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CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Mr Dylan J. Williams Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Swyddfeydd y Cyngor - Council Offices LLANGEFNI Ynys Môn - Anglesey LL77 7TW

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| RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD | NOTICE OF MEETING | |
|--|--|--|
| PWYLLGOR SGRIWTINI PARTNERIAETH AC ADFYWIO | PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | |
| DYDD MAWRTH, 17 HYDREF, 2023 am 1.00 o'r gloch yp | TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER, 2023at 1.00 pm | |
| CYFARFOD HYBRID – YN YSTAFELL BWYLLGOR 1, SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNOGR, LLANGEFNI AC YN RHITHIOL DRWY ZOOM | HYBRID MEETING – COMMITTEE ROOM 1, COUNCIL OFFICES, LLANGEFNI AND VIRTUALLY THROUGH ZOOM | |
| Swyddog Pwyllgor Mrs. Mairwen Hughes Committee Officer | | |

AELODAU / MEMBERS

Cynghorwyr / Councillors:-

Y Grwp Annibynnol/ The Independent Group

Gwilym O Jones (Is-gadeirydd/Vice-Chair)

Plaid Cymru / The Party of Wales

Non Dafydd, Euryn Morris, John I Jones, Dylan Rees (Cadeirydd/Chair), Margaret M Roberts, Ken Taylor, Sonia Williams

Annibynnwyr Môn/Anglesey Independents

Paul Ellis, Jeff Evans, Derek Owen

Llafur Cymru/Welsh Labour

Pip O'Neill

Aelodau Ychwanegol/Additional Members (gyda hawl pleidleisio ar faterion addysg/with voting rights in respect of educational matters) Sedd Wag/Vacant Seat (Yr Eglwys yng Nghymru/The Church in Wales), Gillian Thompson (Rhiant Llywodraethwr – Sector Ysgolion Cynradd/Parent Governor – Primary Schools Sector), Mrs Llio Johnson-(Rhiant Llywodraethwyr – Sector Ysgolion Uwchradd ac ADY/Parent Governor – Secondary Schools Sector and ALN) Mr John Tierney (Yr Eglwys Babyddol Rufeinig/The Roman Catholic Church)

Aelod Cyfetholedig/Co-opted Member (Dim Hawl Pleidleisio/No Voting Rights) Mr. Dafydd Gruffydd (Rheolwr Gyfarwyddwr/Managing Director - Menter Môn)

1 <u>APOLOGIES</u>

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To receive any declaration of interest by any Member or Officer in respect of any item of business.

3 <u>MINUTES (Pages 1 - 10)</u>

To submit, for confirmation, the minutes of the meeting held on 19 September, 2023.

4 <u>REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING SERVICE - ANNUAL REPORT :</u> 2022/2023 (Pages 11 - 42)

To submit a report by the Chief Executive.

5 **<u>REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD - ANNUAL REPORT : 2022/2023</u> (Pages 43 - 100)**

To submit a report by the Director of Social Services.

6 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY : 2023/2028** (Pages 101 - 126)

To submit a report by the Head of Profession (Human Resources) and Transformation.

7 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 127 - 134)

To submit a report by the Scrutiny Manager.

PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 19 September 2023

PRESENT:Councillor Dylan Rees (Chair)
Councillor Gwilym O Jones (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Non Dafydd, Jeff M Evans, John Ifan Jones, Euryn Morris, Pip O'Neill, Margaret Murley Roberts, Ken Taylor and Sonia Williams

Mr John Tierney (Roman Catholic Church) (Co-opted Member) Mrs Gillian Thompson (Parent Governor – Primary Schools Sector)

Leader of the Council and Portfolio Member for Economic Development

Councillor Dafydd Roberts – Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language

- IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer, Diretor of Education, Skills and Young People, Head of Democracy, Executive Manager (Leadership Team) (SOJ) (for item 4 only), Scrutiny Manager, Committee Officer (MEH).
- APOLOGIES: Councillor Derek Owen

 ALSO PRESENT:
 Councillor Neville Evans – Portfolio Member for Leisure, Tourism and Maritime; Councillor Carwyn Jones – Portfolio Member for Corporate and Customer Experience; Councillor Alun Roberts – Portfolio Member for Adults' Services; Councillor Nicola Roberts – Portfolio Member for Planning, Public Protection and Climate Change; Councillor Dafydd R Thomas – Portfolio Member for Highways, Property and Waste; Councillor Robin Williams – Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Member for Finance.

 Councillors Dyfed W Jones and Keith Roberts (Members of the Education Scrutiny Panel).

Mr Arwyn Thomas, Mrs Sharon Vaughan & Ms Gwenno Jones (Representatives from GwE)

The Chair welcomed Mrs Gillian Thompson as Parent Governor – Primary Schools Sector representative to her first meeting of this Committee.

1 APOLOGIES

As noted above.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Dylan Rees declared a prejudicial interest in Item 4, North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority Consultation (Emergency Cover Review) and left the meeting during discussion and voting thereon.

Councillors Jeff Evans and John I Jones declared a personal interest in Item 4 – North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 June, 2023 were confirmed as correct.

4 NORTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES CONSULTATION (EMERGENCY COVER REVIEW)

(As the Chair of the Committee had declared a prejudicial interest in this item the Vice-Chair was in the Chair for this item. Councillor Ken Taylor was elected as Vice-Chair for this item only).

The report of the Chief Executive was presented for the Committee's consideration.

The Vice-Chair in the Chair said that the Chief Fire Officer for the North Wales Fire & Rescue Service gave a presentation to a Members Briefing Session in July. He noted that proposals and options were highlighted by the Chief Fire Officer as regards to the consultation document in respect of an Emergency Cover Review. It was reported that additional comments have been received by the Chief Fire Officer following the publication of the Agenda for this meeting and the Committee will have an opportunity to respond to these comments.

The Leader of the Council said that the consultation refers to the Emergency Cover Review of the North Wales Fire & Rescue Service with 3 Options put forward for discussion and consultation together with costs implications. A draft response on behalf of the County Council has been attached to the report. She noted that it was important that the Scrutiny Committee be given the opportunity to make comments on the draft response. She further said that the majority of the funding for the North Wales Fire & Rescue Service is received by way of levy from the six unitary Authorities within the area. The Council pays into this combined fund and the contribution is based on population. Any change in the North Wales Fire & Rescue Service budget would consequently impact on the levy contributions and would result in added pressure on the Council's budget.

The Executive Manager (Leadership Team) said that the consultation period to respond to the Emergency Cover Review by the North Wales Fire & Rescue

Authority will come to an end at the end of this month. She noted that the intention of the draft response to the consultation is to summaries the main concerns the Council wishes to highlight.

The Chief Executive said that Option 3 within the consultation document will have an affect on the Island but the other two options would not have an effect on the service provided by the Fire & Rescue Authority but would result in financial impact on the local authorities.

In considering the report, the Committee discussed the following main matters:-

- Questions were raised as to whether the Fire & Rescue Service has considered reviewing its central administration costs in order to save front-line services. The Chief Executive responded that similar questions were asked last year whilst setting the levy as regards the administration cost to save front-line services. He noted that as is similar within this Authority central administrative costs have been reduced over the years. He further said that following the publication of the Agenda for this Committee the Fire & Rescue Authority has seen the draft consultation response and have provided details that they have reduced their costs of up to 10% over the last 10 years. It is also shown that the central costs of the North Wales Fire & Rescue Service has the lowest central costs than any other Fire Authority in Wales. However, the Chief Executive considered that the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority needs to revisit its central administrative costs in view of the financial pressures. The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer said that similar questions have been raised during meetings of the Section 151 Officers of the six local authorities in North Wales with the Fire & Rescue Service Financial Officers as regards to central costs. He noted that there needs to be further discussions with the Fire & Rescue Service to ascertain whether there is fair comparison with the other two Fire & Rescue Services in Wales as regards to central costs.
- Questions were raised as to whether the Council's response to the consultation adequately reflects the views of the Council. The Chief Executive responded that the draft response to the Fire & Rescue Authority consultation documents is an Officer's response which has been shared informally with the Executive Members. They confirmed that the draft response is appropriate to be considered by the Scrutiny process to re-enforce and strengthen the initial draft response.
- Questions were raised as to what gaps there are in the draft response to the consultation. The Chief Executive responded that the Council will need to review and update the response to the consultation following receipt of the additional information received from the Chief Fire Officer and following discussions at this meeting and thereafter, the Executive Committee at its meeting to be held on the 26 September. He referred that it is an option for the Fire and Rescue Authority to set up a Task and Finish Group to review its core costs with the Section 151 Officers in attendance.
- Questions were raised as to why the Council Tax Levy towards the Fire & Rescue Authority is not visible on the Council Tax Bills. The Chief Executive responded that legislation sets out that the Levey towards the Fire & Rescue Authority is not shown on the Council Tax Bills. He suggested that a letter be sent to Welsh Government to request that they reconsider this legislation in the

future. The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer said that legislation regulates who is allowed to charge a precept on the Council Tax i.e. Police Authority and Town and Community Councils; the Fire & Rescue Authority can charge a levy and Welsh Government legislation does not allow local authorities to show the charge of such levy on the Council Tax Bills; it does show on the Council's website and the leaflet accompanying the Council Tax Bills to show how the Authority spends its funding.

- Reference was made to the response of the Chief Fire Officer to the draft response prepared by the Council. Questions were raised as to whether the documentation before the Committee will change the perspective of the response of the Council significantly and whether there will need for further scrutiny of the documentation. The Leader of the Council responded that due to the time constraints of the consultation the Leadership Team have discussed the response to the consultation as regards to Emergency Cover Review and it was considered important that this Scrutiny Committee be given the opportunity to forward recommendations to the Executive on the draft response prepared on behalf of the Council.
- Reference was made to Option 3 within the documentation with regard to possible options of the closure of the Fire Station at Beaumaris. Councillor Alun Roberts a Local Member for the Seiriol Ward expressed that it was considered that the option to close the Fire Station in Beaumaris would result in putting lives in danger due to resilience of both bridges due to weather conditions and the rural communities in the south east of the Island. He noted that the highways structure in the area experience continued flooding. He further said that there are 2 Care Homes in the area. The Chief Executive responded that the matters raised will be noted within the draft response.

It was RESOLVED :-

- To accept the initial draft response of the Council as attached to the report subject to that the following:-
- That the Leadership Team should consider the additional information received by the Chief Fire Officer;
 - To propose the following comments for consideration by the Leadership Team as part of the review process before the Executive at its meeting on 26 September, 2023:-
 - To request that the North Wales Fire & Rescue Service conduct a review of their administrative and central costs as a basis for setting the levy contribution incorporating the input of the Section 151 Officers in North Wales;
 - To request Welsh Government to consider that the levy charged by the Fire & Rescue Service should be noted on the Council Tax Bills for local residents;
 - That factors within Option 3 within the report needs to be considered as regards to the resilience of both bridges due to

weather conditions and the rural communities in the South East of the Island;

• To note that there are additional costs implications included in the three Options put forward by the North Wales & Rescue Service.

5 EDUCATION MATTERS

• GwE Annual Report for the Isle of Anglesey : 2022/2023

Submitted – a report by the Director of Education, Skills and Young People for consideration by the Committee.

The Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language said that he welcomed the report and the joint working with GwE has resulted in the majority of schools on Anglesey performing well.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People reported that the Local Authority works in a close and effective partnership with GwE. GwE is the regional education consortium for North Wales and works in partnership with Anglesey's Learning Service in terms of improving schools, sharing good practice, knowledge and skills, increasing local strengths and building capacity. He noted that the report includes appendices on the Progress and Impact in Secondary and Special Schools; Progress and Impact in Primary Clusters and Data on Training and Support for Anglesey. Priorities have been identified to be developed further in the secondary schools' improvement plans as noted within the report.

In considering the report, the Committee discussed the following main matters:-

Questions were raised as to what are the standards within Anglesey's schools at present and to what extent does GwE's work have an impact on standards in Anglesey schools. The Director of Education, Skills and Young People responded that regular meetings are undertaken with GwE's representatives to discuss the standards in every schools', teaching and learning, leadership and other matters as required. The schools' evaluation processes are improving and GwE's role focuses on leadership within the schools. He noted that each schools have their own support plan which is based on the needs of the school and progress of these needs within the schools is discussed in regular meetings with GwE's representatives. He further said that the role of the Governing Bodies within the schools are imperative to process detailed information as regards to standards within the schools. Mrs Sharon Vaughan, Senior Leader GwE's (Secondary Schools) referred to the Secondary Sector and said that GwE meets with the leaders within the schools to support and plan improvements within the schools. Each school visit each of the 5 secondary schools on the Island so as to gauge the standards within the schools which can identify the strengths and the areas that need to be improved. Mrs Gwenno Jones, Senior leader GwE (Primary Schools) referred to the Primary Sector and said that work is undertaken to evaluate improvement priorities within the primary schools.

Groups of Headteachers meet on a regular basis together with school staff to discuss the improvements needed and to share good practices within each school.

- Reference was made to GwE's report referring that 'intensive support has been given to one secondary school on the Island to try to improve the quality and effectiveness of senor leadership. They remain on the recovery journey and continue to receive intensive support. In this school, although areas requiring development are correctly identified, the planning for improvement and culture for ensuring joint improvements are not strong enough.' Questions were raised as to whether this was a fair criticism and what is currently been undertaken to improve the situation at this school. The Director of Education Skills and Young People responded that every school that raises concerns receives specific support with an intensive support plan in place to view the areas that needs to be improved. He further said that a multi-agency Board is established and the school reports on progress within the priorities identified for improvement and further support is put in place if required thereafter. Mr Arwyn Thomas, Managing Director GwE highlighted the processes put in place by GwE to support the improvement required within the school. He further said that other processes on a regional level will need to be put in place if no improvement are identified within the school.
- Reference was made to the financial climate and pressure on the budget of local authorities in the future. Questions were raised as to whether GwE will be looking at the central and administrative costs of GwE in order to safeguard frontline services to schools. The Managing Director GwE responded that GwE has had continued cuts to their financial budgets over the last 10 years. He noted that the support from GwE has been important to the Authority in the improvement within the Island's schools . He further said that the Estyn Inspection Reports have highlighted the support GwE has given to the Authority to improve the educational services within the schools. Mr Thomas further referred that GwE has conducted numerous restructuring over the years to address financial challenges. The implications of reducing the service afforded could have a detrimental effect on the improvements within the schools. Further questions were raised as GwE's financial budgets will be reduced will GwE be able to afford the services currently afforded to the Local Authority? Mr Thomas responded that a risk assessment will be undertaken to address any reduction within the budget and my result in the reduced support of GwE to the schools.
- Questions were raised as to what the main challenges faced by Anglesey schools, the Learning Service and GwE. The Director of Education, Skills and Young People responded that the main challenges are social challenges, behaviour challenges, attendance, complex special educational needs, effect of covid, change in attitude towards learning which are all national challenges. He further said that any financial cuts affecting schools will have challenges for schools in respect of staffing and ultimately on standards. Discussions will be undertaken with GwE to ensure that any budgetary reductions will have the minimum effect on the support given to the schools on Anglesey.
- Questions were raised as to why the Welsh Language standards differ from one school to another and whether there is room for improvement. The

Director of Education, Skills and Young People responded that there are challenges nationally due to the use of the Welsh Language in different schools. He noted that each town and community have a different perspective in the use of the Welsh language. He referred that the Authority has a Welsh Language Strategic Plan to meet the priority of Welsh Governments' ambition to see the number of people able to speak the Welsh Language. He noted that the schools are prioritising the Welsh Language with all schools bar two, placed in the highest Welsh Language category possible. The Managing Director – GwE said that each primary school will need a transition plan for the transfer to secondary schools and the Welsh Language needs to be central to the transition plan.

- Questions were raised as to how the Learning Support Assistants are able to access training development as their contracts do not allow for non-contact time within schools at present. The Managing Director – GwE responded that training to the HTLA's is afforded to develop the needs of pupils with different needs. The Director of Education, Skills and Young People said that training is afforded through the Training programme of the Local Authority and the HTLA's are able to progress with training development within their role in the classroom.
- Reference was made to the conditions of school building and especially to the RAAC concrete problems identified in two secondary schools on the Island. The Chief Executive responded that a review of school building has been undertaken annually since 2020. He noted that two schools were identified with RAAC concrete structural problems and both schools responded efficiently to the situation with putting different learning methods in place. The RAAC concrete problem at the David Hughes Secondary School is not as bad as it is at Holyhead High School and mid and long-term solutions are currently being discussed. The Director of Education, Skills and Young People said that he wished to thank the staff at both schools in ensuring the continued learning of pupils is being undertaken. Discussions have been undertaken with Estyn, WJEC and GwE so as to ensure support for the learning and teaching within these schools.

It was RESOLVED to accept the GwE Annual Report for the Isle of Anglesey : 2022/2023.

• Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report

Submitted – a progress report by the Chair of the Education Scrutiny Panel.

The Chair of the Education Scrutiny Panel, Councillor Gwilym O Jones said that this is the third progress report of the Panel which covers the period February – September, 2023. He noted that the Panel met on seven occasions during this period and considered the following matters :-

- Wales Additional Learning Needs Code;
- Elective Home Education;
- Self-evaluation impact of the Education Scrutiny Panel's work;
- The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan : 2022-2032;

- Schools placed in a category, requiring follow up or additional support from Estyn;
- Developing Effective Collaboration looking in detail at how the Learning Service creates the conditions for effective partnership working;
- Model for Education Scrutiny Education Scrutiny Charter;
- GwE Annual Report for Anglesey : 2022/2023;
- Scrutiny Panel work programme for the period May 2023- April 2024

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People said that he appreciated the work and support of the Education Scrutiny Panel to the Learning Service.

In considering the report, the Committee discussed the following main matters:-

- Questions raised at to what other areas should the Panel be scrutinizing? The Chair of the Panel responded that a Work Programme has been developed as was noted within the report. The Scrutiny Manager said that the Panel will focus on Mental Health, Well-being, Safeguarding, Integrated Collaboration Model, Curriculum for Wales, Additional Learning Needs, Inclusion and the Voice of the Learner.
- Reference was made to GwE's Annual Report and specifically to attendances and absences in schools and especially after the pandemic. Questions were raised whether the Education Scrutiny Panel should consider absences in schools within their work programme. The Director of Education, Skills and Young People responded that Well-being Officers and Inclusion Officers attend the Scrutiny Panel and the Panel has an item on their work programme in January 2024 to discuss attendance and absences in schools.
- Reference was made to more parents electing home schooling for their children. Questions were raised whether the Panel can review the home schooling provision. The Chair of the Education Scrutiny Panel said that the elective home-schooling has been considered by the Panel and continued monitoring of the matter will be undertaken.
- Questions were raised as to what degree is the Scrutiny Committee satisfied with the direction of the Panel's work? The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee said that the work of the Education Scrutiny Panel has been recognized as an example of good practice nationally. He noted that the added value of the scrutiny process within the Scrutiny Panel is evident from the progress reports that are submitted to the parent Committee.
- Questions were raised as to what degree is the Panel aware of standards in individual schools and what monitoring arrangements are in place? The Chair of the Education Scrutiny Panel responded that progress reports are submitted to the Scrutiny Panel by the Officer's within the Learning Service on a regular basis. Detailed discussions are undertaken within the Panel with Officer's reporting in detail on different topics.

 The Chair of the Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education (SACRE) referred that the Education Scrutiny Panel undertakes scrutiny on religious studies and ethnics. She questioned whether the Education Charter should refer to the Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education when the Scrutiny Panel discusses religious studies in schools and whether this is undertaken in other areas. The Director of Education, Skills and Young People responded that SACRE is considered important within the Learning Service. He said that discussion on SACRE would be advantageous within the Education Scrutiny Panel.

It was RESOLVED:-

- To note the progress made during the last period in terms of the work of the Education Scrutiny Panel;
- That significant progress has been made in terms of developing a revised scrutiny model for education issues as a basis for the work of the Education Scrutiny Panel and both parent committees.

• Education Scrutiny Charter

Submitted – a report by the Director of Education, Skills and Young People and the Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer in respect of the above.

The Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language said that he welcomed the Education Scrutiny Charter which outlines as to the scrutiny process.

In considering the report, the Committee discussed the following main matters:-

- Questions were raised as to what are the main drivers behind producing a Scrutiny Charter for Education matters? The Director of Education, Skills and Young People responded that the main drivers behind producing a Scrutiny Charter for Education is to create an effective scrutiny process which results in the Education Scrutiny Panel being able to challenge and support the Learning Service. The Education Scrutiny Charter also responds to Estyn requirements within their Inspection Report of the Learning Service recently.
 - Questions were raised as to what extent is the implementation of the Charter bound by financial implications? The Scrutiny Manager responded that there are no financial implications bound to the implementation of the Charter. The Charter is a basis for the scrutiny principles for the whole Council.
 - Questions were raised regarding the introduction of a Charter as a basis for the Scrutiny work of the Council is an additional element to existing local processes. What arrangements are in place in other local authorities? The Scrutiny Manage responded that there are other developments in the introduction of Scrutiny Charter within other authorities, however, they will focus on different priorities within their local authorities.

• Reference was made that there is no reference to SACRE Committee within the Education Scrutiny Charter. The Director of Education, Skills and Young People responded that SACRE will be included within the Education Scrutiny Charter.

It was RESOLVED:-

- To approve the Education Scrutiny Charter as a basis for the scrutiny of Education issues;
- To note the aim of developing the document in due course as a general Scrutiny Charter across the breadth of scrutiny work undertaken by the Council.

6 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The report of the Scrutiny Manager setting out the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee's indicative Forward Work Programme for 2023/2024 was presented for consideration.

It was **RESOLVED**:-

- To agree the current version of the forward work programme for 2023/2024;
- To note the progress thus far in implementing the forward work programme.

COUNCILLOR DYLAN REES CHAIR

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

| Committee: | Partnership & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee |
|------------------------|---|
| Date: | 17 October 2023 |
| Subject: | North Wales Council's Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS) |
| Purpose of Report: | Annual Report 2022/2023 |
| Scrutiny Chair: | Councillor Dylan Rees |
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Councillor Llinos Medi |
| Head of Service: | Dylan Williams, Chief Executive |
| Report Author: Tel: | Helen Kilgannon, Regional Manager NWC-REPS Helen.Kilgannon@nwc-reps.org.uk |
| Email: | Susan Owen Jones, Executive Manager (LT) SusanJones4@anglesey.wales.gov |
| Local Members: | Relevant to all members |

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1 - Recommendation/s

1.1 The Committee is asked to note the progress of the North Wales Council's Regional Emergency Planning Service work 2022/23.

2 - Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 The Council has responsibilities for emergency planning and response under the Civil Contingencies Acts 2004, the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001, and the Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996.

2.2 The Council is a principal responder and meets its obligations by collaborating with the North Wales Local Authorities through the North Wales Council's Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS).

2.3 The North Wales Council's Regional Emergency Planning Service is required to report annually to this committee each year through an Annual Report.

3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members To assist Members when scrutinising the topic: -

3.1 Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen]

3.2 A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value]

3.3 A look at any risks [focus on risk]

3.4 Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality]

3.5 Looking at plans and proposals from the perspective of:

- Long term
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement
- [focus on wellbeing]

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

4.1 To what extent did the North Wales Regional Emergency Planning Service fully deliver on its functions during the last municipal year?

4.2 How does the regional service contribute to the resilience and security of communities in Anglesey?

4.3 What are the immediate key priorities for the service to support the Council and North Wales?

4.4 What are the key risks facing the Island?

4.5 What is the Council's preparedness level with regard to future emergencies?

5 – Background / Context

5.1 The Council has emergency planning and response duties under the Civil Contingencies Acts 2004, the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001, and the Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996.

5.2 The Council is a principal responder and meets its obligations by collaborating with the North Wales Local Authorities through the North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS), for which Flintshire County Council is the host authority.

5.3 Following consultation and ratification through the political process in each Local Authority, Emergency Planning functions for all 6 local authorities in North Wales were amalgamated into one service under an inter-authority agreement hosted by Flintshire in 2014.

5.4 Within the Council, responsibilities for emergency planning and response are shared across services and nominated service representatives are identified within the Emergency Management Response Team structure.

5.5 Whilst much progress has been made, work is underway to further consolidate how the activities provided by the service are undertaken, particularly by strengthening performance management and training delivery. This will enable the service to more effectively prioritise areas of work and resource allocation but also ensure that councils benefit fully from the range of expertise held within the service.

Regional Activity

5.6 NWC-REPS continue to provide the primary link between the Council and the North Wales Local Resilience Forum (LRF), with contributions from service staff being fundamental to multi-agency groups, events, processes and plans. Continuity is greater strengthening as relationships are built with key partners. We are following this up with workshops with partners to allow them to have a clearer understanding of what the Service and more importantly the Council is responsible for during an emergency.

5.7 NWC-REPS staff were instrumental in the planning and facilitation of a bomb threat exercise at one of the 3 major hospitals across North Wales. Planning is ongoing to roll this out across the other 2 primary care sites. Council staff will be invited to attend to share the learning and participate in the scenario.

5.8 NWC-REPS are the lead organisation for the call out of the Voluntary Sector in an Emergency. To ensure contact details are up to date a Scenario-based call-out Exercise was undertaken in July. Exercise Vargo results have been shared with the Voluntary Sector and follow-up work is being undertaken to ensure details are accurate.

5.9 NWC-REPS continues to provide out-of-hours support to the local authority and blue light services in response to queries and incidents 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. To test responses within local authorities NWC-REPS carry out Exercise Cooper quarterly to test both the contact details we hold and the out-of-hours availability of key staff. The results are shared with the Board on a quarterly basis.

5.10 The service is working with the LRF looking at several Training Courses such as Loggist Training and a TNA for partners which have been circulated to the Council to review and complete to ensure that we are offering courses that meet the needs of staff. This will enable the service to effectively prioritise areas of work and resource allocation but also ensure that the council benefits fully from the range of expertise held within the service.

5.11 NWC-REPS have arranged several informative workshops with guest speakers who were pivotal in the led local authority responses to the following incidents:

- The Manchester Arena Attack
- A Fire at South Oxfordshire Headquarters
- The Salisbury Novichok Attack
- Tottenham Riots

This will allow Council staff the opportunity to see the implications of events and benefit from their reflections on the incident and their response.

5.12 At the last meeting it was noted that the service was looking to use the In Phase Performance Management System that has been purchased by the host authority (Flintshire Council). Whilst early trials were conducted there have been several personnel changes within the host authority and within the service which has delayed the rollout. An update report will be tabled at the next Executive Board Meeting.

Activity within the Council

5.13 The Emergency Management Response Team (EMRT) structure within the Council facilitates the coordination of incidents with Business Continuity implications for the authority. EMRT will coordinate the response on behalf of the Council to any multi-agency incidents.

5.14 The EMRT provides a robust mechanism for the delivery of planning and response functions. Teams meet regularly to review arrangements in place and identify future activities. Oversight is provided via the Leadership Team.

5.15 NWC-REPS supports the EMRT by representing the Local Authorities at the Local Resilience Forum and their sub-groups. In addition, NWC-REPS assists the authority by writing, exercising and testing emergency plans as detailed below.

5.16 On October 21, 2022, structural engineering experts, representing UK Highways, recommended to the Welsh Government officials that the A5 Menai Bridge should be closed to all forms of traffic, including pedestrians and cyclists. This was to allow for the installation of temporary works over the subsequent months. As a result, monthly Tactical Coordination Group (TCG) meetings were held until the bridge was partially reopened in February 2023. Representatives from NWC-REPS attended each of these meetings. They offered their viewpoint on how to handle a major incident and lent their support to both the Anglesey and Gwynedd councils during the response phase and the subsequent session to review the lessons learned.

5.17 The emergency planning working group resumed its activities on September 12, 2022, with its inaugural meeting. Initially, these meetings were held monthly, but from January 2023, they transitioned to a quarterly schedule. The group's primary responsibility is to ensure the effectiveness of the Council's emergency planning and business continuity strategies, thereby managing key risks on behalf of the Leadership Team (LT). The NWC-REPS played a crucial role in reconstituting the group and actively participate in the discussions.

5.18 In November 2022, NWC-REPS introduced a new corporate and service-level business continuity template. This was paired with a new framework. This followed months of development by attending an Emergency Planning College course and liaising with Cardiff and Gloucestershire Council's on best practices. To help service managers understand the template's functions and assist them in adapting it to the new format, NWC-REPS conducted several familiarisation sessions. The plans are now complete. The next stage will include testing and exercising all the plans within their respective services.

5.19 The service has developed several e-learning courses for Ynys Mon staff to enrol in and they are now all available to staff. Courses include rest centre learning, roles in an incident and the role of members in an emergency.

5.20 NWC-REPS were involved in collating evidence related to the resilience and preparedness of the local authority for the pandemic as part of the ongoing COVID-19 inquiry. Module 1 of the Covid19 Inquiry focused on examining the resilience and

preparedness of the UK for the coronavirus pandemic. As part of supporting the Council, NWC-REPS assisted in gathering relevant data, reports, and documents that showcase the preparedness and response of the North Wales Local Authorities to the pandemic. This included internal reports, communication records, action plans, and more.

5.21 On the 12th of July 2022, NWC-REPS organised a unique rest centre exercise at the Holyhead Leisure Centre. The exercise was unique in that it tested not only the standard rest centre procedures but also a specially developed plan to respond to a potential influx of Ukrainian refugees. The Local Resilience Forum (LRF), North Wales Police, and the Border Force provided inputs for the exercise. Their involvement ensured that the exercise was based on realistic scenarios, that the responses were coordinated across multiple agencies and that law enforcement and border control perspectives were adequately considered. Attendees gained valuable insights and experience from the exercise, which would help them respond more effectively in an actual emergency. The exercise was well received, indicating that it was seen as a valuable and successful initiative.

5.22 NWC - REPS are currently developing a live exercise in Rhyl leisure centre for the start of next year. Representatives from the Isle of Anglesey County Council will be participating and observing the exercise to learn practical skills in the event of an incident. The exercise will also be held in Anglesey in the future.

5.23 In March 2023, Storm Larisa affected North Wales with heavy snowfall, causing widespread travel disruption and school closures. Temperatures were forecast to fall to lows of -11°C, with a yellow warning in place for ice from the Met Office. TCG's were set up in the week before the storm, and NWC-REPS officers attended along with members of staff from Isles of Anglesey County Council to ensure sufficient preparations were in place.

| Local Authority | Annual Contribution % |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Isle of Anglesey County Council | 10.472% |
| Conwy County Borough Council | 16.940% |
| Denbighshire County Council | 14.865% |
| Flintshire County Council | 19.348% |
| Gwynedd Council | 17.979% |
| Wrexham County Borough Council | 20.396% |
| Total | 100% |

5.24 The Isle of Anglesey County Council's annual contribution to the service is £61,844. The contribution is based on a proportion of 10.472% towards the annual budget for the service.

5

6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]

6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010 N/A

6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)

N/A

6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language N/A

7 – Financial Implications

7.1 The report does not identify any specific financial implications for the Council.

7.2 The annual contribution to the service by the Council is £61,844.

8 – Appendices:

8.1 North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS) – Annual Report 2022/2023.

8.2 Emergency Response: Handbook for Elected Members

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):





Annual Report 2022/23

This is the annual North Wales Councils - Regional Emergency Planning Service report for the year 2022-2023. It covers the work carried out by NWC-REPS across the six local authorities in the region, as well as multi-agency activities undertaken to support North Wales Local Resilience Forum.

North Wales Councils **Regional Emergency Planning Service**

01352 702124













North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS)

Isle of Anglesey County Council, Gwynedd Council, Conwy County Borough Council, Denbighshire County Council, Flintshire County Council and Wrexham County Borough Council work together in a partnering relationship through the establishment of a Regional Emergency Planning Service for North Wales. Since 2014 the Service has undertaken the functions of the Councils in respect of civil contingencies and is accountable to an Executive Board that comprises senior representatives of these Councils. NWC-REPS provides a service to ensure the Local Authorities are compliant with the following legislation: -

- Civil Contingencies Act, 2004
- Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations, 2015
- Pipeline Safety Regulations, 1996
- Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations, 2019

Radiation (Emergence The Service works to:

- Reduce duplication and repetition of tasks
- · Improve the harmonisation of the work and resilience of teams
- Improve deployment of available resources by sharing specialist support and common tasks
- Improve consistency of response between authorities
- Improve communication channels between the North Wales Resilience Forum and local authorities

Review of Performance

The aims and objectives for the year 2022-2023 were:

- Design and deliver a Rest Centre exercise to embed the new Rest Centre Plan
- Review Local Authority response procedures and create the Major Emergency arrangements
- Review and redesign the Business Continuity Template prior to roll out
- Develop and implement the performance management system, InPhase.



The R est Centre exercise was rolled out across 8 sites and attended by all six local authorities with over 90 attendees in total. Below is a snap shot of some of the reoccurring feedback from the exercises.

| What went well? | What didn't go well? | Can you identify any issues that need addressing in your rest centre procedures? |
|---|--|---|
| Understanding roles & responsibilities. This is clearly laid out in the emergency response plan. | Unexpected increase in numbers | Ensuring all individuals have access to lists and ECD |
| Useful discussion of scenarios | What resources are available in each leisure centre and for catering if prolonged use | Ensuring clear list of rest centre numbers, risks, issues |
| Good to meet other volunteers - put faces to names. | Transport and security | Payment arrangements |
| Having the benefit of others experience shared & ge knowing the support is available from others. | No overnight resources | Need to check the transport list |
| Clarity - Rules, Processes, Systems | No deputies and staff from other sections e.g. Housing and other reps | Access OOH |
| Visualise Rest Centre place/accommodation | Box needs updating | Security |
| Good presentation/slides | Language limitation at outset | What facilities are available at the centre? |
| Emergency Planning Staff very supportive. | As discussing the Rest Centre Box, get the contents out to show everyone at the same time. | Number of rest centres reduces due to Gym use - do we need to utilise more School space? |
| Nice to regroup and talk through procedures | Difficult learning environment - Temp - Noise | Directory of Community Champion assistance would be useful |
| Could listen to more experienced volunteers | Can't use here for R.C. | Refugees displaced - Resettlement Officer to liaise - language barrier |

The Major Emergency Arrangements have been implemented in all 6 local authority areas and the team are working on desktop exercises in order to test the embedding.

The Business Continuity Template has been rolled out and is currently being reviewed. Following this work, embedding and scenario testing will be undertaken.

The development and implementation of Inphase is ongoing . There have been a number of setbacks with staff changes in both NWC-REPS and Flintshire which has hampered progress. We are in the process of linking directly with Inphase and will build the system to meet the needs of the service in the coming 12 months.

Incident Management

NWC-REPS provides a 24/7 year-round Duty Officer to act as the initial point of contact for emergency response.

During the financial year 2022-23, NWC-REPS assisted in this role by: -Receiving and assessing Natural Resources Wales warnings and alerts:

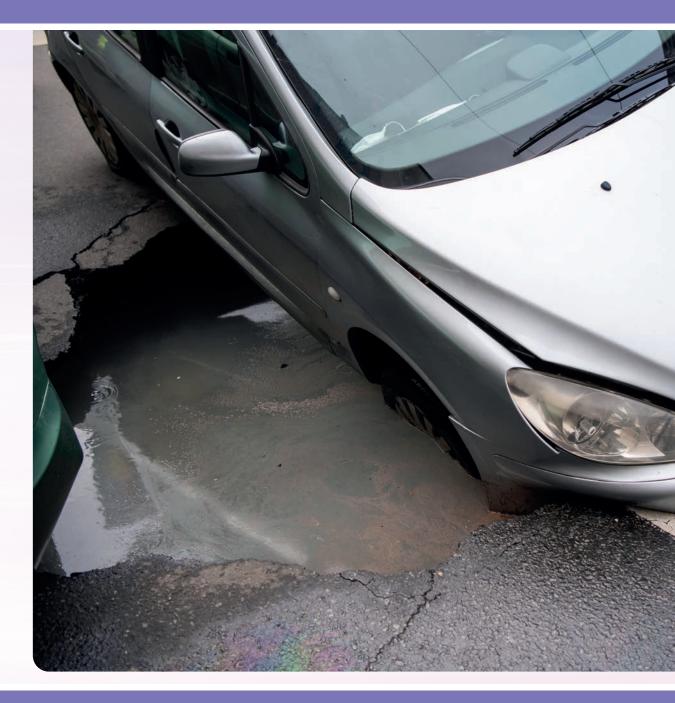
- 20 • 84 Community Flood Alerts
 - 249 Flood Alerts .
 - 4 Community Flood Warnings
 - 4 Flood Warnings
 - 8 Early Warnings
- Receiving, and assessing Met Office Weather Warnings: •
 - Gwynedd = 70 (67 yellow / 3 Amber)
 - Conwy = 69 (65 yellow / 4 Amber) •
 - Anglesey = 48 (46 yellow / 2 Amber) •
 - Denbighshire = 68 (61 yellow / 7 Amber) ٠
 - Flintshire = 64 (57 yellow / 7 Amber)
 - Wrexham = 67 (60 yellow / 7 Amber)



- Receiving and responding to incident reports that included: -
 - Potential Prohibition Notice at site holding refugees in Denbighshire
 - Ukraine Refugee Welcome Centre's across North Wales
 - Potential Sink Hole March 2023 Wrexham
 - Operation Blue Overlax Conwy Refugee Centre
 - Operation Blue Opacify Menai Bridge Closure
 - Operation Blue Shoebox Snow Storm Larissa March 2023
 - Missing People report in Denbighshire
 - Industrial Action

ଅ ଭ Working together

- № Embedding of Rest Centre Plan with Regional Rest Centre training
 - Business Continuity Management Plans taken to Executive
 Board for signing off
 - Promotion of LRF training events within the local authorities
 - Bilingual e-learning modules finalised



Conwy County Borough Council

Work carried out during 2022 to 2023

- The regional Major Emergency Arrangements Plan was introduced and prompted a review of the emergency response framework. The plan and framework were subsequently approved by the Senior Leadership Team.
- Assessments and impacts of winter pressures and power outages was undertaken. National situation monitored and briefings/updates given to the Senior Leadership Team.
- Supported the Senior Leadership Team and provided evidence for the Conwy response to Module 1 of the Covid-19 Inquiry.

- Support at Safety Advisory Groups and Protective Security Preparedness Group - the concept of public spaces as potential targets is recognised at SAGs and is part of the risk assessment process. Event organisers and staff are aware of the potential impacts of Martyn's Law.
- Morfa Rhuddlan Community Flood Partnership main area of focus has been consultation regarding proposed flood defences. Work ongoing with NRW and Licensing regarding caravan and holiday park evacuation arrangements.
- Conwy Valley Flood Partnership Conwy Valley flood response will be aligned to outcomes of the reviews of the NWRF Severe Weather Plan, Multi-Agency Flood Plan, Forward Command Post Plan and wider community resilience initiatives. The NWC-REPS Lead Officer for Conwy attends the NWRF Severe Weather Group and assisted in the development of the Severe Weather Plan.
- The regional Emergency Rest Centre Plan was adapted to reflect Conwy service structures and approved. Relevant staff attended an exercise at Abergele Leisure Centre to assist in embedding the Plan.

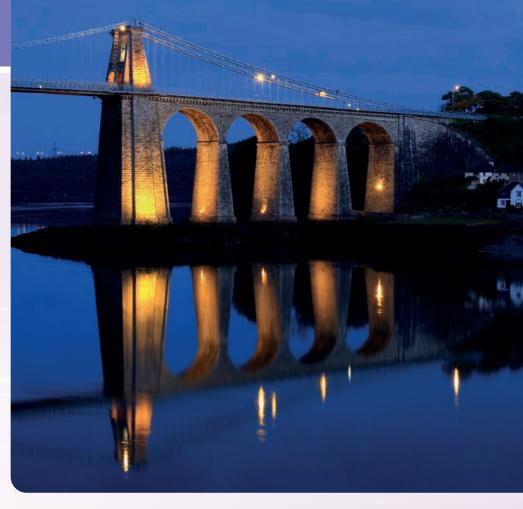
- Civil Contingency e-learning packages were developed by NWC-REPS and are included in Conwy staff development programmes.
- EXERCISE BARDIC LLIF scenario of a major flooding event in North Wales that resulted in an impact across the UK exhausting local and mutual aid resources. NWC-REPS and relevant staff from Conwy participated and liaised with the military to provide the appropriate response over the two-day exercise.
- InPhase Workstreams and tasks from the Conwy work plan were integrated into the performance management framework to pilot the system.
- Mighty Oak The Conwy Lead Officer was an observer at the three-day exercise/workshop held at the end of March and supported the development of a national response and recovery to a national power outage. The CCOG Chair and Assistant Flood Risk Manager attended for one day of the exercise.

- Review of Business Continuity Management and arrangements.
- Chair the Conwy Valley Flood Partnership working group to review arrangements for the multi-agency and community response to flooding.
- Review of coastal pollution plans.
- Review of emergency planning risk register and determine priorities for the year.
- Develop and implement a civil contingencies training and exercise programme for the senior leadership team.
- Provide support for the ongoing Covid19 Inquiry.
- Provide support and advice regarding the introduction of Martyn's Law and impact on the Local Authority and event organisers.
- Liaise with Welsh Water and establish emergency water distribution locations and protocols.

IOACC

Work carried out during financial year 2022 to 2023

- Operation Blue Opacify, Menai Suspension Bridge closure On the 21st of October 2022, Welsh Government officials were advised by structural engineering experts working on behalf of UK Highways to close the A5 Menai Bridge to all traffic and pedestrians/cyclists whilst temporary works were installed over the following months. This led to monthly TCG meetings until its partial reopening in February. NWC-REPS were in attendance for every meeting. NWC- REPS provided its perspective on how it could respond to a major incident and supported both Anglesey and Gwynedd councils in its response and the following lessons learnt session.
- The Emergency Planning Working Group reconvened on 12th September 2022, holding its first meeting. Initially monthly, the meetings shifted to quarterly from January 2023. The group ensures the Council's emergency planning and business continuity arrangements are effective, managing key risks on behalf of the SLT. NWC-REPS aided in re-establishing the group and contributed to the discussions, including the introduction of their business continuity template. They conducted familiarisation sessions with service mangers, explaining the template's functions and assisting with adapting it to the new format.
- On 12th July 2022, NWC-REPS hosted a rest centre exercise at Holyhead Leisure Centre as part of a regional tour. It evaluated standard rest centre procedures and the plan for responding to potential Ukrainian refugees from Ireland. The exercise involved LRF, North Wales Police, and Border Force, and was attended by leisure centre and social services staff, receiving positive feedback.
- All service-level business continuity plans based on the new template have been returned and awaiting approval
- Members' Emergency Handbook updated
- Improved management of the emergency contacts directory
- Mighty Oak the Executive Manager attended the power outage exercise on the third day of the exercise while the EPO attended the first day



 Supported the Executive Manager and provided evidence collated by NWC-REPS for the Module 1 response of the Covid19 Inquiry

- All e-learning courses are now available, learning records will be integrated with the NWC-REPS training matrix
- Increase in Resilience Direct users due to updated and new plans available
- Implementing corporate volunteers currently being considered with SLT
- Work on the actions and challenges raised by Mighty Oak

Gwynedd Council

Work carried out during 2022 to 2023

- Establishment of four subgroups within the Strategic Panel, which have developed memberships and are meeting regularly to establish their Working Groups
- Major Emergency Arrangements have been approved by Strategic Panel and are being embedded
- Emergency Rest Centre Plan embedded and exercised at 3 sites in Gwynedd with positive feedback
- · Creation of an on-call structure which has proved successful when responding to incidents and maintaining resilience
- Delivered a desktop walk through of a power outage scenario
- New service continuity templates have now been approved and are ready to be rolled out and any training needs to be identified
- Page 24 Review of the Contact Directory following Exercise Cooper
 - Mighty Oak Gwynedd Head of Health and Safety was an observer at the 3-day exercise held at the end of March
 - Event organisers and staff are now aware of Martyn's Law The concept of public spaces as potential targets is recognised at SAGs and is part of the risk assessment process

- Standby arrangements training for Summer 2023
- Tabletop exercise for December 2023
- Provide support and guidance in the meetings of the sub groups
- Roll out of the new translated business continuity plans and embedding work
- Identify any training following the business continuity roll out
- Rest Centre training to be held in various locations



Wrexham County Borough Council

Work carried out during 2022 to 2023

Page

- Major Emergency Arrangements approved by the Emergency Management Response Team (EMRT)
- Recovery Action Cards approved by the Recovery Team
- Emergency Rest Centre Plan embedded and exercised on the 10th August 2022
- E-learning packages are live and available to EMRT
- Rest Centre visits to review suitability of sites were undertaken. Following these
 visits site specific appendices were created for each Rest Centre that remained
 on the list
- · Winter blackouts work completed including mapping Council buildings with
- the potential blackout time and days and sharing communications document. This work concluded with an EMRT exercise
- Support with the Covid-19 Inquiry including pulling evidence together for modules
 - Updating of Emergency Contact Directory and alterations needed following Exercise Cooper and information from colleagues in Wrexham
 - Resilience Direct review to ensure documents held are current and access is
 regularly reviewed with induction offered for new users
 - The Service Continuity/Business Continuity Plan template has been approved. Assistance is being given to populate the documents
 - Contribution for the BCUHB Suspect Package exercise providing advice, guidance and injects (This was subsequently cancelled but will be held in September 2023)
 - EXERCISE BARDIC LLIF scenario of a major flooding event in North Wales that resulted in an impact across the UK exhausting local and mutual aid resources. NWC-REPS and relevant staff from Wrexham participated and liaised with the military to provide the appropriate response over the two-day exercise

- Workplans to be embedded for each EMRT Group
- Transferal of Service/Business Continuity Plans to new templates and mini exercises to test each plan
- Following Service Continuity exercises with mini recovery exercises
- Training for Rest Centre staff who missed the exercise last year
- Review within NWC-REPS of Recovery and roll out any new templates/learning to Recovery group within Wrexham
- Support at Safety Advisory Groups
- Work around embedding the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill (Martyn's Law) when legislation is finalised. Draft information shared currently



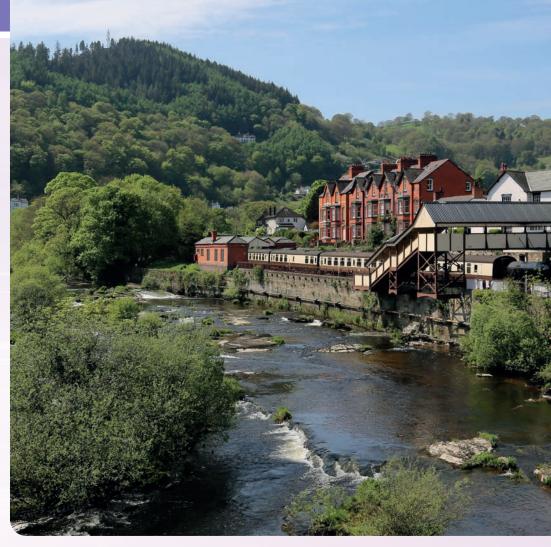
Denbighshire County Council

Work carried out during 2022 to 2023

- Following COVID-19 the Emergency Planning structure has been re-established after COVID and meeting regularly every quarter
- NWC-REPS have supported Denbighshire in several activities, such as:
 - Recruitment and training of new loggies loggists who are now prepared to support in incidents
 - · Support with the Covid-19 Inquiry including pulling evidence together for modules

This year several plans and procedures have been amended, approved and Page 26 are currently being embedded, these are:

- The Major Emergency Arrangements
- Emergency Rest Centre Plan
- Regional Business Continuity Plan approved and ready for implementation
- Development and approval of a loggist and personal logging procedure
- Several well received training sessions have taken place:
 - Emergency Planning County Councillor briefing took place in September 2022
 - Lead Member for Emergency Planning briefing
 - Several new rest centre volunteers have been recruited and this led to a well-attended Rest Centre Exercise which took place in December 2022
 - A comprehensive suite of e-learning packages are live and have been rolled out across the SEMT teams



- Gold training session scheduled
- Live Rest Centre exercise
- Induction of new chairs and deputy chairs
- Test the Major Emergency Arrangements
- Implementation and testing of the new Business Continuity Plan

Flintshire County Council

Work carried out during 2022 to 2023

- Promotion of Resilience Direct site with Emergency Team Members
- Ratification of the Councils new Major Emergency Arrangements document
- Loggist Training follow on practical training in FCC emergency team meetings for new loggists who completed LRF Loggist training and the NWC-REPS loggist e-learning module
- NWC-REPS support at EMRT for the response to Ukrainian Refugees
- Officer participation in Human Trafficking and Mass Fatalities Exercise, Holyhead Port on 6th September 2022
- Emergency Rest Centre Plan embedded following the Rest Centre exercise on 21st November 2022
- Page 27 Engagement with Protective Security Preparedness Group and promotion of proposed legislation - Martyn's Law
 - Participation in the Safety Advisory Group
 - Storm Larissa NWC-REPS support to EMRT stand up and management of response to snow event
 - Mighty Oak national power outage exercise was attended by two Officers
 - Winter Block Load power cut risk and associated NWC-REPS overview document promoted to Business Continuity Team and Chief Officers Team
 - Emergency Transportation Plan Review by Operations Team
 - Completion of Operations Team role in the LRF Emergency Bottled Water Distribution Plan (Identification and activation of Council owned car parks for bottled water distribution)
 - Business Continuity Team Ransomware Awareness Workshop 16th March 2023



Planned work for financial year 2023 to 2024

- Humanitarian Assistance Team planning for a follow up Rest Centre exercise planned for 10.08.23 for the team
- Embedding of Mass Fatalities Plan and the Emergency Operations Team role
- Supporting the emergency teams with the follow-on work from Storm Larissa Debrief Report and Incident Learning Action Plan
- Coastal Pollution planning
- Cyber-attack mitigation support with the Business Continuity Team
- Support with Asylum Seekers planning

Nuclear and Pipeline Work

Work carried out during 2022 to 2023

- Providing support for Anglesey & Gwynedd Councils on a national Nuclear Decommissioning Authority consultation
- Engagement with the Nuclear Protection Team within BEIS, who are supporting the revision of the regional local authority radiological emergency public information plan
- Environment Group: Participation in the newly created Lithium Ion Battery
 (Vehicle) Accident Task Finish Group
- Decommissioning of the Flintshire County Council Warwick Chemicals (Mostyn)
 Off-site Emergency Plan

Off-site Emergency Plan Generation State State

- Attendance at the URENCO off-site emergency plan exercise, hosted by the Joint Cheshire Emergency Planning Team
- Kronospan (Chirk) exercise debrief report finalisation, to conclude the 2022 multi-agency emergency exercise work
- Development and delivery of Great Bear & FMC Agro's emergency exercise modular programme, and revision/re-issue of their off-site emergency plans
- Development and delivery of Synthite's on-site emergency control centre exercise
- Supporting Flintshire County Council's Planning Department with the council's response to the proposed Hynet Northwest Carbon Dioxide pipeline application



Learning & Development

Work carried out during 2022 to 2023

JESIP

Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Principles

NWC-REPS is a key member of the JESIP planning and delivery group and assist in facilitating the Operational and Tactical packages.

Rest Centre Exercises

Following the successful roll out of the new Rest Centre Plan it required exercising to embed within all local authorities. The exercises were planned within designated Rest Centre venues across North Wales. The Exercise started with an introduction by the Local Resilience Forum Coordinator on the LRF's role during emergencies, followed by a presentation from North Wales Police and one from NWC-REPS before looking at the scenario based Exercise. The Exercise allowed participants to talk through issues that they may face when running a Rest Centre.

Following these Exercises, actions for each of the Lead Officers emerged and they are working with colleagues in their respective local authorities to complete these actions and preparedness should a Rest Centre be required.

LRF/Other Agency training/exercises:

- JESIP Operational
- JESIP Tactical/Wales Silver
- Power Outage Exercise
- Public Inquiry
- Wales Gold
- Exercise Bardic Llif



Exercise Cooper

We undertake this exercise on a quarterly basis to test the local authority Emergency Contacts Directories. A total of 48 staff were randomly selected to check the accuracy of 107 contact numbers. Following this, changes were made to Emergency Contact Directories, checking numbers with local authority colleagues to ensure accuracy.

- Development and roll out of a Coastal Pollution Plan Template
- Review of Recovery Arrangements in North Wales consideration of one plan covering the LRF and the Local Authority responsibilities
- Implementation of a Performance Management System
- Linking into national work on Societal Resilience
- Ensure local authority preparedness for the proposed legislation, Martyn's Law
- Implementation of a staff training and exercising database

















Emergency Response: Handbook for Elected Members

December 2022

Contents

- 1. Introduction & Context
- 2. Local Authority Responsibilities for Civil Resilience
- 3. Role of Elected Members
- 4. Guidance for the Leader and other Executive Members A Checklist
- 5. Guidance on the role of Ward Councillors A Checklist
- 6. Recovery
- 7. Recovery stage checklist for the Leader and other Members of the Executive
- 8. Recovery stage checklist for Ward Councillors

1. Introduction & Context

The Isle of Anglesey County Council has a crucial role to play in responding to any major emergency or incident on the Island. Citizens expect councils to respond promptly and effectively together with partner organisations when there is an incident as well as continue to deliver front-line services.

Planning for emergencies is often overlooked until a disastrous situation occurs. However, if we make plans to prevent, prepare, and respond to emergencies, the impacts could be lessened; impacts such as flooding, loss of infrastructure and threats to life and the environment.

The North Wales Local Authorities has established a single Regional Emergency Planning Service which works alongside local authorities to prepare for the Major Emergencies outlined below. The North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS) is hosted by Flintshire County Council on behalf of the five other authorities.

There is a duty upon local authorities to prepare for a response to emergency incidents and also recovery¹. Ensuring preparedness involves many parts but a fundamental part is a requirement for all involved to:

- understand their roles and responsibilities
- have the necessary experience, skills and support

Whilst operational responsibilities as regards civil resilience is a matter for Officers, Councillors of the Local Authority have an important political role to play in preparing for, responding to and recovering from significant crises like Covid-19. Elected Member contributions should complement the role of officers and thus avoid any duplication.

This important role of Members is clarified below in the form of checklists. These Standards set an expectation for the Leader and other Executive Members as well as Ward Members to have clearly defined roles and responsibilities regarding civil resilience. Also, they set out that support arrangements should be put in place to enable County Councillors to fulfil their roles effectively.

This Handbook has been prepared to improve awareness, and understanding, and assist our Elected Members to play a full and constructive role in emergency response and recovery situations. It provides a range of information relevant to County Councillors' roles in civil resilience:

¹ Civil Contingencies Act 2004

- overview of Local Authority responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004)
- guidance for the Leader and other Members of the Executive
- guidance for Ward Councillors

The handbook also supports Members in understanding their community support role in the event of a major emergency.

2. Local Authority Responsibilities for Civil Resilience

All Councils are "Category 1" responders under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. They have clearly defined responsibilities in civil emergencies and will typically lead the recovery from any emergency in their area. Category 1 responders must:

- assess the risk of emergencies occurring and use this to inform contingency planning
- put in place emergency plans
- put in place Business Continuity Management arrangements
- put communications arrangements in place to make information available to the public about civil protection matters and maintain arrangements to warn, inform and advise the public in the event of an emergency
- share information and cooperate with other local responders to enhance coordination and efficiency

(This also includes Category 2 responders – see below)

 Provide advice and assistance to businesses and voluntary organisations about business continuity (Local Authority only)

As a Category 1 responder, the Isle of Anglesey County Council must perform its duties under the Act where:

- the emergency would be likely to seriously obstruct its ability to perform its functions
- it would consider it necessary to act to prevent, reduce, control, or mitigate the emergency's effects, or otherwise take action; and it would be unable to act without changing the deployment of its resources or acquiring additional resources.

All responders work to a generic national framework for managing emergency response and recovery that applies regardless of the size, nature or cause of an emergency. The framework provides local flexibility for responders to make their own decisions about what emergency planning arrangements are appropriate to deliver their duties under the Act, based on local circumstances, priorities and risks. The North Wales Local Resilience Forum (NWLRF) is the key organisation for developing area-wide arrangements for responding to

emergencies and is responsible for producing community risk registers setting out specific local risks for their areas and local multi-agency emergency response plans.

Category 1 Responders include:

- <u>Emergency Services</u>: Police, Fire & Rescue/Ambulance Services, Maritime & Coastguard Agency.
- Local Authorities: All Principal Local Authorities and Port Health Authorities.
- <u>Health Bodies:</u> Local Health Boards and Public Health Wales
- <u>Government Agencies:</u>Natural Resources Wales.

Category 2 responders; Examples include:

Health & Safety Executive, Transportation & Utility companies are cooperating bodies that are less active in an emergency planning role but heavily involved in an incident affecting their sector.

How are Emergencies and Major Incidents defined?

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 defines an emergency as:

- An event or situation which threatens serious damage to human welfare
- An event or situation which threatens serious damage to the environment; or
- War, or terrorism which threatens serious damage to the security of the United Kingdom

A Major Incident is defined as:

"An event or situation, with a range of serious consequences, which requires special arrangements to be implemented by one or more emergency responder agencies" (Cabinet Office 2016).

What kind of emergencies have North Wales Local Authorities responded to, and how might they contribute?

The main incidents that have occurred in North Wales in recent times that have required special coordination efforts between local Category 1 and 2 responders have included severe weather-related events such as flooding, heavy snow and wind-based storms. There have also been suspect package/ordnance-related incidents, management response issues with a former chemical manufacturing site, several Recycling Centre incidents and several major fires.

The Council will assist Category 1 and 2 emergency responders and ensure that the following resources are made available (not a definitive list):

- Road closures and diversions
- Provision of plant and equipment
- Clearance of debris & restoration of highways
- Emergency evacuation and Rest Centres
- Emergency Accommodation
- Building Safety Inspections on local authority properties
- Environmental health assessment, and related services
- Public Protection advice and guidance
- Public Helplines, and distribution of information to the public
- Media and Community liaison officers
- Appeal fund arrangements

North Wales has had a strong role in undertaking planned interventions tackling modern slavery and issues arising from unsafe houses of multiple occupations.

Regional North Wales Emergency Planning Arrangements and Structures

The Council is part of a regional North Wales Emergency Planning arrangement alongside the other 5 Councils. This regional service is hosted by Flintshire County Council. The regional service provides inputs into the following areas of emergency planning in support of the Local Authority's roles and core duties under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004:

- **Preparedness** (planning) via internal service engagement and assisting with the preparation, review and exercising of the Council's Emergency Plans
- **Response** attendance at internal operational, tactical and strategic meetings, horizon scanning, providing initial co-ordination of Local Authority mobilisation, contribution to multi-agency coordination of response, gathering – co-ordinate information in preparation for TCG/SCG meetings
- **Recovery** of significant and major emergencies by supporting the Local Authority in the activation and development of our emergency recovery responsibilities under the National Recovery Guidance framework

Local Authority Emergency Management Arrangements

Local Authorities have established emergency management frameworks in place to plan for and respond to major emergencies.

The Council has an **Emergency Management Response Team (EMRT).** The chair of the EMRT, or an appointed deputy, may be the first point of contact for the official notification of a major incident issued by the Emergency Services.

This section of the Handbook aims to provide practical guidance to the County Council Leader, the Executive and Ward Members on how to discharge their civil resilience role. It covers the breadth of activity when preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies.

All operational civil resilience responsibilities lie with officers but Elected Members have a key political leadership role to play in preparing for, responding to and recovering from major emergencies or incidents. Also, members of the Executive have an important role in ensuring that business continuity plans are in place by the County Council. Members' contributions should complement the role of officers.

Keeping in Touch

In the event of an emergency, effective communication mechanisms will be essential aspects of the County Council's response arrangements. The communications strategy will include communication with key stakeholders including Elected Members. Communication channels with Elected Members will include:

- Daily information sharing via email to County Councillors and staff
- Regular briefings for Group Leaders
- Sharing of all published press releases

Base any information provided to constituents on confirmed messages from the County Council, North Wales Police, Public Health Wales, Welsh Government (and other relevant public agencies who are part of the North Wales Resilience Forum).

Responsible use of Social Media

Used smartly, social media can be a vital channel for communicating information to residents. Members should work with the Council's communications team and refer residents to messages posted by the Local Authority.

4. Guidance for the Leader and other Members of the Executive – A Checklist

During any emergency or major incident, Portfolio Members should:

- Always stay safe any roles and responsibilities must be discharged concerning Welsh Government's latest public health advice and guidance
- Make contact with the Chief Executive to receive an initial briefing and agreement on urgent action to be taken
- Agree the Executive Member to take the following lead roles:
 - i. the "public face" of the County Council, as part of the County Council's civic leadership role

- ii. provide political support to initial recovery work
- iii. business as usual functions
- iv. Ward councillor engagement
- Liaise/work with the Council's communications team to ensure a coordinated approach with the press and media
- Put arrangements in place for briefing Members during the response phase
- Provide encouragement and support to County Council staff and partners involved in the emergency response
- Keep a log of actions/events for use in debriefs, scrutiny committees and any formal enquiry
- If required, lead on making representations for financial assistance to Welsh Government
- Represent the Local Authority during formal visits ensuring that any visits are sensitive to the mood and needs of the local area
- Consider the propriety of initiating a dialogue with the following to ensure a coordinated political response:
 - i. Leaders of other North Wales local authorities
 - ii. Member of Parliament and Assembly Member.

5. Guidance on the role of Ward Councillors – A Checklist

Ward Councillors' role is twofold during emergencies and other major incidents – as community leaders and also as community representatives, as follows:

Community Leadership

Demonstrate community leadership by taking a responsible approach to information shared and messages given and by following guidance received from the County Council.

- Always stay safe any roles and responsibilities must be discharged concerning Welsh Government's latest public health advice and guidance
- Be a trusted, visible presence in local communities
- Advise Local Authority lead officers when providing direct support at the community level so that officers are aware of Councillor involvement and can arrange any briefings that may be required etc
- Communicate key messages and information from the Council to the residents
- Signpost residents and businesses to support services both in the Council and also to partner organisations
- Provide support/encouragement to Council staff and partner agencies involved in the response
- Provide local intelligence and information/ concerns to the Council

Community Representatives

- Presence in local communities to identify the needs of individual residents and also the wider community, referring to the Council when required
- Confirm the reliability of local information before forwarding it to the Council and partner agencies
- Avoid attempting to:
 - i. get involved in operational matters that may arise in responding to any emergency
 - ii. evaluate the effectiveness of the emergency response
- Keep a log of actions/events for use in debriefs, scrutiny committees and any formal enquiry.

6. Recovery

The focus of this part of the handbook is the specific role of Elected Members in the Council's work of leading and supporting communities of the Island in moving through the process of ending an incident and towards recovery and an evolving new Normal. The County Council plays the leading role in coordinating the Recovery.

The Councillor leadership role

Much of the previous guidance is also very relevant to the Recovery process. Over the following months, County Councillors will still be acting as community leaders. It is envisaged that there is a more involved role for Elected Members as the emergency response moves towards the Recovery stage. Emergency response is usually short, intensive efforts led by the blue light services with Local Authorities responsible for leading the Recovery stage. This stage requires democratic and community input to ensure recovery at a local level

As the Local Authority and local communities on the Island move towards the recovery stage, political leaders will need to maintain both a visible and hands-on leadership role to oversee a range of important activities. In supporting recovery in local communities, the Council needs to demonstrate good cross-party leadership.

7. Recovery Stage Checklist for the Leader and other Members of the Executive

Portfolio Members should:

• Seek assurance that the Council working with its partners continues to fulfil its role and deploy resources effectively and efficiently across all of the response and recovery activities required whilst aiming to resume business as usual as soon as is possible

- Ensure that the necessary steps are being taken to support recovery which includes developing a strategic approach and support for individuals made vulnerable or those who are more vulnerable as a result of the incident Oversee the delivery of the Council's Recovery Plan
- Ensure all Elected Members are kept fully briefed and up to speed about developments and actions taken so that they can contribute to shaping recovery
- Ensure effective protocols are in place for political involvement and communication at all levels (national, regional, and local including Town and Community Councils)
- Strive for open, transparent and inclusive in decision making which maximises ownership of the direction of travel and uses Scrutiny as a tool to maximise involvement and participation
- Enable engagement of communities through regular communication with residents and partners including the 3rd sector

8. Recovery Stage Checklist for Ward Councillors

All County Councillors have a significant role to play in shaping recovery, enabling local communities to build on the opportunity to strengthen community resilience and improve local areas. This role includes:

- Shaping and agreeing on recovery strategies
- Leading and representing communities and the Council
- Supporting individual residents and providing a link between residents and public services
- Embed community resilience-building on the community support groups
- Support community cohesion
- Holding to account through Scrutiny
- Strengthening the County Council's democratic processes by embedding any changes and innovations.
- Maintaining health and well-being to ensure a balance with the work involved in serving local communities.

Post Incident Issues

Other issues that may need to be addressed as part of the Recovery process, requiring careful management, can include:

- Civil litigation
- Criminal proceedings
- Public Inquiries
- Loss of income for the Council
- Insurance claims
- Tourism
- Government funding claims
- Business and infrastructure regeneration

- Long-term effects on the Community
- Long-term impacts on the workforce e.g. recruitment & retention

What Number Can You Call in a major emergency?

If you need to report an issue related to the declared emergency, please remember 3 key points you can do to help -

- 1. Call the right number
- 2. Provide clear information
- 3. Be patient.

<u>Threat to Life;</u> - 999

<u>Power Cut;</u> - 105

<u>Natural Resources Wales;</u> - Flooding / Environmental Incidents- 0300 065 3000, 24hrs

Isle of Anglesey County Council;-

The main number is **01248 750057**.

Emergency Council phone numbers to use out of hours;-

- 1. For emergencies regarding social services, call 01248 353551
- 2. For emergencies relating to housing, Street scene services and property issues, call 08081 685652

Please don't call individual Council officers to report issues. Using the correct numbers above will help free up responding supervisors - they need to coordinate efforts on the ground, deploying our resources where they re needed.

The following websites can also provide more information about local and national emergency management matters:

E-learning courses: Welsh-Isle of Anglesey Council: Darganfod Cyrsiau (learningpool.com)

English- Isle of Anglesey Council: Find Learning (learningpool.com)

Natural Resources Wales- Flood Warning Information; https://naturalresources.wales/flooding/?lang=en

Natural Resources Wales - Environmental Incident; https://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/about-us/contact-us/report-an-environmentalincident/ National Risk Register of Civil Emergencies:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-risk-register-2020

Emergencies: responsibilities of responder agencies and others: <u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/preparation-and-planning-for-emergencies-responsibilities-of- responder-agencies-and-others</u>

Wales Resilience Forums: <u>https://gov.wales/wales-resilience/what-we-do</u>

A councillor's guide to civil emergencies: <u>https://local.gov.uk/councillors-guide-civil-emergencies</u>

NWC-REPS - About Us - <u>https://www.nwc-reps.org.uk/en/About-Us.aspx</u>

For more information on the wide range of hazards identified and planned for by the North Wales Local Resilience Forum partners, please download the North Wales Community Risk Register

https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/documents/Docs-en/Community-safety-andemergencies/Community-Risk-Register.pdf

For more information on the Council's Emergency Planning and Corporate Resilience work plan, please contact the North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS) at 01352 702124 or via email: <u>enquiries@nwc-reps.org.uk</u>.

NWC-REPS can provide emergency management training for elected Members on an annual basis, so please ensure you register your interest in attending a future session with NWC-REPS) on 01352 702124 or via email: <u>enquiries@nwc-reps.org.uk</u>

Contacts

For more information regarding emergency planning, please use the below contacts. Note they are in hours contacts only.

Susan Owen Jones - Executive Manager (LT): <u>SusanJones4@ynysmon.llyw.cymru</u>

Jon Zalot – Emergency Planning Officer: jon.zalot@nwc-reps.org.uk

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template

| Committee: | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Date: | 17 th October 2023 | | | | |
| Subject: | Regional Partnership Board – Annual Report. | | | | |
| Purpose of Report: | Provide the Scrutiny Committee with an annual update | | | | |
| Scrutiny Chair: | r: Councillor Dylan Rees | | | | |
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Councillor Gary Pritchard- Children & Families Services Councillor Alun Roberts – Adults Services | | | | |
| Head of Service: | Fon Roberts - Director of Social Services & Head of Children and Families Services | | | | |
| Report Author: Tel: Email: | Catrin Roberts, Head of Regional Collaboration Emma Edwards – Business Manager 01248 751887 Emma Edwards@anglesey.gov.uk | | | | |
| Local Members: | Not Relevant | | | | |

1 - Recommendation/s

R1 That the Committee confirms that it has read, understood and taken into account the work that is required to be undertaken by the Regional Partnership Board.

R2 That the Committee notes the work and progress in 2022/23 on the work areas that are being taken forward through the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.

2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

The aim of the North Wales Partnership Board is to work collaboratively across health and social care services to help support resilient communities and also ensure a seamless service for individuals that require care and support.

This is aligned to the priorities set out in Anglesey County Councils new Council Plan 2023-28 – one of which is stated as 'Social Care and Wellbeing – providing the right support at the right time'. It also underpins the Values stated within the new Plan - Collaboration - 'We work as a team, with our communities and partners to deliver the best outcomes for the people of Anglesey".

3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-

This report is the Annual Report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board for 2023-23. It is a requirement within the Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 that each Regional Partnership Board prepares, publishes and submits its annual report to Welsh Government (Appendix 1).

This report is to provide information to partners with regard to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and its activities during 2022.23.

3.1 Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen]

The purpose of Part 9 of the Act is to improve outcomes and well-being of people, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery. The key aims of cooperation, partnership and integration can therefore be described as:

- To improve care and support, ensuring people have more say and control
- To improve outcomes and health and wellbeing
- Provide co-ordinated, person centred care and support
- Make more effective use of resources, skills and expertise.

When the Board develops regional reports, strategies or documents, officers and Elected members who sit on the Board bring these to relevant meetings within their own organisations to be formally agreed. Regional Partnership Boards do not have arrangements for regional scrutiny, this is undertaken at a local basis

3.2 A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality **[focus on value]**

The purpose of the Annual report is to set out the progress that Regional Partnership Boards have made and reflects on how board are achieving the principles of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014.

3.3 A look at any risks [focus on risk]

See 5.8 below.

3.4 Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality]

See North Wales Regional Partnership Board Annual Report (see Appendix 1).

3.5 Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement
- [focus on wellbeing]

3.6 The potential impacts the decision would have on:

- 1. protected groups under the Equality Act 2010
- 2. those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (when making strategic decisions)
- opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

[focus on equality and the Welsh language]

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

- 1. To what extent does further clarification be needed regarding the role and purpose of the Regional Partnership Board?
- 2. What is the relationship between the Regional Partnership Board's Annual Report and the Social Services Statutory Director's Annual Report?
- 3. To what extent has the Board has achieved its key priorities during 2022/23
- 4. What are the Board's key priorities for 2023/24?

5 – Background / Context

5.1 What is the report about?

This report is the Annual Report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board for 2022/23 (Appendix 1). It is a requirement within the Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 that each Regional Partnership Board prepares, publishes and submits its annual report to Welsh Government.

The report will provide details in relation to projects that Anglesey residents have benefitted from, however below are some in brief:

- Young Carers app
- Amlwch Integrated Community Well-Being HUB
- Cartrefi Clyd

The report also provides detail in relation to the newly formed Regional Partnership Board for Children and Fôn Roberts is the Chair of that group which allows partners to give a specific focus on matters in relation to Children and Young People.

5.2 What is the reason for making this report?

This report is to provide information to partners with regard to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and its activities during 2022/23.

5.3 Report details

The Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 requires that each Regional Partnership Board produces and publishes an annual report on its work and submits this to Welsh Government.

In March 2018 the Welsh Government issued Guidance for the completion of the Regional Partnership Board Annual reports and Boards were to use this guidance for the completion of its report. The attached report contains all the information which was required to be included within that Guidance. The North Wales Regional Partnership Board report is written in a format that captures all information required.

The Regional Partnership Board is the Board which has been set up to meet the requirements of Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014. The Act requires that local authorities make arrangements to promote co-operation with their relevant partners and others, in relation to adults with needs for care and support, carers and children. It places a duty on relevant partners to co-operate with, and provide information to, the local authorities for the purposes of their social services functions.

Part 9 of the Act provides for partnership arrangements between local authorities and Local Health Boards for the discharge of their functions. The Act also provides Welsh Government Ministers with regulation making powers in relation to formal partnership arrangements, resources for partnership arrangements (including pooled funds) and partnership boards.

The purpose of Part 9 of the Act is to improve outcomes and well-being of people, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery. The key aims of co-operation, partnership and integration can therefore be described as:

- To improve care and support, ensuring people have more say and control
- To improve outcomes and health and wellbeing
- Provide co-ordinated, person centred care and support
- Make more effective use of resources, skills and expertise.

The purpose of the Annual report is to set out the progress that Regional Partnership Boards have made and reflects on how board are achieving the principles of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014.

5.4 How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

Working in partnership across health and social care services will help support resilient communities and also ensure a seamless service for individuals that require care and support.

5.5 What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

The 6 Local Authorities and BCU Health Board in North Wales pool funding to support regional working across the Region, this also funds the Regional Collaboration Team and there is a formal partnership agreement to underpin this.

Through the Regional Partnership Boards, Welsh Government is channeling grant funding streams such as the Regional Integration Fund for Health and Social Care and the Housing with Care and Integrating and Rebalancing capital funds. Where it is possible to charge regional partnership activity to these grants this is being actioned.

5.6 What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

An overall Well-being impact assessment has not been completed for the Annual Report but EIA's will have been completed for the individual elements contained within.

5.7 What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

Members will be aware of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 and will have received information about Part 9 of the Act and the development of Regional Partnership Boards. There has been no formal consultation, other than with members of the Regional Partnership Board which includes a wide range of membership and includes citizens and carers.

5.8 What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

Where is a risk is ensuring compliance with the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 and with the Guidance on regional partnership board annual reports issued in March 2018 in producing the annual report. The main risk is that the North Wales Regional Partnership Board is able to progress the various requirements as required in the Part 9 Guidance and that the partnership develops to enable further partnership working and integration of services in the future. 5.9 Power to make the decision

Social Services and Well-Being Act 2014, Part 9.

6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language] 6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010

No regional EIA has been carried out for the RPB.

6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)

6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

7 – Financial Implications See paragraph 5.5 above.

8 – Appendices:

Attachment 1- Annual Report

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

No further background papers



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NORTH WALES SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING SERVICES IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

North Wales Regional Partnership Board

Annual Report

2022/23



Working together to ensure the health and wellbeing of people of all ages in North Wales

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1 Foreword by the Chair of North Wales Regional Partnership Board (NWRPB)

Mary Wimbury, Chief Executive, Care Forum Wales

I am pleased to present this year's annual report for the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.

This report outlines just some of the work that has been achieved by partners and which have had a significant impact on the lives of residents across North Wales. There is so much for the Board and all its members to be proud of this year and sometimes we can lose sight of the good that has been done. This report is



therefore a good reminder to us all of what we achieved together during the last 12 months.

This year has continued to be a challenging year for health and social care sector and there is no indication that there will be any change as we go into the 2023/24. It is important that we continue to work together to address these issues and to build on the excellent work that has already been achieved.

I hope you enjoy our report, if you would like any further information please visit our website <u>https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/regional-partnership-board/</u>

Finally, my personal thanks go to all members of the RPB and the wider partnership for their support and all their hard work in bringing about the considerable achievements presented in this report. This is my last year as Chair and I would like to wish Councillor Dilwyn Morgan all the very best as the incoming Chair of the RPB.

Best wishes - Mary Wimbury.

2 Overview of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board

2.1 Purpose

The North Wales Regional Partnership Board was established as part of the Social Services and Wellbeing Wales Act (SSWB) to:

- Improve the wellbeing of the population;
- Improve how health and care services are delivered.

We bring together health, social services, housing, the third sector and other partners to co-ordinate the continued transformation and integration of health, social care and well-being services across the region.

The NWRPB meets virtually on a monthly basis with translation facilities which has ensured continued engagement for members.

2.2 Vision statement

Working together to ensure the health and wellbeing of people of all ages in North Wales

2.3 Guiding principles

The NWRPB agreed its guiding principles in November 2016 and these remain fit for purpose:

- Whole system change and reinvestment of resources to a preventative model that promotes good health and well-being and draws effectively on evidence of what works best;
- Care is delivered in joined up ways centred around the needs, preferences and social assets of people (service users, carers and communities);
- People are enabled to use their confidence and skills to live independently, supported by a range of high quality community based options;
- Embedded co-production in decision making so that citizens and their communities shape services;
- We recognise the broad range of factors that influence health and wellbeing and the importance of the links to these areas (including education, housing, welfare, reduced homelessness, economic growth, regeneration, leisure and the environment).

2.4 Role of the NWRPB

The Regional Partnership Board will:

- Ensure that there is an agreed shared vision and a clear direction of travel for service development and integration of health, care and wellbeing in line with the SSWB Act 2014 and A Healthier Wales
- Ensure that there are shared plans and strategies in place (supported by appropriate business cases) for delivering on the vision
- Ensure that the strategic plans are evaluated and reviewed against agreed and understood outcomes and performance indicators
- Lead a strategic approach to communicating and publicising the direction of travel and the progress made
- Maintain an effective overview of the objectives
- Report to the Regional Leadership Board on progress, key issues and exceptions, escalating any barriers to progress within the Regional Partnership Board for resolution
- Ensure that an annual report on progress is prepared and delivered as required to the Welsh Government

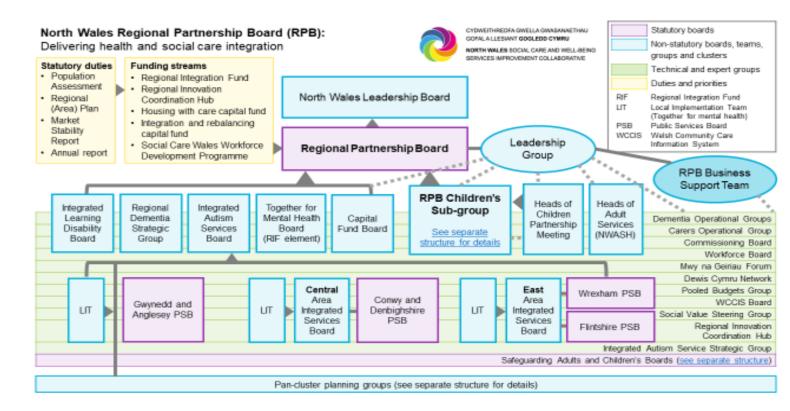
2.5 Membership

The full membership as at March 2023 is detailed in Appendix A.

2.6 Governance Structure

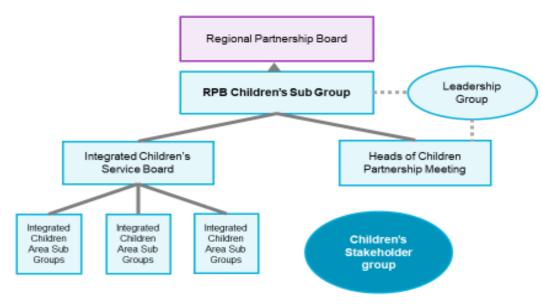
The NWRPB formally reports to the North Wales Leadership Board. The NWRPB's business and the business of the regional sub-groups is managed by the Head of Regional Collaboration and members of the Regional Collaboration Team.

Below is the Governance Structure for the NWRPB.

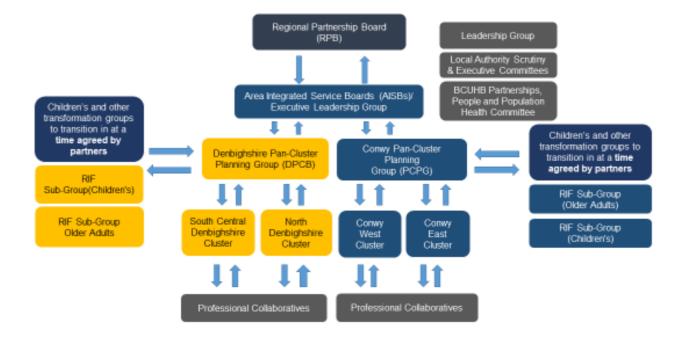


North Wales Regional Partnership Board (RPB):

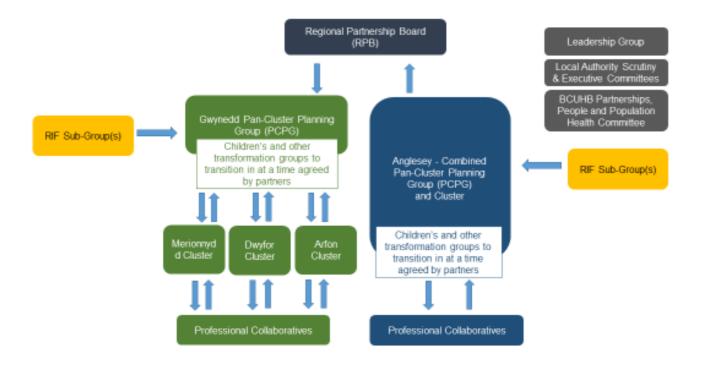
Children's governance structure



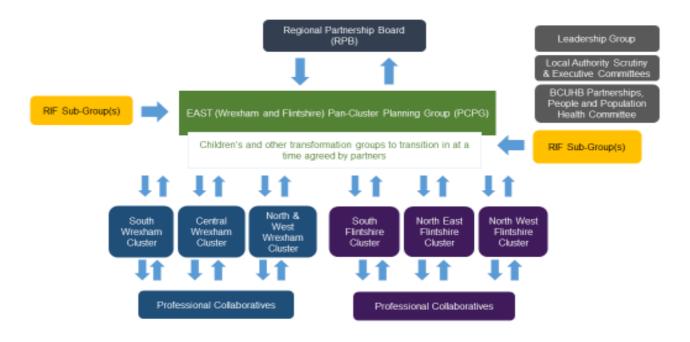
Conwy and Denbighshire Governance



Anglesey and Gwynedd Governance



Wrexham and Flintshire Governance



3 What have we achieved?

3.1 Area Plan

The Regional Area Plan was reviewed and published this year. The plan details the priority areas for integration of services between health and social care and sets out the direction of travel for the Board. It details how the region will address the priority areas identified in the Population Needs Assessment, and is the golden thread to specific areas of work within the region.

https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/NW-Regional-Area-Plan-2023-1.0.pdf

3.2 Autism Code of Practice

The Code of Practice (CoP) on the Delivery of Autism Services was developed in response to feedback from autistic people and their families and/or carers, seeking clarity on the services they should expect to be available in Wales. It relates to the social services functions of local authorities and health services functions of local health boards and NHS trusts. This Code refers to the legal frameworks already in place and requires that the relevant bodies exercise their respective functions in accordance with requirements in the code when arranging or delivering services for autistic people.

The Code is for:

- autistic people, including those with other co-existing conditions
- providers of social care and health support for autistic people and their families and/or carers
- practitioners in social care and health who work with autistic people and their families and/or carers
- commissioners and people with a strategic role in assessing and planning local services for autistic people and their families and/or carers
- practitioners in other related services providing support for autistic people and their families and/or carers, for example employment, education and criminal justice
- service providers and practitioners providing services for autistic people with co-existing conditions.

The RPB Business Support team is providing coordination and support for Local Authority and Health Board partners across North Wales in pulling together an overarching baseline assessment. Partners across North Wales have been working towards providing evidence on each of the codes. The aim of the baseline assessment is to review the extent to which the duties are being met across North Wales partners since its implementation, and to develop recommendations for improvements. The baseline assessment will be completed in June 2023 and this will enable a Strategic Autism Group to be established to oversee both an Autism Code of Practice overarching action plan and key task and finish groups to address the gaps and challenges across autism services. The RPB Business Support team will work with partners to identify any key gaps in data, understand what additional data is required and explore potential barriers and enablers to implementation. The RPB Business Support team will then propose recommendations to support partners in meeting the duties of the Code, including sharing good practice and leading task and finish groups if these are needed.

3.3 Capital

In April 2022, two new regional capital funds were introduced and replaced the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) Capital grant funding stream. The two new funding streams are the Housing with Care Fund (HCF) and the Integration and Rebalancing Capital Fund (IRCF)

HCF - The purpose of the Housing with Care Fund (HCF) is to support independent living in the community for people with care and support needs, and to provide intermediate care settings in the community so that people who need care, support and rehabilitation can return to living independently or maintain their existing independence. It is a 4-year funding programme which funds schemes under 3 objectives:

Objective 1: Increase the existing stock of housing with care significantly

In 2022/23 the NWRPB supported regional partners to secure funding for 4 Objective 1 schemes supporting people with physical and learning disabilities across Wrexham, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Conwy. These Projects included purchasing and adapting accommodation to support people to live more independently and to bring people back into their local area to live.

Objective 2: Increase the stock of intermediate and short-medium term care settings

In 2022/23 the NWRPB supported regional partners to secure funding for 7 Objective 2 schemes developing provision for the elderly, children and young people and people with learning disabilities across Flintshire, Denbighshire, Anglesey, Gwynedd and Conwy. These schemes included refurbishing care facilities and developing new facilities such as children's residential homes and supported accommodation.

Objective 3: Minor Projects – refurbishments, equipment and adaptations

In 2022/23 the NWRPB supported regional partners to secure funding for over 30 minor projects across the region to support all priority groups including refurbishments to existing care provision, adaptations to support care from home and purchasing of assistive technology such as interactive sensory equipment to improve and develop service provision.

IRCF – The purpose of the Integration and Rebalancing Capital Fund (IRCF) is to support the development of Integrated health and social care hubs and centres and to support rebalancing of the social care market. It is an all- Wales 3-year programme. Each region can apply for funding for schemes under the following priorities:

Priority 1 - Development of integrated health and social care hubs and centres In 2022/23 the NWRPB supported regional partners to secure funding for 3 priority 1 schemes which will support the delivery of dementia and well-being hubs for Anglesey, Gwynedd and Conwy. The NWRPB also secured priority 1 funding to deliver 6 dementia centres across the 6 counties in North Wales in partnership with Carers Trust who will provide these facilities as identified in the All Wales Dementia Standards.

Priority 2 - Rebalancing the residential care market

In 2022/23 the NWRPB secured funding for feasibility studies to develop schemes to rebalance adult residential care provision, to allow development of these schemes in the coming years.

Priority 3 – Eliminating profit from the provision of children's residential care

In 2022/23 the NWRPB secured funding to undertake feasibility studies to develop future not for profit Local Authority children's residential care provision to allow development of these schemes in the coming years.

Some of the schemes which have been developed and progressed in 2022/23 are:

- Flintshire: Croes Atti The project will provide a brand new 56 bed care facility in Flint, providing additional capacity to support discharge from hospital and intermediate care and reablement accommodation as well as increasing the community based care provision.
- Wrexham: Care Closer to Home The project will provide additional accommodation for registered care homes for children in Wrexham.
- **Gwynedd: Canolfan Lleu** The project will provide a large multi-purpose health & well-being hub in the centre of Penygroes providing extra care, residential care and social housing solutions plus community and primary care, local authority and third sector services.
- Anglesey: Amlwch Integrated Community Well-Being HUB The project will provide a facility which will enable the promotion of good mental health and emotional wellbeing, providing advice support and activities for all, including citizens with disabilities within the Amlwch community.
- **Denbighshire: Llys Awelon Phase 1 Refurb** The project will refurbish part of the building to provide a seamless link between the current facility and the new building currently being developed.
- Conwy: Glan yr Afon Children's Residential Home The project will provide a new children's home

3.4 Children and Young People Programme

Governance

The governance structure that has been implemented for children and young people, is currently under review. Primarily, the requirement for a review was set out in the Terms of Reference, but it has also been recognised that it is not functioning as effectively as it could be with some of the meetings being less well attended and consequently not quorate and unable to make decisions.

A 'Meetings that Matter' workshop was held on 24th May with representation from the Children Sub Group, Integrated Children's Service Board, Stakeholder Reference Group and Integrated Children's Area Sub Group in attendance. The partnership is sufficiently mature to have a serious discussion around how to make the current structure work smarter and become more effective.



CSG Focus on children and young people

The board has developed a 'focus on' approach to look in-depth at a single priority every two or three meetings. Before the meeting information packs are compiled by the RIC hub, about the situation in North Wales from statistics, research and engagement activities to aid the discussions on the relevant focus topic. We worked closely with the Developing Evidence Enriched Practice (DEEP) Programme to develop the "focus on' approach and were asked to share it at their conference as an example of good practice.

Using this approach our first focus on Young Carers took place during October 2022. An information pack, presentation and videos were shared that summarised the evidence including statistics and data, feedback from young carers and examples of what's working well in other areas. Following time for reflection and conversations about the presentation and videos, the groups worked together to generate questions to discuss and had the chance to talk and think together about as part of a Community of Enquiry approach.

A further focus session relating to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children was held in December and disability and illness in March a session on early years is planned next. Based on the findings from each focus, the board puts together an action plan based on the topic for how to improve services for children and young people. For example, exploring the possibility of a Guardianship Scheme to improve support for young unaccompanied asylum seekers.

The findings from each focus topic are published on the RPB Children's Sub-Group webpages https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/children/

Developing our approach to Nyth /Nest whole system approach

As part of the Welsh Government Nyth / Nest whole system approach, we have been working closely with colleagues leading the children's transformation programmes across North Wales including: Learning Disabilities (LD); Neuro-developmental (ND); CAMHS Transformation; Early Years and No Wrong Door - the Right Door Approach. We are being supported by colleagues in the Public Health Team and their Best Start programme and 5 Ways to Wellbeing.

Welsh Government has asked for a self-assessment tool to be completed for the North Wales region to establish how we are implementing the approach. To achieve this, we are working jointly with all the transformation programme leads and the Public Health Team and will work with Stakeholder Reference Group to expand collaboration to co-produce the toolkit. In addition, we are collectively developing a maturity matrix.

The No Wrong Door Strategy – Implementation of The Right Door approach

The first phase of the No Wrong Door implementation has been supported across the three areas with well attended workshops in each area to consider the Single Access Arrangement to mental health and emotional wellbeing services for children, young people and their families. The change has included:

- The identification of all areas delivering a 'single front door' model, however they vary. As a consequence, a report on all the models is expected which will identify good practice and the critical success factors to be shared across all partners in the region.
- Mapping of services has also commenced which will provide a significant amount of information across the areas around the services available.
- Through co-production with children the implementation phase of the No Wrong Door has been renamed to the 'Right Door Approach'. This is thought to be far more positive and was endorsed by the Children's Commissioner.
- The Right Door web series The children at Ysgol y Gogarth, a day and residential Special School currently catering for approximately 276 pupils between the ages of 3 and 19, have developed a web series to explain the Right Door from a child's perspective. This will continue to be developed and fully launched in 2023/24.

 The launch of the web series was attended by BBC Wales (aired on the evening news) and The Children's Commissioner for Wales. There is a commitment to continue the work and Hope

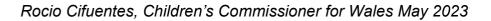
Productions who are in really good shape from a creative/delivery point of view to work on new episodes.

It's been great sharing this work with people. It is co-creation at its best, and TAPE have thanked us for the way in which we've supported this project to date and welcome the chance to discuss the expected and unexpected outcomes of our collaboration, in support of future projects and opportunities.



The Children's Commissioner shared the following comment on the Right Door web series and keen to be kept updated on further work:

"It's been fantastic to meet and hear today from the young people and professionals involved in putting together this important new resource – the Right Door Web Series. I've been particularly impressed by the partnership working approach which has enabled this, and by the true commitment to young people co-producing the resource. I know that 'The Right Door' name was a term inspired by my office's No Wrong Door Approach, and I'm thrilled that young people themselves came up with that name, taking the concept and making it something positive and rights-affirming for them! I'd like to congratulate everyone involved and wish you all the best for your continued work."





Other achievements:

- Launch of the Staywise Cymru Website at the Urdd on 30th May 2023. The development of the Staywise Cymru website has been supported by the Children's Team and funded through RIF. Local North Wales teachers have provided the quality assurance and new curriculum alignment, along with Conwy Translation service translating all of the resources, and a local Ruthin graphic design team have provided their expertise. The website is a national collaboration between the Fire and Rescue Service, Police Service, Ambulance Service, Network Rail, Natural Resources Wales, RNLI, Swim Wales and the North Wales Collaborative Team. Website link: https://staywise.cymru/
- Emotional Health, Wellbeing and Resilience Framework has been developed for ages 0 -18 years with the 19-25 years under development and set around the 5 ways to wellbeing be active, connect, give, keep learning and take notice. The framework sets out a number statements by age to guide children and young people, parents or trusted adults around the emotional health at that particular age.

A number of pilot projects are being delivered to explore how the framework can be utilised. There are already some successes including schools using the framework as part of their parent evening discussions to guide parents / trusted adults. A series of animations are being developed to explain the benefits of the approach and to demonstrate that in some case small changes to people's daily lives can make considerable impacts on the children and young people's emotional health.

3.5 Commissioning

The North Wales Regional Commissioning Board supports and underpins the development and practice of strategic commissioning across Social Services and Health in both Adults and Children's services in North Wales identifying best practice and providing a consistent strategic approach across the region.

Children & Young People's Fees Group and Children & Young People's Quality Group

These are two new groups that have been set up over the last 12 months.

Both groups facilitate the sharing of information on fee uplift requests received from external 'C&YP Residential Care' / 'C&YP Residential Care with Education' providers and from 'Independent Fostering Agency' providers where looked after children from North Wales are placed, as well as sharing the quality of care and support of the providers.

Both groups have been working well and are informal in their approach but gives partners an opportunity to share information and intelligence to help them make decisions in terms of fee uplifts, but also to talk through any quality issues that may arise. Partners are keen to continue these groups as see value in coming together to discuss these different aspects.

Escalating Concerns

A new The North Wales Escalating Concerns Process titled Quality Services: Delivering what Matters, for commissioned care and support services for children, young people, and adults as been agreed and implemented.

Pre Placement Agreement

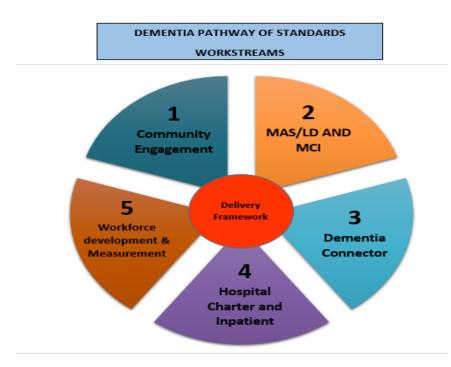
During the last 18 months, considerable work has been undertaken on the developing a North Wales Pre Placement Agreement.

3.6 Dementia Care Pathway of Standards (All Wales)

The All-Wales Dementia Care Pathway of 20 Standards has been developed following consultation with people living with dementia, third sector and voluntary organisations, and health care professionals, to identify what people living with dementia believe will make a positive difference to dementia care. The standards are person centred and provide a proactive approach to meet each person's language needs.

Improvement Cymru have designed a delivery framework which is designed to assist the region in implementing the standards through a 2-year programme, with a readiness year followed by an implementation planning year

In North Wales, partners are working towards achieving these 20 standards through the 5 five work streams shown below. Five task groups have been established to take this work forward with good representation from the health board, six local authorities, third-sector partners, and people living with dementia and their carers.



These standards have been mapped to the 34 actions within the North Wales Regional Dementia strategy so that we can track progress and delivery against both through the work of the work streams

Great progress has been made during 2022-2023 (the readiness phase) and we are on track for the implementation stage in 2023-2024. Some of the achievements across the work streams to date:

- ✓ The Community Engagement workstream has undertaken engagement and scoping exercises to identify current services and any gaps. This has provided opportunities for learning and sharing good practices.
- ✓ Identified Denbigh town as the first community to engage with as part of the dementia care listening campaign in North Wales.
- ✓ A face-to-face engagement event was hosted in Denbigh town with over 60 people in attendance as part of the listening campaign.
- ✓ Questionnaires have been developed to understand the needs of communities across North Wales as part of the listening campaign. The data will be analysed to develop a plan for what dementia care means to that community.
- ✓ A service has been commissioned to engage with older people living with dementia and family and friends who care for them to seek their views within the following communities:
 - People with sensory impairment hearing and/or visual
 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual or Queer (LGBTQ) community
 - Welsh speaking rural communities
 - People with young onset dementia
 - Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups (BAME)
 - People who have suffered domestic abuse
 - Homeless people
 - People leaving prison
- ✓ Collaborative work with the North Wales Police to promote and raise awareness of the Herbert Protocol. The Herbert Protocol provides people living with dementia and their carers with the facility to pre-record key details so that if they are subsequently reported missing the information can be used to assist in locating them.
- ✓ A training gap analysis was undertaken with the six local authorities, the health board and third sector partners to establish the current level of training, e.g., informed, skilled, and influencer within the good work framework.
- Regional audiology memory assessment service has been rolled out across the region.
- ✓ Butterfly scheme implemented for patients with suspected or diagnosed dementia.

3.7 Learning Disability Transformation Programme

The foundation of the programme is the North Wales Learning Disability Strategy. The strategy is being implemented by the team through 6 workstreams: Integrated structures, Workforce development, Commissioning and procurement, Community and culture change, Assistive technology and Employment



Employment.

A new employment workstream has been established to co-produce a Supported Employment Strategy for people with learning disabilities. The supported employment service model is the foundation of the strategy – it has been designed to directly respond to the evidence base and input from people with learning disabilities across the region

Person Centred Planning (PCP) Training Programme, Strategy and Network

The region's PCP training programme has begun with Introduction, Refresher and an in-depth Person Centred Thinking Courses. A PCP network event is (provisionally) planned for the 29th of June, where feedback from the Training and the Consultation exercises will be shared with the PCP and LD community.

The team have been part of developing a bilingual **'Supported Decision Making' Guide**, facilitated by Paradigm and others from around the UK.

> https://paradigm-uk.org/2023/05/05/newpractical-guide-to-supported-decisionmaking/.



Community activities. Part of the funding is used to fund third sector led community activities, the purpose being to seed fund and encourage the development of resources within the community that will meet the care and support needs of people with learning disabilities outside the health and social care arena. To date, the programme has invested almost £1m in such activities. This year, the North Wales Flyers (the North Wales self-advocates network), helped decide how to allocate the community grant funding for 2023/24 and 2024/25.

Direct Payment Resources. The electronic version of the Direct Payment leaflets has been circulated to Service Managers across the area. Hard copies of the leaflets are available through contacting

Ruby.jones@flintshire.gov.uk



Technology

The Technology workstream is supported by a technology strategy developed in 2020. The strategy identifies the barriers to the use of technology as threefold. They are:

- Access to equipment and the internet
- Confidence in the use of equipment, and
- Skills and knowledge of the equipment and applications available

Training is key to addressing these barriers and the first 2 sessions (of 8) have been held for the Assistive Technology Awareness course. These courses are being piloted in Wrexham and Gwynedd and will be rolled out across the region from next year onwards. The training is aimed at all those who support people with learning disabilities and sessions are designed to improve confidence and knowledge in relation to the use of technology with people with intellectual disabilities.

The programme has a technology library which loans or otherwise provides equipment to people with LD and their carers. The workstream lead also provides access to applications that help support various aspects of individuals' lives and support needs. Examples being trialled are the paincheck app, which identifies pain in individuals who are not able to communicate that pain, and the PBAS app which helps support people schedules to enable them to participate in daily activities. **Life After School videos launch.** The series of short films called 'Life After School' were launched at Ysgol y Gogarth on Friday 5th May 2023. The team is proud to have worked alongside TAPE Music and Film's Backstage Youth Club on this project. The young people in the youth club helped animate, voice over and create the films, which are aimed to help young people with learning disabilities make choices for their lives after school. The videos include topics like finding somewhere to live, going to college, and getting a job. These films can be found on our YouTube page <u>North Wales Together - Gogledd Cymru Gyda'n Gilyd.</u> Or by scanning this QR code:



Funded Activities for Children and Young People. Activities has also been funded for children and their families which include activity days at Glan Llyn, soft play activities in Mon, drama groups for children, a transition project run by Conwy Connect and many more.







3.8 Market Stability Report

We published our first <u>Market Stability Report</u> which includes information about the availability of care and support across the region. This includes care homes, home care, children's homes, fostering, adoption, advocacy and support for unpaid carers. The report assesses how well current provision meets people's needs and recommends ways to make sure enough support is available in future.

3.9 Population Needs Assessment

As Census 2021 data has begun to be published, we have produced a series of reports about the initial results for North Wales including demography and equalities data.

We have provided a range of bespoke data reports for partners on topics including older people's needs, children and young people's mental health and to inform the Gogledd Cymru Actif North Wales Strategy. We have produced statistical profiles for North Wales which include information about the wider social and physical environment that can impact on health and well-being for local council areas, the health board areas and Public Service Board areas in North Wales. We are also reviewing topics as part of our <u>focus on children and young people</u> work for the RPB Children's Sub-Group, including updates about young carers, young refugees and asylum seekers.

View the statistics and research pages on the regional collaboration website.

3.10 Regional Integration Fund (RIF)

In April 2022 the new Regional Integration Fund was introduced and replaced the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) Revenue and Transformation grant funding streams.

The RIF is a five-year funding programme to support NWRPB's long term planning and is a key lever to drive change and transformation across the health and social care system. The aim is that by the end of the five-year programme we will have established and mainstreamed at least six new national models of integrated care so that citizens of Wales, where ever they live, can be assured of an effective and seamless service experience.

All activity funded by the RIF must directly support development and delivery of the six national models of integrated care which are:



The investment in 2022/23 in each of the national models of care from Welsh Government RIF monies and from partner organisations is shown in the table below:

| Model of Care | Total Cost £ | Welsh Government Funding £ | Partner Match Monetary £ | Partner Match Resource £ |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Community Based Care - Prevention and Coordination | £8,702,362 | £7,225,965 | £1,294,823 | £181,574 |
| Community Based Care - Complex Care Closer to Home | £13,804,024 | £7,100,244 | £4,829,106 | £1,874,674 |
| Home from hospital | £5,631,881 | £4,755,991 | £614,240 | £261,650 |
| Supporting families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children | £12,247,846 | £9,164,837 | £1,723,974 | £1,359,035 |
| Accommodation Based Solutions | £1,034,308 | £712,934 | £280,635 | £40,739 |
| Promoting good emotional health and well-being | £2,339,406 | £1,203,936 | £654,712 | £480,758 |
| Total | £43,759,826 | £30,163,907 | £9,397,489 | £4,198,430 |

Just over £7m was spent on projects that directly supported carers and £5m investment went to support social value projects.

The complete end of year report for the RIF is attached in Appendix 3.

3.11 Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub

The hub aims to coordinate health and social care research, innovation and improvement activity in North Wales.

In 2022-23 we evaluated innovative ideas, such as the <u>Community Catalysts project</u> and <u>RITA devices</u> to support reminiscence, rehabilitation and interactive therapy activities for people living with dementia. We look forward to sharing the positive impacts these projects have made during the next year.

To support the new regional Digital, Data and Technology Board, we began mapping the innovative digital projects taking place in North Wales.

We worked closely with the Developing Evidence Enriched Practice (DEEP) to improve the ways we collect, talk about and use research evidence. This includes story-telling methods of collecting evidence and using a method called <u>Community of Enquiry</u> to reflect on evidence we'd gathered to support the work of the RPB Children's Sub-Group.

We supported regional programmes with searches to identify research evidence about topics they're working on. This included searches around <u>digital inclusion</u>, <u>children who do not attend school</u> and <u>young carers of adults with mental health</u> <u>issues</u>.

Working closely with the other regional hubs and national organisations, we shared, promoted and developed new ideas, including membership of a new North Wales Innovation Network. By the end of the year we had increased our Twitter followers to 400 and had 172 subscribers to the RIC hub mailing list.

Please follow us on <u>Twitter</u> @_NW_RICH, <u>sign up to our newsletter</u> and visit the <u>RIC</u> <u>hub webpages</u> for more information.

In 2022-23, the hub rebranded as a Regional Innovation Coordination Hub (previously Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub), part of the Welsh Government Innovation, Technology and Partnerships Programme.

3.12 Together for Mental Health Transformation Programme



The Healthier Wales funded iCAN ("Independent, Connected, Active, Networked") Programme sits within this broad strategy. Its overall aim is to implement a more integrated, innovative care system and culture which prevents, but where necessary, responds

effectively to episodes of acute mental health need and crisis. This funded programme seeks to scale up 'what works' and increase the pace of transformation across North Wales to create a sector-leading integrated urgent care system. Underpinning this is the creation of an integrated iCAN pathway that improves collaborative working, within and between health and social care, statutory partners and third sector organisations.

The components of the iCAN offer have changed and developed during the course of the Programme. They have developed into the following key components:

- iCAN Hubs 8 community hubs located in each of the main towns across the region working with third sector partners to offer easily accessible support and signposting and a safe environment.
- iCAN Primary Care A pilot project locating specialist Occupational Therapists in GP Surgeries offering counselling, advice, signposting and onward referral.
- iCAN Work Employment support.
- iCAN Digital access to support for mental wellbeing making use of a variety of apps and online resources.

3.13 Workforce

The Regional Workforce Board are currently reviewing the North Wales Regional Workforce Strategy to support the National Health & Social Care Workforce Strategy and will ensure that the seven strategic themes identified within the national strategy, are fully integrated into the delivery programme.

The Regional Workforce Board continues to support existing national strategies and priorities which include the national WeCare campaign for attraction, recruitment and retention of care workers. Planning meetings have been conducted with Careers Wales, to discuss how to showcase the WeCare campaign when engaging with schools in particular. Similar discussions have also taken place with DWP. Local authority employability teams have been contacted and presentations have been provided to demonstrate the resources available to them for promoting the sector.

A North Wales Ambassador Programme has been developed that includes visits to schools, provision of online events and attending jobs fairs. Opportunities for Ambassadors to share their experiences and ideas is also being developed. A strategic alliance has been formed with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB), in respect of their Step Into Work adult volunteer programme. The programme identifies work placements opportunities for a variety of groups, which include, but is not limited to, workless households, long term unemployed, higher and further education students.

As a consequence of this allegiance, it has been possible to develop an alternative programme which has been branded as 'Taster to Care'. This programme aims to identify those individuals solely interested in working within the social care arena. It is a shorter programme, consisting of one day per week for a total of four weeks' work experience. E-learning modules are undertaken, which map across to the All Wales Induction Framework, should they wish to pursue a career within the care sector.

Another joint initiative with BCUHB is the development of a regional staff bank. This was first initiated during the Covid pandemic, with a view to providing additional support to care homes within the region. It is acknowledged that this may not have been a suitable solution for everyone at the time, due to a number of mitigating circumstances. However, it has afforded the opportunity to discuss how this may be beneficial to all parties in the future, provided that the difficulties already experienced can be overcome. To this end a small steering group has been formed in order to discuss a way forward, with a view to conducting a pilot project. An evaluation can then be undertaken to identify what components of the initiative work, or do not work, whether value for money is being realised, and what the long term benefits of such an initiative may bring.

An area of concern recently highlighted to the Regional Workforce Board is the shortage of Occupational Therapists (OT's) for both the health board and local authorities in the region. A small working group was formed and through discussion, potential regional and national solutions have been identified that may address this in the future. With this in mind and to highlight these issues the Regional Workforce Board has recently communicated with both Social Care Wales (SCW) & Health Education in Wales (HEIW) expressing these concerns, giving an indication as to how they may be resolved. It is anticipated that the working group will engage further with SCW and HEIW over the coming months.

The Regional Workforce Development Action Plan, funded through the Social Care Wales Workforce Development Grant, has been approved and shared with each local authority. There is an expectation within each local authority, to develop workforce training plans, in line with priorities within Health and Social Care Workforce Strategy Priorities and the Regional Population Needs Assessment.

4 Communication, engagement and social value

4.1 North Wales Engagement

NWRPB continues to engage with people through different platforms e.g. social media; online; via Teams/Zoom etc. and face to face engagement work was undertaken during 2022/23 as a result of the decline of Covid restrictions. Local events were attended and the first North Wales Dementia Listening Campaign took place in the town of Denbigh.

Excellent working relationships have been forged allowing for engaging with seldom heard groups, minority ethnic groups and protected characteristic groups. Continual engagement with our people, partners, stakeholders is pivotal.

The NWRPB Engagement Officer was a member of the Task & Finish Group in drawing up the Engagement & Voice Charter commitments for all Wales RPB's. The Charter sets our meaningful participation of service users, cares, third sector and provider members on the RPB's. NWRPB adopted the Charter in December 2022.

The NWRPB Engagement Officer continues to have an excellent working relationships with communication and engagement officers of partner organisations and continues the current arrangements for engagement and communication relating to the Board and its work. Having a dedicated Engagement Officer for the NWRPB is enabling the communication and engagement activities to be accelerated and build upon the work that has been progressed to date.

4.2 North Wales Social Value Steering Group

The North Wales Social Value Forum (NWSVF) has grown since it was formed in 2016, with new members joining the group. These new members consist of partners from BCUHB, local authorities and third/voluntary sector, however, now is a good time to re-look at the membership and the terms of reference for this group. This work will be undertaken in May at a face-to-face meeting. This group will continue their support to the delivery of the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014.

The NWSVF will continue to work with the North Wales Social Value Network to promote the development of not for private profit organisations (including social enterprises, co-operative organisations, co-operative arrangements, user led service and third sector) to provide care and support and support for carers, and preventative services.

The group will continue to promote collaboration, partnership and networking opportunities across sectors with an aim of maximising social value and coproduction across all providers delivering health, social care and /or wellbeing services in North Wales. Over the next 3 years, the group will focus on:

- An action plan will be devised by the forum for the next three years.
- The Forum will continue to work with the North Wales Social Value Network.
- The Forum will also aim to measure the impact of social value and how it is being delivered in North Wales, yet to be agreed whether this will be measured through WG's TOMS (Themes, Outcomes, Measures) Framework, to be agreed regionally and then locally.
- Members of the Forum will continue to work closely with Cwmpas as part of a sub-group of the National Commissioning Board to focus on *"Promoting Social Value Models of Delivery in Social Care"*. A guidance document aimed at commissioners, procurers and service providers to help them understand why and how the promotion of Social Value Models of Delivery in tendering might impact on their activities.
- Working with the Voluntary Services Councils, the Forum will focus on Third Sector projects particularly utilising RIF funding to maximum benefit.

4.3 North Wales Carers Groups

The North Wales Carers & Young Carers Operational Group (NW(Y)COG) has continued to deliver on the North Wales Regional Carers Strategy. It has been agreed by the group that the action plan which supports the Welsh Government's Strategy for Unpaid Carers and the national priorities will be reviewed and refreshed for the year ahead by the operational group.

Our GP & Hospital Facilitation Service, funded through Welsh Government's Annual Carers Grant, have continued to support unpaid carers in primary and secondary care. There has been a particular focus on the Hospital Carers Facilitators with support provided during hospital discharge. This focus will continue for the next year, with the Welsh Government's Annual Carers Grant stipulating that the focus should be on the supporting unpaid carers when the person they care for is admitted to or discharged from hospital. This change is intended to aid timely discharge of patients from hospital by supporting and involving their unpaid carers in the process.

Between April and December 2022, over 800 unpaid carers have been identified and supported within primary care by our two commissioned providers, Carers Outreach and NEWCIS. A similar number of unpaid carers have also been identified and supported within secondary care whilst supporting an in-patient or whilst the unpaid carer has had a hospital stay themselves.

4.4 North Wales Young Carers

The identified number of young carers in North Wales has grown in the last few years due to an increase in referrals through successful awareness raising and positive relationships with partner agencies. As of November 2021, when the data was collected for the Population Needs Assessment, 1,752 young carers were being supported across North Wales.

The national Young Carers ID card was launched across North Wales in March 2021 in response to a WG consultation, to identify and raise awareness of young carers as well as provide recognition of their important and often invisible caring role. The aim of this national initiative, supported by Carers Trust Wales is to help young carers access the right support at the right time; whether this be in their school, a pharmacy or whilst shopping for the person cared for.

Over the past year, Ynys Môn and Gwynedd have piloted an app, <u>AIDI</u>, which includes a digital identity card as well as a communication feature "Ping My School" which enables young carers an easy way to contact their school if they are experiencing any problems and need support with their school work due to their caring role at home. AIDI officially launched last month and is now accessible to all young carers across the two counties.

Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham initially launched a physical card to ensure it was accessible to all young carers, including those without electronic devices and to date over 200 cards have been issued. Further work is underway this year to launch an app with similar features to AIDI in the West.

5 Forward Look

5.1 Priorities for 2023/24 and beyond

The priorities for the Regional Partnership are drawn from the:

- Population Needs Assessment
- Market Stability Report
- Regional Integration Fund Guidance
- Strategic Capital Plan
- Welsh Government Initiatives
- Partner Priorities

We have finalised our priorities and focus for the short and longer term and these are contained within our Regional Area Plan.

https://www.northwalescollaborative.wales/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/NW-Regional-Area-Plan-2023-1.0.pdf

In support of the Plan there is detailed annual Delivery Plan which outlines against each workstream what we want to achieve in the next 12 months. A copy of this plan is attached in Appendix 2.

This report has been produced to meet the requirements set out by the Welsh Government in the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014

Appendix 1 – Membership of the NWRPB

As at 31 March 2023

Alwyn Jones Chief Officer Social Care, Wrexham County Borough Council

Alwyn Williams Chief Inspector North Wales Police

Ann Woods Chief Officer, Flintshire Local Voluntary Council

Catrin Roberts Head of Regional Collaboration

Cyng/Cllr Alun Roberts, Isle of Anglesey County Council

Cyng / Cllr Christine Jones Flintshire County Council

Cyng/Cllr John Pritchard Wrexham County Borough Council

Cyng/Cllr Liz Roberts Conwy County Borough Council

Cyng/Cllr Dilwyn Morgan Gwynedd Council

Cyng/Cllr Elen Heaton Denbighshire County Council

Dr Lowri Brown Head of Education Services, Conwy County Borough Council

Dylan Owen Statutory Director of Social Services, Gwynedd Council

Estelle Hitchon WAST, Director of Partnerships and Engagement

Ffion Johnstone BCUHB Integrated Health Community Director (West)

Fôn Roberts Director of Social Services, Isle of Anglesey County Council

Gill Harris BCUHB, Executive Director

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Jenny Williams Director of Social Services, Conwy County Borough Council

Karen Higgins BCUHB, Director of Primary Care, Palliative Care & Children's Services

Libby Ryan-Davies BCUHB Integrated Health Community Director (Central)

Liz Grieve Head of Housing & Communities Service, Denbighshire County Council

Mary Wimbury Chief Executive Officer and Senior Policy Advisor, Care Forum Wales

Meinir Williams-Jones Barnardo's Cymru Assistant Director for North Wales

Michelle Green

BCUHB Integrated Health Community Director (East)

Neil Ayling Director of Social Services, Flintshire County Council

Nicola Stubbins Corporate Director: Social Services & Education, Denbighshire County Council

Rhun ap Gareth, Chief Executive, Conwy County Borough Council

Roger Seddon Service User Representative

Siân Elen Tomos Chief Executive, GISDA

Steve Gadd Head of Finance and Audit, Denbighshire County Council

Teresa Owen BCUHB Executive Director of Public Health

Appendix 2 – Annual Delivery Plan

Each workstream considers the cross-cutting themes: Welsh language - 'Active Offer', equality and human rights, socio-economic disadvantage, housing, homelessness, loneliness and isolation, social value, co-production and citizen voice, prevention, safeguarding, violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence and Covid-19.

| Workstream | Action | Links to key documents | Regional Lead | Workstream Lead(s) | Timescale |
|------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|--|-----------|
| Regional Integration Fund | Delivery of the RIF Programme of Schemes for each Model of Care | <u>RIF webpages</u> | | Siobhan Gothorp Sharon Hinchcliffe Kathryn Whitfield Lisa Goodier | |
| Regional Integration Fund | To establish an outcomes framework which enables consistent reporting of performance measures across all projects and Models of Care so that difference made and distance travelled can be monitored. | | | Siobhan Gothorp Sarah Bartlett | |
| Regional Integration Fund | To develop an evaluation framework to enable regular robust evaluation of schemes to inform future programme planning | | | Siobhan Gothorp Sarah Bartlett | |
| Children and young people | Implementation of The Right Door Strategy (in response to the No Wrong Door report) | <u>The Right Door</u> <u>Strategy</u> | Fon Roberts Louise Bell | Sharon Hinchcliffe | |
| Children and young people | Development of priorities for children and young people, considering the different needs of different age groups. | <u>RPB Children's</u> sub-group webpages | Fon Roberts Louise Bell | Sharon Hinchcliffe | |
| Children and young people | NYTH/NEST framework: whole system approach for mental health | The NEST framework | Fon Roberts Louise Bell | Sharon Hinchcliffe | |
| Dementia | Implementation of the North Wales Dementia Strategy | North Wales Dementia Strategy | | Siobhan Gothorp | |
| Dementia | Dementia accommodation needs into the Strategic Capital Plan | | | Siobhan Gothorp | |
| Learning disabilities | Implementation of North Wales Together Programme, underpinned by co-production focussing on | North Wales Together website | Neil Ayling | Kathryn Whitfield | |

| Workstream | Action | Links to key documents | Regional Lead | Workstream Lead(s) | Timescale |
|---|---|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| | communities and cultural change, accommodation, assistive technology, employment and children and young people. | | | | |
| Autism | Implementation of the statutory code of practice on the delivery of the Autism Services Delivery Plan 2021-22 | | | Alison Lowry | |
| Mental Health | Review and implementation of T4MH strategy for North Wales | | | Vicky Jones | |
| 'Further, Faster' – Our mission to build an Integrated Community Care Service for Wales | To support the development of a Community Care Service for Wales | | | Catrin Roberts | |
| Further, Faster' – Our mission to build an Integrated Community Care Service for Wales | To review the RIF Programme to identify any opportunities to further increase community capacity as part of the Further Faster work | | | Catrin Roberts | |
| Strategic Capital | To develop a 10 year Strategic Capital Plan in line with Welsh Government guidance | | Neil Ayling | Siobhan Gothorp Joseph Griffiths | |
| Workforce | Scope out the programme of work for the Workforce Stream | | Jenny Williams | Llinos Howatson | |
| Workforce | Recruitment and retention | | Jenny Williams | Llinos Howatson | |
| Workforce | Taster to Care programme: provides an insight into the care sector for people interested in a new career | | Jenny Williams | Rebecca Szekely | |
| Commissioning | Market Stability Report annual reviews | Market Stability Report | | Llinos Howatson | |

| Workstream | Action Links to key documents | | Regional Lead | Workstream Lead(s) | Timescale |
|---|--|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Commissioning | Completion of the Older People Audit Wales Action Plan to include drafting, agreeing and implementing a Regional Commissioning Strategy | | Alwyn Jones Jane Trowman | Llinos Howatson | |
| Commissioning | Implementation of a Pre Placement Agreement for Service Providers to include the co-ordination of the Workshops and setting up a process for collating the completed PPA. | | | Llinos Howatson | |
| Commissioning | Complete the Escalating Concerns Policy and implement | | Alwyn Jones Jane Trowman | Llinos Howatson | |
| Commissioning | nmissioning To develop a Commissioning Strategy for Older People Placement | | Alwyn Jones Jane Trowman | Llinos Howatson | |
| Commissioning | To review the True Cost of Care arrangements for the region | | David Soley | Llinos Howatson | |
| Regional Innovation Coordination Hub | Coordinate research, innovation and improvement activity Population needs assessment updates | RIC hub webpages | Jenny Williams | Sarah Bartlett | |
| Mwy Na Geiriau | Drive progress under the overarching theme of culture and leadership and the three themes 1. Welsh language planning and policies including data 2. Supporting and developing the Welsh language skills of the current and future workforce 3. Sharing best practice and an enabling approach | <u>Mwy na geriau: 5 year</u> <u>plan 2022 to 2027</u> | Ffion Johnston | Eluned Yaxley | |
| Safeguarding | To respond effectively to the learning identified from Regional Adult / Child Practice reviews, Regional Multi-agency professional's forum and the National and UK reviews. | | Jenny Williams Neil Ayling | David Lewis | |
| Safeguarding | Effective engagement and communication: To improve engagement and consultation with children | | Jenny Williams Neil Ayling | David Lewis | |

| Workstream | Action | Links to key documents | Regional Lead | Workstream Lead(s) | Timescale |
|--|---|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | and adults at risk, vulnerable groups, professionals and partnerships | | | | |
| Safeguarding | To support the implementation of new and existing legalisation including End Physical Punishment and Liberty of Protection Safeguards alongside responding to national action plans on Child Sexual Abuse and preventing abuse of Older People. | | Jenny Williams Neil Ayling | David Lewis | |
| Safeguarding | To continue to ensure a robust, resilient and consistent approach to safeguarding practice. | | Jenny Williams Neil Ayling | David Lewis | |
| Regional Partnership | To develop a partner agreement to cover the regional partnership work to include financial strategy. | | Dilwyn Morgan | Catrin Roberts | |
| Regional Partnership | Implement the revised Part 2 and Part 9 Guidance. | | Dilwyn Morgan | Catrin Roberts | |
| Regional Partnership | Links with PSBs | | | Catrin Roberts | |
| Engagement | To review the Regional Partnership Board's current engagement, voice and coproduction arrangements. | Engagement and communication strategy | | | |
| Digital, Data Transformation | Develop a North Wales approach to using digital, data and technology to enable seamless, integrated services | | Dylan Roberts | Sarah Bartlett | |
| Accelerated Cluster Development (ACD) | Support the development and implementation of the ACD to include governance. Develop relationship between PCPG (Primary Care Planning Group. | | | Jo Flannery | |
| Unpaid carers | Update North Wales Carers Strategy, deliver North Wales Carers and Young Carers Operational Group Action Plan | Carers strategy and action plan updates | Ffion Johnston | Lindsey Duckett | |
| Social Value Forum | ial Value Forum Continue to develop the Social Value Forum. Link with PSB priorities. | | Neil Ayling | Lindsey Duckett | |

| Workstream | Action | Links to key documents | Regional Lead | Workstream Lead(s) | Timescale |
|---|---|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Equality, human rights and socioeconomic disadvantage | Continue to embed within work processes including equality impact assessments completed on new and amended strategies and projects. | | | | |
| Housing and homelessness | Write additional housing and homelessness section for the PNA. | | | | |
| Loneliness and isolation | Link with PSB priorities. | | | | |
| Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence | Support the work of the North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Board and North Wales North Wales Safeguarding Board | | | | |
| Covid-19 | Continue to support the Covid-19 Recovery Process. | | | | |

Appendix 3 – Regional Integration Fund – End of Year Report

1. RIF Programme Summary

The North Wales 2022/23 RIF programme comprised 40 schemes across the 6 national Models of Care. The total investment (excluding infrastructure and programme management costs) was £43,759,826. This includes £13,595,919 of partner monetary and resource match funding.

£6,949,020 (21%) was spent on schemes which directly supported unpaid carers

£4,992,983 (15%) was spent on schemes social value schemes

Table 1: Investment in each national Model of Care

| Model of Care | Number of Schemes | % | Total Investment £ | Welsh Government Funding | Partner Match Monetary | Partner Match Resource |
|---|-------------------------|------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | | | £ | £ | £ |
| Community Based Care - Prevention and Coordination | 14 | 20% | £8,702,362 | £7,225,965 | £1,294,823 | £181,574 |
| Community Based Care - Complex Care Closer to Home | 7 | 32% | £13,804,024 | £7,100,244 | £4,829,106 | £1,874,674 |
| Home from hospital | 5 | 13% | £5,631,881 | £4,755,991 | £614,240 | £261,650 |
| Supporting families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children | 6 | 28% | £12,247,846 | £9,164,837 | £1,723,974 | £1,359,035 |
| Accommodation Based Solutions | 4 | 2% | £1,034,308 | £712,934 | £280,635 | £40,739 |
| Promoting good emotional health and well-being | 4 | 5% | £2,339,406 | £1,203,936 | £654,712 | £480,758 |
| Total | 40 | 100% | £43,759,826 | £30,163,907 | £9,397,489 | £4,198,430 |
| | | | 100% | 69% | 21% | 10% |

2. Performance Measures

All projects were asked to report against 6 performance measures following the Results Based Accountability (RBA) model. RBA suggests that in addition to project specific performance measures, (used for project evaluation) a small number of programme level measures are reported so that the impact of the programme can be seen.

For the RIF 2022/23 programme the measures to be recorded across all schemes were:

How Much Measure 1 Number of people who have accessed and/or been supported by the scheme

How Well Measure 1 Number and % of people who report feeling less isolated

Difference Made Measure 1 Number and % of people who achieved what matters to them How Much Measure 2 Number of carers who have accessed and/or been supported by the scheme

How Well Measure 2 Number and% of people who reported a positive experience with the service

Difference Made Measure 2 Number and % of people reporting improved emotional health and well-being

The performance data for the whole RIF programme is shown below.

The performance data for each Model of Care is shown in the MoC sections on pages 3-8

The performance data for each project within each Model of Care is shown in the appendices

NB: Not all projects had reported by the deadline and at the time of writing this report. A refresh is planned at the end of June to capture any late data submissions

Measure 1: 62,429

Number of individuals who have accessed and/or been supported by schemes with RIF funding contribution

Measure 2: 8,997

Number of carers who have accessed and/or been supported by schemes with RIF funding contribution

Measure 3: 10,823 and 86%

Number and % of people who report feeling less isolated

Measure 4: 10,694 and 95%

Number and% of people who reported a positive experience with the service

Measure 5: 13,476 and 94%

Number and % of people who achieved what matters to them

Measure 6: 8,412 and 95%

Number and % of people reporting improved emotional health and well-being

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3. Community Based Care – Prevention and Co-ordination (CBC PC)

There was investment of \pounds 8,702,362 across 14 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 20% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

Table 2: Schemes in CBC PC Model of Care

| | Community Based Care - Prevention and Coordination MoC | | | |
|-----------|---|--|--|--|
| CBC PC 01 | Community Hubs - Navigators, Agents & Connectors, Local Asset Co-ordinators | | | |
| CBC PC 02 | /ellbeing Officers / Support Workers | | | |
| CBC PC 03 | Single Point of Access (SPOA) Teams | | | |
| CBC PC 04 | Progression & Prevention & Transition | | | |
| CBC PC 05 | Dementia Community Support Services | | | |
| CBC PC 06 | MAS Pathway pre assessment and post diagnosis advice and support service | | | |
| CBC PC 07 | Dementia Commissioning and Strategy Implementation Officers | | | |
| CBC PB 09 | Practice Development Nurse | | | |
| CBC PC 10 | Dementia Friendly Status | | | |
| CBC PC 11 | Carers Respite Services | | | |
| CBC PC 12 | Carer Support Officers | | | |
| CBC PC 13 | Regional Integrated Autism Service | | | |
| CBC PC 14 | Regional LD Communities | | | |

The focus of the schemes is prevention, early intervention and co-ordination.

The focus of the prevention work is on immunisation and screening programmes, smoking cessation, losing weight, preventing loneliness and social isolation.

The focus of the early intervention work is on social prescribing services, community connector/navigator services utilising local assets, creating connections and networks to co-design local solutions, providing easy to access information and advice.

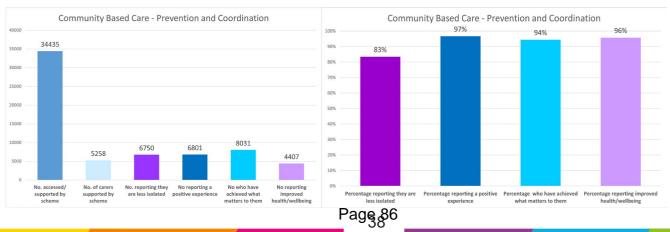
Local coordinators work with people who may otherwise require social services. By engaging early on, building on strengths and helping people to build local connections they help people find their own lasting solutions and build community resilience.

Community hubs are an important part of this model of care. They provide a community focal point (actual or virtual) from which preventative initiatives and early intervention services and de-escalation solutions can be co-ordinated and delivered.

Community support and engagement schemes for people living with dementia and their carers in line with the priorities within North Wales Dementia Strategy and the All Wales Dementia Standards are included in this model of care.

Performance measures for the schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 3 & 4

Graphs 3 & 4: Performance measures in CBC PC Model of Care



4. Community Based Care – Complex Care closer to home (CBC CC)

There was investment of \pounds 13,804,024 across 7 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 32% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

Table 5: Schemes in CBC CC Model of Care

| | Community Based Care - Complex Care Closer to Home MoC | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| CBC CC 01 | Falls Prevention | | | | |
| CBC CC 02 | Community Resource Teams (CRTs) | | | | |
| CBC CC 03 | Complex and intense Support Service | | | | |
| CBC CC 04 | Response Service | | | | |
| CBC CC 05 | Care Sector Support | | | | |
| CBC CC 06 | Step Beds | | | | |
| CBC CC 07 | Empowering Independence | | | | |

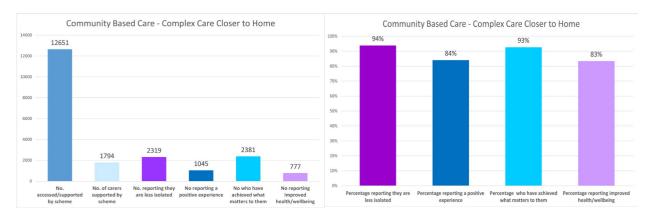
The focus of the schemes is to prevent overnight falls, reduce ambulance call outs, prevent hospital admissions and support efficient hospital discharges.

By supporting people to manage complex clinical needs in the community, enabling people to recover at home or close to home avoids hospital admission. Locality based Community Resource Multi-Disciplinary Teams support adults at risk, provide necessary support for care package crisis / end of life and enable older individuals to access community support, arranging treatment and support if clinically safe to do so.

Schemes within this model of care also strengthen the care sector - supporting care home sustainability is a critical determinant of an integrated, sustainable and high-quality health and social care system.

Step Up / step down beds and crisis response schemes are key features of this model of care as are empowering independence projects which ensure individuals take control of their care and support, forward planning to avoid crisis situations.

Performance measures for the schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 6 & 7



Graphs 6 & 7: Performance measures in CBC CC Model of Care

5. Home from Hospital (HfH)

There was investment of £5,631,881 across 5 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 13% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

Table 8: Schemes in CBC CC Model of Care

| | Home from Hospital Moc | | | | |
|--------|--|--|--|--|--|
| HfH 01 | Home First Teams | | | | |
| HfH 02 | D2RA Therapy Capacity | | | | |
| HfH 03 | SUSD | | | | |
| HfH 04 | Admissions Co-ordinator / Care Brokers | | | | |
| HfH 05 | Care Home Based Integrated Care Teams | | | | |

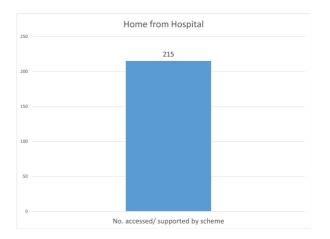
The focus of the schemes is Increased turnaround at the 'front door' through 7-day therapy support along with discharge support from Home First teams and increased Discharge Co-ordinator Capacity.

Implementing a Home First model aligned to the D2RA Pathway supports people to recover at home before being assessed for any ongoing need. These projects include a wide range of approaches which ensure safe and effective discharge planning. The focus is on achieving a safe transfer of care into the community and detailed assessments in the patient's home for long term care needs.

Step up / step down provision and spot purchase as necessary is a crucial feature of the Home from Hospital model of care

The care home based integrated care team scheme supports people to recover in intermediate care settings before being assessed for any ongoing need.

Only a small number of the Home from Hospital schemes were able to report this year and only against performance measure 1: as shown in graph 9 below



Graph 9: Performance measure in HfH Model of Care

6. Supporting Families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced Children (SF&C)

There was investment of £12,247,846 across 6 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 28% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

Table 10: Schemes in SF&C Model of Care

| Supporting F | Supporting Families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children MoC | | | | | |
|--------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| SF&C 01 | Early Intervention | | | | | |
| SF&C 02 | Repatriation & Prevention Services | | | | | |
| SF&C 03 | Building Family resilience to prevent escalation | | | | | |
| SF&C 04 | Intensive residential support for children with complex needs | | | | | |
| SF&C 05 | Intensive support teams for children with complex needs | | | | | |
| SF&C 06 | Specialist support for children with complex / specialist needs | | | | | |

The focus of the Supporting Families and Children schemes are:

Early intervention and prevention for children with complex needs

Additional needs and secondary prevention including multi agency early help

Complex needs and secondary prevention including multi-agency early help

High risk and very complex needs - acute/ specialist including safeguarding

Early intervention and prevention for children with complex needs -SF&C 01

These schemes support children and young people who have had a wellbeing concern and have made good overall progress using preventative and non-specialist channels.

Additional needs and secondary prevention – SF&C 02

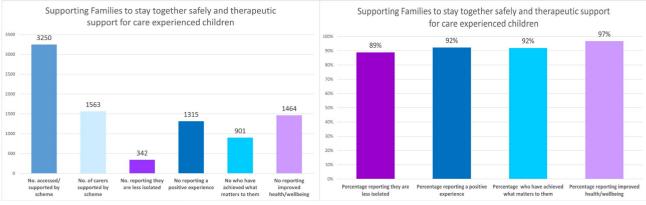
These schemes support children and young people who have needs that cannot be met by universal services and require additional, co-ordinated multi-agency support and early help.

Complex needs and secondary prevention schemes – SF&C 03, SF&C 04, SF&C 05 These schemes support children and young people with an increasing level of unmet needs and those who require more complex support and interventions and coordinated support to prevent concerns escalating.

High risk and very complex needs - acute/ specialist inc safeguarding – SF&C 06

These schemes support children and young people who have experienced significant harm, or who are at risk of significant harm. These children have the highest level of need and may require an urgent or very specialist intervention.

Performance measures for the schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 11 & 12 Graphs 11 & 12: Performance measures in SF&C Model of Care



7. Accommodation Based Solutions

There was investment of £1,034,308 across 4 schemes within this Model of Care. This is 2% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

Table 13: Schemes in ABS Model of Care

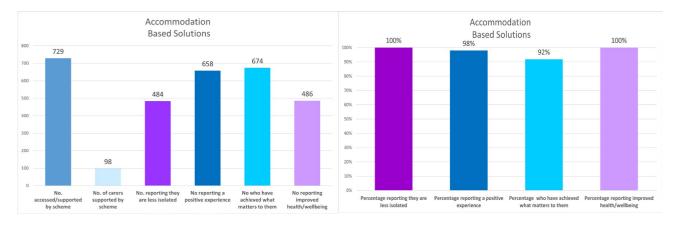
| | Accommodation Based Solutions MoC | | | | |
|--------|---|--|--|--|--|
| ABS 01 | Respite Services | | | | |
| ABS 02 | Progression Services | | | | |
| ABS 03 | Future Care Provision | | | | |
| ABS 04 | LD Regional Accommodation, Health & Wellbeing | | | | |

This is a developing model of care very much in its infancy.

The focus of this model of care is to provide support to children and adults with disabilities and complex needs, working in partnership with third sector providers to provide local residential care and short term flexible respite for children with complex support needs.

The progression service supports young adults with physical and/or learning disabilities to increase their independence. This includes supporting people to work and to live independently in their own home, often with shared peer support.

Performance measures for the 4 schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 14 & 15



Graphs 14 & 15: Performance measures in ABS Model of Care

8. Promoting good Emotional Health and Well-Being

There was investment of £2,339,406 across 4 schemes within this Model of Care.

This is 5% of the North Wales RIF programme funding.

Table 16: Schemes in EH&WB Model of Care

| | Promoting good emotional health and well-being MoC | | | | |
|----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| EH&WB 01 | Training & Development | | | | |
| EH&WB 02 | Community Activities | | | | |
| EH&WB 03 | Community Wellbeing Officers | | | | |
| EH&WB 04 | iCAN | | | | |

The focus of this model of care is the provision of community well-being officers and the delivery of community services to support emotional well-being.

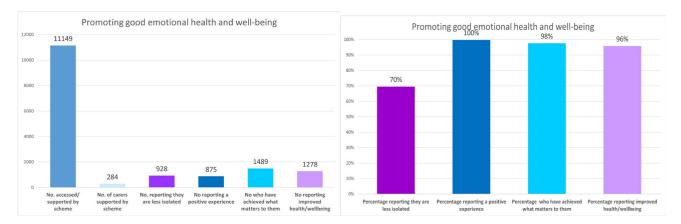
The mental health iCAN hubs are also supported via RIF investment as is staff training and awareness.

There are many schemes which promote good emotional health and well-being that are featured under other models of care

The iCAN scheme has only been able to report against performance measure 1 this year

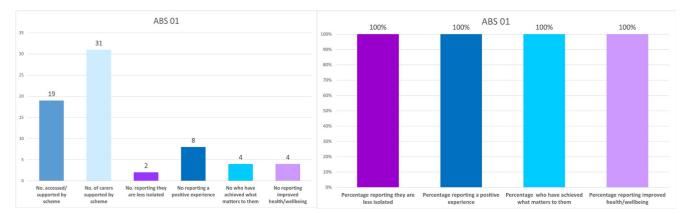
Performance measures for the schemes within this Model of Care are shown in graphs 17 & 18

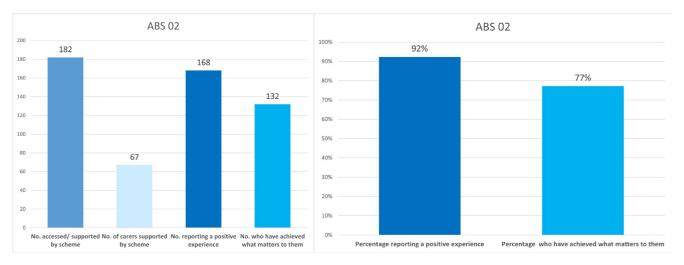
Graphs 17 & 18: Performance measures in EH&WB Model of Care

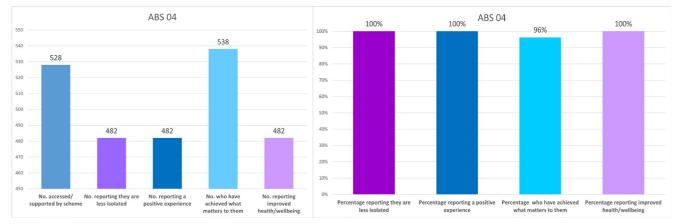


Appendices

Performance Measure Data by Project within Accommodation Based Solution (ABS) Model of Care

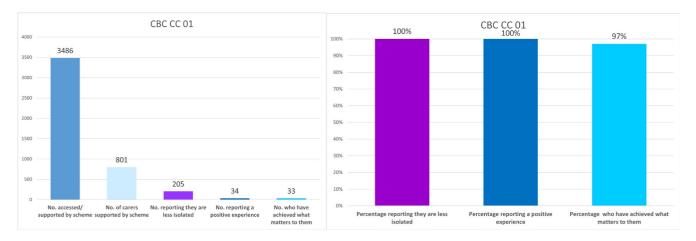


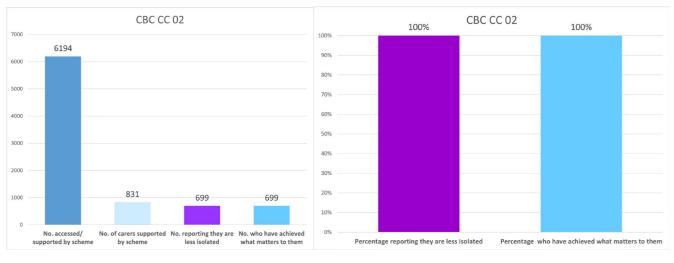


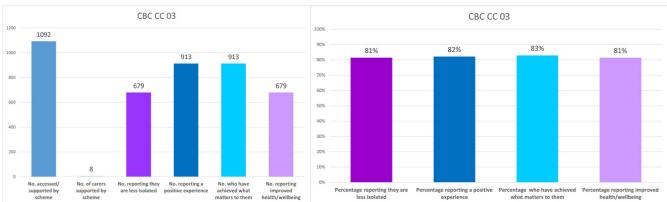


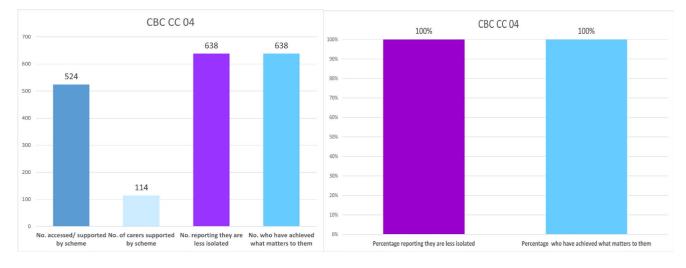
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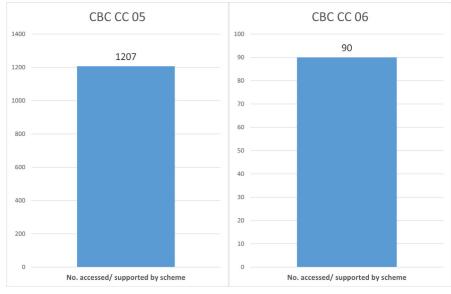
Performance Measure Data by Project within Community Based Care - Complex Care Closer to Home (CBC CC) Model of Care

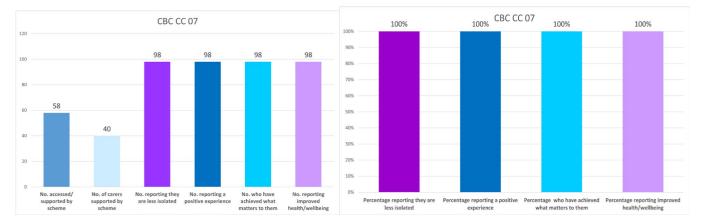




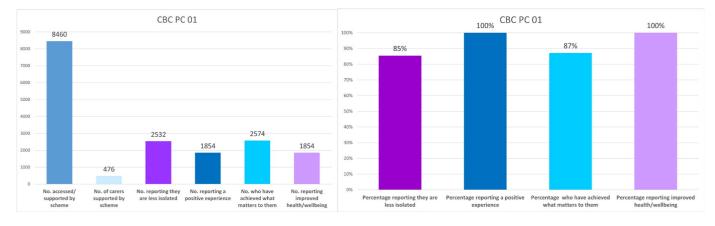


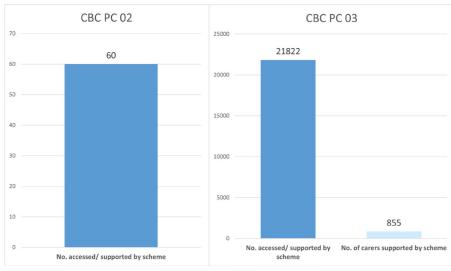


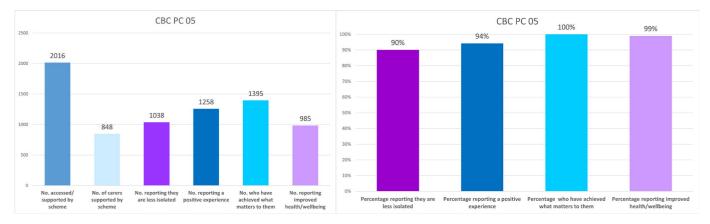


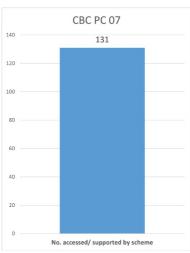


Performance Measure Data by Project within Community Based Care - Prevention and Coordination (CBC PC) Model of Care

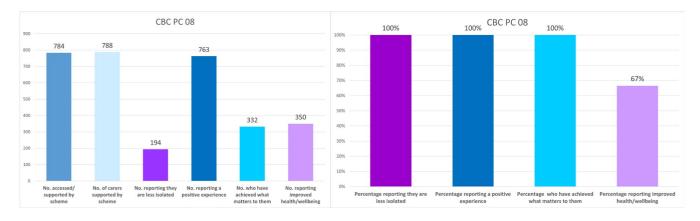


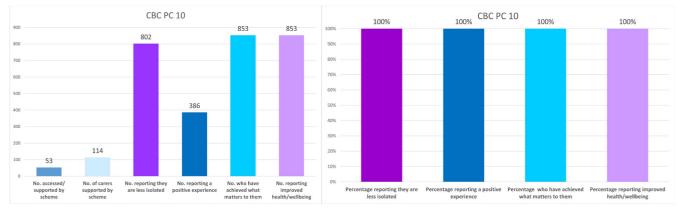


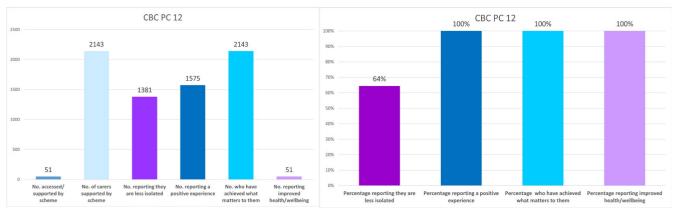


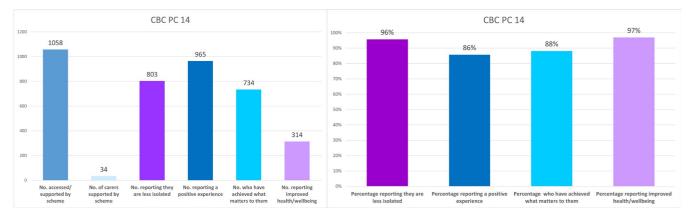


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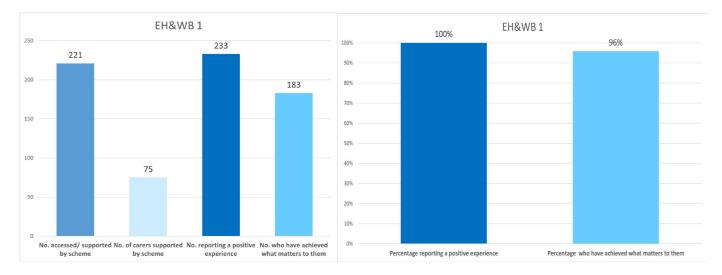


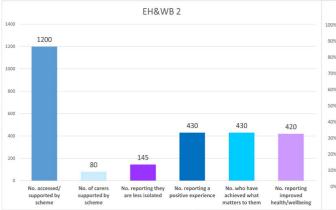


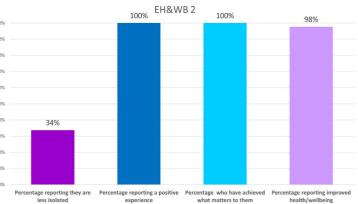


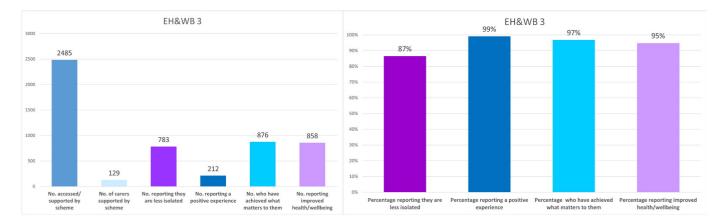


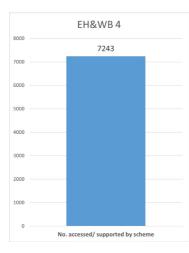
Performance Measure Data by Project within Promoting good emotional health and well-being (EH & WB) Model of Care





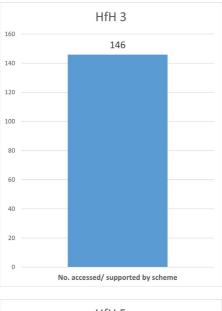


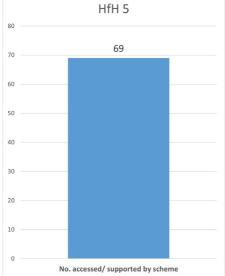




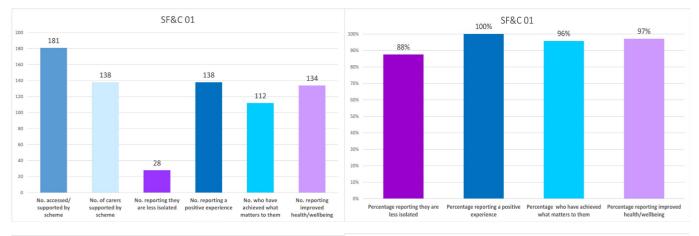
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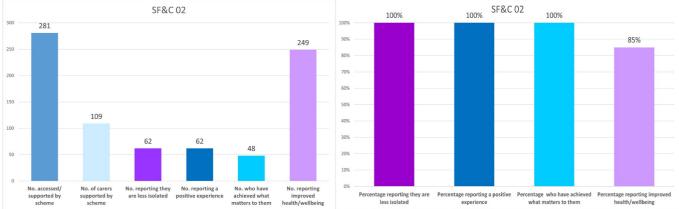
Performance Measure Data for Projects within Home from Hospital (HfH) Model of Care

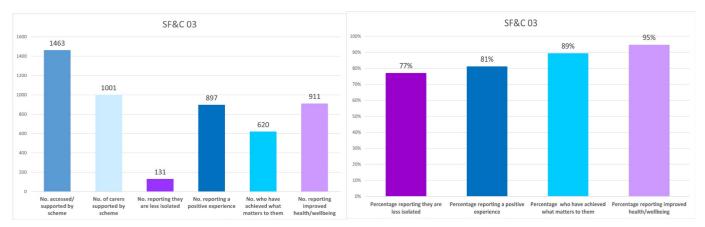


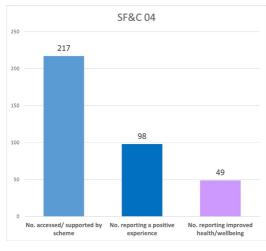


Performance Measure Data for Projects within Supporting Families to stay together safely and therapeutic support for care experienced children (SF & C) Model of Care

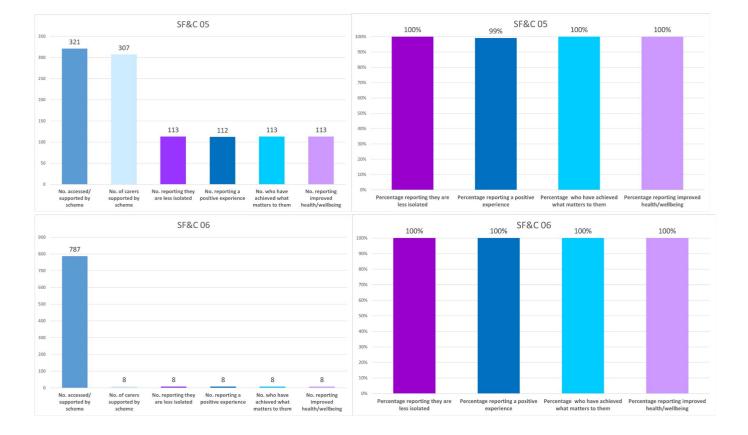








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1

| Anglesey County Council Scrutiny Report Template | |
|---|---|
| Committee: | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee |
| Date: | 17 October 2023 |
| Subject: | Public Participation Strategy |
| Purpose of the report: | To present the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Public Participation Strategy |
| Scrutiny Chair: | Councillor Dylan Rees |
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Councillor Carwyn Jones |
| Head of Service: | Carys Edwards |
| Report Author: | Gethin Morgan |
| Tel: | 01248 752111 |
| Email: | GethinMorgan@ynysmon.llyw.cymru |
| Local Members: | Not applicable |

1 – Recommendation / Recommendations

The Committee is requested to:

A1 Note the Public Participation Strategy

- A2 Agree to recommend that the Executive approves the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Public Participation Strategy, that the full Council adopts the Public Participation Strategy, that it is a live document, and it will be reviewed and updated regularly and will continue to build on our successes thus far.
- A3 Authorise the Head of Profession HR and Transformation in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Corporate and Customer Experience to prepare the final document in accordance with the corporate format before uploading the document on the Council's website.

2 – Relevance to the Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

The Council Plan 2023-2028 was adopted by the full Council in March 2023, and this Strategy reflects the values within the Plan. The Public Participation Strategy outlines the numerous ways the Council engages with stakeholders and **works with** them, showing **respect** and being **honest**. This will help to **promote the Council and the Island**.

3 – Principles as a guide for Scrutiny

To assist Members when scrutinising the subject:-

- 3.1 The effect that the item has on individuals and communities [focus on the customer/citizen]
- 3.2 Look at the effectiveness and efficiency of any proposed changes financially and in terms of quality [focus on value]
- 3.3 Consider any risks [focus on risk]
- **3.4** Scrutiny adopts the role of managing performance or ensuring quality [focus on performance and quality]
- 3.5 Look at plans and offers from the perspective of:
 - Long term
 - Prevention

- Integration
- Co-working
- Content

[focus on wellbeing]

3.6 The possible effects this decision would have on:

- The groups that are protected under the 2010 Equalities Act.
- Those that are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (when making the strategic decisions)
- Opportunities for people to use the Welsh language, and not to treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English.

[focus on equality and Welsh]

4 – Key Scrutiny Questions

- 1. Why is the Council preparing a Public Participation Strategy and how does the Strategy enable the Council to fulfil the Council Plan 2023-2028?
- 2. The public sector equality duty means that the Council must have due regard to building good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not have such a characteristic. What consideration was given to this duty to promote equality of opportunity and build good relationships in the development of the draft Strategy?
- 3. What additional arrangements and processes are proposed to be put in place to ensure full compliance with the new requirements?
- 4. What are the financial implications of realising the proposed Strategy?

5 – Background / Context

Under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, local authorities in Wales must publish a Participation Strategy which notes how local people will be encouraged to take part in the Council's decision-making process.

This Strategy outlines the Isle of Anglesey County Council's aim to encourage people to take part in the Council's business and decision-making process, and to build on the success that the Council has achieved in connecting with residents. In this strategy we have tried to explain how our aims, in terms of participation, can make a real difference to the way in which we engage with the people of Anglesey.

This strategy is a live document, and it will be reviewed and updated regularly and will build on the success so far. It is expected that the strategy will change over time as good practice continues to be developed, and as further technological developments are made.

The report describes the consultation exercise recently conducted with Council officers which ran from 31 July to 27 August which is a period of 4 weeks.

Its purpose was to collect stakeholders' opinions on the Public Participation Strategy so that the feedback would contribute to the Strategy.

The consultation showed that the officers who responded agreed with the need for a Strategy.

6 – Assessment of the Effects on Equality [including effects on the Welsh language]

6.1 the possible effects on groups protected under the 2010 Equalities Act

The Public Participation Strategy encourages residents from all backgrounds on Anglesey to contribute to the Councils decisions. Therefore, it will not have a negative effect on the groups protected under the 2010 Equalities Act.

6.2 The possible effects on those who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)

Putting the Strategy in place would lead to including more people on Anglesey in the Council's decisions, including those that cannot afford to be online and the benefits that come with that.

6.3 The possible effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language, and not to treat the Welsh language less favourably than English.

The Public Participation Strategy encourages Anglesey residents, whatever their linguistic background, to contribute to the Councils decisions. Therefore, it will not have a negative effect on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and not to treat the Welsh language less favourably than English.

7 – Financial Implications

None

8 – Appendices:

A. Public Participation Strategy

9 - Background papers (contact the author of the Report for more information):

Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 Corporate Self-Assessment 2022 3



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY 2023 – 2028

Version 0.8



Foreword



As the re-elected Council Leader, I am proud to introduce Anglesey Council's public participation strategy. The strategy outlines our diverse approaches to public participation and focuses on how our communities get involved in the decision-making processes to work alongside us in shaping our communities.

As a Council, we are here to serve our residents and stakeholders. We know that policies and changes have an impact on our residents' lives, and the lives of their friends and family. We actively encourage you and will support you to get involved and have your say because everyone deserves the opportunity to contribute and be empowered to take part in the decision-making journey.

Councillor Llinos Medi

Leader - Isle of Anglesey County Council

Introduction

The Isle of Anglesey County Council is committed to working with its residents, communities, organisations, trade unions and stakeholders, to encourage active participation in the Local Government decision-making processes.

Under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, local authorities in Wales must publish a Participation Strategy which notes the ways that local people are encouraged to participate in the Council's decision-making process.

This Strategy outlines the Isle of Anglesey County Council's aim of encouraging people to participate in the Council's business and decision-making process and to build on the success the Council has had in participating with residents. In this strategy, we have attempted to explain how our objectives in terms of participation will make a genuine difference to the way we engage with people of Ynys Môn. This strategy is a live document and will be reviewed and updated regularly and will build on our successes to date.

It is expected that the strategy will change over time as good practices continue to be developed and as further technological advances are made.

The Council Plan 2023-2028 was adopted by the full Council in March 2023 and this Strategy reflects the Values contained in the Plan. The Public Participation Strategy outlines the many ways in which the Council engages and **collaborates** with stakeholders treating them with **respect** and being **honest** with them. This will help **promote the Council and the island**.

1. Participation

1.1 What is public participation and why is it important?

Public participation describes any form of communication or involvement with our communities and stakeholders in problem solving or decision-making processes.

The National Principles of Public Engagement in Wales, produced in 2011 under the guidance of the Participation Cymru Advisory Panel and reviewed and republished in 2022, uses the following working definitions:

Engagement

An active and participative process by which people can influence and shape policy and services that includes a wide range of different methods and techniques (including consultation, participation, and co-production and involvement).

An example of this is how we engage in communities through our Place Shaping agenda. The Council in partnership with Medrwn Môn continues to drive to create community led alliances. These alliances bring together community groups, individuals, volunteers, town and community councils, local businesses and anyone interested in working together to make the areas that they live and work in more independent and resilient.

Consultation

A formal process by which policy makers and service providers ask for the views of interested groups and individuals on specific policies, actions, or interventions.

An example of this is the consultation on the Modernising Learning Communities and Welsh Development Strategy. Meetings with pupils in the County's primary, secondary and special schools were held to seek the pupils' view which will be included in the report on the Strategy. This in turn could affect the decisions made regarding Learning matters in the future.

Participation

People being actively involved with policy makers and service planners from an early stage of policy and service planning and review, to shape and influence the outcomes and decisions. For example, a survey was conducted between 29th July to the 26th of August 2022 regarding making improvements to the 2023/24 Green Waste Subscription service by asking questions about customers experience when subscribing. The survey received **3,246** responses

Co-production

When people who provide and deliver services, and people who access and receive services, share power and responsibility, and work together for mutual benefit in equal, reciprocal, and caring relationships. It enables people to access relevant and meaningful support when they need it, services to be effective and make a positive difference in people's lives, and people, services, and communities to become more effective agents of change.

Involvement

This requires organisations to be open to influence from citizens and stakeholders, moving to a culture of 'working with' rather than 'doing to'. In contrast to consultation, involvement approaches work with people at earlier stages, such as helping to identify issues and potential solutions, and being supported to remain involved right throughout design, implementation, and evaluation processes.

These may be issues that interest or impact on our communities or their friends and family and in turn, this involvement helps us make decisions based off their thoughts and feelings.

For the Council to make the best decisions possible for current and future generations, and for our policies and decisions to positively influence our communities and stakeholders lives or the lives of their friends and family we need to:

- Inform and involve through engagement activities
- Listen and consult by asking the relevant questions at the most opportune time
- Empower and delegate by supporting stakeholders to take responsibility
- Co-produce and deliver services by sharing decision making and maintaining relations

To be pragmatic in our approach, we propose to involve and engage everybody to the point where they can be involved to show that we are listening to feedback. The Council may not always go forward with the public's preferred option but when we don't, we need to be clear and transparent, and explain why not. Engagement and / or consultation does not mean that we agree with every comment expressed. The Council must always act within restrictions such as the law and financial restrictions.

This will provide the methodology so that residents can tell us what they think and have an opportunity to influence how decisions are made. Information provided will be analysed and brought to the attention of our decision-making committees where relevant.

We don't want to stop there though, we want to actively engage with people on matters that we and you feel are important, this will help us gather as much information as possible to shape our ideas and plans so that our citizens and stakeholders are at the forefront of any decision we make, empowering us all to make decisions together.

1.2 Statutory and non-statutory differentiation

The difference between a statutory and non-statutory consultation is that statutory means it must be done by statute or by law. Non-statutory does not have to be done by law and so is voluntary and the Council can choose to undertake voluntary consultations as well. As a Council, and as noted above, we follow the National Principles for Public Participation¹ which provide guidance to encourage good quality, consistent engagement activity with service users and the general public.

The benefits of involving our communities are clear and we believe that decisions made with community involvement are more durable and last longer if there is real citizen buy-in.

2. Decisions

2.1 Current way of working

The Isle of Anglesey County Council operates a joint Engagement and Consultation Board with third sector representatives. The Board aims to establish a consistent, fit for purpose and effective approach to engagement and public consultations across the Council's services so that the public's needs are met in the most efficient and effective manner as possible.

The Board sets out the processes the Council has put in place to ensure we meet the requirements to 'embed and deliver a culture of partnership with the public and third sector organisations. To build this culture of partnership and for the public to have confidence in the Council's commitment to encourage and act on their views'.

The Board aims to support staff and senior officers to ensure that we are achieving maximum participation across all activities, which help us make better and fully informed decisions. The Board members work to realise the above through a collective commitment to:

- improve the quality of services,
- make better use of resources and
- meet the needs of communities more effectively.

The Council currently allows for public participation in many ways - these are outlined in Table 1.

2.2 How the Council works

The Council's various committees are outlined in Diagram 1

The Council is composed of 35 elected Councillors who represent 14 electoral divisions. Councillors are democratically accountable to residents of their electoral division. The overriding duty of Councillors is to the whole community, but they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them. All Councillors meet as the Council. Meetings of the Council are normally open to the public. Here Councillors decide the Council's overall policies and set the budget each year.

The Executive is the part of the Council which is responsible for taking most of the major decisions. The Executive is made up of a Leader, who is appointed by the Council, and up to 8 other Councillors appointed by the Leader. The business to be considered by the Executive, Scrutiny Committees and the Council is published in the forward work programme. Meetings of the Executive, Scrutiny Committees, the Council and other Committees are open for the public to attend except where personal or confidential matters are being discussed, as defined by the law. The Executive must make decisions which are in line with the Council's overall policies and budget. If it wishes to decide on a matter which is outside the budget or policy framework, this must be referred to the Council as a whole.

¹ <u>https://wcva.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/National-Principles-for-Public-Engagement-Egwyddorion-</u> <u>Cenedlaethol-ar-gyfer-Ymgysylltu-ar-Cyhoedd.pdf</u>

The Council's Constitution² explains how the Council makes decisions and who is responsible for those decisions. The Constitution is at the heart of the local authority's business as it identifies the responsibilities within the local authority, and where the Council works with others.

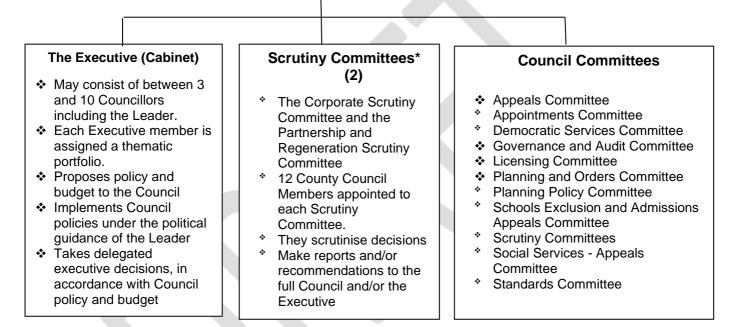
The Council provides numerous services for Anglesey residents e.g. education, social care, libraries and leisure facilities to name only a few. Further information on the services the Isle of Anglesey County Council provides can be found at:

https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Residents/Residents.aspx



COUNCIL (meets every quarter)

- * To set the Council's annual budget
- * To approve key policies and strategies which are the
 - responsibility of all 35 Councillors



*Parent Governor and Church representatives are invited to attend Scrutiny Committee meetings where the Authority's education functions are to be discussed and shall be entitled to speak and vote on such matters only.

Additionally, the Partnership and Regeneration t any person with the exception of an Executive Member, in respect of its crime and disorder functions.

*Each Scrutiny Committee may recommend that the Council appoint additional non-voting co-optees to each Scrutiny Committee.

Within their terms of reference, Scrutiny Committees will:

- review and/or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
- make reports and/or recommendations to the full Council and/or the Executive and/or any Joint or Area Committee in connection with the discharge of any functions;
- consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants;
- exercise the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions (within its remit) made but not yet implemented by the Executive and/or any Area Committees; and
- carry out reviews of the functions within its area of activity and report via the Executive to the Council.

For more information on the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Constitution, please follow this link https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Council/The-Constitution/Isle-of-Anglesey-County-Council-Constitution.aspx

https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Council/The-Constitution/Isle-of-Anglesey-County-Council-Constitution.aspx

² For more information on the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Constitution, please follow this link

2.3 Performance

As shown in Diagram 1, the Council has two Scrutiny Committees namely:

- Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the
- Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

The work of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee will focus on providing assurance about the performance/provision of all services, ensuring that the Council achieves its corporate objectives and service objectives (as outlined in its Corporate Business Plan, Annual Budget, Budget and Policy Framework, Performance Management Framework, Corporate Policies or successor plans and policies) and to support and make recommendations for permanent improvement. In addition, it will scrutinise the performance of services under the needs of the Wales Programme for Improvement.

The Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee will scrutinise service performance under the needs of the Wales Programme for Improvement.

In accordance with Part 2 of the Council Constitution, the Council Scrutiny Committees:

- review and scrutinise the decisions and the performance of the Executive and/or Council's Committees and Officers in relation to individual decisions and over a period of time;
- review the Council's performance scrutiny in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or special service areas;
- to question members of the Executive and/or Committees and Chief Officers about their decisions and performance, whether generally relative to service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, plans or projects;
- make recommendations to the Executive and/or an appropriate Committee and/or Council arising from the results of the scrutiny process;
- review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by asking them to address the Scrutiny Committee and local people to talk about their activities and performance; and
- question and collect evidence from any other person (with their consent).

In addition, when Service Reviews are undertaken the Services are expected to solicit public opinion on the performance of the relevant service.

The Executive

The Council's Executive at its public meetings, gives Anglesey residents the opportunity to have their say on and challenge the Corporate Scoreboard, the Council's Plan for the year and on the Council's Performance Report. This will happen on a quarterly basis.

3. Methods

3.1 How and when you can get involved

The Council offers many ways to get involved in our engagement and consultation activities that it runs in partnership either with third sector organisations or solely community organised.

You can contact us through the formal engagement and consultation processes. Consultations generally only last a specific period. However, we welcome feedback in any format at any time through committees, group activities or independently via email, through petitions or through your local Elected Council Member or a community council.

Listed below is the work that has been done to establish a baseline of ways in which Anglesey residents participate in the Council's decisions. Table 1 below lists several formal and informal ways residents participate in Council decisions:

| Category | Comment | Link |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Elected Members (Councillors) | Anglesey has 14 wards with 35 Elected Members (Councillors) that are there to represent their constituents. To find your local Elected Member to raise a concern/ comment visit: | https://democracy.angl esey.gov.wales/mgMe mberIndex.aspx?LLL= 0 |
| Town and Community Councils | Town and Community Councils act in the interest of the whole community by making decisions and recommendations, consulting, and listening to the residents to understand their needs, their wishes and their concerns. They usually meet once a month. To contact your local town and community council to raise concerns /comments visit: | https://democracy.angl esey.gov.wales/mgPari shCouncilDetailsList.as px?LLL=0 |
| Committees | People can look through the Council committee structure and see agendas, minutes and reports for committee and sub-committee meetings by visiting; | https://democracy.angl esey.gov.wales/ieDocH ome.aspx?Categories= -13004&bcr=1&LLL=0 |
| Scrutiny Committees | The Local Authority structure includes two Scrutiny Committees, and their role is to provide positive challenge to services to maintain high service delivery standards and to ensure improved efficiency and effectiveness. Meetings of the Committees are held regularly throughout the municipal year and there are several ways in which the public can get involved in Scrutiny: suggesting a topic for review attending meetings of the Scrutiny Committees as observers making a request to speak on a particular subject at one of the Committee meetings – please refer to the Public Speaking at Scrutiny Committee Meetings Protocol for further information and guidance: | https://democracy.angl esey.gov.wales/mgCo mmitteeDetails.aspx?I D=153&LLL=0 |

Table 1

| r | | |
|--|--|---|
| | Public speaking at Scrutiny Committees (gov.wales) taking part in scrutiny investigations upon invitation by a scrutiny review panel submitting written evidence relevant to a scrutiny inquiry when invited to do so. To find out more and view our current committees and an archive of previous ones visit; | |
| Consultations | Consultations are undertaken to gather people's feedback on specific topics. To give views on current consultations people can participate by visiting here; | https://www.anglesey.g ov.wales/en/browse/Ge <u>t-</u> involved/Consultations/ Current-consultations/ |
| Engagements | People's views and priorities are gathered and collected by services via a tiered approach. To give views on current engagements people can participate by visiting here; | https://www.anglesey.g ov.wales/en/browse/Ge <u>t-</u> involved/Consultations/ Current-consultations/ |
| Voting and Elections | People can participate and vote in the Elections through postal vote, proxy vote and in person in the nearest polling station. This is in keeping with legal expectations. For information on elections and how to register, please access the following page: | https://www.anglesey.g ov.wales/en/Council/Co uncil.aspx#as?folderIds =2864,3416 |
| Compliments, comments and complaints | The Council has an online form and a paper form that enables people to raise a compliment, comment or complaint formally or informally. Access to such form can be gained from: | https://www.anglesey.g ov.wales/en/Get- involved/Get- involved.aspx |
| Tenants forum | The Council actively encourage tenant's participation. The four different ways tenants can get involved are listed below: The Sheltered Housing Forums are twice a year – June and December normally. The aim of this forum is to increase the knowledge of Housing and Housing related information for Sheltered Housing tenants. The Council provide free transport, food and refreshments for the day. Targeted Task & Finish Groups used to gather tenants' views to improve future services. The Environmental Group is made up of tenants and | To get involved, contact the Tenant Participation Team via telephone 01248 752983 email, <u>tenants@anglesey.gov.</u> <u>wales</u> or Facebook message on the Tai Môn Housing page. |
| | supported by the Tenant Participation Team. The group will assess each application form received and decide whether they are eligible for the Environmental and Community improvement Fund. Meeting months; between April – October (around 3 – 4 informal meetings) The Publications Group is made up of tenants and supported by the Tenant Participation Team. The | |

| | aim of the group is to ensure that all documents | |
|---|---|---|
| | produced by Housing Services are in a format that | |
| | is easily understood and tenant friendly | |
| Social | In partnership with the Council, Medrwn Môn offer | For more information |
| enterprises | several ways to actively participate, the two main ways to engage at the moment are: | contact Lyndsey Campbell-Williams Lyndsey@medrwnmon |
| | Third Sector Network: This is a forum for community groups and third sector organisations. Network meetings are held every quarter (normally theme or topic based) and groups and organisations are encouraged to have discussions, provide comments and feedback on the topic/theme and plan future sessions. Information and feedback from the sessions are collated and sent in as responses to consultations, to other forums and to policy makers. | .org |
| | Generally, as an Organisation, Medrwn Môn invites people to interact by social media, by email or phone, through its information bus, at events & meetings, or face to face. | |
| Place Shaping | Place Shaping: this is a community-based forum and invites people to tell us how they live and work in their communities. The evidence is used to identify wellbeing priorities for each area and to identify themes that are common across the Island. There are two elements to the programme: Community mapping: communities are invited to engage with us in any way they feel comfortable (through face-to-face conversations, focus groups, voting boxes, visual methods and pictures, surveys (online and paper) etc) Community Alliances: Alliances are set up in each area and meet periodically to discuss their chosen priorities. Alliances invite people to take part either by attending their meetings, joining task and finish groups, through surveys, on social media or by talking to members of the Alliance face to face. | Susan Jones Executive Manager (Leadership Team) Susanjones4@ynysmo n.gov.wales |
| Anglesey's Older People Council and Forums | The purpose of the Older People Council is to represent the views of older people in Ynys Môn on issues affecting their health, social care and wellbeing. Working with Welsh Local Government Association, local authorities, the voluntary and private sectors and older people, to further develop policies. The Older People's Council aims; To be a voice for Older People on Anglesey To appreciate Older People To work with Older People | Seiriol Edwards, Strategy Co-ordinator for Older People and Carers <u>seirioledwards@ynysm</u> <u>on.gov.wales</u> |

| | Te l'atau te Older D | |
|----------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | To listen to Older People | |
| | To support Older People | |
| | To provide opportunities for Older People | |
| | 4 meetings per year to take place at an appropriate | |
| | date following the Anglesey Forum for Older People. | |
| Anglesey | The Older People's Forums strengthen the voices | Seiriol Edwards, |
| Older People's | of older people and strengthen older people's rights | Strategy Co-ordinator |
| Forum | at the same time. Forums create the spaces where | for Older People and |
| | older women and men can meet, share and discuss | Carers |
| | their experiences and bring their voices together, as | seirioledwards@ynysm |
| | well as creating an interface where older people can | on.gov.wales |
| | engage directly with decision-makers. Such spaces | |
| | also enable older people to learn how to | |
| | communicate and amplify their voices; access | |
| | information and guidance related to their rights and | |
| | entitlements. Older People forum takes place | |
| | quarterly and are open for members of the public to | |
| 1 | attend. | |
| Leisure Users | The Leisure Users Forum is held twice a year to | MairEluned@ynysmon. |
| Forum | share experience of using the centre and present | gov.wales |
| | any proposed changes. Participants are | |
| | encouraged to actively attend to give their views. | |
| Leisure | Two surveys a year are sent out to collect feedback | OwainJones@ynysmo |
| customer | from customers to gather information from | n.gov.wales |
| Survey | customers to improve services in the future. | |
| Youth Forum | The plan is to develop an authority wide children | <u>GeralltRoberts@ynysm</u> |
| | and young people's participation strategy, with a | on.gov.wales |
| | clear action plan that includes the re-establishment | |
| | of a Children & Young People's Multi-Agency group | |
| | and specific groups of young people. | |
| Mon Actif | Mon Actif's social media and email is the most | monactif@ynysmon.go |
| | common method of customer feedback. Customers | <u>v.wales</u> |
| | can leave feedback and ask questions on these | |
| | platforms. | A |
| Local Nature | The Ynys Môn Local Nature Partnership (LNP) / | AuroraHood@ynysmon |
| Partnership | Partneriaeth Natur Leol Ynys Môn is an | <u>.gov.wales</u> |
| | independent network of individuals, groups, and | |
| | organisations who live or work on the Island who are | |
| | interested in nature. The LNP is open to anyone | |
| | who would like to be more involved in nature | |
| | conservation on Anglesey and who would like to | |
| | stay up-to-date on relevant projects, events, and | |
| | funding opportunities. Members participate through | |
| | a newsletter, giving advice as an expert in a | |
| | conservation field, get a project funded, and/or | |
| | attend partnership meetings (currently bi-yearly). | |
| | Soon, we also hope to have social media accounts for members to interact with further. | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| Anglesey Tourism Association (ATA) | Tourism businesses related to the ATA are able to contribute their views in the quarterly meetings | Michael Thomas MichaelThomas@ynys mon.gov.wales |
|--|--|--|
| Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) | The Joint Advisory Committee usually meet twice a year and will advise the local authority, and other bodies, on the appropriate steps in order to support the management of the AONB. | Alun M Owen AlunOwen@anglesey.g ov.wales |
| Amlwch Port User Group | The Amlwch Port User Group participate through twice a year meetings for advisory perspective only in order to facilitate a two-way communication between the Harbour Authority (IACC) and users/other stakeholders which have an interest in the port. | For further details contact Iwan Huws <u>Iwanhuws@anglesey.g</u> ov.wales |
| Beaumaris and Menai Bridge Port Users Group | The Beaumaris and Menai Bridge Port User Group participate through twice a year meetings for advisory perspective only in order to facilitate a two- way communication between the Harbour Authority (IACC) and users/other stakeholders which have an interest in the port. | For further details contact Iwan Huws <u>Iwanhuws@anglesey.g</u> ov.wales |
| Cruise Wales | Cruise Wales is a partnership between Welsh Government create an excellent cruise offer for cruise passengers visiting Wales. Anglesey Council continue to attract new cruise lines and we are working on improving the infrastructure at Holyhead port. Anglesey tourism team have recently organized and created the Holyhead Sailing Partnership, which has met once, and will meet again at the end of October they are able to contribute their views. | Michael Thomas <u>MichaelThomas@ynys</u> <u>mon.gov.wales</u> Elaine Thomas <u>Elaine.Thomas4@gov.</u> <u>wales</u> and Suzanne Thomas <u>Suzanne.Thomas@gov</u> <u>.wales</u> |
| Energy Island Strategic Forum | Key Stakeholders and energy developers showing interest to develop the island attend the forum and pass comments in the quarterly meetings. It should be noted that attendance is by invitation only. | AngharadCrump@ynys mon.llyw.cymru |
| School Councils | Each school on Anglesey has a school council that are organised within the schools. The Council use school councils in order to engage on the Council's plan and other important matters. In addition to school councils, each Secondary schools have two pupils that sit on the governing bodies. | |
| Local radio | Môn FM Council news and information is shared with the public through Môn FM | www.monfm.co.uk |
| Social media platforms | Facebook / Twitter / Instagram etc Items on the Newsroom page of the Council's website are usually placed on social media platforms that the Council uses | Link to Newsroom page: <u>Newsroom (gov.wales)</u> |

| The | The Executive's forward work programme enables | https://www.anglesey.g |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| Executive's | both Members of the Council and the public to see | ov.wales/documents/D |
| Forward Work | what key decisions are likely to be taken by the | OCS- |
| Programme | Executive over the coming months. | en/Council/Democracy/ |
| J. S. | Executive decisions may be taken by the Executive | Executive-Forward- |
| | acting as a collective body or by individual members | Work- |
| | of the Executive acting under delegated | Programme/Executive- |
| | powers. The forward work programme includes | |
| | information on the decisions sought, who will make | Forward-Work- |
| | the decisions and who the lead Officers and Portfolio | Programme.pdf |
| | Holders are for each item. | |
| | 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 and updates are | |
| | published monthly. | |
| Records of | | https://democracy.angl |
| decisions | by the public: | esey.gov.wales/mgDel |
| | | egatedDecisions.aspx? |
| | The Council's decision-making bodies | &DR=18%2f05%2f202 |
| | Council Leaders using delegated powers | 3- |
| | | <u>5-</u> 01%2f06%2f2023&RP |
| | The Planning and Orders Committee | |
| | Portfolio Holders, officers and the Council Leader | <u>=0&K=0&DM=0&HD=0</u> |
| | | &DS=2&Next=true&ME |
| | | TA=mgdelegateddecisi |
| | | ons&V=0&LLL=0 |
| | | |

3.2 Tools and Digital Access

Many participants can be contacted and can easily participate through online tools such as targeted interactions via topic related databases together with social media. However, the way we endeavour to cater for hard to reach and digitally excluded participants is outlined below in the Non-Digital Communication section. Each activity will be reviewed to ensure that the correct tools are in place to ensure as many people as possible are able to take part and participate if they wish to do so.

3.3 Who can get involved

Public participation is open to all our residents/communities and stakeholders (those that have an interest or stake in an issue). This includes all those who live, work, play in or visit the area and covers all age groups from young children to older adults and does not differentiate against any of our protected groups.

You can take part as individuals, within groups, such as community groups, town and community councils or government and professional bodies and on behalf of or with 3rd sector organisations and trade unions.

Whilst we aim to open all public participation to all stakeholders, sometimes this is not practicable due to the varying yet sometime quiet specific topics being discussed. e.g., voting in local and general elections for example have an age limit of 16 years and over, which legally must be adhered to.

When planning for public participation, we aim to ensure that we are reaching the right people. This is done through stakeholder mapping to make sure we get to all the groups we need to. This can often be dependent on topic, location, and age group or demographic. However, this doesn't always mean that these consultations and engagements will be closed off to other groups or individuals.

We aim to make it clear who can participate and aim to listen to all views and opinions.

3.4 How we will promote awareness

Building and maintaining close relationships with 3rd sector organisations is a priority for the Council. We aim to promote awareness of our consultation and engagement activities through active involvement with our 3rd sector groups and their partnerships within community groups, with individuals and active members of our community.

We have a section dedicated to current and previous engagement activities on our website <u>www.anglesey.gov.wales/consultations</u> and aim to promote wider via social media and through our partnerships when activities are live.

Technology has advanced significantly recently, and the Covid-19 pandemic has enabled more people to become digitally active/connected. We aim to explore and further develop new digital tools and ways of working e.g. hybrid / virtual meetings to reach a greater audience and encourage wider accessibility

3.5 Communication without digital resources

Not everyone has access to a computer or the internet. All our engagement exercises must consider how to engage with non-digital users as a matter of priority. Examples of this are inperson discussions, telephone discussions and provision of paper copies of relevant documents. Paper copies of engagement / consultation documents can be made available to stakeholders through Cyswllt Môn.

3.6 Accessibility

We are committed to ensuring that all residents in Ynys Môn can access information and have an equal opportunity to share their views. As such we need to specifically consider the following demographics and how best to engage with them. Some examples are set out below:

3.7 People with Disabilities

When we publish information or create a piece of online engagement, we need to consider how people can access it. People with visual impairments may require documents in large print or use a screen reader to access information and engage. We need to consider how documents, web pages, surveys etc will be read out on a screen reader. An example of this is using a correct hierarchical heading structure or providing alternative text to images. People with hearing impairments may need subtitles on any video content. Some people may also require information in an easy read format. An easy read document uses plain language and simple sentences to accurately portray what may be in a full document.

3.8 Children and Young People

We have a duty to children and young people to ensure that we are reaching out to them in a way that encourages their participation and as outlined in the Statutory Guidance for the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – Annex B. Recognising the Children and Young People's National Participation Standards as a framework for participation; we will continue to facilitate opportunities for participation with younger people and ensure that we educate and advocate for their right under Article 12 of the UNCRC.

Children's Rights - Children's Commissioner for Wales (childcomwales.org.uk)

Once re-started after the Covid lockdown, IoACC's Youth Forum will act as a platform for children and young people's views across Ynys Môn. We will represent those views to local and national decision-making bodies. We will ensure that appropriate feedback is provided through a range of channels that will include reports, presentations and on social media outlets. We will continue to develop and embed children and young people's participation into all aspects of planning, delivering, and reviewing services that directly have an impact on children and young people.

3.9 Improvement opportunity 1

Improve the ways children and young people participate in and influence our decisions

3.10 Efficiency

It is important to avoid consultation and engagement overload. Often people give up their free time and travel distances to attend engagement events. We, or our public services partners may already have relevant data from previous engagement or surveys. We may also be able to utilise data and information collected from continuous engagement.

3.11 Methods of Engagement

Continuous Engagement

We will continuously engage with residents in Ynys Môn through meeting with stakeholder groups and having direct conversations with those who use our services. We are developing a digital engagement platform to assist with the continuation and collection of these conversations.

It is important that the public are aware of how the Council works and the decisions that are being taken at any given time.

The Communication team promotes awareness of Council activities via social media and press releases which are shared with news outlets. All press releases are also available on the Council website.

The Council's website is reviewed regularly with an aim to improve sections relevant to information for members of the public.

Details of forthcoming Council meetings are publicised via social media, and forward work plans are published in a timely manner to ensure that members of the public are aware of items for consideration at forthcoming meetings. Members of the public can attend Council meetings online. Council and Cabinet meetings are broadcasted, and available electronically for 6 months after the meeting. There is a mechanism for local people to feed into the Scrutiny process, this is published on the Council's website. Details of forthcoming agenda items are also published on the Council's website.

Ynys Môn County Council's Executive is notified of all petitions received by Council Members of the public can present their application or objection to a Council Member, details of which are available on the Council's website.

3.12 Specific Engagement

We want people to have a strong voice and be able to effectively influence our decision making, especially when we make changes to services or develop new policies. We frequently consult with the people of Ynys Môn. Current examples can be seen on the consultations page of our website:

http://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/browse/Get-involved/Consultations/Current-consultations/

We also use other various means as detailed below:

- Online surveys
- Engagement Events
- Roadshows
- Focus Groups
- Forums

During Covid-19 some forms of engagement were more challenging. We will investigate the feasibility of setting up in-person focus groups across the county with an emphasis on utilising existing groups that are known and utilised by residents.

3.13 Impact Assessments

When we make plans to create a new policy or change the way we do things we must consider the impact this will have on our citizens, including those who have protected characteristics. An Impact Assessment (IA) brings together the relevant legislations and sets out how we will take due regard, (give appropriate weight), to making decisions.

When we conduct an IA:

• We are considering relevant evidence to understand the likely or actual effects of policies or practices on those who are vulnerable within our communities, including those who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.

- We are thinking about where we might be able to reduce negative impacts.
- We are identifying missed opportunities and capitalising on positive impacts.
- We are considering the rights of the child.

As mentioned above, the Council's engagement with its residents is good. However, IoACC continuously needs to explore and further develop ways to improve engagement with its residents, either by traditional or digital means.

3.14 Improvement opportunity 2

Improve ways of receiving and incorporating feedback using traditional and digital tools available

3.15 Contact your local Councillor

You can find your local councillor to discuss issues within your ward from the following list of all the County Councillors. Their contact details are available on the Council website here:

https://democracy.anglesey.gov.wales/mgMemberIndex.aspx?bcr=1&LLL=0

You can also use the above link if you're not sure who your councillor is, you can search online using the above link or contact the Council who can provide this information to you.

3.16 Getting involved with Scrutiny

The Council's Scrutiny Committees are interested to hear the views of the island's population and find out what causes concern to the people that we serve.

There are several ways in which you, as a member of the public, can get involved in Scrutiny:

- by suggesting a topic for review
- by attending meetings as observers
- by making an application to speak on a particular subject at one of the Committee meetings see the <u>Public Speaking at Scrutiny Committee Meetings Protocol</u>
- by taking part in scrutiny investigations upon invitation by a scrutiny review panel
- by submitting written evidence relevant to a scrutiny inquiry when invited to do so

If you wish to suggest a topic for review, then download a Word or PDF copy of the suggestion form and send it back to the Scrutiny Team via post:

Scrutiny, Council Business, Isle of Anglesey County Council, Llangefni LL77 7TW.

or fill in our <u>online form</u>

Contact Scrutiny

Scrutiny Council Business Isle of Anglesey County Council Council Offices Llangefni Anglesey LL77 7TW

Email: <u>Scrutiny@anglesey.gov.wales</u>

3.17 Attend and take part in a meeting

Any resident of Isle of Anglesey can attend any meeting of the Council and observe the proceedings and debate taking place. Meetings are held in the Council Chamber at the Council Buildings in Llangefni which has a public viewing gallery. Recently, remote attendance at

Council meetings has been introduced so even if you are unable to attend the meeting in person, there may be opportunity for you to participate remotely.

The location, date and start time of meetings are available on the agenda produced for the meeting which is available to download from the Council website.

Any person attending the meeting may be excluded from proceedings where an agenda item has been classified as exempt. Exempt items are usually where sensitive or confidential information may be discussed and is only available to those able to vote on the matter.

3.18 Add an item to an agenda for discussion

There are two ways that a member of the public can encourage a committee to consider an item and have it added to the agenda of a future meeting.

- Any member of the public can contact the chair of a committee and request that they add an item to the forward work programme for future discussion
- Attend a meeting of the relevant committee and request at the meeting under the item forward work programmes that an item is added for future consideration.

3.19 Submit a question to Council

Members of the public are entitled to ask a question of any Member of the Executive at a meeting of full Council. Questions are limited to one question per individual or organisation and will be asked in the order notice of them was received unless the chairman of the Council wishes to group certain questions together. The total time allotted to public questions at a Council meeting should be limited to 15 minutes.

A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing or by email to the Head of Democratic Services no later than midday three working days before the day of the meeting. Each person submitting a question must provide their name and address.

A question may be rejected if:

- The question is not about a matter for which the Council has responsibility, or which affects the County
- Is defamatory, frivolous or offensive
- Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months
- Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information

The Chairman will invite the questioner to put the question to the relevant Councillor. If a questioner who has submitted a written question is unable to be present, they may ask the chair to put the question to the councillor on their behalf. The chairman may ask the question, indicate that a written reply will be provided by the councillor, or as the questioner is not present decide that the question will not be dealt with.

A questioner may ask one supplementary question without notice to the Councillor which may arise directly out of the original question or the reply.

Any question which cannot be dealt with during the meeting, either due to lack of time or nonattendance of the relevant councillor, will be dealt with by a written response.

3.20 Submit views to select committees

Under the Local Government Act (Wales) 2011, any member of the public can attend one of the 2 Scrutiny Committees held by the Council and submit their views on a particular item on the agenda. The Committee must give full consideration to the views submitted by a member of the public under these arrangements. Further information on scrutiny is available on the Council website here.

3.21 How to become a Councillor

The next Local Government Elections will be held in May 2027. This section provides you with information on how to stand for election and what is expected of you should you be elected as a Councillor for the Isle of Anglesey County Council.

3.22 Standing as a candidate

A candidate for election must complete a set of nomination papers that must be signed by the candidate in the presence of a witness who must attest the signature. You then need to win a majority of the votes cast at the ballot box if there is a contest for the seat. The number of votes you need to win depends on the electoral division in which you choose to stand for election. Some electoral divisions are two or three member divisions.

Nomination packs will be available early in 2027. If you would like to register your interest, please contact Electoral Services on 01248 750057.

If you are thinking of standing as a candidate for a particular political party, then you should first get in touch with that party's local organisation. If you plan to stand for election as an independent Councillor, contact us and we will be pleased to give you more information.

Councillors receive a salary which is determined annually by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and can also claim travel and subsistence costs (subsistence is paid for 'out of county' meals and accommodation only) when undertaking official duties. Councillors can also claim towards the costs of care and personal assistance in order for them to carry out their approved duties.

The Welsh Government has approved funding for a pilot scheme to fund reasonable adjustments and support for disabled candidates seeking election to the Local Government elections. Further information can be found here.

Further information on allowances can be viewed by clicking on the following link:

Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales | GOV.WALES

3.23 What happens if elected?

The Council is composed of 35 Councillors who are elected every five years. Councillors are democratically accountable to residents of their electoral division. The overriding duty of councillors is to the whole community, but they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them.

Councillors are entitled to a basic salary. Further information on payments can be obtained from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW, link above). A copy of the determinations for 2022-23 can also be found on the IRPW website.

Councillors are also entitled to travel allowances and those with caring responsibilities can also receive reimbursement of costs of care.

Once elected Councillors are expected to attend various training and development sessions during their term of office. An induction session is provided for all new and returning Councillors during the first 12 months in office with further training provided on an ongoing basis through member development events.

Councillors are expected to attend meetings and committees and are bound to observe the provisions of the Councillor's Code of Conduct.

As local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. These responsibilities and duties often depend on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available and may include: attending governing body meetings of schools within their ward, attending meetings of local organisations such as tenants' associations, bodies affecting the wider community, raising issues on behalf of members of the public, holding surgeries for residents to raise issues and meeting with individual residents in their own homes.

3.24 How much time does it take up?

If you are in employment and intend to stand as a candidate, you may wish to ask your employer what provisions they may have in place to allow you to attend to Council business. It is estimated that on average, councillors spend the equivalent of three to four days a week on council business. Obviously, there are some councillors who spend more time than this - and some less.

There is a link to the Welsh Local Government Association which has been produced in association with local authorities and is a useful guide for prospective candidates:

BE A COUNCILLOR. BE THE CHANGE.

3.25 Councillor facilities and support

The Democratic Services Unit administers meetings of the Council and provides a dedicated support service, providing advice on the law and practice of meetings to Councillors, officers and the public and assistance to all Councillors with queries and admin related requests.

Councillors, once elected, will be provided with a tablet device, laptop and an @anglesey.gov.wales email address which must be used when conducting Council business. All Council meetings are paperless and it is recommended that all candidates are able to use IT confidently or are willing to undertake training.

The Council is a bilingual Authority and, as a Councillor, you will be able to operate in your chosen language, be that Welsh or English, and interpretation facilities are available at all Council meetings to facilitate this. Welsh language training is also available for any Councillors wishing to learn the language.

3.26 The benefits to Councillors of using social media to communicate with local people

Social media has become a powerful tool for Councillors, helping them to engage with communities, raise awareness of community issues, events, or Council initiatives and to seek views and receive feedback.

Social media has changed how politics works, it makes politicians and public institutions more accessible, allows individuals to have their voices heard and helps share ideas or promote campaigns.

By using social media Councillors can:-

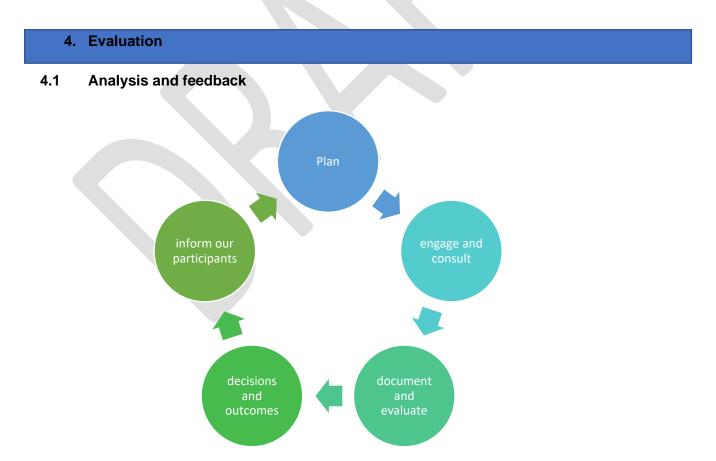
- Learn about local issues, and concerns within their ward.
- Find the latest news and publications from the County Council, other local authorities, the Welsh Government and organisations such as the Welsh Local Government Association.
- Promote their role and what you do on a day-to-day basis.
- Social media is instant, you can share information quickly and gain opinions of your constituents.

Many Councillors already use social media. However as a Councillor, there are additional things to consider when using it, including the Code of Conduct and managing expectation.

Once elected, Councillors are invited to attend an induction session on using social media and the Council also has an e-learning module available. Each Councillor will be personally responsible for the content they publish and they must abide by the Code of Conduct when posting information as the Code of Conduct applies to online and social media content, and by referring online to their role as Councillor, they will be deemed to be acting in their 'official capacity' and the Code will apply.

The Welsh Local Government Association has provided free guidance for Councillors along with some tips and advice in terms of handling on-line abuse.

WLGA Information on Social Media and Online Abuse



For any public participation to be successful, it is essential that we feedback to those who took part. We recognise that this can be challenging and are looking at options to develop this

further and ensure we can make this process easier for both Council staff and communities to access and receive feedback.

Once the participation activities are over, we will keep you informed and involved through letting you know the outcomes or to involve you, either by e-mail, letter, face to face discussion or other means, in further participation on the same subject area, if you choose to be kept involved.

We value your input and knowledge, so it is important to ensure that we take every voice and comment into consideration. This will be done by reference to your input in summary documents or reports on the participation.

Every engagement and consultation is different, therefore timelines will vary. However, we are dedicated to providing feedback to all of our participants following public participation activities, either individually or collectively. This will be done in a way determined by the lead officer, such as:

- Informing participants verbally / via email / telephone
- Reports of the responses and decisions circulated to participants
- Analysis summary on corporate website within our consultation pages
- Exploring the opportunities of using online tools.

4.2 Your privacy

Information on how we use information, retention periods and your rights can be found within our privacy notice on our website, <u>https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Council/Data-protection-and-FOI/Data-Protection-Policy-and-privacy-notice.aspx</u>

4.3 Work that will need to be prioritised over the forthcoming period:

- 1. Improve the ways children and young people participate in and influence our decisions
- 2. Improve ways of receiving and incorporating feedback using traditional and digital tools available

Consider ways of measuring success or lack of success of participation or developing a participation dashboard.

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1

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template

| Committee: | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee |
|----------------------|---|
| Date: | 17 th October, 2023 |
| Subject: | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme |
| Purpose of Report: | Assist the Scrutiny Committee in considering, agreeing and reviewing its forward work programme for 2023/24 |
| Scrutiny Chair: | Clir Dylan Rees |
| Portfolio Holder(s): | Not applicable |
| Head of Service: | Lynn Ball, Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer |
| Report Author: | Anwen Davies, Scrutiny Manager |
| Tel: | 07971167198 |
| Email: | AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk |
| Local Members: | Applicable to all Scrutiny Members |
| 25 | • |

25

1 - Recommendation/s

The Committee is requested to:

R1 agree the current version of the forward work programme for 2023/24

R2 note progress thus far in implementing the forward work programme.

2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities

Effective work programming is the foundation of effective local government scrutiny. Our Scrutiny rolling forward work programmes are aligned with the corporate priorities of the Council and corporate transformation programmes – ensuring the role of Member scrutiny makes a tangible contribution to the Council's improvement priorities.

3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members

To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-

3.1 Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen]

3.2 A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value]

3.3 A look at any risks [focus on risk]

3.4 Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality]

3.5 Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement

[focus on wellbeing]

3.6 The potential impacts the decision would have on:

- protected groups under the Equality Act 2010
- those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (when making strategic decisions)
- opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

[focus on equality and the Welsh language]

4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

5 – Background / Context

1. Background

- 1.1 Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective local government scrutiny function¹. Done well, work programming can help lay the foundations for targeted and timely work on issues of local importance demonstrating where Member scrutiny can add value. Good practice advocates two key issues at the heart of the scrutiny forward work programme:
 - i. Challenge around prioritising work streams
 - ii. Need for a member-led approach and interface with officers.

1.2 Basic principles of good work programming²

- Work programming should not be a "start-stop" process
- Complementary work programmes for separate scrutiny committees
- Balance between different methods of work
- An effective process for reporting / escalating issues to the Executive
- Input and views of internal stakeholders
- Close working with the Executive
- Links with the Annual Scrutiny Report (evaluation and improvement tool).

2. Local context

- 2.1 There is now a well-established practice of forward work programming which are now rolling programmes focusing on the quality of scrutiny with fewer items, to add value. They are an important tool to assist Members in prioritising their work and are discussed with the Leadership Team and Heads of Service. Both committees review the content of their work programmes on a regular basis, to ensure that they remain relevant and keep abreast with local priorities. Our local forward planning arrangements now ensure greater focus on:
 - Strategic aspects
 - Citizen / other stakeholder engagement and outcomes
 - Priorities of the Council Plan and transformation projects
 - Risks and the work of inspection and regulation
 - Matters on the forward work programme of the Executive.

¹ A Cunning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)

² A Cunning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)

Outcome: rolling work programmes for scrutiny committees which are aligned with corporate priorities.

- 2.2 Committee chairs lead on developing the forward work programmes and are submitted to the monthly Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-chairs Forum and for approval at each ordinary meeting of the scrutiny committees. The Forum is considered an important vehicle to oversee these programmes and jointly negotiate priorities.
- 2.3 **"Whole council" approach to Scrutiny:** our work programmes provide a strong foundation for our improvement programme, ensuring the role that Scrutiny plays in the Authority's governance arrangements:
 - i. Supports robust and effective decision-making
 - ii. Makes a tangible contribution to the Council's improvement priorities
 - iii. Continues to evolve.

3. Issues for consideration

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee receives regular update reports on the implementation of its forward work programme. A copy of the current 2023/24 work programme is attached as **APPENDIX 1** to this report for reference and includes changes made to the work programme since the Committee last considered the document.³
- 3.2 Where appropriate, items may be added to the Committee's forward work programme during the municipal year. Requests for additional matters to be considered for inclusion on the work programme can be submitted via the Members Request Form for an item to be considered for Scrutiny. Requests are initially considered by the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-chairs Forum, using the following criteria:
 - the Council's strategic objectives and priorities (as outlined in the Council Plan)
 - the ability of the Committee to have influence and/or add value on the subject (A Scrutiny Test of Significance Form will be completed).

6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language] 6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010

6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)

6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

Not applicable for this overarching issue but will be considered as an integral part of preparing for specific proposals to be submitted for consideration by the Committee.

7 – Financial Implications

Not applicable.

8 – Appendices:

³ Meeting of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee convened on 19th September, 2023

9 - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

Anwen Davies, Scrutiny Manager, Isle of Anglesey, Council Offices, Llangefni. LL77 7TW

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR SCRUTINY \rightarrow MAY, 2023 – APRIL, 2024 [Version dated 09/10/23]

Note for Stakeholders and the Public:

A Protocol for Public Speaking at Scrutiny Committees has been published by the Council.

Should you wish to speak on any specific item at a Scrutiny Committee then you should register your interest by submitting a written request using the form available as soon as possible and at least 3 clear working days prior to the specific Committee meeting. You can access information about the meeting and which items being discussed by reading this Forward Work Programme. Contact the Scrutiny Manager if you have any queries [AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk]

| CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE |
|---------------------------------|---|
| May, 2023 (23/05/23) | May, 2023 (23/05/23) |
| Election of Chair: 2023/24 | Election of Chair: 2023/24 |
| Election of Vice-chair: 2023/24 | Election of Vice-chair: 2023/24 |

| June, 2023 (20/06/23) – Q4 | June, 2023 (21/06/23) |
|---|--|
| Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Qtr4: 2022/23 | Welsh Language: |
| | Annual Report on the Welsh Standards: 2022/23 |
| | Welsh in Education Strategic Plan: 2022/23 → Measure |
| | Progress |
| | Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report |
| Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy | Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Public Services Board Annual Report: 2022/23 |
| Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan | Destination Management Plan |
| Annual Delivery Plan: 2023/24 | North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 4: 2022/23 Progress Report |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 |
| September, 2023 (19/09/23) – Q1 | September, 2023 (19/09/23) - Education |
| Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Q1: 2023/24 | Consultation on the Future of Fire and Rescue Services in North Wales - |
| | Isle of Anglesey County Council comments |
| Finance Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | GwE Annual Report for the Isle of Anglesey: 2022/23 |
| Annual Performance Report: 2022/23 | Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report |
| Nomination of Committee Member on the Finance Scrutiny Committee | Education Scrutiny Charter |

| CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE |
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| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 |
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| October, 2023 (18/10/23) - meeting cancelled | October, 2023 (17/10/23) |
| | Regional Emergency Planning Service Annual Report: 2022-23 |
| | Annual Report North Wales Regional Partnership Board (Part 9): 2022/23 |
| | Public Participation Strategy: 2023/2028 |
| | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 |
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| | November, 2023 (13/11/22) – Additional Meeting |
| | Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board |
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| | |
| November, 2023 (21/11/23) - Q2 | November, 2023 (22/11/22) – Crime and Disorder |
| Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q2: 2023/24 | Waste and Recycling Strategy: 2023/2028 |
| Corporate Asset Management Plan: 2023/2028 (to be confirmed) | Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Community Safety Partnership Annual Report: 2022/23 |
| Empty Homes Strategy: 2023/28 | Ynys Môn Levelling Up Programme – Measure Progress |
| Social Services Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 |
| | |
| January, 2024 (18/01/24) – 2024/25 Budget | January, 2024 (16/01/24) |
| 2024/25 Budget Setting (Revenue Budget) – initial budget proposals | Corporate Safeguarding |
| Finance Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 2: 2023/24 Progress Report |
| Tenant Participation Strategy | Modernising Day Opportunities: Learning Opportunities (Holyhead area) |
| Asset Management Strategy (Housing Service) | |
| Local Housing Market Assessment | |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 |
| | |
| February, 2024 (27/02/24) – 2024/25 Budget | February, 2024 (06/02/24) - Education |
| Final Draft Budget Proposals for 2024/25 – revenue & capital | Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report |
| Finance Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | Modernising Day Opportunities: Learning Disabilities |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 |
| | |
| March, 2024 (12/03/24) - Q3 | March, 2024 (13/03/24) |
| Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q3: 2023/24 | Annual Report on Equalities: 2022/23 |

| CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE |
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| Social Scrutiny Panel Progress Report | North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 3: 2023/24 Progress Report |
| Housing Revenue Account Business Plan: 2024/2054 | Ynys Môn Levelling Up Programme – Measure Progress |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 |
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| April, 2024 (16/04/24) | April, 2024 (17/04/24) |
| | Public Services Board – governance arrangements / scrutiny of delivery |
| | of the Wellbeing Plan |
| | |
| Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 | Committee Forward Work Programme for 2023/24 |

Items to be scheduled:

| Corporate Scrutiny Committee | Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee |
|--|---|
| Service Asset Management Plan 2021/31 – Smallholdings Estate | Ynys Môn Levelling Up Programme – Measure Progress (November, 2024 and January, 2025) |
| Census 2021 | North Wales Police & Crime Commissioner |
| Transformation and Modernisation of Adults' Services | North Wales Fire & Rescue Service |
| | Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust |
| | Medrwn Môn |
| | Scrutiny of Partnerships |
| | Transformation of Learning Disabilities Day Opportunities |
| | Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Action Plan |
| | Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Public Services Board – Annual Report 2023/24 (June, 2024) |
| | Communities for Work Plus Programme: Annual Report 2023/24 (June, 2024) |
| | Improving Reliability and Resilience across the Menai Straits |
| | Anglesey Free Port |
| | Anglesey Local Development Plan |
| | Impact of Tourism on Anglesey Local Communities (resolution of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, 21/06/2023) |
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