

- 6.16 Participants were then asked how they managed for basic facilities such as washing and bathing, water, toilets, rubbish collection and electric. In terms of electric power all those who answered this question suggested they had a generator. All respondents noted there are no facilities for rubbish collection or disposal. Most noted that they used black bags and then left them at the site, whilst other respondents used local recycling facilities. Many of those surveyed noted had similar comments such as one made by a participant who suggested that: *"Council should pick up [rubbish]. [We] need a skip"*.
- 6.17 Respondents noted that they normally use the local supermarket or garage for toilet facilities, whilst one respondent in Gwynedd noted that if possible they used the local Gypsy and Traveller site. A further participant noted that they: *"Use the land"*. All respondents felt that it was not suitable to have little or no access to basic facilities such as a toilet. In terms of access to baths and showers respondents recorded either using a friend's house or the local leisure centre. Respondents felt that *"[this was] not good, [but] what else can we do?"*

Travelling patterns

- 6.18 Respondents suggested they travelled with their own household, close relatives and other family members. Respondents travel throughout North Wales, the rest of Wales, Northern England and Scotland
- 6.19 All respondents suggested that their travelling patterns changed in the last few years. When asked why their travelling patterns had changed two main reasons were given: a lack of places to stop and the current legal situation around encampments.
- 6.20 In terms of lack of places to stop, one respondent noted that this had an effect in other areas *"Patterns have changed – Staying longer on unauthorized sites because lack of places to stop"*.
- 6.21 With regards to preferred accommodation all respondents suggested they would like to live on a private site owned by "you and your family" or on a site owned by the local council.

Longer Term Unauthorised encampments

- 6.22 The following section outlines the experiences of those living on an unauthorised, but now tolerated, encampment between Pentraeth and Menai Bridge. The information contained in this section of the report is based on questionnaires completed and a focus group held with 13 residents of an unauthorised encampment based in Ynys Môn. Ten respondents were aged between 25-30 and were a mixture of male and females, whilst three respondents were aged 10-17 and comprised of 2 females and 1 male.
- 6.23 80 per cent of the participants had been living at the Pentraeth Site since it was established some 3 years ago. These respondents have been travelling and living together for the last 10 years on various unauthorised encampments across Conwy, Gwynedd and Ynys Môn.
- 6.24 Participants were then asked if they had anything else they would like to say. Most participants took this opportunity. One respondent felt:

“I would like to tell the council that I would like to stay here. Keep an open mind and come and talk to us. Message for council – [there was] an eviction notice placed on caravans [which] threatened that the trailers would be confiscated”

7. Gypsies and Travellers living in Bricks and Mortar

Introduction.

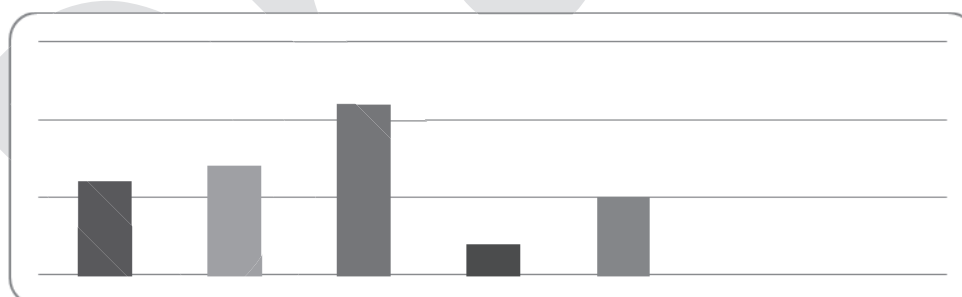
- 7.1 chapter focuses on the circumstances and needs of Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar accommodation. It starts by considering their current accommodation circumstances before looking at their future expectations and requirements.
- 7.2 It is estimated that between half and two-thirds of the Gypsy and Traveller population of the UK now live in 'bricks and mortar' housing. Sometimes this is through choice, but can also be through necessity, due to the shortage of pitches on authorised sites (Brown & Niner, 2009:19). GTANA findings often indicate that they either became housed as a result of inadequate site provision and exhaustion caused by a constant cycle of eviction, or that health or educational concerns for family members led to moving into housing. (Cullen et al, 2008:18; Cemlyn, 2009).
- 7.3 Numerous GTANAs have reported Gypsies and Travellers in housing experiencing hostility from neighbours, and it is likely that the constant exposure to racism and discrimination has a negative impact on mental health (Cemlyn, 2009).
- 7.4 Identification of Gypsy and Traveller families living in bricks and mortar accommodation has been problematic in many GTANA surveys. Most local authorities, both in the study area and nationally, do not offer the option of Gypsy and Traveller in ethnic monitoring forms. In the study area, officers who had close contact with the community either as Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer (in Gwynedd) or in other capacities, had knowledge of some families either living within their local authority areas, or who had previously done so and had moved elsewhere. 'Local knowledge' helped to identify other long standing residents of the community. Snowballing techniques could then be used to identify other residents, though this had to be achieved with account taken of sensitivities. Some Gypsy and Traveller families would be reluctant to identify other community members without their permission.
- 7.5 Inevitably, these methods of identification would be more likely to include families of long standing in the local area, and previous residents of local sites. Recent arrivals would be less likely to be picked up by these methods.

- 7.6 It is also likely that these influences would skew the distribution of the sample towards rented, and particularly socially rented housing, rather than the owner occupied sector.
- 7.7 Even when identified and approached, there was reluctance by some potential respondents to take part in the survey. Other GTANAs and research studies have noted Gypsies and Travellers in housing experiencing hostility from neighbours, and this might be a relevant factor here (Brown & Niner, 2009:21ff.)

Demographics of the sample population.

- 7.8 36 respondents living in bricks and mortar were interviewed. The majority (91 %) filled in questionnaires, whilst data collected from the remaining respondents was collected via an informal conversation.
- 7.9 Almost half of the sample population (47 %) were from Flintshire. Conwy had the lowest number of respondents (10 per cent). Three quarters of respondents were female.
- 7.10 Those aged 35-44 had the highest response rate. No interviews were carried out with individuals 65-74 and those aged 75 and over

Chart 8: Age of respondents living on Bricks and mortar accommodation.



- 7.11 Almost one third (34 %) of respondents were Irish Travellers. The lowest percentage of respondents was for New Travellers (3.84 per cent).
- 7.12 The predominant tenure was socially rented housing, though respondents from all tenures were represented.

Current accommodation

7.13 Respondents were asked how long had they lived in their current accommodation. 41 % said they had lived there for 2 – 5 years, whilst 2 % had lived in their accommodation for either 10 or 15 years.

Chart 9: Length of time that Bricks and mortar respondents had lived in their present accommodation.



7.14 Respondents commented on the main reasons why they moved into housing. In order of significance these were:

- Inability to get a place on a site;
- Health reasons:
- Want to 'settle': Unable to find stopping places while travelling
- Inability to get a place on a site;
- Health reasons:
- Want to 'settle':
- Unable to find stopping places while travelling.

7.15 Respondents were then asked “what are the good points about living in bricks and mortar accommodation”. The most main benefit of living in housing was that there was the perception there are better utilities and services: “[The] bath and toilet are in the house with you”, whilst another respondent noted: “*comfort, everything to hand, water electricity etc.*” Other respondents however felt that there was “No good points” noting that they felt lonely or depressed living in housing.

7.16 The main disadvantages of living in housing related to isolation. A respondent suggested they felt “*closed in, [I] feel very quiet and lonely*” whilst a female interviewee reported feeling “*blocked in since my husband died. I sleep in the trailer in my garden*”.

7.17 The study team noted that the majority of respondents living in bricks and mortar appeared to feel depressed and unhappy about living in housing.

7.18 The contrast with living in a caravan was often stressed:

“At first it seemed strange with the stairs. I feel more closed in.”

“I’m ok now coming upstairs now but was nervous when I first moved in.”

“Very strange at first as I have been used to living in a trailer. I felt down and ill for a while when I first moved in. I couldn’t look over the banister as felt scared of heights.”

7.19 Findings in other GTANAs indicate that owner-occupiers of bungalows (usually with space to park one or two caravans) and residents in accommodation which broadly replicates the design of pitches on private caravan sites, are happiest in their accommodation (Cemlyn et al, 2009:20).

7.20 Respondents were asked if they would be interested in attending meetings to discuss Gypsy and Traveller issues, ten individuals suggested that they would be interested.

Travelling patterns

7.21 Respondent were then asked about travelling patterns, firstly being asked if they had travelled away from home within the last 12 months. 68 % had not travelled.

7.22 When asked the reasons why they hadn’t travelled in the last twelve months, the majority cited harassment on the road as the main reason. One respondent suggested: “*It’s getting harder, places are blocked to*

us. Ten years ago there were places to go in Bangor. These days Travellers can get as far as Rhyl", whilst another respondent noted that: *"There are no proper sites anyway, I wouldn't feel comfortable"*. The remaining respondents cited health reasons for their decision not to travel away from home.

- 7.23 Research evidence suggests that Gypsies and Travellers who were both living in bricks and mortar and travelled rarely had the worst health status among all Gypsy and Traveller groups
- 7.24 Respondents who did travel suggested that they travelled during the summer months for an average of 11 weeks. Those who do travel, normally travel with their own household, close relatives and (or) friends and family. Respondents tend to park on roadways, waste ground or official transit sites. As well as travelling throughout north Wales the sample also travelled to areas such as south Wales, Shropshire, Ireland and Nottinghamshire. Respondents travelled due to work related reasons or to visit friends or family.
- 7.25 Overall most respondents noted that the travelling way of life is more difficult; one respondent noted that *"The laws have changed, it's getting harder. Travellers are moved on"* whilst a further interviewee suggested travelling patterns have changed because: *"Travellers have had to adapt. I feel separate from my traveller connections. A lot of traditional traveller stopping points are being blocked off"*.
- 7.26 Feeling separate or alienated from Gypsy and Traveller culture was a common theme of those living in housing. One respondent noted that *"Since children have grown up I have been static. The council should do more for Travellers, more facilities"*.
- 7.27 The sample population who filled in the full bricks and mortar questionnaire were then asked if they had ever been forced to camp by the roadside or set up an unauthorised encampment while travelling in the last year. 40 % suggested that they had, mainly across North Wales – most notably in Towyn [Abergele]

Accommodation expectations

- 7.28 Participants were then asked about the type of housing they would prefer. Respondents living in bricks and mortar had a low response rate for this section. Of those who did respond, 85 % suggested they would like to live on a site owned by themselves or their family. A site owned by the local council was the second choice.

- 7.29 As discussed it is difficult to ascertain the number of individuals in household who will want their own accommodation in the next five years as many respondents did not answer this question or the data was not available as most respondents filled in the shorter questionnaire.
- 7.30 52 interviews were carried out with Gypsies and Travellers living in housing across the study area. GTAC noted that many more individuals were spoken to who did not wish to take part in the study. A dominant theme to be found in interviews with this community suggested many felt isolated within the local community and also away from the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 7.31 Reflecting the relatively poor information available nationally on families in bricks and mortar accommodation, relatively little research evidence is available. Research from recent studies (Greenfields & Smith, 2010; Greenfields & Smith, 2011) offers two insights into families in social housing. Gypsies and Travellers were more likely to be offered
- 7.32 Tenancies in areas of poor quality and/or low demand social housing, and would also try to sustain communities by using tenancy transfers to move closer to relatives and other community members.
- 7.33 These results raise policy issues for social housing providers in the area. These can only be fully explored if they are able to identify members of the community living in socially rented bricks and mortar housing.
- 7.34 Research is necessary to determine whether members of the Gypsy and Traveller community have different patterns of social housing experience to other communities, and, if so, whether this is due to any formal or informal procedures or strategies of the agency
- 7.35 Research may identify any pattern of clustering in some estates due to use of tenancy transfers or swaps.
- 7.36 *Recommendation 8:* Social Housing Agencies to include Gypsy/Romany/Traveller option for self declaration on application forms.
- 7.37 *Recommendation 9:* Social Housing Agencies review current patterns of application and allocation using an appropriate toolkit or set of questions to determine whether there are avoidable biases in the system.
- 7.38 *Recommendation 10:* Social Housing Agencies to establish if any such pattern results from positive choices, or negative decisions due to perceived threats or other causes.

7.39 *Recommendation 11*: The methods and approaches used by local authorities in promoting affordable accommodation to members of the non-Traveller communities should be adapted to the accommodation used by members of Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Draft

8. Young Gypsies and Travellers

The view from the literature

- 8.1 in secondary education is extremely low, with discrimination and abusive behaviour on the part of staff and students frequently cited as reasons for leaving education early
- 8.2 Even when housed or relatively settled on a permanent site many Gypsies and Travellers often find it difficult to go into schools or to make use of Further Education facilities.
- 8.3 Children can suffer psychological damage from repeated ~~brutal~~ evictions, tensions associated with insecure lifestyles, and hostility from the wider population
- 8.4 Research has also shown that children are particularly vulnerable to experiencing racism and discrimination, from their peers in school, from adults in authority such as teachers, and from adults and children in the general. (Cemlyn et al, 2009)

Background.

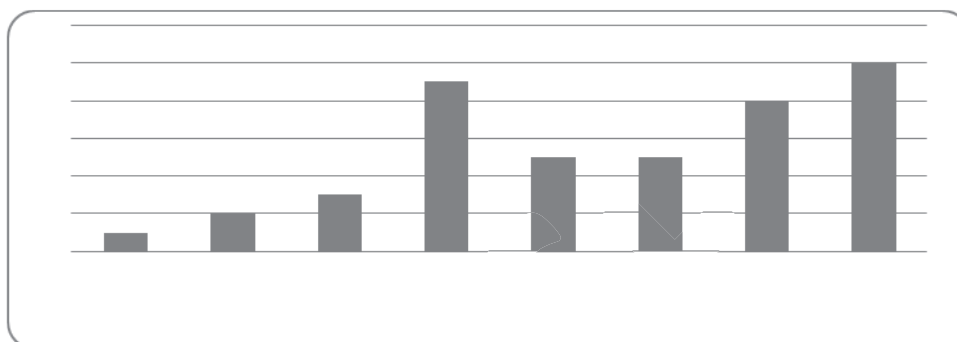
- 8.5 Gypsies and Travellers marry and form new households at a relatively young age. The views and preferences of young Gypsies and Travellers are therefore important in formulating a GTANA strategy. As part of the NWW GTANA, a survey of the opinions of young Gypsies and Travellers was attempted. This mirrors previous work in Wales and elsewhere (Clark & Cemlyn, 2005; Ureche & Franks, 2008; Lloyd & Carrick, 2000; Aspinwall & Larkins, 2010)
- 8.6 In conjunction with Gypsy Traveller Advocacy Cymru (GTAC), the North West Wales Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Assessment also collected data from young Gypsy and Travellers in the study area. A young person questionnaire was designed for this purpose. These questionnaires were then filled in alongside interviews with adult participants. Pupils at the Delyn Centre in Flintshire, where there is separate provision for Gypsy and Traveller pupils, were also invited to take part in the survey

Demographics of the sample population

- 8.7 43 young Gypsies and Travellers took part in the survey by filled in the young person questionnaire. 55 % of respondents were from Flintshire, 21 % from Gwynedd, with the remaining 24 % from Ynys Môn, Conwy and Denbighshire.

- 8.8 Of the sample 28 questionnaires were completed by young female Gypsies and Travellers, and 15 questionnaires by young male Gypsies and Travellers.
- 8.9 In terms of age, respondents aged 11 to 17 are defined as being a young Gypsy or Traveller.

Chart 10: Age of young Gypsy and Traveller respondents.



- 8.10 The majority of the respondents were aged 14 or over. As Gypsies and Travellers often marry at relatively young ages, the opinions of the young persons sample are relevant in relation to future provision of accommodation in the study area.
- 8.11 Respondents were then asked about their ethnic background. The majority of the sample defined themselves as being Romany Gypsy (34 % in total), with 18 % being Romany Gypsy English and 16 % self identifying as Romany Gypsy Welsh. .
- 8.12 58 % were living on site accommodation, whilst 39 % reported that they lived in bricks and mortar housing and 5 individuals were living on an encampment.
- 8.13 Those living in bricks and mortar mainly suggested that they liked their current accommodation due to the closeness of facilities such as toilets, bathrooms and the space that this gave. A number of respondents noted that they liked living in housing as *"I have my own bedroom"*.
- 8.14 In terms of what they didn't like about their accommodation a significant number of respondents suggested that they did not like living in a house as they did not feel in touch with their Gypsy and Traveller heritage – preferring instead to live on a site. One young person interviewed for the survey said *"I would like to live back on the Queensferry site again because it's boring where I live"*.
- 8.15 For individuals living on site accommodation most, if not all suggested that the level of closeness to their family and friends was the major

factor in enjoying living on site accommodation. One respondent noted: *“We are one of a kind on here”*.

- 8.16 The lack of, or poor facilities was a significant factor cited by most respondents relating to what they did not like about living on site accommodation. As one young respondent suggested: *“There are no showers and the site floods every time there is heavy rain.”*
- 8.17 Individuals staying on encampments were less likely to outline positive aspects of living on this type of accommodation, mainly because they were under constant threat of eviction. Travelling with family and friends was referred to as being a positive aspect of travelling
- 8.18 Young people living on the New Traveller site in Ynys Môn suggested that among the negative aspects of the accommodation was that there was *“No sunlight, its icy in winter...It feels like nobody cares about the place”*.

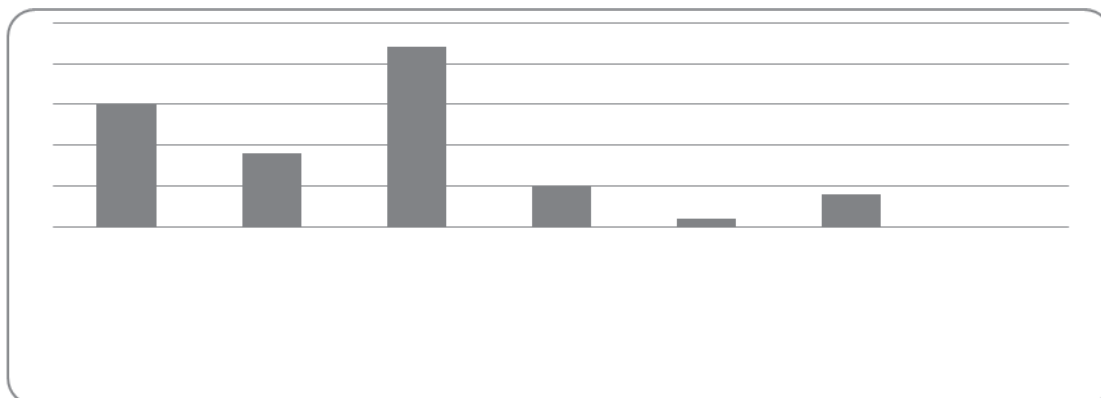
Travel patterns

- 8.19 Respondents were asked if they had travelled away from home within the last 12 months. 42 % of respondents had travelled away from home.

Future accommodation aspirations.

- 8.20 As Chart 11 below indicates, most young Gypsy and Travellers aspired to live on a site (92 %) once they were old enough to form their own household. Living on a private site owned by “you and your family” the most popular form of site accommodation (40 %). Living in bricks and mortar housing was less popular. No respondents wanted to live in accommodation rented from a council or a local Housing Association, while both privately rented housing and owner occupied housing having fewer preferences than any form of site accommodation.

Chart 11: accommodation aspiration – by type of accommodation – of young Gypsies and Travellers.



- 8.21 The young respondents were then asked in what areas in north Wales do you think there should be permanent Gypsy and Traveller sites. Various locations were cited by respondents, some respondents gave a number of suggestions. Within the study area Rhyl and Prestatyn were the areas that were mentioned most frequently.
- 8.22 Perhaps due to the type of accommodation already available in these areas, Bangor, Queensferry, Flint and Ynys Môn were also mentioned by young respondents.
- 8.23 Young Gypsies and Travellers were asked if they thought there should be transit sites available for when they travelled. As with the adult respondents, 100 % suggested that there should be transit accommodation available.
- 8.24 Respondents were then asked what areas in north Wales do you think there should be transit Gypsy and Traveller sites. Various locations were cited by respondents with some respondents giving a number of suggestions. Bangor and Ynys Môn were the most popular suggestions. Towns along the A55 route were also mentioned: in particular, Rhyl; Holyhead and Conwy.

Experiences of discrimination

- 8.25 Respondents were asked if they thought they had encountered discrimination or racism in the last twelve months. 72 % of the young Gypsies and Travellers had experienced some form of discrimination. Most respondents gave examples of the discrimination they had experienced.
- “I went to the cinema and was thrown out”.*
- “Not just once, loads of times. I don’t think gorgas like Gypsies as they call us names.”*
- “They think we are going to cause trouble. I wanted to join local football team but they wouldn’t let me because they knew I was a Traveller.”*
- 8.26 Respondents were also asked: Is there anywhere you avoid going to because you think you might encounter discrimination or racism? Various suggestions were given, such as: local cinema; ice skating rink; bowling alley; shops and local school.

Recommendations.

- 8.27 *Recommendation 12:* A progressive campaign which would promote the lifestyle and culture of Gypsies and Travellers in a positive light may help alleviate some of the racial discrimination experienced by young and older Gypsy and Travellers across the study area.
- 8.28 *Recommendation 13:* Ensure that staff working in primary and secondary schools have sufficient training about Gypsy and Traveller culture in order to tackle bullying more effectively.
- 8.29 *Recommendation 14:* Local Authorities should consider collectively providing the resources to recruit and train outreach workers (possibly from Gypsy and Traveller communities) to engage with young people.

Draft

9. Travelling Showmen.

Demographics of the sample population

- 9.1 there are members of the Showmen's Guild based in the study area, a systematic analysis of need was not attempted. Local authority representatives were not aware of specific issues relating to this group.
- 9.2 Travelling fairs also visit the area from elsewhere (Showmen's Guild, 2007:16) During the course of the study, it became known that a Travelling Showman had made an encampment within the area. It was decided to interview the subject.
- 9.3 This chapter is based on one interview carried out in Flintshire as in depth information on locations of Travelling Show people was not available
- 9.4 The interview in question was carried out with a male aged 51 who, at the time, had been camped for 2-3 months at Playing field/ public space in Rowleys Lane, Shotton. The respondent expected to stay there for a further two months. The interviewee had seven caravans at the location.
- 9.5 The household comprised of 4 other individuals, all females aged 50; 28; 24 and 21 respectively. The individuals are camped at this site for work purposes and in order to attend a fair/event. The respondent felt the stopping point was very good and that it was convenient. The respondent also noted that they had held lots of events in the area and had been visiting the area for last 25 years. The interviewee did not draw attention to any health and safety issues relating to the site.

Current accommodation.

- 9.6 The respondent has a permanent base in Salford – a privately owned showman's site. However the respondent would like to live on a Travelling Showman site or a site owned by the local council in Shotton or Queensferry. The Travelling Showman site was required in order to have space to park machinery and rides.
- 9.7 As the interviewee has a permanent base outside the area, his accommodation needs would technically fall to another GTANA area, though if he wanted to move permanently to the north Wales area he might need assistance in finding a new site.
- 9.8 The respondent was asked how they how do you manage at the encampment for water, toilets, bath and shower, electricity, rubbish storage and rubbish disposal. The following table provides an outline of

their answers. Overall the respondent felt these arrangements were fine, but they did note that in regards to electricity a power point would be more helpful.

Table 6: Overview of facilities available to a Show person interviewed in Shotton.

Facility	Where	How satisfactory?
Water	from Steelworkers club	Fine
Toilets	Inside caravan.	Fine
Bath/shower	Inside caravan	Fine
Electricity	Generator	Power point would be better.
Rubbish storage	Take to the tip	Fine
Rubbish disposal	Take to the tip	Fine

Travel patterns

- 9.9 The respondent was asked about his household's travel patterns. He suggested that his household travelled in spring, summer and autumn for approximately 30 weeks. The household travelled across north Wales and Northern England with his own household and other family members and friends.
- 9.10 The travelling patterns of the household has changed over the years. The respondent suggested that these changes are because the price of diesel has risen alongside the cost of vehicles. He also noted that young people do not attend fair grounds as much as they prefer to play on computer games.
- 9.11 Education whilst travelling is provided with the support of an education officer at the Showman's Guild in Lancashire. TES provide education discs which are completed and returned to the school.
- 9.12 In terms of healthcare, the household returns to Salford to use their local GP surgery.
- 9.13 The respondent ended the conversation by saying
"This is our way of life. It is not just a business it is a close knit community. Even if I break down and I'm not speaking to one of the competitors they will still help me. It is the way we are. We are different to Gypsies as we earn our living with showman's work".

Recommendations

- 9.14 *Recommendation 15:* Further research is needed with Travelling Show people, in conjunction with the Showmen's Guild, before recommendations can be made

Access to services

Introduction.

10.1 GTANA's primarily focus on accommodation issues, they are also expected to collect information on other experiences that Gypsies and Travellers have. This chapter reviews the local survey evidence in relation to in relation to: health; council services; other local services; education; employment; and any experiences of discrimination.

Health services.

10.2 Response rate for this section varied depending on the services discussed. Information regarding access to doctors and dentists was high (approximately 75 % response rate) whilst data on all other services had a response rate of approximately 40-60 %. Some data is available for encampment respondents, however this is patchy as the questionnaire did not answer many of the questions asked of Bricks and Mortar and permanent site residents.

10.3 Attendance at GP surgeries was high. All those living in bricks and mortar accommodation had attended a GP surgery, compared with 98 % living on permanent sites and 60 % of encampment respondents. Those that did not attend their GP surgery reported that they went to walk-in health centres or A&E at the local hospital.

10.4 Generally respondents from bricks and mortar were less likely to suggest difficulties with their local GP (6 %) when compared to interviewees from private sites (10 %). A permanent site respondent suggested that it is *"very difficult registering. As soon as you say Dollar Park they do not register you"*. On the whole, however, respondents appeared to be positive about local GP's, with many respondents echoing the comments of one permanent site respondent who said *"doctors are always ok with Travellers...they treat us all the same"*.

10.5 A higher proportion of those living in bricks and mortar accommodation had attended a dentist surgery (80 %) compared to 63 % of those living on permanent sites.

10.6 A small number (4 respondents) reported having had previous contact with a district nurse. Respondents did not comment on their experience of the service.

10.7 In terms of Hospital A&E departments 31 % of respondents suggested that they had previously contacted their local hospital A&E department.

Whilst the majority of those lived on permanent sites or Bricks and mortar, three respondents staying on encampments suggested they went to their local A&E if they needed healthcare whilst they were travelling. Respondents did not comment on their experience of the service.

- 10.8 26 % of respondents had prior contact with other Hospital services across the study area. Respondents did not comment on their experience of the service.
- 10.9 24 % of respondents had prior contact with Health Visitors across the study area. Two respondents gave comments about their experiences: one respondent suggested *"they are OK, but can be a bit funny with me"*, whilst another respondent suggested that Health Visitors are *"very helpful"*
- 10.10 24 % of respondents had used alternative medicine. Respondents mainly suggested that their parents had used items such as cider vinegar, juice and leaves from cauliflower. One respondent suggested they used alternative remedies *"as I don't think that doctors are what they used to be"*

Council services

- 10.11 This section is based on the views of 50 % of the sample population. Those who attended focus groups or gave information via an informal interview would not have answered the questions on access to services at all, or in many aspects, in any great detail. The questionnaire used for collecting data on those residing on encampments did not ask for information on access to services apart from the local Police force. As such the information below is mainly collected from those living on permanent sites or bricks and Mortar.
- 10.12 Respondents across the study area were then asked their opinion of and if they had accessed the following services: Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer, Housing; HOST (Homelessness Services); Social Services; Environmental Health; Planning and Education
- 10.13 Respondents were asked if they had contacted the local Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer (GTLO). Taking the above factors into account as well as the awareness that a GTLO is only in post at Gwynedd this question was answered by ten % of the respondents.
- 10.14 65% of Gwynedd respondents had contacted their Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer. All but one respondent commented positively. Participants in a focus group said the officer was *"very helpful, but needs*

help so she can help us”, whilst a further interview respondent suggested “I can’t praise her enough very supportive in every way”.

- 10.15 Just under half (46 %) of respondents had contacted their local Housing department, the majority of whom were from Flintshire. Respondents commented that the Housing Department was “*fine*” or that they had “*helped us fill in forms*”.
- 10.16 Only one respondent, a male from Conwy had contacted their local HOST department. This respondent did not give further information.
- 10.17 19 % of respondents had contacted their local Social Services department. The majority of respondents were from Flintshire or Conwy. Respondents who commented on their local Social Services department said that they were ok.
- 10.18 11 % of respondents had contacted their local Environmental Health department. Residents from Ynys Môn, Conwy, Flintshire and Gwynedd had all contacted their local department with those from Flintshire having a slight majority. There was little in the way of actual opinions about the services, the few comments gave mainly focused on the actual service given. One interviewee however noted that “*Environmental services accused us of burning tyres/toxic waste. In fact it was a new Traveller. Council wrote to us implying that you did it as you are Gypsy*”
- 10.19 A total of 5 respondents from Ynys Môn, Gwynedd and Flint suggested they had contacted their local Planning Department. One respondent said that their local Planning Department was ‘OK’. The remaining comments were negative. One respondent suggested that their Planning Department was “*not very helpful*”. A further respondent suggested that:
- “If you want a property you won’t get it ‘cos you’re a Traveller. Would like to own our own ground – won’t be able to get land as won’t get planning – never had advice from planners – don’t want to bother with us”.*
- 10.20 Education services had the highest rate of access (21 per cent) compared to any other Council service. Respondents from all local authorities across the study area suggested they had contacted their local Education Department. All respondents who made comments about the service made positive comments relating to the helpfulness of the service.

Local Services.

10.21 The table below shows the percentages of participants or their family that have used local amenities in their local area. Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar (83 %) were slightly more likely to use local services than those who live on permanent sites (81 %) ¹. Overall Gypsies and Travellers in the study area were very positive about local services, in particular local shops (93 %) and the Post Office (89 %). Local libraries had the lowest response rate (61%).

Table 7. Use of local services by Gypsies and Travellers living in bricks and mortar or on a permanent site.

Accommodation type	Local shops	Banks	Public transport	Post Offices	Children's play area	Library
Perm site	93%	74%	82%	89%	87%	61%
Housing	93%	81%	87%	79%	86%	72%

10.22 In terms of specific comments about local services, most of the comments focused on local shops, Post Offices and public transport. 50 per cent of those gave further details on their experiences of local services left positive comments. Respondents mentioned the friendliness of staff in shops: *“Good, nice people”* said one respondent on a permanent site, whilst a respondent living in bricks and mortar said that staff in shops *“were nice, treated like everyone else”*. Other respondents mentioned the helpfulness of staff: *“People are eager to help us”*. The Post Office, in particular received praise from many of the respondents:

“They (the Post Office) are very good they help me complete forms” and “Lovely very helpful.”

10.23 A number of respondents (10 %) were neutral about services in their area, suggesting that *“some services are OK, some are not”*. Within this category some respondents mentioned that they had faced problems in shops when they had first come to live in the locality.

“Ok now I’m older but I have faced problems in the past getting put out of pubs, shops and markets”

10.24 A significant number (40 %) of those who chose to specifically comment on local services gave negative comments. Comments were mainly related to respondents feeling that they were treated in a negative manner by the local services, *“local shops tend to look down their nose at you”* *“Some shops are funny with us”*. A further theme found amongst the negative comments received about local services was a feeling by the Gypsy and Traveller community was that they were treated differently to other members of the community. One respondent suggested that whilst local shops were *“alright I suppose...some are OK, some will watch in shop”* whilst a focus groups respondent, living on a permanent site felt she is *“treated as if I’m going to shoplift”*. Another respondent interviewed whilst travelling suggested that they had seen: *“a big sign in the window saying “No Travellers”. I thought this was against the law?”*

10.25 With regards to banks, one respondent suggested that they were *“alright, but they (the bank) don’t know about me being a Traveller”* whilst another interviewee noted that; *“I don’t always know how to fill in forms as haven’t had much schooling and they look at you funny like we are thick”*. Public transport yielded less commentary but one respondent suggested they did not use it as they felt *“if there are lots Travellers by the bus stop, the bus drives past”*. In terms of local libraries there were

no negative or positive comments, just a general suggestion that respondents would like to use this particular service.

- 10.26 Only small numbers of respondents reported that they had used the local Citizen's Advice Bureau (4 per cent), Legal Advice services (2 per cent), and Traveller Advice Services (2 per cent). There were a small number of comments regarding these services, unfortunately all negative. In terms of local Citizen's Advice bureau one interviewee noted that they were *"Not helpful, they did not want to know"*. A further respondent suggested that local solicitors would not take [his] case on. Regarding Traveller Advice Services *"not very good, couldn't help as it wasn't a big enough case"*.
- 10.27 Interviewees were asked their opinion of the local [north Wales] Police force. The results across the study area were mixed. A small number of respondents (10 per cent) from Conwy, Gwynedd and Flintshire offered their views.
- 10.28 Respondents in Flintshire were mainly positive. A respondent living on a private site in Flintshire said *"[A] young man from the police comes for a cup of tea and sandwich. [The Police] have been very good"* whilst an interviewee living in bricks and mortar noted *"Recently I went to the Police because I need reassurance because there are a lot of gangs around here. I was happy with the feedback"*. However a respondent staying on an encampment in Flintshire said that: *[The] Police have been aggressive; [they] threaten to burn down caravans. [We are] accused of stealing gravel"*.
- 10.29 Two respondents from Conwy gave opposing views of the local Police force. One interviewee felt the Police were *"very nice around here"*, whilst a further interviewee suggested that *"I feel that the Police are more responsive to gorgas. If the neighbour called the Police they would come and deal with it a lot quicker"*.
- 10.30 Interviewees from Gwynedd were also mixed. One respondent felt that the Police were *"OK, I haven't had any problems"*, whilst another suggested that *"once they know you are a Traveller they treat you all the same"*

Education

- 10.31 Respondents were asked about their use of pre-school playgroups or nurseries. Four respondents answered that they did attend pre-school provision. This finding is consistent with the observation from the Welsh Assembly Government that frequently Gypsy and Traveller children will

have little or no experience of pre-school provision (Cemlyn et al, 2009:113).

- 10.32 The respondents who did attend pre-school playgroups or nurseries were those who lived in areas with a more established Gypsy and Traveller community (Gwynedd or Flintshire). Respondents were evenly split between bricks and mortar or a private site, having lived there for 2-5 years.
- 10.33 A respondent in Ynys Môn in bricks and mortar also reported having children attend school in their local area. However the data was unclear about how many children attend the school as well as the type of the school.
- 10.34 Only two respondents commented on their experiences of primary or secondary schools. One interviewee from Gwynedd suggested that *“primary schools are more helpful than secondary schools. Most people not interested in Travellers”*. They also felt that *“services seem to be different depending on the area”*. Whilst a respondent from Ynys Môn suggested that they: *“need a lot more Travelling children to attend [school]”*
- 10.35 Five respondents from Flintshire reported either having children who attend the Traveller Education Service in Flintshire or having attended the service themselves. The Traveller Education Service was affectionately described as ‘Gypsy High’ by one young person. Respondents suggested they liked going to school as there are *“only a few children all Travellers so we are all on the same wave length”*.
- 10.36 Two respondents from Gwynedd living at Llandegai site reported having a tutor in the library. A respondent from Ynys Môn said they had a tutor at home.
- 10.37 Interviewees were asked about any support they had received from TES or Education Welfare officers. There appears to be a good correlation between support from TES or Education Welfare departments and eventual enrolment in some form of education as 54 % of respondents whose children attended either mainstream schooling or the Traveller Education Service (TES) in Flintshire reported having contact with the local TES officer. This service was perceived as being very positive. Respondents from Conwy and Flintshire suggested that the TES were:
- “Very helpful and supportive” (Flintshire).*
- “Lovely girl, very helpful”. (Conwy).*

- 10.38 In terms of further education or training one respondent reported that they were currently in college on a hair and beauty course
- 10.39 Respondents were asked about the value of education for Gypsy and Traveller children. Respondents who commented were all in agreement of its importance. A respondent suggested *“education was an absolute must”* whilst another interviewee said that education was: *“Very important in this day and age. Everything is so advanced with computers. Kids need to know more”*
- 10.40 A further respondent summed up the many reasons why education was important to the Gypsy and Traveller community. *“Very important as they [Gypsy and Traveller] need to work. Kids today want to be doctors or lawyers and they can help their parents who can’t read or write”*
- 10.41 Interviewees were also asked about the level of formal education that they had. Responses ranged from *“I can read and write very well”* to *“I can’t read or write”*. Older respondents were more likely than younger respondents to have difficulty reading and writing. Those living in bricks and mortar or who had lived in their local area for ten years or more reported having a better level of basic skills than other respondents.
- 10.42 Respondents were then asked if they or their family had education or training needs. Whilst only 6 % responded to this question, they gave a range of vocational options that they were interested in. Suggestions included:
- Trades such as building, carpentry, tree felling, brick laying, gardening, plumber, block paving
 - Computing
 - Forestry
 - Sewing
 - Hair and beauty training,
 - Basic skills
- 10.43 Two respondents suggested they would like information on self employment as well as course and grants available.. A further respondent wanted information on *“how to get into college”*
- 10.44 Responses were gendered in terms of female Gypsies and Travellers requiring information on hair and beauty courses, whilst male respondents (or their wives on their behalf) wanted information on courses that would help them learn a trade.

Employment.

- 10.45 Respondents were also asked about the type of work that they or their family did. Vocational or service employment dominated. Tree work (25 per cent) and block paving/tarmac (23 per cent) were the most popular responses. Carpet fitting and gardening were also popular answers.
- 10.46 The responses were on the whole gendered as the type of employment reflected the husband's rather than the wife's employment. This is most likely because female respondents tend to stay at home and look after the immediate family and other relatives.
- 10.47 Respondents were also asked if they had experienced any discrimination whilst looking for employment. Only 10 % of interviewees responded here. Over half (57 %) of those that did respond suggested that they had experienced discrimination whilst looking for employment.
- 10.48 A young respondent suggested she *"applied for a job and was told that the job was urgent. When I went there they told me the [job had] gone. My friend went in after me and got the job. She was a country girl [non Gypsy or Traveller]."*
- 10.49 One respondent suggested that discrimination had *occurred "lots of times. When they know we are a Gypsy they don't give us the jobs...some people don't pay for the work we do"*. An encampment interviewee suggested that it was even more difficult getting employment when you were classed as having *"no fixed abode"*. The 43 % of respondents who suggested they had not experienced any examples of discrimination whilst looking for employment did not add anything further.

Racism and discrimination

- 10.50 Interviewees were asked if in the last twelve months they had been refused service at any of the places mentioned earlier in this chapter because they are a Gypsy and Traveller. 37 per cent of respondents offered their views for the final section of this chapter. Ten per cent of those interviewed suggested they had experienced discrimination at the following places: Pubs; Gym; Shops; Camp sites, (particularly in Towyn); Bowling Alley (particularly in Flintshire) and the Cinema
- 10.51 Examples of racism and discrimination included: name calling, asked to leave places or refused service, followed around shops, being classed as 'all the same', refused employment. Respondents also gave example of what they had experienced.

“when people know you are a Traveller they can be funny in pubs, shops, doctors, dentists, parks etc”.

“They tar us all with the same brush - i.e. sick of you lot coming around here”

“Many times people make sly remarks”.

10.52 Respondents were then asked if they had experienced racism or discrimination on the last 12 months. 35 per cent of respondents said that they had. However it should be noted that 50 % of respondents did not answer the question. Respondents gave similar answers to the previous sections. Flintshire and Denbighshire appeared to have a larger number of respondents who reported example of racism or discrimination.

10.53 The interviews appeared to highlight that most respondents appeared to accept these discriminatory incidents as ‘normal’, almost part of their daily life. However a small number of respondents did mention the effect these incidents had on them. One young respondent sums it up quite succinctly saying that yes she had experienced racism or discrimination, but she *“can’t come to terms with it yet”*.

Recommendations

10.54 *Recommendation 15:* An aspiration of many members of the Gypsy and Traveller community is to be owner-occupiers, as such there is a need to develop a constructive dialogue between Gypsies and Travellers seeking to develop private sites and planning authorities.

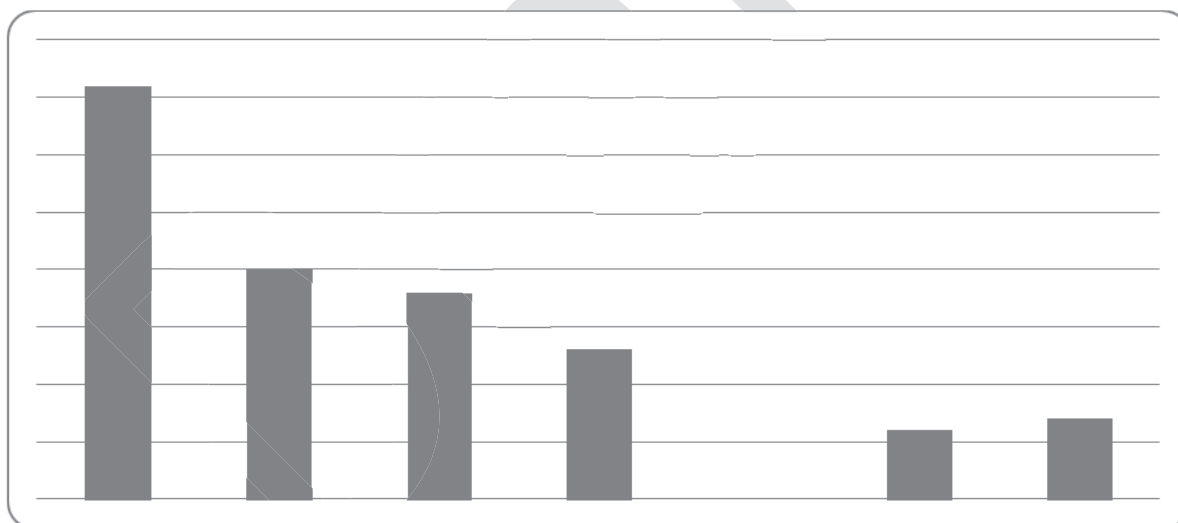
10.55 *Recommendation 16:* Planning departments should offer appropriate advice and support to Gypsies and Travellers on the workings of the planning system and the criteria to be considered in applications. This advice requires some tailoring to meet the specific needs of this particular client group.

10.56 *Recommendation 17:* All issues relating to access to services issues need to be disseminated as widely as possible by the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Co-ordination Group in consultation with the North West Wales Gypsy and Traveller Representative Group resulting in a strategy on how to improve the experiences of the local Gypsy and Traveller community as well as a facility to report other examples.

11 Needs calculations for Permanent Sites.

- 11.1 This chapter will outline the needs calculation tables in relation to residential sites, including a discussion of the views of the Traveller community regarding location and pitch requirements.
- 11.2 100% of respondents in the sample felt there was a need for further permanent accommodation provision. Respondents were then asked what type of accommodation they would prefer to live in. The graph below outlines their responses. 87 % would like to live on site accommodation. Private site owned by “you and your family” was the most popular form of site accommodation. Bricks and mortar accommodation was preferred by 13 per cent of the sample population, with bricks and mortar - owner occupied having a slightly higher rate of responses when compared to other types of bricks and mortar accommodation.

Chart 12: Accommodation preferences (permanent accommodation) of adult Gypsies and Travellers.



11.3 Respondents were then asked what facilities did they think needed to be provided on, or easily accessible from, on permanent sites. The following facilities were most cited:

- Hard standings;
- Clear plot boundaries;
- Water, mains electricity and gas;
- Drainage;
- Postal delivery;
- Refuse storage and collection;
- Meeting room or social facilities;
- Children's play area;
- Bus stop nearby;
- Amenity blocks with: baths/showers; toilets; laundry and kitchen;
Wardens office and
- Close to schools, doctors and dentists.

11.4 Respondents were also asked an open question where they felt site accommodation should be located. Many responses were generic: 'All over Wales'; 'Every other town in north Wales'; 'All around Ireland and UK'. The table below gives an outline of the responses which mentioned specific locations.

Table 8: Area preferences of adult Gypsies and Travellers (permanent accommodation).

Number of responses	Town/ area.
1-5	Caernarfon, Denbigh, Llanfairfechan, Mold, Bala, A55, Bethesda, Abergele, Pwllhelli, Queensferry, Towyn, St Asaph, Holywell, Flint, Portmadoc, Ynys Môn, Prestatyn, Llandudno, Conwy
6-10	Colwyn Bay, Holyhead, Bangor, Rhyl

11.5 Rhyl, Bangor, Colwyn Bay and Holyhead were the most popular suggestions for the location of a permanent site. Ynys Môn, Prestatyn, Llandudno and Conwy were also mentioned frequently. Those that did not name a specific area generally suggested there should be permanent sites throughout the towns along the A55.

11.6 As there is no overwhelming preference for any location stated, the responses suggest the community would welcome a wider choice of locations for new sites.

Working out the residential needs for 2011-16 (and 2016-21).

11.7 At the outset, three points need to be made about this table:

11.8 The calculation indicates the local authority areas from which demand is generated. This is in part due to the calculation formula, which emphasises demand coming from residents of existing caravan sites. As paragraph 11.5 indicates, the community preference may be to locate in other areas within other local authorities.

11.9 The calculation includes some possibly conservative estimates about the numbers requiring a move to site accommodation from bricks and mortar. Other bricks and mortar residents might also want to relocate to a site, given availability of land and finance for private developments, and some responses to the questionnaire support this assumption. This raises issues about need and demand which are discussed below.

11.10 No allowance has been made for younger members of the community who are currently living in bricks and mortar to transfer to site accommodation. Here again, responses indicate a wish to rejoin traditional lifestyles, but financial circumstances could be a barrier to this.

Table 9: Residential Needs Calculation 2011-16

	Conwy	Denbigh-shire	Flintshire	Gwynedd	Ynys Môn	Total
Current Residential Supply						
1 Socially rented pitches	0	0	20	7	0	27
2 Private authorised pitches	0	0	44	5	0	49
3 Total authorised pitches	0	0	66	12	0	78
4 Plots for Travelling Show people	0	0	0	0	0	0

Residential pitch need 2011-16							
5	End of temporary planning permissions	0	0	6	0	0	6
6	New household formation from sites	0	0	10	2	0	12
7	Unauthorised developments [Tolerated/not tolerated]	0	0	2	2	0	4
8a	Movement between sites and housing (out of site)	0	0	0	-1	0	-1
8b	(into site)	2	1	5	5	1	14
9	Closure of sites	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Unauthorised encampments	1	1	1	1	10	14
11	Additional residential need						
a	:Currently overcrowded	0	0	12	1	0	13
b	:Net in migration/outmigration	0	0	0	0	0	0
c	:Other residential need	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additional supply 2011-16							
12	Pitches currently closed but re-entering use	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Pitches with permission but not developed	0	0	0	0	0	0

14	New sites planned	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Vacancies on socially rented sites	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Total Supply 2011-16	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Remaining Residential Need Shortfall 2011-16	3	2	36	10	11	62

- 11.11 Row one indicates the current number of socially rented pitches in the area.
- 11.12 Row two indicates the numbers of pitches currently available on private sites with planning permission
- 11.13 Row three is a simple aggregation of the numbers.
- 11.14 Row four is currently showing no pitch requirements. There are travelling show people in the study area [e.g. Knightly's, Towyn] but no local knowledge of urgent need requirements. There is one interview from a travelling showman on an unauthorised encampment in the area, but who currently has a permanent site elsewhere. He might require assistance in finding suitable premises if he wishes to move to the area.
- 11.15 Row five shows need arising from for sites where temporary planning permissions terminate during the assessment period. Dollar Park in Flintshire has planning permission for six pitches for a five year period, terminating on 4 February 2016
- 11.16 Row six relates to future household formation within the planning period, and does not include existing households who require accommodation (e.g. Row 11a). This row applies only to households living on authorised sites (local authority and private) and is based on a calculation of a 3 per cent compound growth in need annually. $[(78 \times 1.03)^5]$. Niner suggested using household growth rates of 2 per cent and 3 per cent (ODPM, 2003:189). Using the 3 per cent assumption has become a standard approach to calculation of need in GTANAs. A small number of GTANAs have used their own calculations based on extensive sampling, or a complete census. In Ireland, 4 per cent compound growth estimates 'have proved remarkably

accurate' (DCLG, 2009:30). Using this latter calculation would imply an additional 5 households needing site accommodation.

- 11.17 The current figure assumes all future household formation from authorised sites will (a) require site, rather than bricks and mortar, accommodation and (b) will not marry a site resident from within the study area. Some GTANAs have used figures of between 70 and 90 per cent of new household formation as the baseline increase to allow for these eventualities
- 11.18 Row seven unauthorised developments (both tolerated and not tolerated) on land owned by the occupants. This calculation includes two households in Llanaelhearn, and two caravans from Gwern Lane. Most GTANAs have adjusted for unauthorised developments on a one for one basis (DCLG, 2007:28), and this has been adopted in this instance.
- 11.19 Row eight a and b Movement between sites and housing This is an area in which many GTANAs have difficulty in providing estimates, as while the caravan count gives detailed information about the numbers on sites and encampments, there is no equivalent detail for those living in bricks and mortar. Moreover, while some residents move from sites to neighbouring estates, the overall pattern of settlement of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar can be different to that of site residents. Some GTANAs have used TES and PLASC data as a proxy to identify the relative size of the housed population, but this makes assumptions about the age profile of residents in bricks and mortar.
- 11.20 Site residents can want to move to bricks and mortar for health or other reasons. There is one respondent who has expressed a desire to move from Llandegai into housing. However, many Gypsies and Travellers currently in bricks and mortar are not there by choice, but through other factors, such as overcrowding, health needs, a lack of authorised sites, or the condition or location of some of the existing sites.
- 11.21 The Welsh Government guidance on LHMA defines '**need**' as "*households who are unable to access suitable housing without some financial assistance*" (WAG, 2006: 5), and goes on to state
- In many cases, the definitions of need and demand for the settled community will also be appropriate for Gypsies and Travellers, particularly those living in bricks and mortar housing. However, the distinctive accommodation requirements of some Gypsies and Travellers will give rise to similar types of need, but in a different context, for example:*

Bricks and mortar dwelling households:

- *whose existing accommodation is overcrowded or unsuitable ('unsuitable' in this context can include unsuitability by virtue of proven psychological aversion to bricks and mortar accommodation; although local authorities will wish to satisfy themselves that this is of sufficient severity to constitute a need rather than a preference);*
- *that contain suppressed households who are unable to set up separate family units and who are unable to access suitable or appropriate accommodation. (WAG, 2006: 159)*

- 11.22 There has been some case law (e.g. *R (Price) v Carmarthenshire CC* [2003] EWHC 42 (Admin); *Lee v Rhondda Cynon Taf BC*, [[2008] EWCA Civ 1013; *Sheridan & Ors v Basildon BC* [2012] EWCA Civ 335) discussing whether psychological aversion, or a stronger requirement for possible psychiatric harm, is needed before a local authority is required to provide site accommodation.
- 11.23 Some respondents, in both this and other GTANA surveys, report negative psychological effects from living in bricks and mortar. Were more authorised sites available, this would be their preferred accommodation. How many would actually move is unknown, while the lack of data on the total number of families is also problematic.
- 11.24 In the London GTANA it was estimated 16 per cent of housed Gypsies and Travellers in London would meet the needs criteria (Fordham, 2008). It should be noted that this definition underlying this estimate had been criticised by other groups (e.g. (LGTU, 2009:8). Taking 16% of households estimated to be living in bricks and mortar in the study area, this would mean 14 households (after rounding up) would need re-housing on a site. The numbers have been distributed between the authorities, given their known presence in each area.
- 11.25 Row nine is included, as within the UK there has been a net loss of local authority sites and pitches. However, there are no authorised site closures anticipated in the study area.
- 11.26 Row ten represents any residential site need arising from unauthorised encampments. There are effectively two aspects to this category. The first category would be unauthorised encampments seeking permanent residence within the study area (though not necessarily within the local authority in which they are currently located). The main component of this currently is the tolerated encampment near Pentraeth, Our understanding is that some at Pentraeth have temporarily moved into

bricks and mortar, but would actually prefer caravan/mobile accommodation, and some specific allowance may be needed for these households.

- 11.27 The second group would be short term encampments. Here, there is some conflict of evidence. The interviewees in chapter six stated their preference for accommodation in north Wales, and that they had no permanent residence. In many GTANAs, however, the working assumption would be that 80 to 90 per cent of all those on short term encampments will be in transit through the area, and thus would affect the transit pitch, rather than residential pitch, requirements. This interpretation is supported by the opinions expressed by the local authority representatives, and by the seasonality of the encampment data discussed in chapter twelve. The allowance made here is therefore calculated on the basis that 10% of temporary encampments, about six during the year, will be from those looking for permanent site accommodation. Taking 7 caravans as a figure equal or greater than the majority of encampment, this averages out as 3.5 caravans per month, or four when rounded up. It cannot be assumed that these are connected families, or linked to one area, and they are allocated between the local authorities, other than Ynys Mon, where the allocation is of the Pentreath encampment numbers.
- 11.28 Row eleven has sub-components. The first uses local knowledge to identify households on local authority sites which are known to be overcrowded, due to doubling up/ having three generations etc. Sometimes, this is not be due to lack of pitches, but to alternative explanations such as a cultural preference for living as an extended family. There is a question whether any information is available about the [long established] private site in Flintshire, as any overcrowding here could feed in to need,
- 11.29 The second sub-component relates to net in-migration/out-migration from the study area. This is quite difficult to assess. Some of the questions which might help to firm up this assessment are:
- Historically, what do we know about in-migration into the study area, either from neighbouring authorities (Wrexham, Cheshire, Powys, etc., Ireland, or further afield? From the questionnaires there are some indications of people moving in, but the great majority have a local connection. However, Niner (2006a:77) noted: *'The England/Wales border obviously means little to many Gypsy-Travellers. For example, all the women interviewed on the local authority site in Flintshire had moved to*

it from somewhere in England....In describing their extended families, several Gypsy-Traveller interviewees mentioned brothers and sisters or sons and daughters now living in England (or other parts of Wales).'

- Are there any possible developments which might increase (or decrease) the possibility of future in-migration, such as employment opportunities, or differing planning standards (see Hargreaves and Brindley, 2011).
- No GTANA has managed to canvass opinion from Gypsies and Travellers resident outside the study area who have not at least passed through during the survey. It is, however, possible that a study of GTANAs from neighbouring districts might indicate some desire to move into north Wales.

11.30 One other possible requirement for accommodation should be noted, though not currently included in the calculation and other questions about an allowance for marriage between residents in the area, which would reduce the total number of pitches required.

11.31 For the third component, The WAG Guidance also defines demand as “the quantity of housing that households are willing and able to buy or rent” (WAG, 2006:5) and notes:

that the shortage of sites and local hostility, as well as lack of income, may prevent Gypsies and Travellers exercising their free choice in the accommodation market - and that there may in fact be no 'local accommodation market' in sites.

11.32 The financial risks of acquiring land and failing to obtain planning permission subsequently has impacted on the growth of privately owned Gypsy and Traveller sites, and it is recommended that, in addition to addressing identified needs, local authorities seek to identify possible sites where permission for a residential site might be granted.

11.33 There is also some evidence from the surveys of a wider desire among respondents for site accommodation, and this extends to younger Gypsies and Travellers currently living in bricks and mortar accommodation. The ‘young persons’ questionnaire has 8 responses from individuals currently aged between 15 and 20 and living in bricks and mortar accommodation. All have expressed a preference for site accommodation; there are questions as to the extent to which this preference can be achieved, given financial constraints.

- 11.34 Rows 12-15 are standard items in the calculation, and except for row 14 show zeros in every box. Row fourteen includes a current application for a private site with five pitches which has not been determined at the date of writing. Should this be refused, the net residential need will increase by five pitches. I have not included any plans by local authorities to extend existing provision
- 11.35 Row 16 is the total of 12-15, so Row 17 is the current needs estimate to 2016
- 11.36 After 2016, assuming all current need has been addressed; the base calculation is that the number of pitches required will continue to increase at 3 per cent per annum compound. This would produce an overall requirement of 167 pitches (rounded up to nearest whole number) by 2021, an increase of 25 on the 2016 figure, and 194 pitches, a further increase of 27 (both estimates by 2026). Other factors might increase this requirement.
- 11.37 It should be noted that while the calculations to 2016 are presented on a local authority basis, this is not to imply that future provision should automatically be confined within the boundaries currently existing. Both the WAG guidance (WAG, 2006) and current policy proposals (WG, 2011) support the view that collaborative approaches to these issues are to be preferred.
- 11.38 In particular, the Welsh Assembly Government noted:
- 34. The picture of where Gypsies and Travellers live and want to live may have become distorted by different approaches to provision and enforcement adopted by different local authorities over the years. Where this is the case the local authority responsible for the area where the need is currently found will need to work closely with other local authorities in the region to find a shared solution. In some cases, local authorities who currently show a low level of need may need to accept that they will have to play a greater part in meeting regional need. (WAG, 2006:162)*

Recommendations

- 11.39 Recommendation 18: Local authorities should seek to identify possible sites where permission for a residential site might be granted.

12. Transit Site Needs Calculation

Context

- 12.1 For many Gypsies and Travellers, travelling for at least part of the year is part of the lifestyle. There are a number of reasons for this:
- Travelling to work, and en route to work locations
 - Travelling to fairs (for example, Appleby Fair in Cumbria, or on religious missions)
 - Travelling to family events
 - Travelling for holidays
 - Travelling because no permanent location.
- 12.2 In the study area, it is considered most of the travelling is in transit to other destinations. Holywell is a religious destination, and sometimes family events can bring visitors.
- 12.3 National policy suggests that transit pitches should be available to allow Gypsies and Travellers who wish to travel to do so without stopping illegally. Currently, there is no transit site located within the study area or indeed within Wales as a whole (WG, 2012:37). Part of the Gypsy and Traveller site at Llandegai in Gwynedd was previously used as a transit site, but this was discontinued in 2005, following significant management issues relating directly to this part of the site. (Gwynedd, 2008:5)
- 12.4 AS they may be unable or unwilling to use holiday caravan parks, the absence of official transit sites can give rise to unauthorised encampments by Gypsies and Travellers moving through an area.
- 12.5 These can have a significant impact on relationships between the settled community and the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 12.6 Apart from damaging relationships, addressing unauthorised encampments can lead to considerable outlay, by both public authorities and the private sector. As Clements and Morris (2002) have suggested, for local authorities these costs can fall into a number of areas
- Legal costs, including officer time attending court proceedings
 - Other attributable staff costs and provision of facilities
 - Building work, including preventative measures such as the construction of earth bunds and the erection of height restricted barriers on lay-bys, and repairs and clearance costs after an encampment
 - Legal costs relating to planning issues.

- 12.7 A widely cited example of the value of a permanent transit site is Bristol, which claims to have reduced its costs from a maximum of approximately £350,000 per annum since establishing a transit site to which occupants of unauthorised encampments can be directed (EHRC, 2009b:11) though the initial capital costs involved in setting up the site reduce these savings. Bristol was experiencing between 20 and 30 large unauthorised encampments annually, of up to 50 caravans. While this is a different experience to that of north Wales authorities, the potential savings from authorised transit sites or stopping places may still be significant. The frequency of encampments and their geographical location will be relevant factors for consideration.
- 12.8 This discussion of transit site need derives its evidence from a number of sources. In part, it is based on local authority data, partly from the caravan count, but also from the records of unauthorised encampments in the GTANA area during the years 2009 and 2010. The study area indicates a considerable number of encampments, most of which are assumed to be temporary visitors or those passing through, during the two years for which full data is available. In addition, the input of stakeholder experience and opinion has shaped the recommendations.
- 12.9 The Caravan Count data for the period July 2006 to January 2012 is incomplete. Conwy did not provide data for the July 2010 and July 2011 counts Gwynedd has not provided data for the July 2010, January 2011 and January 2012 counts. In both cases, it would be reasonable to argue that numbers would be approximately equal to those recorded in previous years, and that the number of caravans on unauthorised encampments would therefore be low. Between July 2008 and January 2010 only one caravan was recorded on an unauthorised encampment was recorded in these two counties. The total caravan count chart has therefore been based on these assumptions. To facilitate monitoring of demand, all counties should complete the biannual caravan count.
- 12.10 Stakeholders were asked to supply data about known unauthorised encampments. This data is likely to be incomplete; as some encampments are not reported to the local authority, or are otherwise unrecorded.
- 12.11 In discussing the possible need for transit sites it should be noted that the data which is recorded currently varies between authorities when an unauthorised encampment is notified,. Some authorities note the exact location, day on which the encampment was reported, and the number of caravans and vehicles involved. Estimates of the numbers of adults and children present, and a record of the date on which the encampment

ended are sometimes recorded also. With other authorities, the month and approximate location only are recorded. The table below shows what information has been available and used from each of the authorities in relation to unauthorised encampments

Table 10: Data format for unauthorised encampments

	Conwy	Denbigh-shire	Flintshire	Gwynedd	Ynys Mon
Date reported	Day/month	Day/month	Month	Day/month	Day/month
Date ended	Sometimes	No	No	Sometimes	No
Location	Exact ¹	Exact ¹	Community ¹	Exact ¹	Exact ¹
Number caravans	Yes	Yes	No	Yes ²	Yes
Ethnicity	No	No	No	Yes ²	No
Estimated number of adults and/or children	Yes	No	No	No	No

¹Exact means the precise location of the encampment, e.g. Tir Llwyd Trading Estate, Kinmel Bay. Community means the community within which the encampment occurred

²This information was not part of the database, but provided by the Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer from personal knowledge

12.12 A common format for recording encampments should be agreed, and data from North Wales Police included to aid consistency and completeness.

12.13 These variations are not unusual, but it does impact on one or two issues – it is not possible to make precise suggestions about the size or location of any transit sites. Again, this reflects other GTANAs, where precise location and numbers are not included, or where transit sites are allocated on the basis of ‘equality of provision’ or other means a common format for the recording of encampments.

12.14 Data was not received from every authority for the five years 2006-2010, so analysis concentrates on the years 2009 and 2010. Stakeholders considered that there had been a declining trend in the

number of encampments during these years, possibly due to economic factors. It was not considered this was likely to be a continuing trend.

12.15 From the available data, during the years 2009 and 2010 there was at least one encampment recorded in the study area every month of each year. Most encampments occurred during the summer travelling season, though encampments near the ferry port at Holyhead occurred in January and February.

12.16 Overall, 110 encampments were recorded by the five local authorities in the study area during the period 2009 and 2010. 41 were in Flintshire, 30 on Ynys Môn, 22 in Gwynedd, 12 in Conwy and 5 in Denbighshire. With the exception of Ynys Môn, all authorities reported fewer encampments in 2010 than in 2009.

12.17 The highest number of encampments recorded in the study area during a single month was 18, in September 2010. Without full data, it cannot be determined how many of these encampments were repetitions by the same group, or what was the maximum number of caravans on encampments, during this or any other month.

Table 11: Numbers of encampments recorded by year and local authority

	Ynys Môn	Conwy	Denbighshire	Flintshire	Gwynedd
2007		10			
2008		8			18
2009	12	6	0	27	18 (+4)
2010	18	6	5	14	4 (+1)
2011(<7/11)	1	1	7	11	

12.18 Where the number of caravans was recorded, (in all authorities except Flintshire) the majority of encampments in the study area (57%) contained six caravans or less. Only 11 per cent of encampments had more than 12 caravans. In the study period, the largest number of caravans on one encampment was 20, though historic data suggested encampments of 56 caravans had been encountered in previous years.

Table 12: Size of encampments, where recorded

	Ynys Mon	Conwy	Denbighshire	Flintshire	Gwynedd
<6	13	23	4		19
6-12	6	4	8		13
12>	3	4	0		5

12.19 The average number of caravans per encampment each year ranged from 3.0 to 7.4 between authorities

12.20 Where the exact location is identified, most encampments are not roadside or even lay-by, but on surfaced open spaces. Among these industrial estates, supermarket car parks and other car parks predominate. The variety and nature of the locations, including supermarket car parks, indicate the difficulties of applying effective preventive measures.

Table 13: Location of encampments

	Ynys Mon	Conwy	Denbighshire	Flintshire	Gwynedd
Council					
Roadside	4	1	2		3
Industrial	9	19	2		12
Supermarket	12	1	2		3
Other		11	6		10

12.21 Data on the end date of occupations is particularly scarce, so indications of length of stay are not available.

12.22 Where possible, the average [mean] number of trailers present is indicated. Large scale encampments are rare.

Table 14 Average number of caravans present

	Ynys Mon	Conwy	Denbighshire	Flintshire	Gwynedd
2007		4.3			
2008		5.0			
2009	7.1	3.0	-		7.4
2010	4.5	5.8	6.0		5.4
2011	5		6.7		

Gypsy and Traveller views

12.23 Respondents were asked if there was a need for transit accommodation to be developed in North Wales. 100 per cent of respondent suggested they would like transit accommodation to be available across the study area.

12.24 Respondents were then asked where they would like a transit site to be located. A variety of responses were given which are outlined in the table below. Holyhead, Rhyl and Bangor were the most popular suggestions. Prestatyn, Conwy, Abergele/ Pensarn and Flint were also mentioned frequently. Those that did not name a specific area generally suggested there should be permanent sites throughout the towns along the A55.

Table 15: Area preferences of adult Gypsies and Travellers (transit accommodation).

Number of responses	Town/ area.
1-5	Deeside; Holywell; Mold; Penmaenmawr; Bethesda; Rhosgoch; Tregarth; Caernarfon; Llanberis; Denbigh; Portmadoc; St Asaph/ Bodelwyddan; Llandulas; Llangefni; Queensferry; Towyn; Rhuddlan; Colwyn Bay; Llandudno; Ynys Môn;
6-10	Flint; Abergele/ Pensarn; Conwy and Prestatyn
11-15	Bangor
16-20	Rhyl and Holyhead

12.25 Respondents were also asked about the type of facilities they thought was needed on transit sites. The following facilities were most cited:

- o Hard standings;
- o Water and mains electricity;
- o Individual WC's
- o Individual baths/showers
- o Refuse storage and collection;

12.26 Additional facilities also cited include; meeting room or social facilities; children's play area; camera on gate; an electric gate for security; communal washing room; outside taps to clean trailers and attach hose pipe.

12.27 The Gypsy and Traveller site in Wrexham was often referred to as an example of a site that would be suitable for Gypsy and Travellers.

12.28 80 % of respondents would use official sites if they were provided. All were prepared to pay to use official sites, with the suggestion of £5 per day and between £20 – £45 per week, as long as *“the site has a warden on it, with electric and toilet and other basic facilities”*. In terms of size, the preferred size suggested by respondents was for 10 – 15 trailers.

12.29 When asked their views on combining residential and transit pitches on the same site 70 per cent of respondents did not think it was a good idea

“Wouldn't be fair to the people who stay there full time.”

“No because if the comers and goers cause mischief the permanent residents will get the blame.”

“No I don't. Too much trouble, too much hassle.”

12.30 The respondents were then asked about the most important things to take into account when creating future sites. Various responses were given:

“[Sites would need to have a] Permanent block with kitchen and living area. Play area for the kids [as well as] basic electric and water”

“Location is key”

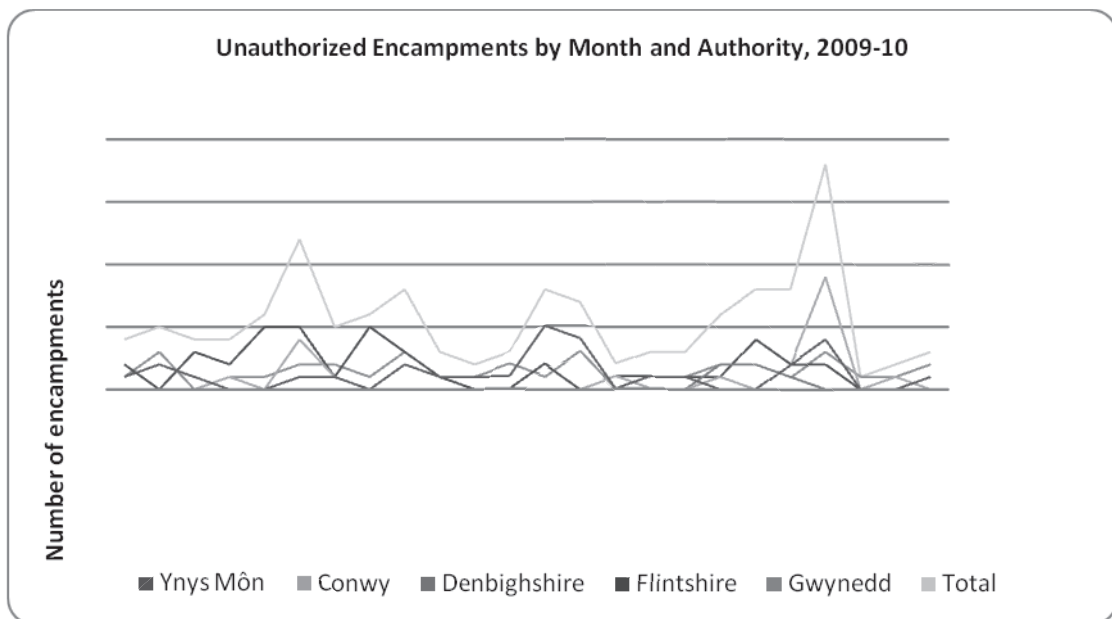
“In my opinion it is better if Travellers run it as they understand it. Travellers could discuss any problems”.

12.31 Community opinion is in agreement with Welsh Government advice is that sites should not contain a mix of permanent and transit sites (WAG,

2009:29). This is supported also by previous experience at the Llandegai site

12.32 Chart 13 below shows the number of recorded unauthorised encampments by month and local authority area. The data is not complete throughout the period, but does serve to indicate the seasonality of encampments, with the evidence indicating that most encampments are by seasonal travellers passing through the area, rather than long term residents moving within it.

Chart 13: Unauthorised Encampments 2009-10



Calculation of Transit site needs

12.33 Difficulties with the available data have produced a number of responses to the transit site issue in other GTANAs, sometimes omitting all discussion. This calculation of the transit site requirement is based on assumptions set out below. These are:

- Annually, about 55 encampments occur in the study area
- 10% of temporary encampments, about six during the year, will be from those looking for permanent site accommodation, and are discussed under the permanent site requirement
- Thus 90% of encampments, about 49 in total, would require transit accommodation
- The maximum stay would be for one month, though some encampments would be for a shorter period. A longer maximum period of stay would involve recalculation of the accommodation requirements.
- Accommodation for 7 caravans would deal with most encampments.

12.34 Using 7 as a working figure, transit requirements would be for (49 multiplied by 7) caravans per annum, or 343 over the year. On a monthly basis, this amounts to 28.5 caravans. However, for reasons discussed, this can involve some element of double counting. Proportionately, about 47% of encampments are recorded in the Gwynedd and Ynys Môn area, 15% in the central area of /Conwy and Denbighshire, and 37% in Flintshire.

12.35 It is therefore suggested that the authorities consider three or four transit sites accommodating up to seven caravans. More than one site is to be preferred, for a number of reasons

- They are more likely to be used if close to traditional stopping places
- The size of each site would be reduced
- Difficulties about ethnic or inter-family tensions would be reduced.
- A single transit site for the area would not resolve the issues. It is important that there is somewhere for occupants to move on, and a network is required.

12.36 The local authorities should work jointly to identify appropriate sites for temporary accommodation on a regional basis. These may be transit sites, with a relatively full range of facilities, or temporary stopping places with more restricted provision,. The nature, as well as the location, of provision, should be informed by data on the patterns of unauthorised encampment in recent years. That stated, analysis of the existing data indicates different patterns between the local authorities in

the consortium. Another option to meet some of the demand is to permit temporary stays on larger pitches in residential sites

- 12.37 In Ynys Môn, a clear preponderance of the temporary encampments was in the Holyhead area. Some were overnight, or left within a day, suggesting they were rendezvous points before or after using the Irish ferry.
- 12.38 In Gwynedd, recorded encampments are scattered throughout the county, a reflection perhaps of different travelling routes; East/West along the North Wales coast, or North/South through the county, or the availability of open land in which to stop. The strongest evidence of repeated occupations was in the vicinity of Bangor.
- 12.39 In the middle of the study area, there may be a need for a transit site on the border of Conwy and Denbighshire, but possibly one where the authorities co-operate in provision, in order to maximise usage of the site. In Conwy, a clear preponderance of encampments was close to the A55, with 90 per cent being on industrial estates and other sites within a short distance of Abergele. 65 per cent of recorded encampments in the county occurred on the Tir Llwyd Trading Estate in Kinmel Bay. Denbighshire also has most encampments close to the A55 corridor or near Rhyl.
- 12.40 In Flintshire, where 37% of all encampments in the area were recorded, the sites are more dispersed. However, over the years surveyed there may be a need for provision certainly within reach of Holywell.
- 12.41 Some of these encampments could be the same group travelling through the area, and thus from authority to authority, but variations in the data collected make it difficult to identify multiple occupations.
- 12.42 Policy suggests a collaborative approach to the provision of transit sites, and this could extend beyond the boundary of the study area. For neighbouring authorities, Wrexham conducted its own GTANA. The assessment gave no formal indication of transit site needs, [or data regarding encampments] It did recommend that Wrexham should collaborate on a regional basis. (Fordham Research, 2007).
- 12.43 Other neighbouring GTANAs are available for Powys (Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, Birmingham (2008) Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment Shropshire, Herefordshire, Telford & Wrekin and Powys) and West Cheshire and Chester (Brown et al, 2007) Cheshire Partnership Area Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and

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Recommendations

12.44 Recommendation 19: that all counties complete the biannual caravan count.

12.45 Recommendation 20: that a common protocol for reporting the presence of unauthorised encampments and addressing the issues is agreed by the local authorities.

12.46 Recommendation 21: All authorities within the study area, or whatever group continues the GTANA process, should decide on a common format for the recording of encampments. Ideally this should contain at least the following items:

- Date encampment was reported
- Date encampment ended
- Location, nature of site [public/private; industrial or business park, retail car park, other]
- Number of caravans,
- Estimated number of adults and children.

12.47 Recommendation 22: It is also recommended that data from North Wales Police be included, to aid consistency and completeness.

12.48 Recommendation 23: It is recommended that the local authorities work jointly to identify appropriate sites for temporary accommodation. These may be transit sites, with a relatively full range of facilities or may, if usage is likely to be intermittent, be temporary stopping places with more restricted provision, where stays may be limited to 28 days. (WAG, 2009:29-32) The nature, as well as the location, of provision, should be informed by data on the patterns of unauthorised encampment in recent years. That stated, analysis of the existing data indicates different patterns between the local authorities in the consortium.

13. Reflection.

- 13.1 North West Wales and Flintshire GTANA is one of the last GTANAs to be completed in the first wave of GTANA assessments. The completion of other GTANA reports before that of North West Wales and Flintshire has enabled access to some of the analysis and reflections on the previous reports, particularly by CURS (2008a), but also some regional and other assessments of GTANAs.
- 13.2 From these other assessments some issues can be drawn which echo the experiences of the current NWW&F GTANA
- 13.3 It can only represent the first stage of an ongoing process of engagement and assessment of the accommodation needs of the Gypsy and Traveller community in the study area.
- 13.4 To continue this process, it is recommended that the following steps be taken immediately:
- 13.5 A follow up to the present GTANA steering group needs to be formed. This should be linked in to a general LHMA continuation strategy for North Wales, and report to broader coordinating group. Ideally, the composition of this should include at least:
- 13.6 Representatives of all the relevant local authorities, this needs to be considered in the light of both specific indications in the Welsh Assembly Government guidance into the conduct of GTANAs (WAG, 2006) and more generic proposals for collaborative working by councils in north Wales (Welsh Government Cabinet, 2011). This may require a larger grouping than the current survey area.
- 13.7 Representatives from the Gypsy and Traveller community, ideally the majority of this group should be locally based, including members from all ethnic groups and geographical concentrations. *“Gypsies and Travellers” include diverse communities and all need to be engaged* (CURS 2008a:3), together with any other relevant representatives.
- 13.8 It is important that the local authorities and community representatives maintain a long term engagement with the process. One of the objectives of the North West Wales LHMA was to develop a stock of in-house expertise which would offer a longer term perspective on local housing issues than relatively short term engagements by outside contractors.

13.9 Longer term engagement may also help to address some other issues which were evident in the first round of GTANA surveys. These include particularly the difficulties of estimating the number of Gypsies and Travellers in bricks and mortar accommodation, whether they were in bricks and mortar by choice or through lack of alternatives, and considerations of need, demand and desire.

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	Executive Committee
Date	July 2013
Subject	Local Housing Market Assessment – housing needs for local residents : report 1
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Ken Hughes
Lead Officer(s)	Shan Lloyd Williams, Head of Service, Housing
Contact Officer	Shan Lloyd Williams, Head of Service, Housing
Nature and reason for reporting	
To present the report and its findings for adoption by the Executive Committee as the Local Housing Market Assessment for the Isle of Anglesey, and agree the next steps.	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues
<p>1. Introduction</p> <p>The Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) was commissioned by the Head of Housing Services, and was jointly funded by Housing Strategy funding and Welsh Government grant. The study was commissioned from Amec, URS in conjunction to HDH Planning and Development.</p> <p>This Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) report is a comprehensive analysis of the Isle of Anglesey Housing Market. It includes a review of the current local situation, a discussion of the housing market dynamics and an assessment of housing need. In addition to looking at the requirements of the existing local population this study considers the long-term requirement for housing in the Isle of Anglesey.</p> <p>The evidence produced within this study will inform the Council’s Local Housing Strategy, Delivery Plans, and be part of the evidence base for the Joint Local Development Plan (LDP), the new nuclear build SPG = Strategic Planning Guidance.</p> <p>The results are calculated in accordance with the Welsh Government (WG) Local Housing Market Assessment Guide of March 2006 as well as meeting the requirements of the Technical Advice Note 2 (TAN2) Planning and Affordable Housing (June 2006).</p> <p>The study is divided into two reports. The first "Local Housing Market Assessment" is the subject of this report. An Executive Summary of</p>

the first report accompanies this paper as an Appendix. The second report 'Housing needs for local residents and the Housing solutions resulting from the Energy Island Programme : report 2' uses the same evidence base, and will be presented to Executive Committee in October, 2013. There are uncertainties associated with the Energy Island Programme, which will impact on the workers accommodation requirements and wider housing impacts.

2. Background

Primary data analysed within the report is based on a postal questionnaire completed by Isle of Anglesey residents in June and July 2012. The survey was distributed to a stratified random sample of households in the County. A total of 2,058 households completed the survey.

The dataset is weighted to a total of 31,770 households in the County. The dataset was weighted by eight different variables so that it is representative of the characteristics of the whole household population. This weighted dataset is a robust up-to-date source of information on the workings of the housing market in the Isle of Anglesey and contributes significantly to the accuracy of the LHMA.

3. Key findings and issues

3.1 The current Housing Market

According to data from the Land Registry, the mean house price in Isle of Anglesey in the third quarter of 2011 was £153,057, lower than the average for Wales (£156,829). Data shows that whilst prices have recorded a slight decrease since the market downturn the number of property sales have fallen dramatically. The report identifies twelve distinct price areas across the Island and three Housing Market areas.

The cost of housing by size was assessed for all tenures in Isle of Anglesey. Entry-level prices in Isle of Anglesey range from £72,500 for a two bedroom home in the Holyhead price area up to £268,500 for a four bedroom property in the Menai Straits price area. Entry-level rents in Isle of Anglesey range from £450 per month for a two bedroom home in the Rest of Anglesey price area up to £700 per month for a four bedroom property in the Menai Straits price area

Housing market gaps analysis shows the nature of the housing ladder in a particular locality. An analysis of the gaps between each tenure shows that there is a large income gap between the social rented sector and private market entry. This indicates that intermediate housing priced within this gap could potentially be useful for a number of households in Isle of Anglesey, however additional resources are required to subsidise property values to an intermediate level (both Intermediate Rent and Shared Equity).

3.2 Financial Information

The updated survey estimates that the mean annual gross household income (including non-housing benefits) in the Isle of Anglesey is £27,435. The mean level Of savings across the County is £30,928, whilst the mean level of equity held by

owner-occupiers is £163,548.

Based on the affordability criteria set out in the LHMA Guide, some 25.1% of all households in Isle of Anglesey are theoretically unable to afford market accommodation of an appropriate size at the present time, however this will include the vast majority of social rented households who are already housed within an affordable home. Lone parent households are particularly unlikely to be able to afford a suitable home in the market. It should be noted that that households that have moved to a private rented home in the last 2 years spend 34% of their gross income on their rent rather than the 25% used in the affordability criteria set out in the LHMA Guide

3.3 Housing need

A key element of housing need is an assessment of the suitability of a household's current housing. It is estimated that a total of 2,147 households are living in unsuitable housing. This represents 6.8% of all households in the Isle of Anglesey.

Following the steps of the needs assessment model specified by the LHMA Guide results in a net need estimate of 635 affordable dwellings per year in the Isle of Anglesey. The high level of second home ownership recorded in the Isle of Anglesey is part of the reason for such a high housing need figure, as second home ownership causes prices to be higher than would be the case if they were driven just by local demand.

Around 50% of the net need is for one bedroom homes, 20% for three bedroom dwellings and 15% each for two and four bedroom properties.

Very few households on the Council's Housing Register could fund an affordable Rent at 80% of the median market rent. The most practical level to set Affordable Rent to meet substantial need is at 65% or 70%. However it is acknowledged that additional resources are required to subsidise rents at this level.

Factoring higher affordability thresholds households in the private rented sector pay in current market conditions and the supply of private rented accommodation (via Local Housing Allowance) to house those requiring affordable housing, the need for new affordable Units reduces to 134 per annum.

It is important to note that the annual needs figure of 635 is not the number of affordable housing units to be built each year. It defines the 'problem' but not the solution. The need for affordable housing will be met through a variety of mechanisms including making better use of existing stock (e.g. bringing empty properties back into use) and making better use of the private rented sector.

3.4 Particular household groups

There are an estimated 6,765 households in Isle of Anglesey with one or more members in an identified support needs group - this represents 21.3% of all households. Just over a quarter (26.2%) of all social rented dwellings contain a person with a support need. Households with support needs report a lower than average household income.

Some 10,529 households in Isle of Anglesey contain only older people (33.1%) and a further 2,385 (7.5%) contain both older and non-older people. Many older households currently under-occupy their home, but the vast majority of these (77.2%) indicated that they were “very satisfied” with their existing accommodation.

Non White Welsh/British households are more likely to live in private rented accommodation. Whilst non White Welsh/British households have higher average household incomes, the lower levels of capital recorded amongst this group means the financial capacity of non White Welsh/British households is notably smaller than White Welsh/British households.

There are 8,074 households which contain at least one child in the Isle of Anglesey. Of these 31.8% are lone parent families, 42.4% are two parent families with at least one young child (aged 9 or under). 25.8% are two parent families with only older children (aged 10-18). Some 61.1% of single parent families live in social/private rented accommodation.

B - Considerations

Accommodation required to provide housing market balance over the long-term (2012 – 2032)

i) The 2008 based WAG demographic projections suggest that there will be a notable growth of the resident population over the next 20 years with significant increases in particular age groups, including those aged 80 and over. In addition there are projected to be large increases in the number of single person and lone parent households.

ii) In terms of the accommodation required to provide housing market balance over the long-term, the model which is based on secondary data in combination with the household survey data and considers a range of factors including the adequacy of current housing suggests that of the new housing required up to 2032 (3,970 dwellings), 65% should be market dwellings, 21% intermediate (including rented) housing and 14% social rented accommodation.

iii) **Size of housing required in each tenure market:**

Market: 46.9% of new market dwellings should be two bedroom properties, with 39.2% containing three bedrooms, 11.2% four or more bedrooms and 2.6% one bedroom;

intermediate: some 45.0% should be three bedroom properties with a 37.9% two bedroom accommodation. Some 10.9% should contain four or more bedrooms and 6.2% a single bedroom;

social rented: 39.8% should be four bedroom accommodation, 30.8% one bedroom dwellings, 20.4% two bedroom properties and 9.0% three bedroom units.

iv) **Future specialist housing needs**

Of the estimated 35,740 households in the Isle of Anglesey in 2032 it is expected that 15.1% will require housing that has been modified or need floating support

services to allow them to live independently. This represents 5,397 households. The majority of these services and adaptations could be provided in situ and would not require specialist accommodation. It is estimated that 1,477 households (4.1% of the future population) will require purpose built housing with specialist adaptations or care/support provided of which 486 households would require supported or sheltered accommodation.

Accommodation required to provide housing market balance over the short-term

v) **Net affordable Housing need for next 5 years**

Using the LHMA model, there is a net need estimate of 635 affordable dwellings per year in the Isle of Anglesey, for the next 5 year period. The need for affordable housing will be met through a variety of mechanisms including making better use of existing stock for example bringing empty properties back into use and making better use of the private rented sector. In reality, the model used shows the need for new affordable units reduces to 134 per year with an adjustment to 30% of gross income on rent and through making better use of existing housing stock and increased private rented sector provision.

Housing solutions

There is no single approach which shall adequately address current and future housing needs on the Island. The Authority has been approached recently by a number of private sector developers wishing to develop affordable housing, including approaches making use of land assets in joint ventures and asset-backed vehicles. In addition, the Council may itself in the future agree to start building, in light of the Government announcement 25/06/13 regarding changes to the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy. This will provide greater financial flexibility, enabling the Council to plan how the demand for affordable homes and social housing can be met.

The LHMA provides a baseline of information to guide future strategy but changes in social welfare provision, demographics and the local economy will all impact on the number and type of housing required by the Island’s residents.

The strategic direction will be developed as part of the Local Housing Strategy and Joint Local Development Plan.

C – Implications and Impacts		
1	Finance / Section 151	There are no direct financial implications to the Council’s budget arising from the recommendations of this report. Adoption of the Local Housing Market Assessment as a guide for the supply of future affordable housing in Anglesey will assist the Council in planning the most effective use of the available resources.

C – Implications and Impacts		
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	No comments
3	Human Resources	
4	Property Services (see notes – separate document)	
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	
6	Equality (see notes – separate document)	
7	Anti-poverty and Social (see notes – separate document)	
8	Communication (see notes – separate document)	
9	Consultation (see notes – separate document)	
10	Economic	There is considerable inter-dependencies between economic development (job creation) and the local housing market on the Island. As a result the two Services have been closely collaborating to better understand possible impacts/ scenarios associated with potential future major investments on the Island. There are clear risks and opportunities. In addition, the inter-dependencies stretch far deeper (i.e. transportation, education, leisure provision etc.). The LHMA is an important document that will be utilised to inform integrated strategic planning, but will need to be reviewed and updated as and when the options and decisions of major investors on the Island become clearer.
11	Environmental (see notes – separate document)	

C – Implications and Impacts	
12	Crime and Disorder (see notes – separate document)
13	Outcome Agreements

CH – Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mean house price £153,057 • Entry level rents range from £450 per month (2 bed) to £700 per month (4 bed) • 2,147 households are living in unsuitable housing • Annual need for affordable housing is 635 (for next 5 years), of which 134 will be new-build • Around half the net needs is for 1 bed properties. • 1,500 households will require purpose built housing with specialist adaptations or care / support provided, of which 486 households will require supported or sheltered accommodation.

D - Recommendation
<p>R1 That the Executive Committee adopts the Local Housing Market Assessment study as a baseline document for future accommodation needs of the citizens of Anglesey.</p> <p>R2 That the LHMA is used to inform the new nuclear build SPG</p> <p>R3 That the LHMA is part of the evidence base for the Local Housing Strategy and Joint Local Development Plan</p> <p>R4 That the study is used to inform future development plans and funding bids, such as the WG's Viable and Vibrant Places Framework</p> <p>R5 That the evidence is used as a basis to engage with the Registered Social Landlords and private sector developers to deliver the housing need.</p>

Name of author of report : Shan L Williams

Job Title : Head of Housing Services

Date : June, 2013

Appendices:
Executive Summary of Report 1 : Local Housing Market Assessment, May 2013

Background papers

Housing Needs for local residents and Housing Solutions resulting from the Energy Island Programme

Executive Summary of Report 1: Local Housing Market Assessment

May 2013



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Certain statements made in the report may constitute estimates, projections or other forward-looking statements and even though they are based on reasonable assumptions as of the date of the report, such forward-looking statements, by their nature, involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results predicted. RS Drummond-Hay MRICS ACIH specifically does not guarantee or warrant any estimate or projections contained in this report.

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Executive Summary

Introduction

S1 This Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) report is a comprehensive analysis of the Isle of Anglesey Housing Market. It includes a review of the current local situation, a discussion of the housing market dynamics and an assessment of housing need. In addition to looking at the requirements of the existing local population this study considers the long-term requirement for housing in the Isle of Anglesey. This report should be read in conjunction with a report into the housing requirements resulting from the Energy Island development (produced as part of the same study and using the same evidence base). In accordance with the LHMA Guide a range of data sources were used to create a robust and diverse evidence base.

- There are a range of secondary data sources already available at the local and national level that provide a good background to the housing market and how it is changing including the Land Registry data, the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, the StatsWales service and published household/population projections. Where available and relevant, some data from the 2011 Census has been included.
- In addition, primary data was obtained through a local household survey for the island that allowed many of the 'gaps' in secondary data to be filled and also enabled data on the affect of the Energy Island programme to be collected.
- Stakeholder consultation has obtained views throughout the process and incorporated into the study.

S2 This report takes account of the recent changes made to the housing sector, including the new LHA cap and the introduction of a new tenure (Intermediate Rent). The evidence produced will inform the Council's Housing Strategy and be part of the evidence base for the Local Development Plan. The results produced are calculated in accordance with the guidance contained in the Welsh Government (WG) Local Housing Market Assessment Guide of March 2006 and also meets the requirements of Technical Advice Note 2 (TAN2) Planning and Affordable Housing (June 2006).

Primary data collection

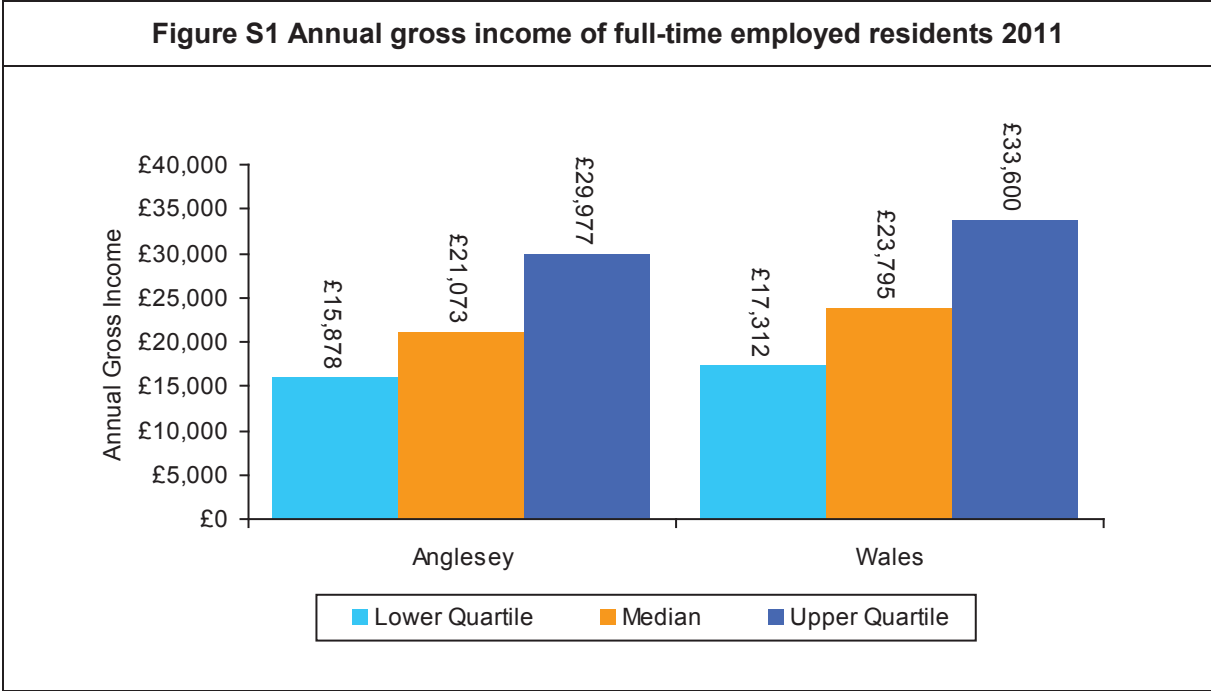
S3 Primary data analysed within the report is based on a postal questionnaire completed by Isle of Anglesey residents in June and July 2012. The survey was distributed to a stratified random sample of households in the County. It was available in both Welsh and English. A total of 2,058 households completed the survey.

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- S4 The dataset is weighted to a total of 31,770 households in the County. The dataset was weighted by eight different variables so that it is representative of the characteristics of the whole household population. This weighted dataset is a robust up-to-date source of information on the workings on the housing market in the Isle of Anglesey contributes significantly to the accuracy of the LHMA.
- S5 Quality is paramount to work of this type. The methodology used is established and has always found to be robust when tested in public and the data entry system has built-in checks that come into effect if illogical data are inputted. All the information that respondents provide is treated as confidential and used only for the purpose of this LHMA.

Socio-economic situation

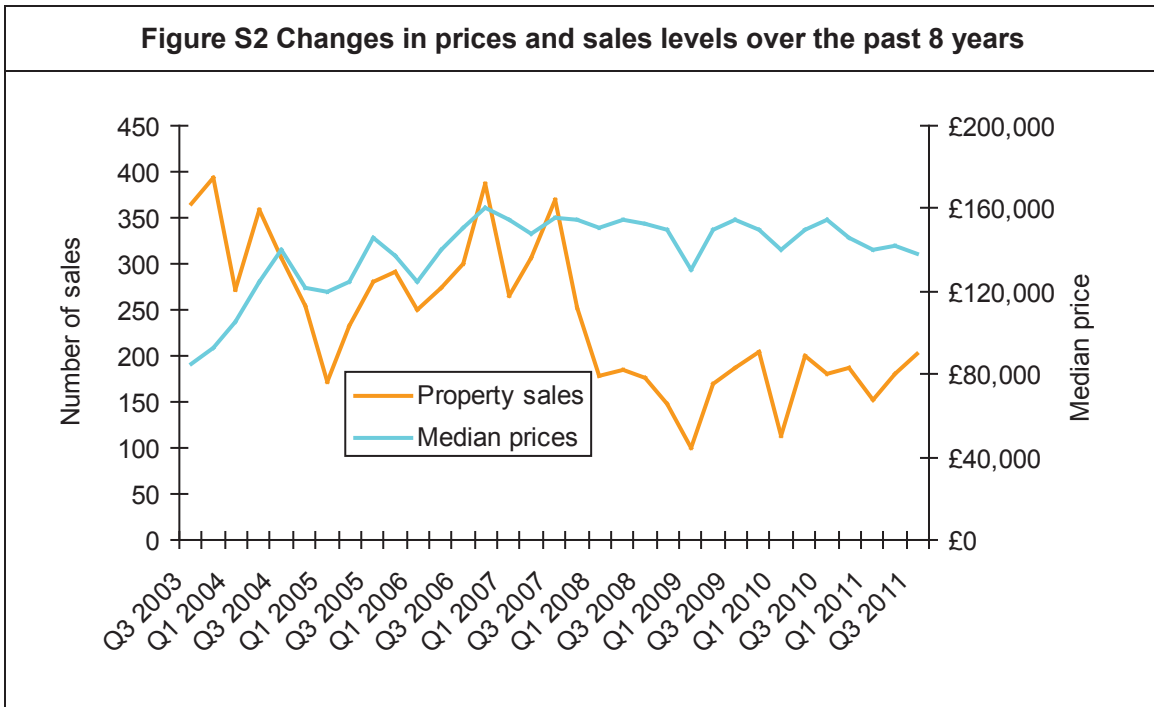
- S6 Various secondary data sources were reviewed as part of this report. The latest population estimates suggest that the population of Isle of Anglesey in 2010 was 68,592 and that since 2001 the population has increased by 1.2%. However, the size of the household population is increasing at a notably faster rate (7.3%).
- S7 The Isle of Anglesey has significant existing capacity within the workforce due to increased levels of worklessness amongst residents which has increased from 2.6% before the economic downturn to 4.3% currently.
- S8 The mean earned income for employees in the Isle of Anglesey in 2011 is £24,067, which is lower than Wales as a whole. Furthermore, the earned income in the Isle of Anglesey has fallen since 2008 as a consequence of the partial closure of Anglesey Aluminium at this time.



Source: ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2011)

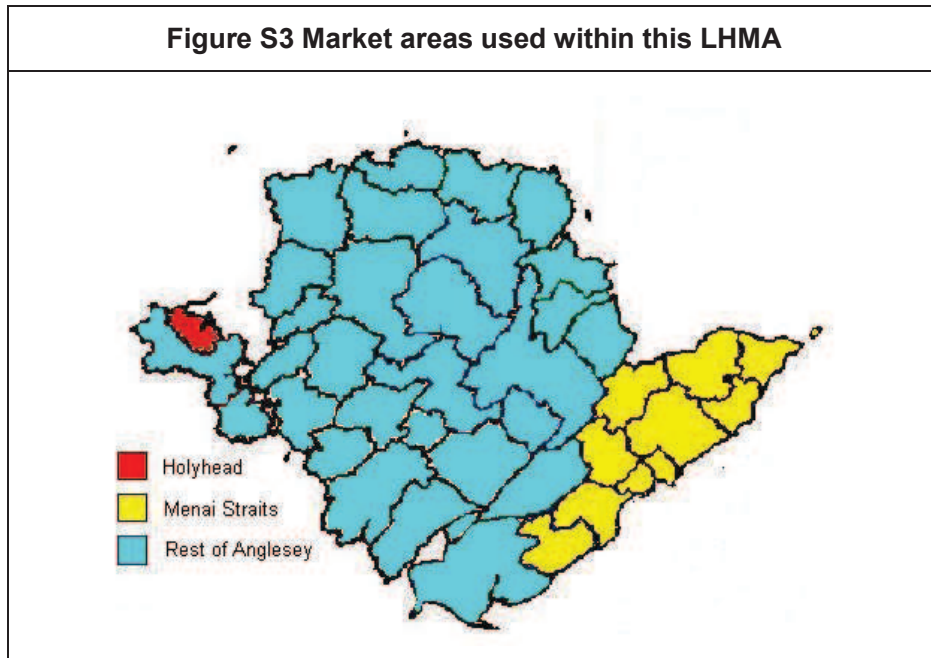
The current housing market

S9 According to data from the Land Registry, the mean house price in Isle of Anglesey in the third quarter of 2011 was £153,057, lower than the average for Wales (£156,829). Data shows that whilst prices have recorded a slight decrease since the market downturn the number of property sales have fallen dramatically.



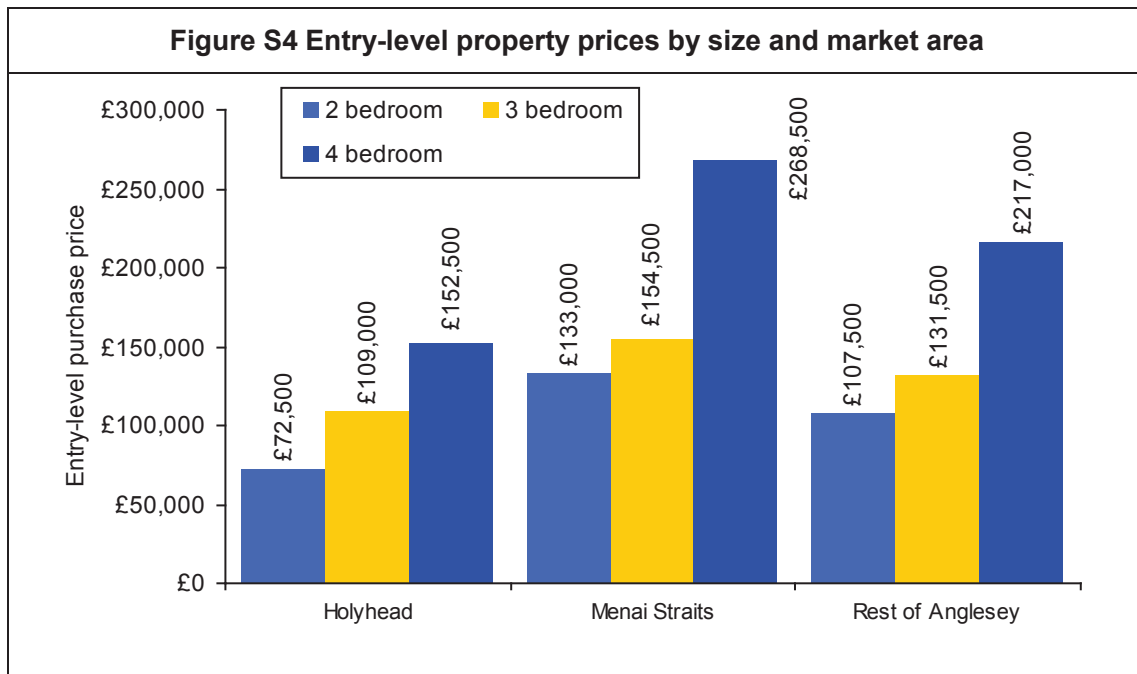
Source: Land Registry via CLG

S10 The appropriateness of the market areas to be used within this study were discussed at considerable length at consultation events with stakeholders and Councillors. Whilst a range of opinions were shared, the consensus was that in terms of this LHMA, three broad market areas were more appropriate. This is because in an LHMA it is important to create areas reflecting where households could reasonably be expected to move. The boundaries for the three areas identified are based on clear distinctions between the housing markets and the existing movement patterns of households within Anglesey, rather than smaller geographical price differentials. These three market areas are set out in Figure S3.



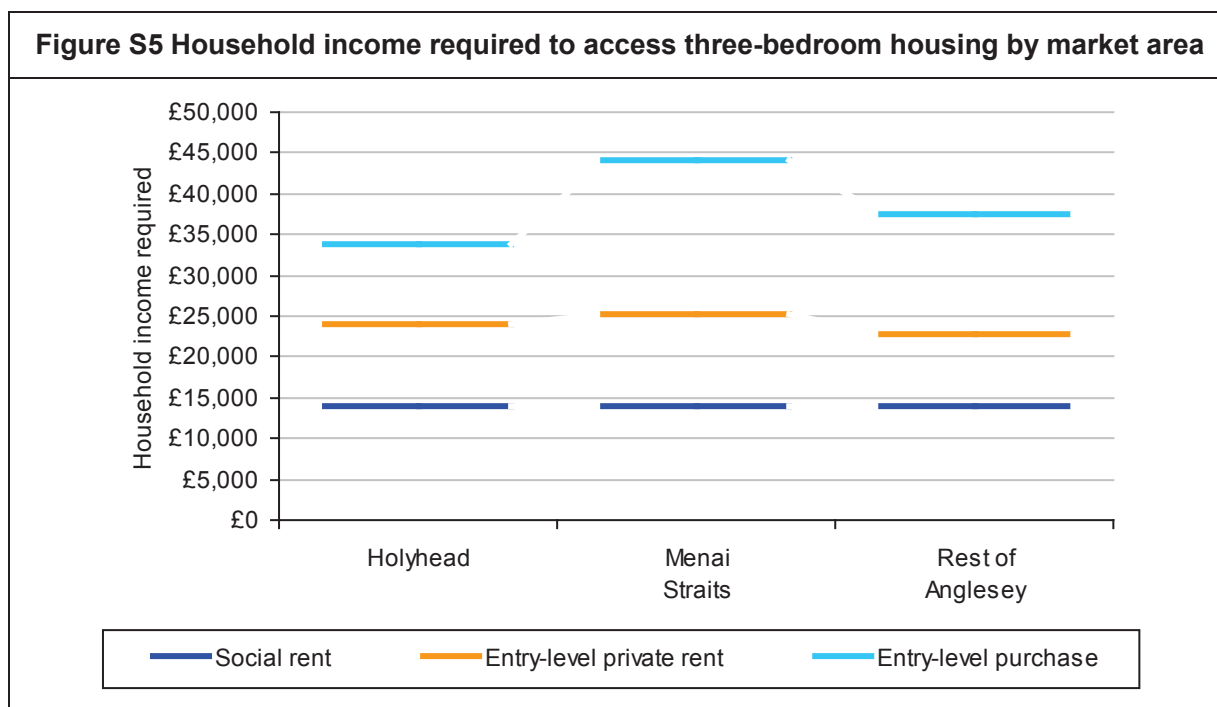
Source: Isle of Anglesey Council Local Housing Market Assessment, 2012

S11 The cost of housing by size was assessed for all tenures in Isle of Anglesey. Entry-level prices in Isle of Anglesey range from £72,500 for a two bedroom home in the Holyhead market area up to £268,500 for a four bedroom property in the Menai Straits market area. Entry-level rents in Isle of Anglesey range from £450 per month for a two bedroom home in the Rest of Anglesey market area up to £700 per month for a four bedroom property in the Menai Straits market area.



Source: Online estate agents survey August 2012

S12 Housing market gaps analysis shows the nature of the housing ladder in a particular locality. An analysis of the gaps between each tenure shows that there is a large income gap between the social rented sector and private market entry. This indicates that intermediate housing priced within this gap could potentially be useful for a number of households in Isle of Anglesey, however additional resources are required to subsidise property values to an intermediate level (both Intermediate Rent and Shared Equity).



Source: Online estate and letting agents survey August 2012, StatsWales, 2012

S13 The Welsh Assembly Government has published new guidance on Intermediate Rent which will be based on the open market value of each property. These are being introduced to help fill the gaps that exist in the current housing market and can be set at up to 80% of open market rents, implying there is flexibility as to what they may cost. A range of level of Intermediate Rent have therefore been tested for their suitability within Anglesey as set out in Table S1.

Table S1 Monthly rental figures of different Intermediate Rent levels (based on median market levels) – by property size			
<i>Bedrooms</i>	<i>Two</i>	<i>Three</i>	<i>Four</i>
Holyhead market area			
Lower Quartile Private Rents	£475	£500	£675
Intermediate Rent at 80% of market median	£420	£480	£640
Intermediate Rent at 70% of market median	£368	£420	£560
Intermediate Rent at 65% of market median	£341	£390	£520
Intermediate Rent at 60% of market median	£315	£360	£480
<i>Social rent*</i>	£266	£292	£331
Menai Straits market area			
Lower Quartile Private Rents	£500	£525	£700
Intermediate Rent at 80% of market median	£440	£500	£640
Intermediate Rent at 70% of market median	£385	£438	£560
Intermediate Rent at 65% of market median	£358	£406	£520
Intermediate Rent at 60% of market median	£330	£375	£480
<i>Social rent*</i>	£266	£292	£331
Rest of Anglesey market area			
Lower Quartile Private Rents	£450	£475	£625
Intermediate Rent at 80% of market median	£380	£440	£580
Intermediate Rent at 70% of market median	£333	£385	£508
Intermediate Rent at 65% of market median	£309	£358	£471
Intermediate Rent at 60% of market median	£285	£330	£435
<i>Social rent*</i>	£266	£292	£331

Source: Online estate agents survey August 2012, * StatsWales, 2012

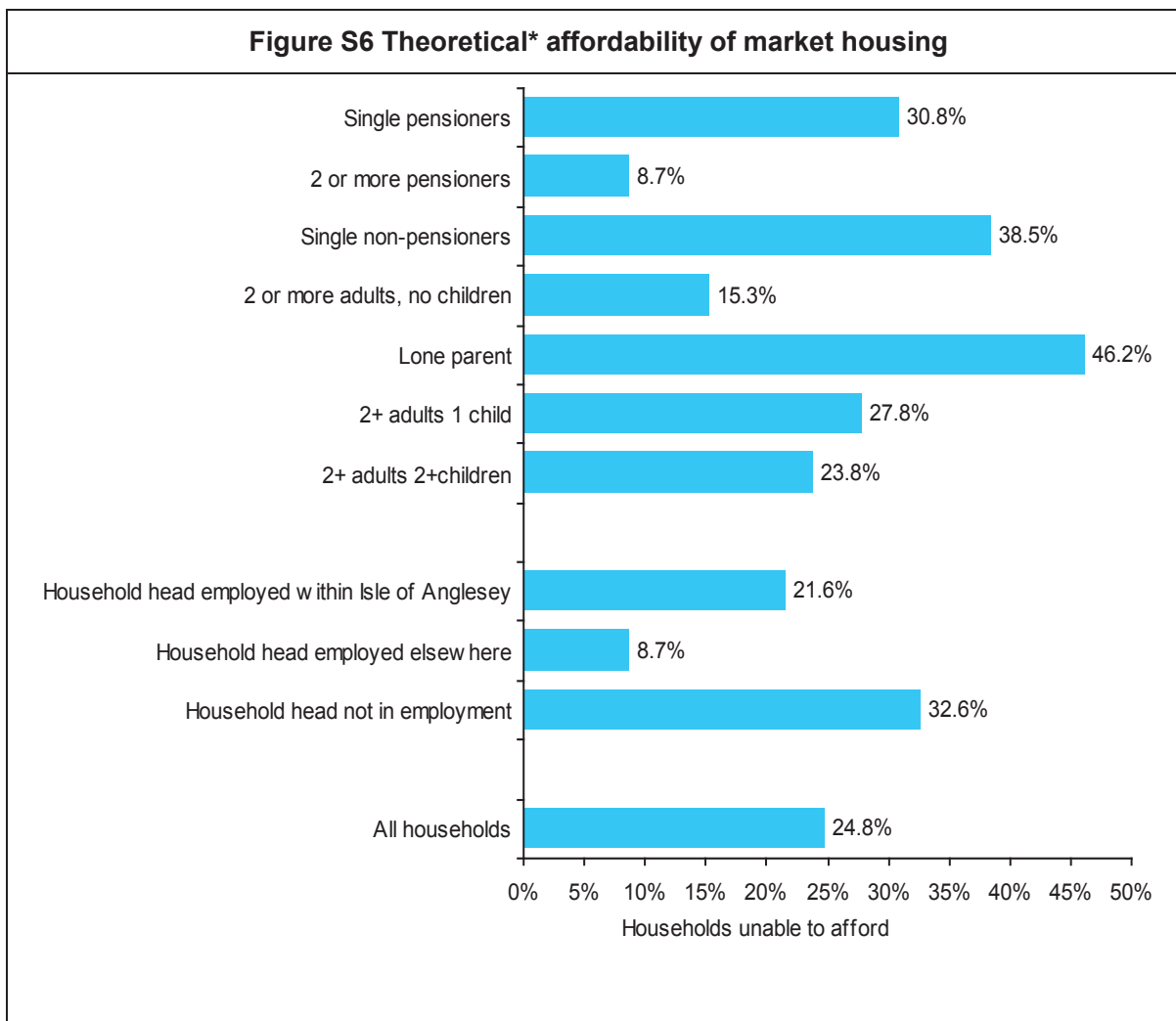
S14 Shared equity accommodation is an alternative affordable product aimed at the same group of households – those able to afford more than social rents but unable to afford market accommodation. Although there are few shared equity properties available on the island and monthly the estimated costs are set out in Table S2. It is clear that there is a potential overlap between the two products, particularly between shared equity with a 70% equity share and Intermediate Rent at 70%.

Table S2 Estimated cost of shared equity accommodation			
	<i>Two</i>	<i>Three</i>	<i>Four</i>
Open market value	£110,000	£135,000	£185,000
Monthly cost of shared equity with a 80% equity share	£417	£512	£702
Monthly cost of shared equity with a 70% equity share	£365	£448	£614

Source: Online estate agents survey August 2012

Financial information

- S15 The survey estimates that the mean annual gross household income (including non-housing benefits) is £27,435 with the mean level of savings at £30,928 and the mean level of equity held by owner-occupiers is £163,548.
- S16 The financial capacity of households is then combined with the analysis of the local housing market to assess current affordability. Based on the criteria in the LHMA Guide, some 25.1% of all households in Isle of Anglesey are theoretically unable to afford market accommodation of an appropriate size although this includes the vast majority of social rented households who are already housed within an affordable home. Lone parent households are particularly unlikely to be able to afford a suitable home in the market. It should be noted that that households that have moved to a private rented home in the last 2 years spend 34% of their gross income on their rent rather than the 25% used in the LHMA Guide.



*This is theoretical affordability of households as the data in the figure looks at all households in Isle of Anglesey regardless of their intention of moving. Source: Isle of Anglesey Local Housing Market Assessment, 2013

Housing need

- S17 The application of the LHMA Guide (set out in detail in the full report) results in a net need estimate of 635 affordable dwellings per year. The high level of second home ownership is part of the reason for such a high figure, as these inflate prices over what would be the case if driven just by local demand.
- S18 Once account has been taken of households that could be expected to share (167 households in need are single person households are aged 35 and under), the size of affordable home required is set out in Table S3. Around half the net need is for one bedroom homes, a fifth for three bedroom dwellings and 15% each for two and four bedroom properties.

Table S3 Size of additional units required to meet housing need – excluding households suitable for shared housing					
<i>Size of home</i>	<i>Need requirement</i>				
	<i>Gross annual need</i>	<i>Gross annual supply</i>	<i>Net annual need</i>	<i>As a % of total net annual need</i>	<i>Supply as a % of gross need</i>
One bedroom	291	65	226	48.3%	22.2%
Two bedrooms	283	216	67	14.3%	76.3%
Three bedrooms	237	134	104	22.1%	56.4%
Four or more bedrooms	71	0	71	15.3%	0.0%
Total	882	414	468	100.0%	46.9%

S19 The majority of households in housing need and also those on the Housing Register are unable to afford any accommodation without support from LHA. Once these households have been excluded the affordability distribution of those able to afford an Intermediate Rent product is set out in Table S4. This suggests that the most practical level to set Intermediate Rent to meet substantial need is at 65% or 70%, however it is acknowledged that additional resources are required to subsidise rents at this level.

Table S4 Total number of households able to afford different affordable products		
<i>Product type</i>	<i>Households in need (annual)</i>	<i>Households on register</i>
Intermediate Rent (80%)	154	94
Intermediate Rent (70%)	81	137
Intermediate Rent (65%)	2	0
Intermediate Rent (60%)	13	41
Total	251	272

Source: Isle of Anglesey Local Housing Market Assessment, 2013

S20 635 additional affordable homes per year does not equate logically with the planned 225 new dwellings per year for the County. This is because the LHMA Guide needs assessment model is a technical exercise that presents an assessment of the requirement for affordable housing, however it does not account for the functioning of the local housing market currently. If the affordability threshold used was adjusted to 30% of gross income on rent there would be 126 fewer households in gross need each year. Likewise, if the private rented sector via LHA is considered to represent a supply to meet the housing need then the gross annual supply increases by 375 dwellings. The impact of changing both of these assumptions is that the need for new affordable units reduces to 134 per year as set out in Table S5.

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Table S5 Adjusted housing need assessment			
Element	Need according to the model	Change due to altered assumptions	Resultant adjusted figures
Total gross annual need	1,049	-126	923
Total gross annual supply	414	+375	789
Total net annual need	635	-	134

Source: Isle of Anglesey Local Housing Market Assessment, 2013

S21 Recent changes to the administration of LHA by the Coalition Government will impact on the capacity of the private rented sector via LHA to continue to meet housing need in the Isle of Anglesey. This may result in many households in this accommodation being forced to look for new accommodation elsewhere, a substantial number of which are likely to present themselves to the Council due to becoming homeless. These households will therefore join the backlog of housing need.

Particular household groups

S22 The LHMA Guide indicates particular groups of households as being suitable for specific focus in considering more distinct policy options for them. The report therefore considers support needs households, older person households, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) households and families with children.

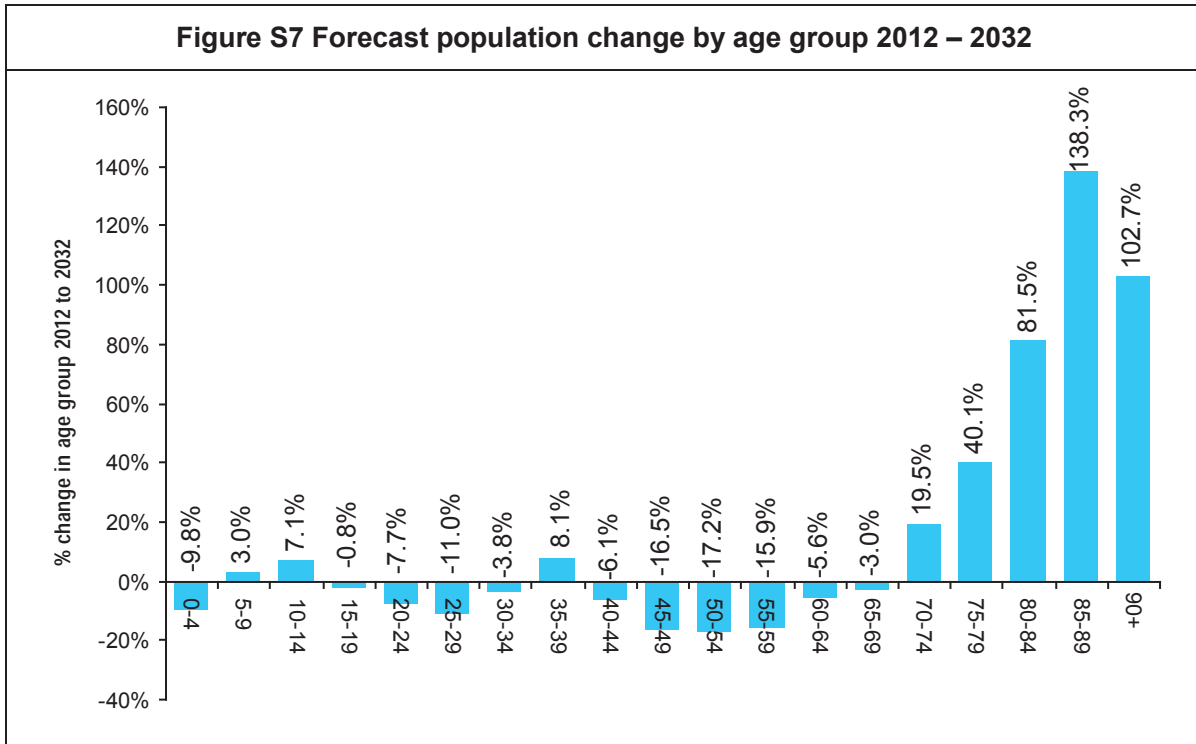
- There are an estimated 6,765 households with one or more members in an identified support needs group - this represents 21.3% of all households. Just over a quarter (26.2%) of all social rented dwellings contain a person with a support need. Support needs households report a lower than average household incomes.
- Some 10,529 households in Isle of Anglesey contain only older people (33.1%) and a further 2,385 (7.5%) contain both older and non-older people. Many older households currently under-occupy their home, but the vast majority of these (77.2%) indicated that they were “very satisfied” with their existing accommodation.
- Non White Welsh/British households are more likely to live in private rented accommodation. Whilst non White Welsh/British households have higher average household incomes, the lower levels of capital recorded amongst this group means the financial capacity of non White Welsh/British households is notably smaller than White Welsh/British households.
- There are 8,074 households which contain at least one child in the Isle of Anglesey. Of these 31.8% are lone parent families, 42.4% are two parent families with at least one young child (aged

9 or under) and 25.8% are two parent families with only older children (aged 10-18). Some 61.1% of single parent families live in social/private rented accommodation

Improving market balance over the longer term

S23 The WAG demographic projections depicted in the figure below suggest that there will be a notable increase of 4.1% in the population of the island (2,877 people) over the next 20 years. Within this are reductions in a large number of age groups (including the 15-34 and 40-69 age ranges) whilst some cohorts are predicted to grow dramatically (most notably people aged between 85 and 89).

S24 The overall projected growth in those aged 75 and over in the Isle of Anglesey (99.1%) is greater than that recorded for Wales as a whole (93.5%). The projected increase in older person households supports the need to develop accommodation for construction workers also suitable for older people in the longer term.



S25 The projections also suggest that the number of households is set to increase at a faster rate to the population, therefore it is anticipated that the average household size will decrease from 2.19 to 2.03

persons over the next 20 years. In addition there are projected to be large increases in the number of single person and lone parent family households.

Table S6 Change in population, households and household size, 2012 – 2032			
	<i>2012</i>	<i>2032</i>	<i>% change</i>
Population in households	69,682	72,558	+4.1%
Households	31,770	35,740	+12.5%
Average household size	2.19	2.03	

Source: The Welsh Government 2008-based population and household projections

S26 In order to provide a long term view of the changes required to the housing stock, the Long Term Balancing Housing Markets model (LTBHM) has been developed. This takes the population and household projections and, adjusting occupation patterns to ensure all households are adequately housed, determines an ideal stock profile for Anglesey in 2032.

S27 The LTBHM also indicates that of the 3,970 new dwellings required over the next 20 years, 65.0% should be market properties with 21.2% intermediate housing and 13.9% social rented¹. It should be noted that the current tenure profile does not take account any homes in the planning pipeline – as these are completed then they can be deducted from the total change required.

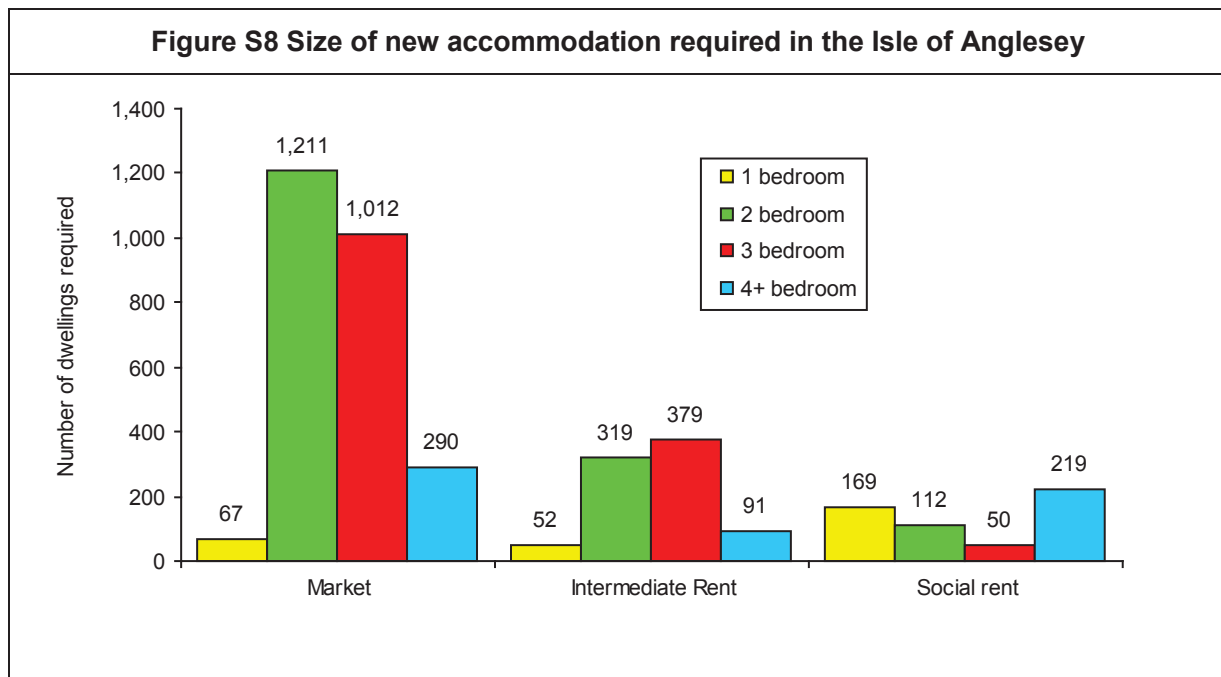
Table S7 Tenure of new accommodation required by 2032				
<i>Tenure</i>	<i>Current tenure profile</i>	<i>Tenure profile 2032</i>	<i>Change required</i>	<i>% of change required</i>
Market	27,226	29,805	+2,579	65.0%
Intermediate	153	994	+841	21.2%
Social rented	4,391	4,941	+550	13.9%
Total	31,770	35,740	+3,970	100.0%

Source: Isle of Anglesey Local Housing Market Assessment, 2013

¹ These figures represent the most appropriate mix of new housing to provide a balanced market for the local population in the future, the deliverability or viability of these figures is not considered within this model and is beyond the scope of this report.

S28 The model also indicates the size of home required within each tenure. This is set out in Figure S8 below:

- In the market sector some 46.9% of new dwellings should be two bedroom properties, with 39.2% containing three bedrooms, 11.2% four or more bedrooms and 2.6% one bedroom.
- In respect of intermediate housing, some 45.0% should be three bedroom properties with a 37.9% two bedroom accommodation. Some 10.9% should contain four or more bedrooms and 6.2% a single bedroom. This analysis is based on a small sample and should therefore be viewed with caution.
- In respect of the social rented sector, of the 550 additional social rented units required over the next 20 years, 39.8% should be four bedroom accommodation, 30.8% one bedroom dwellings, 20.4% to bedroom properties and 9.0% three bedroom units.



Source: Isle of Anglesey Local Housing Market Assessment, 2013

S29 As the majority of the population growth in the next twenty years will be in the older age groups then the demographic profile of the island is likely to be notably different by 2032 with an increased requirement for specialist accommodation.

S30 Of the 35,740 households estimated in 2032, it is expected that 5,397 households (15.1%) will require housing that has been modified or floating support services to allow independent living. Whilst the majority of services and adaptations required could be provided in situ without specialist accommodation,

CC-015195-RMJ/119742

it is estimated that 1,477 households (4.1%) will require purpose built housing with specialist adaptations or care/support of which 486 households would require supported or sheltered accommodation.

S31 One of the key assumptions in the above findings is that pensioner households and households with children renting in the private rented sector on LHA would move to affordable accommodation but other households would not. If however it is assumed that all households in the private rented sector on LHA are moved to suitable affordable accommodation, there is a significant additional requirement for social rented housing at the expense of market homes as set out in Table S8.

Table S8 Tenure of new accommodation required by 2032 – altered assumptions				
<i>Tenure</i>	<i>Current tenure profile</i>	<i>Tenure profile 2032</i>	<i>Change required</i>	<i>% of change required</i>
Market	27,226	28,993	+1,767	44.5%
Intermediate	153	1,032	+879	22.1%
Social rented	4,391	5,715	+1,324	33.3%
Total	31,770	35,740	+3,970	100.0%

Source: Isle of Anglesey Local Housing Market Assessment, 2013

S32 Whilst it is up to the Council to determine which profile of new accommodation is most appropriate for the island, the results presented inform the decision of how the additional housing required in response to the Energy Island Programme (addressed in the parallel report) best be aligned to the requirements arising from the local population.

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	Executive Committee
Date	15/07/2013
Subject	Transformation of Adult Social Care (Older People's Services) – Residential Provision
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Kenneth P Hughes
Lead Officer(s)	Gwen Carrington, Director of Community
Contact Officer	Anwen Davies, Head of Adults' Services
Nature and reason for reporting	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Request closure of Public Consultation (5 October – 7 December, 2012); 2. Report on the key emerging messages in light of a statutory public consultation on the future provision of residential care which was undertaken by Adult Social Care in the Autumn, 2012; 3. Advise on the next phase of the transformation of older people's services. 	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues
<p>1.1 Proposals concerning consultation on the transformation of residential services on the Island were initially submitted to the former Board of Commissioners at its meeting convened on 3 September, 2012. The Board of Commissioners resolved to extend the mandate for consideration of residential care provision from the proposal to close Garreglwyd, Holyhead into an Island wide consultation on the Local Authority provision of residential care.</p> <p>1.2 Members will be aware that the aforementioned resolution of the Board of Commissioners was implemented with a formal statutory period from 5 October, 2012 and continued until 7 December;</p> <p>1.3 <u>Resume of the Consultation Process</u> - the addendum to this report (Appendix 1) provides a resume of the consultation process and how it sought to engage with all relevant stakeholders (users, carers, citizens and partner organisations). It can be summarised that some 3894 individuals, groups and organisations engaged in the consultation process.</p>

B - Considerations

The Department has been concentrating efforts over the past 2 months on the following aspects of the older people's transformation programme:

- Preparation of a 5 year strategy for adult social care which describes our direction of travel, priorities and timelines in readiness for the New Council to consider and endorse. This has also included preparing a draft vision statement for Older People (known as the Service Intentions document – Appendix II) in response to feedback from the formal consultation. The Programme will continue to engage and will consult on individual Projects as appropriate.
- Preparing to enter into an engagement programme with users, carers, citizens/ communities and partner organisations regarding the evolving vision underpinning older people's services to the future (Spring/Summer, 2013);
- Taking positive steps to strengthen community based services as sustainable service models to the medium term (to include 24 hour home based services, respite services to relieve informal carers, enhanced re-ablement as an intake model, assistive technology – telecare);
- Entering into discussions with partners to develop alternative accommodation models for older people;
- Confirming the current use of the Authority's 6 residential homes. This has included restricting use of any vacancies at Garreglwyd, Holyhead for respite care only.

2.1 We have been successful in recruiting a Programme Manager for our transformation of older adult social services and I can report that the parameters of our programme are currently being defined within the Authority's Corporate Transformation Plan;

2.2 Our overarching transformation efforts now need to concentrate on 6 specific themes:

- Services to help people at home;
- Dementia Services;
- Services for older people not able to stay at home;
- Resources (workforce);
- User voice and control – Direct Payments and Citizen Directed Support;
- Procurement and brokerage of care & support services.

C – Implications and Impacts

1	Finance / Section 151	-
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	
3	Human Resources	-
4	Property Services (see notes – separate document)	-
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	-

C – Implications and Impacts		
6	Equality (see notes – separate document)	-
7	Anti-poverty and Social (see notes – separate document)	-
8	Communication (see notes – separate document)	-
9	Consultation (see notes – separate document)	-
10	Economic	-
11	Environmental (see notes – separate document)	-
12	Crime and Disorder (see notes – separate document)	-
13	Outcome Agreements	-

CH - Summary
See above

D - Recommendation
<p>R1 Note the key messages and emerging themes from the Public Consultation (5 October – 7 December, 2012)</p> <p>R2 Endorse the next steps in our older people's Transformation Programme (as detailed in paragraph 4.3 above).</p>

Name of author of report Anwen Davies
Job Title Head of Adults' Services
Date 03/07/2013

Appendices:
<p>APPENDIX 1 RESUME OF CONSULTATION PROCESS [PROVISION OF RESIDENTIAL CARE] OCTOBER – 7 DECEMBER, 2012</p> <p>APPENDIX 2 OLDER PEOPLE SOCIAL CARE SERVICE INTENTIONS</p>

Background papers

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
REPORT TO:	Executive Committee
DATE:	15 July, 2013
TITLE OF REPORT:	Transformation of Adult Social Care (Older People's Services) – Residential Provision
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Request closure of Public Consultation (5 October – 7 December, 2012); 2. Report on the key emerging messages in light of a statutory public consultation on the future provision of residential care which was undertaken by Adult Social Care in the Autumn, 2012; 3. Advise on the next phase of the transformation of older people's services.
REPORT BY:	Anwen Davies, Head of Adults' Services
CORPORATE DIRECTOR:	Gwen Carrington, Director of Community

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Proposals concerning consultation on the transformation of residential services on the Island were initially submitted to the former Board of Commissioners at its meeting convened on 3 September, 2012. The Board of Commissioners resolved to extend the mandate for consideration of residential care provision from the proposal to close Garreglwyd, Holyhead into an Island wide consultation on the Local Authority provision of residential care. The Board of Commissioners resolved as follows:

[RESOLVED]-

**“To agree to a consultation on the transformation of residential services on the Isle of Anglesey;
To agree the following principles as the basis for the future provision of residential services:**

- That the Council should reduce the amount of direct residential provision it makes and concentrate on delivering support to older people with complex needs;
- That the Council should increase the opportunity for older people to live in their own homes with support through additional care and suitable housing on one or more of its existing residential sites;
- That residential homes run by the Council across the Island should be considered for transfer to the independent and private sector or for closure if there is not a suitable business case to support them into the future;
- The commissioning of services for older people should invest in building the added capacity of the voluntary sector to provide a network of support to help people remain at home and age well;

- That the capacity of private home care services should be developed to respond to increasing choice and demand for people to remain at home;
- To acknowledge that in order to deliver against the principles set out above, the review will need to consider the following options in respect of each of the existing homes:
 - To retain the home in its current format;
 - To close the home and the site used for redevelopment;
 - To sell the home as a going concern;
 - To change the use of the home (including the option of Social Enterprise);
 - To develop the home as a specialist centre for complex care.

2. CONSULTATION PROCESS

2.3 Members will be aware that the aforementioned resolution of the Board of Commissioners was implemented with a formal statutory period from 5 October, 2012 and continued until 7 December;

2.4 Resume of the Consultation Process - the addendum to this report (**Appendix 1**) provides a resume of the consultation process and how it sought to engage with all relevant stakeholders (users, carers, citizens and partner organisations). It can be summarised that some 3894 individuals, groups and organisations engaged in the consultation process;

3 KEY EMERGING MESSAGES

3.1 The Department received many observations, comments and suggestions during the Public Consultation. There are some emerging common themes and key messages:

- People want to stay in their own homes for as long as is practicably possible but there are concerns about what community based services will be available to the future to support them;
- Need to ensure quality services and people wanting to know how services will look in the future;
- Genuine concern about how the proposals will affect the current residents of the care homes coupled with worries associated with change;
- The need to ensure the availability of adequate facilities to relieve informal carers of their caring responsibilities (eg respite and day services to meet complex care needs);
- Continuous concern that the Local Authority has endeavoured to transform residential care over a number of years – with no resolution;
- Uncertainty and lack of clarity around direction of travel creates concern and worry for people.

3.2 There was one single key message that featured throughout the consultation process – that the Council's future plans for older people's services were not clear to the citizens of the Island. In fully recognising this message, we have developed an outline vision for services to the medium term which will form the basis of an engagement/consultation process over the coming months. The outcome of this process will enable us to submit a medium term vision to the Executive Committee for consideration and endorsement in the Autumn.

4 NEXT PHASE OF TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

4.1 The Department has been concentrating efforts over the past 2 months on the following aspects of the older people's transformation programme:

- Preparation of a 5 year strategy for adult social care which describes our direction of travel, priorities and timelines in readiness for the New Council to consider and endorse. This has also included preparing a draft vision statement for Older People (known as the Service Intentions document – Appendix II) in response to feedback from the formal consultation. The Programme will continue to engage and will consult on individual Projects as appropriate.
- Preparing to enter into an engagement programme with users, carers, citizens/ communities and partner organisations regarding the evolving vision underpinning older people's services to the future (Spring/Summer, 2013);
- Taking positive steps to strengthen community based services as sustainable service models to the medium term (to include 24 hour home based services, respite services to relieve informal carers, enhanced reablement as an intake model, assistive technology – telecare);
- Entering into discussions with partners to develop alternative accommodation models for older people;
- Confirming the current use of the Authority's 6 residential homes. This has included restricting use of any vacancies at Garreglwyd, Holyhead for respite care only.

4.2 We have been successful in recruiting a Programme Manager for our transformation of older adult social services and I can report that the parameters of our programme are currently being defined within the Authority's Corporate Transformation Plan;

4.3 Our overarching transformation efforts now need to concentrate on 6 specific themes:

- Services to help people at home;
- Dementia Services;
- Services for older people not able to stay at home;
- Resources (workforce);
- User voice and control – Direct Payments and Citizen Directed Support;
- Procurement and brokerage of care & support services.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

R1 Note the key messages and emerging themes from the Public Consultation (5 October – 7 December, 2012)

R2 Endorse the next steps in our older people's Transformation Programme (as detailed in paragraph 4.3 above).

Anwen Davies
Head of Adults' Services
Community Department
17/05/13
(amended 03/07/13)

RESUME OF CONSULTATION PROCESS [PROVISION OF RESIDENTIAL CARE]

OCTOBER – 7 DECEMBER, 2012

5.1 Current Users of our Residential Care Services - The Department prioritised the one to one engagement and discussion with current users of our Residential Services – ensuring that all users had an individual session with a social worker and accompanied by their family (if that was in keeping with their wish). Indeed, a significant number of these individual sessions were completed prior to the consultation events for the particular area in question. A total number of 150 users had an individual session. Advocacy services were facilitated in respect of those users who do not have the mental capacity to partake as well as any other individuals/families requesting the service. 15 users received advocacy support];

5.2 Engagement and Consultation with other stakeholders - A series of consultation events were organised by the Department which were convened within the window of the consultation period as follows:

- Initial dialogue with the Commissioner for Older People in Wales on 28 September, 2012. This was followed up by a fieldwork visit to the Island by a member of the Commissioner's team on 18 December, 2012;
- Ongoing dialogue with CSSIW (Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales) on the Transformation programme (commencing 28 September, 2012);
- Information session for partners – Health, Independent and Third Sector convened on 5 October. The aim of this session was to provide information and context regarding this work programme. The session also provided the opportunity to facilitate a shared understanding of matters to be considered by the Local Authority and its partners. It was attended by some 70 partner representatives;
- 6 consultation events within different locations across the County in order to share information and facilitate discussion on the Transformation proposals –
 - Plas Mona – 8 October;
 - Haulfre – 10 October;
 - Garreglwyd – 11 October;
 - Plas Penlan – 16 October;
 - Brwynog – 17 October;
 - Plas Crigyll – 24 October.

All of these events were well attended with an approximate 480 in total attending across the 6 local communities.

- A series of sector specific sessions –
 - Third sector partners – 12 November;
 - Domiciliary care providers – 3 December;
 - Independent sector providers of residential/nursing home care – 27 November;

- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) – 30 November;
- General Practitioners (GPs) – 27 November.
- Consultation has also been facilitated via our mainstream mechanisms underpinning the Strategy for Older People (Older People’s Forum and Council)
- The consultation process also afforded people the opportunity to submit their views via email or letter. The Department had also prepared a set questionnaire if people wished to air their views through that medium.
- In addition, 6 staff consultation events were convened and access facilitated for individual information and support.

5.3 1000 hard copies of our Consultation Document were widely distributed. A decision was taken not to produce further hard copies when the supply was exhausted but rather to encourage use of the Council’s website or to print paper copies upon request;

Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn – The Isle of Anglesey County Council

Ynys Môn

THE ISLE OF
Anglesey

Older Adult Social Care Service Intentions

Helping you to live at home

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YNYS MÔN
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COUNTY COUNCIL



ioacc



@angleseycouncil

This is an overarching document to inform all stakeholders about our Vision and how we will realise the benefits of the Vision, how services will look and what this means for the citizens of Anglesey.

Our Vision Statement

To empower older people on Anglesey by giving them as much independence, choice and control as possible in their future care.

Why Change?

People are living longer and as such, we expect to see an increase of 68%¹ in the number of people over 85 living on the Island over the next 10 years. The Isle of Anglesey has the second highest older people's population in Wales. We are also finding that there is an increase in the number of people with long-term conditions, including dementia². At present our services are not arranged to be able to provide the necessary level of support required to meet the growing demand in terms of both finance and workforce.

The Isle of Anglesey County Council recognises that it needs to change the way it delivers Social Care and Community Based Housing Related Support Services to ensure that they are suitable now and remain so for future generations. Studies confirm that "a majority of the participants were adamant that they wished to remain in control of their lives for as long as possible. Very few were keen on a living situation where household tasks or financial matters were carried out by others as a matter of routine"³. Local consultation has helped inform the development of this document and proposals for the future. It also supports national and independent research; people have told us what is needed to achieve this is⁴:

1. Community based services need to be sufficiently robust to enable people to remain in their own homes
2. Opportunities for Respite Care⁵ and Day Care support to be readily available
3. Sufficient number of residential beds to be available on the Island to meet demand now and in the future
4. Information and advice for informed decisions

What will be different?

To achieve our Vision we will work with people to achieve their aspirations for their care and support and are committed to making innovative and positive changes. We are working with highly experienced and qualified individuals, learning from lessons learnt by other Welsh (including North Wales) Local Authorities and utilising national and independent studies to move from concepts to developing models of service and onto actual operational delivery.

¹ Isle of Anglesey Data Review, June 2012

² Prevalence rates of Dementia for Anglesey based on Dementia UK (2007) data indicate that there will be 1,310 people over the age of 65 in 2013 rising to 1,776 by 2023, and 2,311 by 2033

³ Retaining independence and autonomy in a rural area: Older people's preferences for specialised housing, Vanessa Burholt and Gill Windle 2007 Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Ageing, University of Swansea, and Dementia Services Development Centre, Institute of Medical and Social Care Research, University of Wales, Bangor

⁴ Summary of the result of the Public Consultation proposals for Transformation of Adult Social Care on Anglesey

⁵ Consultation with Care Home Residents, Relatives, and Representatives on the Transformation of Adult Social Care on Anglesey

To deliver better services and a greater range to accommodate more Older People there will undoubtedly be some differences in the way services are currently delivered. Traditional and outdated models of care and community based support are being redesigned and updated to align with best practice, new legislation and other Counties across Wales.

A visible change will be the establishments from which services are delivered. Initial internal reports have indicated that existing internal Care Home facilities restrict the range and level of services we aim to deliver and require unsustainable levels of investment to modernise. Establishments within the service are to be independently re-evaluated for quality and appropriateness to need. To achieve our ambition we will explore opportunities to move from existing Residential Care Services and become a commissioner of Residential, Nursing, Domiciliary, Respite, Re-ablement Care and other Community Based Support services to develop a consistency in service delivery to our service users, their carers and families.

We recognise that there is a real and significant need to develop a Community Hub model to build community capacity, develop social networks and relationships so that people feel safe and empowered in their own communities. With this in mind, we will support and encourage communities to develop their own services/activities which cover areas such as:

- meal provision
- befriending services
- information and advice via Community Hubs
- community transport
- age well services

Adult Services will provide effective leadership in order to strengthen current services and developing new and innovative community based services. These services will be based on the principles of Citizen Directed Support, which places the citizen at the centre when planning and shaping services. This includes real voice, choice and control about what services are needed and how they are delivered.

We have commenced working towards delivering our Vision to meet current and future needs over the next 10 years by focusing on the following Objectives:

- Promoting independence, dignity and wellbeing by ensuring information and advice about all services is easily available. This will support individuals to make good decisions about the care, support and quality of life they need;
- Reducing dependency on high cost health and social care services by ensuring a complimentary range of community based services (e.g. Supporting People Programme) and opportunities are available to choose from. These will support people to live at home, play a part in the community and keep as much independence as possible;
- Encouraging individuals to get involved in local community networks to reduce isolation, loneliness and exclusion and increase the resources within the local community. This will enable adults to better support each other;
- Providing better support for carers to enable them to maintain their health and wellbeing;
- Work with the Health Board to ensure services are available to support people with complex needs.

Our services will be structured as follows:



DIAGRAM TO BE ADJUSTED

Following a robust assessment of need, a sound eligibility criteria enables us to ensure that those who require services and provided with the right menu of options at the right time. This will be an open process which Older People will be required to undertake. Community Hubs will be a place to provide information, advice, signposting and guidance and also enhance and support the delivery of Community Support Services and the availability of our services will be extended to include Extra Care facilities.

Our service users should experience a better quality of life, greater choice of service options available, services will be enhanced to increase availability and achieve excellent standards, there should be a consistency in the number of individuals involved in their care and support and carer’s should have the support they need. There will be a single referral route with a clear and dependable assessment, which will reduce delays and care plans to match individual’s wants against their need. If people aren’t able to stay at home this will be identified and alternatives will be available for consideration. Currently our services can be confusing; Older Adult Social Care will provide a reliable service which is transparent and easy to understand.

By transforming Older Adult Social Care we will have a service which is able to demonstrate delivery against the Vision and Objectives. A quality service which meets future need; provides value for money and is fit for purpose; that ensures safeguarding and provides support for individuals to make informed choices about their own future care requirements. Older Adult Social Care will be an enhancer and developer of a wholesome care in the community culture.

How will we deliver?

We believe that supporting older people with care needs will be best achieved by working with everyone involved – including carers, social workers and other agencies – to identify and agree the needs and then choose and obtain services to help achieve these. The Council has introduced a Transformation Programme which comprises of 6 key Projects and 22 Stages with a group of senior leaders who are committed delivering key changes which will look to improve in the following areas:

Direct Payments and Citizen Directed Support

Citizen Directed Support (CDS) is based on the principle of placing the citizen at the centre when planning and shaping services. This includes a real voice, choice and control about what services are needed and how they are delivered. One component to building up a CDS based support plan will be Direct Payments which enables individuals to purchase their own care. We will support voluntary and external organisations to develop support agencies that will assist individuals to manage their personal care budgets.

Helping you to live at home

This Project is to look at preventing the need for higher levels of support but boosting community based services which have been identified as those key to enable people to remain in their own homes.

Shared Lives⁶ is a little known alternative to home care and care homes for Older People. It is used by around 15,000 people in the UK and is available in nearly every area. A Shared Lives carer and someone who needs support get to know each other and, if they both feel that they will be able to form a long-term bond, they share family and community life. This can mean that the individual becomes a regular daytime or overnight visitor to the Shared Lives carer's household, or it means that the individual moves in with the Shared Lives carer. These relationships can be life-long. We will explore opportunities to develop this service and provide it as an option available.

We anticipate an increase in the demand for safety equipment and home and personal sensors in line with the increased numbers of people living in community settings. Aids & Adaptions and Assistive Technology will target resources to meet complex care needs, and sign post individuals to self-purchase low cost supportive equipment.

Rapid response allows GPs to provide patients who require a response within 24 hours (eg if they have fallen over) with access to a Multi- Disciplinary Team: Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists and Advanced Nurse Practitioners. We will revise our intermediate care strategy with the Health Board in order to enhance service provision, integrate current schemes and create pooled budgets. There is also commitment to developing the role of support workers who can respond to services across health and social care to provide continuity of care. We have agreed a training schedule and to start with, we will implement the scheme on a pilot basis in one area.

Adult Services will commission Re-ablement services, making sure that everyone goes through a time limited and focused service concentrating on objectives to help individuals get better using clear and specific care plans. An evaluation of the current model will be completed by September this year.

Due to need, not everyone is able to remain at home and the Assessment & Care Management Arrangements will correctly identify options available to individuals who find themselves in this position. Welsh Government has identified a national need to review current procedures and we will be working with them to ensure compliance with national guidance and standards.

Môn Enhanced Care (MEC) is a health led initiative and has been embedded into mainstream practice as a model to avoid hospital admission during acute medical episodes.

⁶ In 2010, England's care inspectors gave 38% of Shared Lives schemes the top rating of excellent (three star): double the percentages for other forms of regulated care.

This area has scope to expand on the uptake of this service and we will be working with the NHS to better this service provision.

A delayed transfer of care⁷ occurs when a patient is ready to transfer to the next stage of care, but is prevented by one or more reasons. These often arise when people transfer from a health care setting to social care services. We will continue to identify new ways of working with the NHS to improve upon transfers of care.

Evolving Resources

By Transforming Older Adult Social Care there is a need to redress role functions to ensure that we have a suitable and appropriately skilled workforce with capability and capacity to effectively complete their roles. This Project will review and improve upon current induction and on-going professional training, support those who may be effected by the Programme and explore closer working with the NHS.

Procurement/Brokerage

As we will be a commissioner of services, we will develop our arrangements for using approved providers as well as our own contracting arrangements for the provision of Domiciliary Care, Residential Care, Nursing Care, Respite Care, Re-ablement and support services. Brokerage arrangements will enable us to better influence and work with providers to grow a sustainable market and make better use of contracts. We have identified the need for more Nursing Home Care which we will facilitate by working in partnership with independent providers to develop care homes registered to provide both personal and nursing care so that people do not have to move from one home to another as their care needs increase. This will aid timely and appropriate placements that minimise delay in discharge, ensuring sufficient Care placements are available within Anglesey as well as developing more effective relationships with providers and service users.

Supporting Services for People with Dementia

The rising numbers of people with Dementia in Wales is a trend which is common across the world.⁸ To meet this increased demand, Adult Services will further develop its community based services. Our range of Health and Social Care community initiatives will focus on:-

- Early diagnosis and referral to Memory Clinics.
- Joint working between Community Psychiatric Nurses, Nurses, Therapists and Social Workers in assessing needs and providing on-going support.
- Respite breaks for Carers – at home and in residential care in accordance with carer's preference.
- Specialist Day Care and also 24 hour outreach carer support at Plas Crigyll which is supported by Community Psychiatric Nurses.
- Dementia Advisers working closely with Community Psychiatric Nurses on delivering therapeutic/re-ablement programmes.
- Working closely with the Independent Care Home sector to increase the range and volume of specialist Dementia Care Home provision.

⁷ Unnecessary delays compromise the independence of vulnerable older people who become delayed. Being unduly delayed in hospital is bad for those concerned because they can lose mobility, mental and physical function and ultimately their independence. Such delays also harm wider service delivery and performance across the whole health and social care system. In 2006/2007, 268,491 hospital bed days were occupied by delayed transfers of care in Wales, at a cost of £69 million, Wales Audit Office 2007.

⁸ Prevalence rates of Dementia for Anglesey based on Dementia UK (2007) data indicate that there will be 1,310 people over the age of 65 in 2013 rising to 1,776 by 2023, and 2,311 by 2033.

- Housing related support to enable people to maintain their independence in their homes and prevent unnecessary admission to institutional settings.

Enhancing Accommodation Options

If we're to support more people in the community we need to develop a range of high quality accommodation options to meet people's current and long term housing needs and avoid unnecessary relocation. By focusing on enabling people to remain independent within the community we anticipate that the demand for Residential Care placements will reduce – allowing the service to focus on more complex care needs and specialist dementia provision.

Extra Care offers a new way of supporting people to live independently for as long as possible. It gives people dignity and responsibility, security and privacy of a home of their own, a range of facilities on the premises and access to on site care or support. All care support is provided by external care agencies as and when required. Currently we have one Extra Care facility on the Island in the Holyhead area and we feel strongly that Extra Care will assist us to help the people that matter. We will prioritise investment in the development of further Extra Care facilities on the island informed by needs assessments. This will include provision for the Amlwch, Llangefni and Beaumaris area. We will also develop our current Sheltered Housing schemes as Community Hubs.

We have established Projects that will produce benefits for the people that matter this mirrors the strategic aims of the council to promote and protect the interests of the island, its citizens and communities and the following strategic outcomes to create an Anglesey:

- where people achieve their full potential
- where people are healthy and safe
- where people are proud of their Council

How we will keep you informed

We will engage with the general public, Independent Sector and stakeholders on specific Projects and through a detailed plan for engagement with Programme updates in the local press, through designated web pages, updates to GPs and Town and Community Councils and by engaging with established reference groups. We have already conducted a Consultation which was invaluable to aid the development of this document and the design of the Programme and Objectives.

Throughout the Programmes lifetime we will continue to engage with all stakeholders. In fact we see it as being imperative to do so; to not just develop service models, but service care. To dramatically improve services we must put people in the heart of service revolution and work with the citizens of Anglesey to define quality, manage expectations and ensure what we aim to deliver is fit for purpose, safe, offers value for money and meets need.

We want better for the people of Anglesey, for you, for us, for our families. We are listening, will continue to do so and welcome all opportunities to work together in this exciting opportunity to build a better future for Older People on Anglesey.

If you would like to speak to someone about the Transformation Programme and how to get involved please visit our web pages at....or e-mail.....or call.....

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AGENDA ITEM NO.

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	Executive Committee
Date	15/07/13
Subject	Specialist Children’s Service – Agree Formal Partnership
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Kenneth Hughes
Lead Officer(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anwen Huws (IOACC) – Head of Children’s Services • Cilla Robinson (BCUHB) – Associate Chief of Staff (Operations), Children & Young People’s Clinical Programme Group
Contact Officer	Anwen Huws (IOACC) – Head of Children’s Services
Nature and reason for reporting	
<p>To request the Executive Committee’s approval to go ahead with the implementation of the single, integrated Specialist Children’s Service via a formal partnership underpinned by a Section 33 Agreement.</p>	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues
<p>The concept of a multi-agency Specialist Children’s Service in Gwynedd and Môn began in 2001-03 and became operational in Anglesey in 2004. Since then, children and young people with disabilities, and their families/carers, have had access to a wide range of health and social care services – and much progress has been made to team operations and service provision.</p> <p>There is a significant opportunity to further enhance and improve the service through further integration of the management, strategies, processes and people: to improve information sharing and communication between professionals and with service users, and to be more joined up and efficient – such that service users receive higher quality and more timely services.</p> <p>The proposal is to integrate this collection of health and social care services, which are currently co-located, into one integrated service – the Specialist Children’s Service (SCS). The SCS will employ health and social care professionals under one organisational structure, will employ a Service Manager to run and manage the service, and will have an integrated strategy, set of policies, procedures, budgets, and a joined-up approach to staff management and training.</p>

B – Considerations

Cost

There is a minor increase in the cost of running the integrated service of £7,230.

Integration will cost the Health Board an additional £25,310.

Integration will save the Council £18,080.

Benefit

However, the benefits of integrating the service include:

- **Benefits for service users** – a single point of contact to a joined up and co-ordinated health and social care service, that is easy to access, is more flexible, co-ordinates professional response, and provides a better quality service
- **Benefits for the tax payer** – a cost effective, efficient service that provides a sustainable, quality service that is good value for money
- **Benefits for staff** – better information sharing, team working, and collaboration between health and social service professionals.

C – Implications and Impacts

1	Finance / Section 151	Approved
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	Approved
3	Human Resources	Approved
4	Property Services (see notes – separate document)	N/A
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	N/A
6	Equality (see notes – separate document)	The service is in the process of conducting an Equality Impact Assessment
7	Anti-poverty and Social (see notes – separate document)	N/A

C – Implications and Impacts		
8	Communication (see notes – separate document)	N/A
9	Consultation (see notes – separate document)	N/A
10	Economic	N/A
11	Environmental (see notes – separate document)	N/A
12	Crime and Disorder (see notes – separate document)	N/A
13	Outcome Agreements	N/A

CH – Summary

D – Recommendation
For the Executive Committee to approve the go ahead of the implementation of the single, integrated Specialist Children’s Service via a formal partnership underpinned by a Section 33 Agreement.

E – Comments from the Partnership & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
<p>The proposal was approved by the Members at the meeting on 17/06/13 and approved by the Senior Leadership Team on 24/06/13.</p> <p>The Service Manager will undertake work to baseline and estimate the benefits (by September 2013) and will report on realised benefits of the integrated service over time.</p>

Name of author of report: Emily Whall
Job Title: Collaboration Improvement Officer
Date: 25/06/13

Appendices:
None

Background papers
Paper presented to Partnership & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 17 June 2013.

CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN	
COMMITTEE:	Executive Committee
DATE:	15 July, 2013
TITLE OF REPORT:	Specialist Children's Service – Agree Formal Partnership
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	Approval to action.
REPORT BY:	DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY

1. Background

The concept of a multi-agency Specialist Children's Service in Gwynedd and Môn began in 2001-03 and became operational in Anglesey in 2004. Since then, children and young people with disabilities, and their families/carers, have had access to a wide range of health and social care services – and much progress has been made to team operations and service provision.

We recognise that there is a significant opportunity for us to further enhance and improve the service through further integration of the management, strategies, processes and people: to improve information sharing and communication between professionals and with service users, and to be more joined up and efficient – such that service users receive higher quality and more timely services.

The proposal is to integrate this collection of health and social care services, which are currently co-located, into one integrated service – the Specialist Children's Service (SCS). The SCS will employ health and social care professionals under one organisational structure, will employ a Service Manager to run and manage the service, and will have an integrated strategy, set of policies, procedures, budgets, and a joined-up approach to staff management and training.

The increased cost in running the service (*calculated to be £7,230 in 2013-14*) realises a number of benefits and improvements for the service, which are outlined in Section 8 of this document.

2. Aims

The aim of the integration – is to provide a single, integrated service that delivers community health and social care for the benefit of: children and young people with long term, or permanent needs as a result of disability or illness (eg chronically sick, severe and enduring, and lifelong conditions) (ie the Service Users); and their families and carers.

The service will provide Service Users with a single access point into the service.

The aim of the service – is to promote and safeguard the welfare of children and young people, and to increase their ability to participate in everyday life, helping them to reach their potential and maximising their rights, which is of ultimate benefit to their health, well-being and social inclusion. The service will provide a robust mechanism to support children and young people in their transition to adulthood and will be based on an integrated service model that reflects the roles, responsibilities and commitment of education, health, social care and the voluntary sector.

3. Legal Obligations

The SCS is to be a formal partnership between Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (the Health Board) and the Isle of Anglesey County Council (the Council). Under the provisions made under Section 33 of the NHS (2006) Wales Act, the Health Board will delegate related health care functions to the Council, and the Council will be the Lead Provider for the service. The Council will provide, or make arrangements for the provision of, the combination of health and social care functions that are the remit of the SCS.

Each partner will contribute to administration costs, office costs, and to the cost of the Service Manager role; they will continue to have accountability for the management of their own financial resources.

The partnership can only go ahead with legal approval from both partners.

4. Deliverables

Integration of the Specialist Children's Service will deliver:

- A joint Management and Commissioning Board
- A joint strategic statement setting out the Board's vision
- A redesigned innovative service that meets individual's needs
- An annual Business Plan to deliver the partnership agreement
- A culture of collaborative and co-operative joint working
- A single management / accountability structure
- Service accommodation
- Clear leadership and governance arrangements
- Joint pro-forma and files
- Joint policies, procedures and protocols
- Joint recruitment of staff
- Joint staff training and development – to ensure an appropriate skill-mix across the whole service that is capable of meeting children and young people's needs
- Joint eligibility criteria
- Clarity in understanding amongst professionals of their individual roles and of what each profession contributes to the whole
- Inter-professional support
- A single point of access in to the service
- An integrated performance management framework
- Robust mechanisms for user and carer participation in decision making and planning of services
- A risk register
- A matrix management model that provides professional supervision if a team member is managed by a worker from another discipline.

5. Service Model

The Specialist Children's Service will adopt a three-tiered strategic approach to service planning and delivery, as per the following table and diagram.

This approach advocates the needs of children and young people with disabilities at all levels, but targets the resources of the SCS at a specific cohort.

Tier	Staff	Service User
<p>Tier 1 Universal Services</p>	<p>Staff do not necessarily have a specialist role in terms of meeting disability needs, but accommodate the needs of Service Users and their families as they would any other member of the public accessing their services</p> <p>Includes: GPs, primary health carers, health visitors, school nurses, teachers, other school staff, non-specialist children’s social workers, non-statutory sector workers, leisure centres</p> <p>Discussions regarding the potential inclusion of occupational therapy within this Tier are underway</p>	<p>All disabled children and young people who need community services and who can, with advice and guidance, take part in activities and opportunities with children and young people who do not have a disability</p>
<p>Tier 2 Non-formal Partnership Services</p>	<p>Staff are the first line of specialist service, who provide non co-ordinated, targeted services</p> <p>Includes: specialist psychologists, specialist teachers and specialist children’s social workers</p>	<p>All disabled children and young people who require short-term intervention, or continuing intervention by one individual specialist worker</p>
<p>Tier 3 Formal Partnership Services</p>	<p>Staff comprise a multi-disciplinary team and provide co-ordinated services via a single access point ie the Specialist Children’s Service</p> <p>includes: specialist social workers, occupational therapists, specialist nurses, specialist psychologists</p>	<p>All disabled children and young people who have complex needs, require a concentration of a specific skill, require an interagency service, require a programme of intervention and care</p>

TIER 1: UNIVERSAL SERVICES

TIER 2: NON-FORMAL PARTNERSHIP SERVICES

EDUCATION

Identified Staff in Schools
Learning Support Assistants
Educational Psychologists
Special Schools
Specialist Teachers

EARLY YEARS

Referral Scheme

TIER 3: FORMAL PARTNERSHIP SERVICES

Service Manager
Social Care Support Team
Social Workers
Transition Key Worker
Social Services Occupational Therapy
Joint Commissioning / Spot Purchasing – Placements
Psychology
Nurses – Learning Disabilities and Disability

SOCIAL SERVICES

Foster Carers
Direct Payments

BETSIDWALADR UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

Occupational Therapy
Physiotherapy
Podiatry
Speech and Language Therapy
Community Paediatricians

6. In Scope for SCS

The Service will work with children and young people up to the age of 18, and their families, who are resident on the Isle of Anglesey, and who are disabled or who have a significant developmental delay, where there are long term, or permanent difficulties that need specialist assessment and/or intervention, as a result of:

- Physical disabilities that significantly impact on a Service User's development, on their daily living activities, or prevent them from reaching their full potential
- Learning disabilities where Service Users have a significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information, or to learn new skills (ie impaired intelligence), and have a reduced ability to cope independently (ie impaired social functioning) which has a lasting effect on development.
- Illness, such as those who are chronically sick, or who have severe and/or enduring life-long conditions.
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder, where there are life-long neurodevelopmental disabilities with onset before 36 months of age that are characterised by:
 - Impairments in reciprocal social interactions
 - Impairments in verbal and non-verbal communication skills
 - Stereotyped behaviour, interests and activities.
- Developmental delays, where there is a chronological delay in the appearance of normal developmental milestones achieved during infancy and early childhood, which are caused by organic and/or psychological factors.

The service will offer integrated pathways of transition between levels of need and life transitions. The service will promote independence and will support learning by provision of trained, supervised and skilled staff. The service will also improve and strengthen the transition of Service Users from SCS into Adult Services; strengthening these transition arrangements is a priority for both services.

7. Out of Scope for SCS

The Service does not work with Service Users who are able to take part in activities and opportunities with children who do not have a disability, such as those:

- Who have an illness or a mental condition but have no disability
- Whose disability and needs are currently met
- Who have a mild developmental delay in only one area of life (eg language delay or toileting)
- Who have behavioural problems, but where there is no evidence of disability or of a significant developmental delay
- Who have ADHD, but where there is no evidence of disability or of a significant developmental delay
- Who have a hearing loss that has been treated successfully
- Where there are Child Protection issues but there is no need for additional specialist assessment and/or intervention
- Who have a developmental delay that is being met by mainstream services.

Hospital services, Primary Health Care, and services commissioned or provided at a regional or central level are not within the remit of this service.

8. Benefits

The Specialist Children's Service will deliver the following benefits:

Service users

- A x% increase in the level of citizen input (including feedback) into service design and provision
- A x% increase in the ease of access to services
- A x% increase in the choice and flexibility of services available
- A x% increase in the perceived quality of service
- A x% increase in the opportunity for vulnerable people
- A x% decrease in service users' vulnerability and risk
- A x% increase in a better perceived use of public monies
- A x% reduction in the perceived levels of bureaucracy

Collaborative working

- A x% increase in the level of collaborative working between the Health Board and the Council
- A x% improvement in the delivery of integrated care across health and social services
- A x% improvement in the co-ordination of service inputs due to more co-ordinated and jointly-planned intervention

Service delivery

- A x% decrease in duplication of effort
- A x% increase in service efficiency
- A x% reduction in the time taken in inter-agency negotiation
- A x% increase in the accuracy of assessments
- A x% decrease in the turn-around time of cases
- A x% increase in value-for-money procurement
- A x% increase in the perception of the service having a Service-User focus rather than an agency-focus
- A x% increase in the co-ordination of response
- A x% increase in the perceived quality of arrangements during transitions
- A x% increase in the cost-effectiveness and efficient use of resource

Staff

- A x% decrease in the isolation factor for staff
- A x% increase in the level of information sharing and professional expertise between staff

Note: the Service will undertake work to identify the value of x in each of these benefits.

9. Financial Implications

As per the tables below, there is a minor increase in the cost of running the integrated service of £7,230, integration will cost the Health Board £25,310, and will save the Council £18,080.

To date, stationery costs have been paid by the Council; these will be split 50-50 following the integration of the partnership. The partners have also agreed to change the Team Leader role to that of a Service Manager; these costs will also be split 50-50 between the partners.

Other than this, the running costs for the SCS will remain the same.

Current Cost Item	Current Cost to Council	Current Cost to Health Board	Total Costs
Stationery costs	£1,500	£0	£1,500
Service Team Leader Role	£41,890	£0	£41,890
Occupational Therapist*	To be discussed	To be discussed	To be discussed
Total Costs	£43,390	£0	£43,390

Proposed Cost Item	Proposed Cost to Council	Proposed Cost to Health Board	Total Costs
Stationery Costs	£1000	£1000	£2,000
Service Team Manager Role	£24,310	£24,310	£48,620
Occupational Therapist*	To be discussed	To be discussed	To be discussed
Total Costs	£25,310	£25,310	£50,620

Council	Health Board	Service Total
£18,080 saving	£25,310 cost	£7,230 cost

**Discussions regarding the potential inclusion of occupational therapy within this Tier are underway.*

10. Risks and Mitigations

Risk	Impact	Mitigating Action
Inability to recruit a suitable Service Manager	Service runs without a manager	Recruitment is underway and applications have been received for the post
Unable to find suitable accommodation for the service	The service has no building to operate from	Continue to pursue solutions relating to current Council and Health Board properties
Disagreement occurs over how the partnership is managed (including budgets)	The partnership falls apart	The Section 33 Agreement contains clauses that outline the legal obligations of both parties should this occur
Redefinition of the service user eligibility criteria, means that the service is no longer available to service users who rely on current provision	Existing service users are left without a service when they no longer meet the revised eligibility of the SCS	Inform existing service users of the imminent changes to the service; and inform them / sign-post them to other appropriate and relevant services
Lack of buy-in from staff affects service operations	Increase in the level of staff attrition; increase in the time and monies spent on recruitment; and, the benefits listed in 6 are not realised	Hold staff workshops and meetings with the Trade Unions. Set clear operational and management protocols. Engage staff with why the changes are necessary through workshops and effective communications.
ITC systems are not integrated and there is increased reliance on paper systems	Failure to share information between professionals / potential of losing sensitive client information	Speak to the Heads of IT in Health and in the Council. Follow up on the work done in this area by the Health and Gwynedd SCS, Derwen.
Full buy in to the change from all partners is not achieved	The partnership does not work successfully / effectively	Hold workshops, communicate the reasons why service integration is necessary, explain how the change is beneficial to each partner and to the service users

11. Service User Views

The Service Users want one single point of contact into the health and social care services that are available to them – ie one door to one service with clear eligibility criteria. They want a one-stop family-centred service with clear pathways of co-ordinated multi-agency response, so that arrangements are simple and make sense to them.

This means that Service Users can have access to the best level of care, care that is joined up, and one service to work with rather than having to influence and negotiate with several services to meet their needs.

The current situation has meant that Service Users have had to contend with a jigsaw puzzle of services and have had to struggle through a complex maze to find the essential information they need.

12. Recommendations

The recommendation is that the Executive approves the implementation of an integrated Specialist Children's Service underpinned by a Section 33 Agreement.

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	Executive Committee
Date	15/07/2013
Subject	Adults' Safeguarding Local Improvement Journey
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Kenneth P Hughes
Lead Officer(s)	Head of Adults' Services
Contact Officer	Anwen Davies, Head of Adults' Services (Ext 2707)
Nature and reason for reporting	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Approve the strategic direction for Safeguarding Adults b) Approve the change to the current regional arrangements and the creation of a 2 tier North Wales Safeguarding Adult Board 	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues	
1.1	The Council's improvement journey for safeguarding adults has been completed over the past year and substantial progress has been made on an operational and strategic level. Indeed, this area of our statutory responsibilities is evolving to be an area of strength for us – with a new local improvement programme in place for 2013/14 (as a framework to secure focus and momentum for our medium term improvement objectives);
1.2	These efforts have been a catalyst for the sub-regional framework, evolving from being a Forum for Protecting Vulnerable Adults into a strategic, multi-agency safeguarding framework. This work has progressed during the last 9 months. This is the first model in North and Mid Wales;
1.3	It is fair to say that the Social Services Improvement Agency ¹ has been a reference point and has advised us on how to embark on this new and innovative path;
1.4	Sustainable Social Services: A Framework for Action and the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Bill 2013 ² bring with them a range of duties in the area of safeguarding adults.

¹ Conducted by the WLGA – Welsh Local Government Association – the SSIA was launched in 2006 to improve and promote excellence in Social Services.

B - Considerations

- 2.1 In proceeding to establish a North West Wales Safeguarding Board (that this Mon and Gwynedd) in February 2013, the following matters/principles were confirmed as fundamental to the new safeguarding framework:
- Replacing the Adult Safeguarding Forum with a Board with greater focus on leadership.
 - Being in a better position to discuss strategic safeguarding outcomes with partners.
 - Securing adequate resources for an effective Adults Safeguarding Board and improving outcomes.
 - Attempting to develop a model for the Board that can be developed into a regional model over the next period.
 - Identifying common area between partners, challenging boundaries and assumptions
 - Developing operational and strategic links with the safeguarding children frameworks.
 - Securing a clear and strong direction.
- 2.2 There is now an outline of a work/improvement programme in place for 2013/14 together with an assessment of strengths/weaknesses and a position statement – using the SSIA toolkit for Safeguarding Boards as a template.
- 2.3 Section 7 of the Social Services and Well-being Bill 2013 sets out the operational and strategic expectations for safeguarding, with the legislative framework strengthening our legal foundation for adults in future. The recent announcements made by the Deputy Minister for Social Services in the Welsh Government placed a clear expectation in terms of moving towards establishing regional strategic arrangements for safeguarding.
- 2.4 Whilst welcoming this legislative change which will mean responding to adult safeguarding / protection within a strong statutory basis, it is necessary to draw attention to the:-

² Sustainable Social Services: A Framework for Action (Welsh Government 2011) – a 10 year vision for Social Services in Wales.

- Resulting increase in demand for interventions by Adults' Services
- Change in practice expectations upon our workforce

Welsh Government in publishing the Bill made a clear statement that there would be no additional financial resources available to enable Local Authorities to realise these new legislative responsibilities. Effective multi-agency partnerships between statutory partners will therefore be crucial in our ability to respond appropriately to the new responsibilities. Our strategy will therefore be concerned with identifying opportunities to standardise arrangements across Local Authority boundaries where appropriate and possible.

C – Implications and Impacts		
1	Finance / Section 151	-
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	-
3	Human Resources	-
4	Property Services (see notes – separate document)	-
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	-
6	Equality (see notes – separate document)	-
7	Anti-poverty and Social (see notes – separate document)	-
8	Communication (see notes – separate document)	-
9	Consultation (see notes – separate document)	-
10	Economic	-

C – Implications and Impacts		
11	Environmental (see notes – separate document)	-
12	Crime and Disorder (see notes – separate document)	-
13	Outcome Agreements	-

CH - Summary
See above

D - Recommendation
<p>R1. Note developments and progress hitherto in the area of safeguarding adults in the North West;</p> <p>R2. Approve the Anglesey and Gwynedd strategic direction for safeguarding adults as a trigger for influencing the development of a regional framework.</p> <p>R3. Confirm the principle that the safeguarding frameworks for adults and children need to be addressed on an equal footing and not to differentiate between them in terms of their status or importance.</p> <p>R4. Approve the revision to the current North Wales arrangements and support the preferred option – a 2 tier North Wales Adult Safeguarding Board.</p>

Name of author of report Anwen Davies
Job Title Head of Adults' Services
Date 17/06/2013

Appendices:
APPENDIX 1 Document by the North Wales Social Services Improvement Collaborative

Background papers
-

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
REPORT TO:	Executive Committee
DATE:	15 July 2013
TITLE OF REPORT:	Adults' Safeguarding Local Improvement Journey
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the strategic direction for Safeguarding Adults 2. Approve the change to the current regional arrangements and the creation of a 2 tier North Wales Safeguarding Adult Board
REPORT BY:	Anwen Davies, Head of Adults' Services
CORPORATE DIRECTOR:	Gwen Carrington, Director of Community

2. BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

- 2.1 The Council's improvement journey for safeguarding adults has been completed over the past year and substantial progress has been made on an operational and strategic level. Indeed, this area of our statutory responsibilities is evolving to be an area of strength for us – with a new local improvement programme in place for 2013/14 (as a framework to secure focus and momentum for our medium term improvement objectives);
- 2.2 These efforts have been a catalyst for the sub-regional framework, evolving from being a Forum for Protecting Vulnerable Adults into a strategic, multi-agency safeguarding framework. This work has progressed during the last 9 months. This is the first model in North and Mid Wales;

- 2.3 It is fair to say that the Social Services Improvement Agency ³has been a reference point and has advised us on how to embark on this new and innovative path;
- 2.4 Sustainable Social Services: A Framework for Action and the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Bill 2013 ⁴bring with them a range of duties in the area of safeguarding adults.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 In proceeding to establish a North West Wales Safeguarding Board (that this Mon and Gwynedd) in February 2013, the following matters/principles were confirmed as fundamental to the new safeguarding framework:
- Replacing the Adult Safeguarding Forum with a Board with greater focus on leadership.
 - Being in a better position to discuss strategic safeguarding outcomes with partners.
 - Securing adequate resources for an effective Adults Safeguarding Board and improving outcomes.
 - Attempting to develop a model for the Board that can be developed into a regional model over the next period.
 - Identifying common area between partners, challenging boundaries and assumptions
 - Developing operational and strategic links with the safeguarding children frameworks.
 - Securing a clear and strong direction.
- 3.2 There is now an outline of a work/improvement programme in place for 2013/14 together with an assessment of strengths/weaknesses and a position statement – using the SSIA toolkit for Safeguarding Boards as a template.
- 3.3 Section 7 of the Social Services and Well-being Bill 2013 sets out the operational and strategic expectations for safeguarding, with the legislative framework strengthening our legal foundation for adults in future. The recent announcements made by the Deputy Minister for Social Services in the Welsh Government placed a clear expectation in

³ Conducted by the WLGA – Welsh Local Government Association – the SSIA was launched in 2006 to improve and promote excellence in Social Services.

⁴ Sustainable Social Services: A Framework for Action (Welsh Government 2011) – a 10 year vision for Social Services in Wales.

terms of moving towards establishing regional strategic arrangements for safeguarding.

2.4 Whilst welcoming this legislative change which will mean responding to adult safeguarding / protection within a strong statutory basis, it is necessary to draw attention to the:-

- Resulting increase in demand for interventions by Adults' Services
- Change in practice expectations upon our workforce

Welsh Government in publishing the Bill made a clear statement that there would be no additional financial resources available to enable Local Authorities to realise these new legislative responsibilities. Effective multi-agency partnerships between statutory partners will therefore be crucial in our ability to respond appropriately to the new responsibilities. Our strategy will therefore be concerned with identifying opportunities to standardise arrangements across Local Authority boundaries where appropriate and possible.

3. TOWARDS A STRONG STRATEGIC REGIONAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 The Social Services and Wellbeing Bill and Sustainable Social Services: A Framework for Action place a duty on partners to develop the current arrangements for safeguarding vulnerable adults so as to create a local, regional and national programme for safeguarding adults. The current arrangements for vulnerable adults in North Wales are merely a network for sharing information and supporting practice. There is no evidence of strategic work or direction. The safeguarding agenda will now need to move towards a regional strategic framework – that is robust and which meets the requirements of the Social Services Bill.

3.2 Section 7 of the Bill(entitled Safeguarding) includes a statement of objectives for the Adult Safeguarding Board as follows:

“Functions and Procedures of Safeguarding Boards

.....(2) The objectives of a Safeguarding Adults Board are –

(a) To protect adults within its area who –

(i) Have needs for care and support (whether or not a local authority is meeting any of those needs), and

- (ii) *Are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and*
- (b) *To prevent those adults within its area mentioned in paragraph (a) (i) from becoming at risk of abuse or neglect.....*⁵

Statutory regulations will follow in due course – setting out the geographical areas of the Safeguarding Boards in Wales (called Safeguarding Board Areas). Discussions thus far during the consultation on the Bill lead us to believe that North Wales will be a single area for the purposes of establishing an Adult Safeguarding Board.

- 3.3 As a result of regional work streams over the past 4 months, the following recommendation will be presented to the Scrutiny Committees of the 6 North Wales Authorities over the next month:

To establish a 2 tier North Wales Safeguarding Board – enabling 3x2 Local Authorities to collaborate in order to develop Safeguarding Boards using the lessons learned from the model that is now in place in Anglesey and Gwynedd. The proposed structure for this option would therefore be:

- **One Regional Safeguarding Adults Board;**
- **3 Sub-regional Boards (Môn/Gwynedd, Conwy/Denbigh and Flint/Wrexham)**
- **4 Sub-groups:**
 - **Training;**
 - **Policies and procedures (links to national work);**
 - **Performance and audit**
 - **Serious Case Reviews**

4 options were considered (Appendix 1 to the report contains a full assessment of the options). The above option was unanimously supported by the Local Authorities and all the partners due to the following benefits:

- This model is currently being piloted in safeguarding children – the early indications are encouraging and positive. It provides opportunities to amalgamate various adults and children safeguarding functions in the medium term;
- Gwynedd and Anglesey have already embarked on this journey and lessons learned are available to others;

⁵ The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Bill 2013 – Legal Framework for policy delivery.

- It enables developing structures in ways that strike an acceptable balance and good management between local and regional agendas;
- Enables responsiveness to local practices and issues;
- The regional safeguarding elements could create a higher profile and increase the influence of the North Wales Board regionally and nationally.
- A more functional model for organisations working regionally throughout North Wales (e.g. Health, Police).

3.4 **The impact of the decision on corporate priorities** – developing a two tier regional Adult Safeguarding Board will enable all the partners to realize the aspirations of the Social Services Bill and the Welsh Government’s long term vision. This development will also enhance the collaboration agenda across North Wales thereby reducing demands on resources (people and funding). Approving this option would also place adult safeguarding on the same footing as safeguarding children and would provide a robust model for safeguarding.

3.5 **Any cost implications** – It is initially intended to develop this model within the current capacity available regionally. A bid has been made to the Regional Collaboration Fund which includes 3 year project management capacity to support this workstream. The scope of the preferred option will lead to integration across aspects of adult and children’s safeguarding work – thereby requiring a dialogue on how to share business support.

3.6 **Consultation** – extensive consultation has taken place with the Authorities in North Wales and the key partners/stakeholders. This consultation work included two North Wales workshops.

3.7 **Equalities Impact Assessment** – It is confirmed that the assessment has been completed and is available for inspection.

4. OBSERVATIONS FROM SCRUTINY

The Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 17 June, 2013 recommended the recommendations below for adoption by the Executive Committee.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive is requested to:-

- R1. Note developments and progress hitherto in the area of safeguarding adults in the North West;**
- R2. Approve the Anglesey and Gwynedd strategic direction for safeguarding adults as a trigger for influencing the development of a regional framework.**
- R3. Confirm the principle that the safeguarding frameworks for adults and children need to be addressed on an equal footing and not to differentiate between them in terms of their status or importance.**
- R4. Approve the revision to the current North Wales arrangements and support the preferred option – a 2 tier North Wales Adult Safeguarding Board.**

Anwen Davies
 Head of Adult Services
 Isle of Anglesey County Council

28/05/13
 (amended 28/05/13 + 17/06/13)

APPENDIX:	Document by the North Wales Social Services Improvement Collaborative
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North Wales Adult Safeguarding Integration and/or Collaboration: The way forward

Context

The Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Bill and Sustainable Social Services: A Framework for Action brings a different context to adult safeguarding. The current arrangements is a network arrangement for sharing information and peer support. The emerging view is that there is a need to move the adult safeguarding agenda into a robust regional framework.

Purpose of the report

This report

- 1) Presents the options
- 2) Is a vehicle for decision making
- 3) Explores the appetite for seeking closer synergy across adult and children safeguarding

These were initial discussions in December which paved the way to a regional North Wales Workshop which was held on 25th January 2013 with a range of stakeholders from statutory organisations. The discussions at that workshop have influenced the formulation of the options within this report.

Background

The Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Bill and Sustainable Social Services: A Framework for Action places a requirement upon partners to develop the current adult protection arrangements into an adult safeguarding agenda both locally, regionally and nationally. A statement letter from Gwenda Thomas, Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services dated 19th October 2012 communicated some clear messages around Welsh Government's direction of travel in light of its recent consultation on the Bill. Furthermore, part 7 of the Bill relating to safeguarding clearly states the requirements for Safeguarding Adults Boards and clearly sets out the objectives of the Safeguarding Adults Board as:

- (a) To protect adults within its area who:
 - Have needs for care and support (whether or not a local authority is meeting any of those needs, and
 - Are experiencing, or are at risk of, abuse or neglect, and
 - To prevent those adults within its area from becoming at risk of abuse and neglect

The Bill also prescribes that Safeguarding Boards must produce an 'annual plan' at the beginning of each financial year setting out its proposals for achieving its objectives within that year and a report must be published by 31st July of each year on how it has exercised its functions in the preceding financial year, and the extent to which it implemented the proposals in its annual plan for the preceding financial year.

The WG agenda therefore, is firmly set around the requirement to develop Adult Safeguarding Boards as a means of strengthening adult safeguarding across Wales.

Statutory regulation on Adult Safeguarding Boards will set out the areas in Wales for safeguarding boards (to be referred to as safeguarding board areas). In reflecting upon discussions during consultation it is anticipated that the North Wales footprint will remain one region.

Joint working with Children Safeguarding Board

Notwithstanding the fact that it is fully acknowledged that the complexities and possible risks and practice concerns associated with integrating safeguarding frameworks across both children and adult services need to be carefully considered, this is however, something that should be pursued. This would place North Wales as a region in a position of strength as the national direction of travel evolves and is clarified.

Engagement of Elected Members in Adult Safeguarding

Consideration needs to be given to the active engagement of elected members within adult safeguarding. There is acknowledgement that this has been in need of some strengthening and is inconsistent. This will provide a framework of ensuring political accountability for safeguarding.

Current Landscape – Adult Safeguarding

Currently the Local Authorities of Wrexham, Flintshire, Denbighshire and Conwy undertake adult safeguarding activities on an individual basis. Gwynedd and Anglesey Council's however are working collaboratively to develop a joint Safeguarding Adults Board. Although this development is currently in its infancy a shadow joint board has now been established and has met once.

The 3 sub-regional Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) in North Wales has already taken steps ahead of recent communications from Welsh Government to develop a shadow LSCB.

Summary of Options to be considered

- 1 Maintain the status quo – 4 North Wales Adult Safeguarding Board and 1 Sub-regional Adult Safeguarding Board (Gwynedd and Anglesey)
- 2 Three North Wales Adult Safeguarding Boards
- 3 Single North Wales Adult Safeguarding Board
- 4 Two-tier North Wales Adult Safeguarding Board

The feedback from the workshop held on 25th January 2013 can be found in Appendix 1.

Options

1 Maintain the status quo – 4 North Wales Safeguarding Boards and 1 Sub-regional Adult Safeguarding Board (Gwynedd and Anglesey)

Given the clear direction provided within the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Bill, the option of maintaining the status quo in 4 of the North Wales Local Authority areas is unlikely to be commended by the Welsh Government. A North Wales Adult Protection forum exists in North Wales however, this is a network arrangement for information sharing and peer support.

This option is least favourable as:

- It is not in line with the requirements of the Deputy Minister
- It is resource intensive
- It does not bring about efficiency
- The current arrangement is a network and not a decision making forum

2 Three Sub-regional North Wales Adult Safeguarding Boards (Wrexham and Flintshire, Denbighshire and Conwy, Gwynedd and Ynys Mon).

There are a number of strengths and weaknesses to this option; the most significant weakness is the requirement for appropriate resources and duplication of work in particular for the regionally structured organisations such as North Wales Police and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board. This model is already being progressed by Gwynedd and Anglesey and therefore, there will be shared-learning available to develop this model. Local Authority members and officers may find a three board structure may initially be more palatable and more acceptable from a governance point of view.

This model would also mirror the established LSCB structure and again learning from this development would be shared.

This option is not favourable as:

- It is not within the spirit of the Welsh Government's footprint underpinning collaboration across boundaries.
- It does not bring about efficiency and sufficiently reduce duplication
- It continues to be resource intensive
- It is not conducive to innovative collaboration and forward thinking around governance and accountability frameworks across agency boundaries
- May be deemed as being overly cautious.

3 Single North Wales Adult Safeguarding Board

Given that 4 Local Authorities currently have individual safeguarding arrangements and Gwynedd and Anglesey sub-regional arrangements, it would be challenging to comfortably move from the current structure to a single board. Governance and accountability arrangements would need to be considered carefully and there would be potential dilution of links with local services and remoteness from practice.

This model would also run the risk of becoming detached from frontline staff and the public. Given that safeguarding currently lies within individual or sub-regional arrangements Local Authority members and officers would need to be assured that this model would provide transparent and robust governance and accountability for adult safeguarding as the statutory duty for safeguarding lies with the Director of Social Services as clearly stated in the Roles and Responsibilities of that post.

The strengths of this option include the potential for greater efficiency, reduced duplication and effective shared learning. A single safeguarding board also brings the potential to bring a broader range of skills, knowledge and experience to the safeguarding agenda. This option would no doubt, be preferred by Welsh Government and organisations that work across North Wales.

This option is less favourable as:

- Whilst the aspiration of the Deputy Minister is to have regional adult safeguarding board, to move from a local arrangement straight to a regional arrangement would require great confidence in the new model and the North Wales footprint covers a very large geographical area
- It would be too remote from practice
- It would prove hard to hold a large number of representative agencies to account
- The agenda could become unmanageable which would impact on the effectiveness of the Board
- Governance issues and accountability would become remote and impact on statutory duty of the Director of Social Services.

4 Two tier- North Wales Adult Safeguarding Board

This option would enable 3 x 2 Local Authorities to work together to develop a Safeguarding Board and to develop using the learning from the current Gwynedd and Anglesey model. However, there are elements of adult safeguarding that could conceivably be carried out on a regional basis for example, training, performance and audit, policy, and serious case reviews.

This structure would provide a balance between regional working and being able to work effectively across boundaries whilst continuing to maintain local links.

With regard to weaknesses this option would present the most potential for confusion around accountability, securing representation at the right level for both sub-regional and regional elements

and would require strong leadership at each level. This could impact on the capacity of senior managers of all agencies; some members would find that they have more meetings to attend than previously, for example however, this would have less capacity implications on pan North Wales organisations.

The most notable strengths for this options include the fact that this model is now being piloted in children safeguarding via the LSCB's and early indications would suggest its potential as a future model that could be fully integrated. Duplication would be lessened, and it allows for innovation, evolution and offers the potential to reduce demand on resources, both people and financial. The general broad direction of travel as outlined in the Bill is a National Board for Children and Adults. There is lots to learn from children safeguarding boards and this structure would allow us to achieve equity.

This is the favoured option as:

- This model is currently being piloted in children's safeguarding through the LSCB model and early indications are encouraging and positive
- Gwynedd and Anglesey have started on the journey of establishing a joint board and the learning from this is available
- It allows for the structures to be developed in ways which strike an acceptable and well-managed balance between local and regional agendas
- It maintains the ability to be responsive to local issues and practice
- The regional adult safeguarding elements could create a higher profile and increase the North Wales Board's influence regionally and nationally
- This model would be more manageable for the pan-North Wales organisations
- It strengthens the collaborative agenda in North Wales
- Having the same model for adults and children safeguarding boards will bring about equity for both adult and children safeguarding in readiness for any direction from Welsh Government
- Over time, this model will bring about the opportunity to merge some common areas of safeguarding practice across children and adults e.g. training, policies and procedures, performance and audit, serious case reviews.
- This model will also bring a real opportunity for integrated business support to underpin children and adult safeguarding across North Wales.

5 The favoured option – a two tier Adult Safeguarding Board

The potential structure for this option consists of:

- One Regional Adult Safeguarding Board
- Three Sub-regional Adult Safeguarding Boards (Gwynedd/Anglesey; Conwy/Denbighshire; Flintshire/Wrexham)
- To underpin the above, four regional sub-groups:
 - o Training
 - o Policies and procedures (linking to National work)
 - o Performance and Audit
 - o Serious case reviews

Next Steps:

- 1) The collaborative of NWSSIC, NASH and safeguarding leads for the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, North Wales Police and North Wales Ambulance Service are invited to form a view around the preferred option.
- 2) Provide a clear steer to the current adult protection forum in relation to their existence and any forward work programme
- 3) Consider the resources needed to take forward

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to	EXECUTIVE
Date	15 JULY 2013
Subject	NATWEST ISLAND GAMES 2013
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Aled Morris Jones
Lead Officer(s)	Gwen Carrington, Director of Community Services
Contact Officer	Sian Mai Jones [Principal Sports Development Officer]
Nature and reason for reporting	
<p>Members of the Executive are requested to consider allowing paid leave of absence to members of the Council's staff competing in the 2013 Island Games</p>	

A – Introduction / Background / Issues
<p>The Island Games are held every two years. The Anglesey Island Games Association was formulated to train, develop and arrange representation from amongst the athletes in the County to these Games and the County Council has supported their efforts to promote the event over the years</p>

B - Considerations
<p>The Council has discretion to vary the workforce's conditions of service in special circumstances. The proposals in this report recommend a temporary improvement on the conditions of service for a very small group of staff for specific reasons, namely to allow them to represent Anglesey as competitors at the Games</p>

C – Implications and Impacts		
1	Finance / Section 151	
2	Legal / Monitoring Officer	
3	Human Resources	
4	Property Services (see notes – separate document)	
5	Information and Communications Technology (ICT)	
6	Equality (see notes – separate document)	
7	Anti-poverty and Social (see notes – separate document)	
8	Communication (see notes – separate document)	
9	Consultation (see notes – separate document)	
10	Economic	
11	Environmental (see notes – separate document)	
12	Crime and Disorder (see notes – separate document)	
13	Outcome Agreements	

CH - Summary

The report presents, in a concise format, the background to the activity, the reasons for supporting staff from the Council who are competitors and recommends three days paid absence in pursuance of such support

D - Recommendation

That the County Council staff representing Ynys Môn be allowed 3 days leave to travel to Bermuda. This will necessitate staff to take 4 days from their own annual leave entitlement to be able to attend the Games.

Name of author of report

Sian Mai Jones

Job Title

Principal Sports Development Officer

Date

27 June 2013

Appendices:**Background papers**

NATWEST ISLAND GAMES

Ynys Môn have been part of the NatWest Island Games since its inception in the Isle of Man in 1985, with the intention of bringing together a number of small islands from different parts of the world in friendly competition as part of the Isle of Man's Year of Sport.

Athletes came from as far afield as Iceland and Scandinavia in the northern hemisphere, the British Isles, the Mediterranean, down to St. Helena in the South Atlantic. In total 15 Islands' took part. The Festival was such a success that it was agreed to continue every other year, with Guernsey hosting the Games in 1987. The Games have subsequently been held in the Faro Islands, Åland, Isle of Wight, Gibraltar, Jersey, Gotland, Isle of Man, Guernsey, Shetland Isle and Rhodes. The number of Islands participating has grown substantially, and now 24 Islands are members of the Island Games Association.

NatWest Island Games 2011

In 2011, in the Isle of Wight, Ynys Môn competitors secured 4 medals:

Brea Leung	Silver in athletics
Dominic Breen-Turner	Silver in Sailing
Dyfrig Môn	Gold in Sailing
Ynys Môn Sailing Team	Gold

NatWest Island Games 2013

The next Games are to be held in Bermuda, July 13th to the 19th with a choice of 14 sports – athletics, badminton, basketball, cycling, football, golf, gymnastics, sailing/sail boarding, shooting, squash, swimming, tennis, triathlon and volleyball. There are usually between 80 – 100 competitors & officials from Ynys Môn that attend the bi-annual Games but because of the prohibitive costs of attending the Bermuda Games, there will be 41 athletes/team managers and officials attending in 2013.

Ynys Môn Island Games Association

The Ynys Môn Island Games Association is an autonomous group that work hard to fundraise to help Ynys Môn athletes attend the Island Games and compete in their chosen sport. They hold monthly meetings that are well attended by a range of sport clubs on the Island. Several Council staff serves on the Ynys Môn Island Games Association in a voluntary capacity, for example – chairman, team managers, fundraisers.

County Council staff selected for the team

Six staff from the Isle of Anglesey County Council will be attending the games in Bermuda. During the week long competition representatives are invited to a number of official functions and meetings. In the past the Council has been allowed 3 days paid leave to travel to the Island Games and the remainder of the time is made up from their leave.

The following numbers are due to travel to Bermuda:

- 4 staff from Leisure & Culture
- 1 staff from Human Resources
- 1 staff from Youth Services

Recommendation

That the County Council staff representing Ynys Môn be allowed 3 days leave to travel to Bermuda. This will necessitate staff to take 4 days from their own annual leave entitlement to be able to attend the Games.

Sian Mai Jones
Principal Sports Development Officer

27 June 2013

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