

# Public Document Pack



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

Ffôn / tel (01248) 752500  
Ffacs / fax (01248) 750839

RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD	NOTICE OF MEETING
PWYLLGOR SGRIWTINI PARTNERIAETH AC ADFYWIO	PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DYDD IAU, 13 TACHWEDD, 2025 am 10.30 o'r gloch yb	THURSDAY, 13 NOVEMBER, 2025 at 10.30 am
CYFARFOD HYBRID – YN SIAMBR Y CYNGOR, SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNGOR, LLANGEFNI AC YN RHITHIOL DRWY ZOOM	HYBRID MEETING – COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, LLANGEFNI AND VIRTUALLY THROUGH ZOOM
Swyddog Pwyllgor	Mrs. Mairwen Hughes 01248 752518 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, Euryrn Morris, John Ifan Jones, Dylan Rees (Cadeirydd/Chair), Margaret M Roberts, Ken Taylor, Sonia Williams

### Annibynnwyr Môn/Anglesey Independents

Douglas Fowle; Derek Owen; Liz Wood

### 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)** Mrs Wenda Owen (Yr Eglwys yng Nghymru/The Church in Wales), Kathryn Seeney -(Rhiant Llywodraethwr – Sector Ysgolion Cynradd/Parent Governor – Primary Schools Sector), Christina Williams-(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)

Please note that meetings of the Committee are streamed for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The Authority is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act and data collected during this live stream will be retained in accordance with the Authority's published policy.

## **A G E N D A**

**1      APOLOGIES**

**2      DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

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

**3      MINUTES (Pages 1 - 10)**

To submit, for confirmation, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 October, 2025.

**4      SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GUIDANCE : FRAMEWORK FOR EVALUATION, IMPROVEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (Pages 11 - 16)**

To submit a report by the Director of Education, Skills and Young People.

**5      EDUCATION SCRUTINY PANEL : PROGRESS REPORT (Pages 17 - 24)**

To submit a report by the Chair of the Education Scrutiny Panel.

**6      COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2025/2026 (Pages 25 - 32)**

To submit a report by the Scrutiny Officer.

**PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 14 October 2025**

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

Councillors Non Dafydd, Douglas Massie Fowlie, John Ifan Jones, Eurnyn Morris, Pip O'Neill, Derek Owen, Margaret Murley Roberts, Ken Taylor, Sonia Williams and Liz Wood.

**Portfolio Holders**

Councillor Alun Roberts – Portfolio Holder for Adult Services and Community Safety.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Chief Executive,  
Head Democracy,  
Scrutiny Officer (EA),  
Policy and Welsh Language Support Officer (MT),  
Committee Services Officer - Webcasting (FT)

**APOLOGIES:** Mr John Tierney – The Catholic Church  
Mrs Wenda Owen – The Church in Wales  
Ms Kathryn Seeney – Parent Governor – Primary School Sector  
Ms Christina Williams – Parent Governor – Secondary School Sector and ALN

Deputy Chief Executive,  
Aaron C. Evans  
Ned Michael  
Christian Branch

**IN ATTENDANCE: Portfolio Holders**

Councillor Gary Pritchard – Council Leader and Economic Development Portfolio Holder (item 4).  
Councillor Neville Evans – Leisure, Tourism and Maritime Portfolio Holder.  
Councillor Dyfed W Jones – Children, Young People and Families Services Portfolio Holder.  
Councillor Nicola Roberts – Plannig, Public Protection and Climate Change Portfolio Holder.  
Councillor Robin Williams – Deputy Leader and Finance and Housing Services Portfolio Holder.  
Councillor Dafydd Roberts – Education and Welsh Language Portfolio Holder.

Dafydd Gruffydd - Menter Môn (for item 4)  
Elen Hughes - Menter Môn (for item 4)

Ms Daron Owens – Senior Community Safety Operational Officer for Gwynedd a Môn (for item 5).  
Elliw Llŷr – Housing Services, Strategy, Commissioning and Policy Manager (for item 5).

---

## **1 APOLOGIES**

As noted above.

## **2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor Sonia Williams declared a personal interest, that was not prejudicial, as she is a Business Manager for 'Bwyd Da Môn', that works in partnership with Menter Môn (item 4).

Councillor Euryrn Morris declared a personal interest, that was not prejudicial, as he is employed by Cyngor Gwynedd (item 5).

## **3 MINUTES**

It was confirmed that the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 16 September 2025, were correct.

### **Action points arising from the meeting held on 12 February 2025:-**

**Action:** To send a letter to Welsh Government noting the need to provide additional funding for the Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion service.

### **Update:**

A response was received by the education cabinet's secretary, highlighting Welsh Government's continuous commitment to support the Additional Learning Needs system by providing sustainable funding, supporting the workforce and events aimed at inclusive education, including more funding for ALN Coordinators, school counselling and mental health initiatives. It also recognised the current challenges, such as legal pressure, strain on the workforce, and inconsistent use of the ALN framework, with steps taken to improve clarity, regional capacity, including support for the new educational psychology programme in Bangor University.

**It was RESOLVED to attach the letter to today's meetings' minutes.**

## **4 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP - MENTER MÔN**

The Chair welcomed Mr Dafydd Gruffydd, Managing Director and Elen Hughes, Project Director – Menter Môn to the meeting to give an overview of the services provided by Menter Môn.

The Leader of the Council, as the relevant portfolio holder, presented the item and handed over to Menter Môn officers. Mr Dafydd Gruffydd, Managing Director, said that Menter Môn was established by the County Council in 1995, and this year the company is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In 1996, a decision was made to establish the organisation as a 'not for profit' company to provide the EU's LEADER programme that was aimed at developing solutions for the challenges that faced rural areas.

The enterprise has developed over the years, completing regional and national projects, but the variety and emphasis of the work on Anglesey has been consistent. Today, 80 members of staff are employed by the enterprise, with a medium age average of 35. The company's values have stayed the same. They prioritise developing potential to strengthen the economy and culture. The company focuses on three main portfolios which are Community, Economy and Energy. They find, create and offer opportunities to support and develop people, strengthen the economy, improve the environment and vitalise their culture.

The managing Director said that the relationship between Menter Môn and Anglesey County Council has improved. Regular meetings are held with the Council's Chief Executive, and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council are also Menter Môn board members.

Following the presentation, the following discussion points were raised by the Committee:

**Questions were asked about the effects of uncertainty regarding public funding (grants) and the company's ability to achieve its priorities/key aims.**

- Councillor Margaret Roberts asked, what effect does uncertainty regarding public funding have on Menter Môn's ability to achieve its main priorities and aims? The Managing Director said that many grant planning programmes were available around 10 years ago, but today, there's more uncertainty around community planning. They aren't transformational, but they keep the wheel turning. The enterprise is waiting to see what will happen with Balchder Bro. The Chief Executive said that he doesn't underestimate the way in which the enterprise has to work with different funding processes, as they constantly change. Consistency makes a real difference to the possibility of realising capital projects. Over the last 4 years, Anglesey's Local Prosperity Fund has granted 5 million (500 million to the whole of Wales). Unfortunately, it seems that less grant funding will be available in the future, which makes it even more important to concentrate on language, energy and wildlife.
- Councillor Gwilym Jones referred to the extraordinary work of the previous director at Menter Môn, Gerallt Llywelyn. He asked what percentage of the funding is being spent on Anglesey, and how much is provided to the mainland? Dafydd Gruffydd said that some plans are relevant to both

counties, and some are relevant only to one county, but the amounts spent has to be reported to funders. At times, it is speculated that funding for Anglesey is spent over the bridge, and vice versa, but he confirmed that this isn't true. If the company continued to only work on Anglesey, it might not exist today. It's an advantage to have an able company that employs 80 young people.

- Councillor Douglas Fowlie thanked Dafydd Gruffydd for his presentation. He said that he represented Aberffraw Community Council and that Menter Môn once sold Cegin Llys Llywelyn to fund the gap in pensions. He asked if that was true and what assurance is there that Menter Môn would not sell community assets to fund any gap again? Dafydd Gruffydd confirmed that Cegin Llys Llywelyn was sold back in 2013 under the leadership of Gerallt Llywelyn Jones, as the asset wasn't being used. They received funding from Europe to renew the asset to become a hospitality business and a launderette, and it ran like that for 10 years. There was a mutual feeling that Menter Môn wasn't the appropriate leader to run that sort of organisation, therefore it was sold, and the money was used to start the Morlais Project (around 100 million). He highlighted the Menter Môn is a non-profit company that is currently facing extreme challenges, and the money certainly wasn't spent on pensions. Gerallt Llywelyn Jones' work is an attribute to Anglesey, and he has achieved something remarkable.

**Questions were asked about monitoring developments, achievements, and key challenges since Menter Môn met with the Scrutiny Committee last in October 2024.**

- Councillor Euryr Morris asked what measures or performance indicators are in place to assess the social and economic effects of Menter Môn's projects on the Island's communities? What steps have Menter Môn taken to keep experienced staff and attract new staff? Dafydd Gruffydd said that there are key performance indicators for each scheme, and that they are collected and reported on. This is on the 'to do' list to show how Menter Môn enriches Ynys Môn. In regard to attracting staff, they feel they have been more professional recruiting Human Resources staff to tighten policies and processes.
- Councillor Non Dafydd asked what steps have Menter Môn taken to deal with the challenge of keep experienced staff and attracting new talent to the company? The Managing Director said the company needs to be portrayed as an interesting workplace with plenty of variety. Good terms are available for staff members, and a positive number of people are interviewed for jobs.
- In regard to the Hydrogen Hub, Councillor Pip O'Neill asked what challenges Menter Môn face as they move forward. Dafydd Gruffydd said that a draft business case and a final business case are being completed, and that an agreement with 'EDF Dynamics' need to be signed. It doesn't receive funding for the work, therefore it is all capital funding. It is a challenge to fund all the preparations.
- Councillor Ken Taylor said that it was nice seeing the enterprise celebrating all its success. He noted that the County Council has employed 4 young students and asked if that's something Menter Môn offers? Dafydd Gruffydd said that the Llwyddo'n Lleol scheme is something that's very close to their

hearts. The type of work that the organisation does at the moment isn't something that can be used in apprenticeships. A lot of work has been done with Morlais to engage with young people, and maybe work will be available to them in the future. It's important to note that energy schemes are essentially regeneration schemes. Keeping young people in the area would promote the Welsh language.

- The Chair noted that there are strong strategic links between Menter Môn and the Council, but he was concerned that there wasn't as much connection between Menter Môn and the wards. The process might need to be formalised. Elen Hughes said that Menter Môn staff are instructed to contact Local Members when activities happen, especially with Balchder Bro. Currently working in 30 locations across the island. It isn't always possible to monitor connections with members, but more than happy to consider that and report back. It was appreciated that strengthening communication would benefit the enterprise.

### **Action 1:**

Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of working with Menter Môn and Local Members to strengthen and formalise the process, noting improvement areas.

- Councillor Gwilym Jones gave his thanks for the information shared about the Traffwll Solar Park and the excellent age friendly work, Balchder Bro, that is being done. He referred to the Parti Paned in the Glanhwfa Centre and the Age Well events held over the winter, and said that without Menter Môn, this wouldn't have been possible.
- Councillor Non Dafydd said that she was aware of the differentiating feelings regarding solar on Anglesey. She said that some of her concerns were visibility and jobs, and she asked how to portray to the people of Bryngwran and Caergeiliog that Menter Môn is developing something good for the area and the people? The Managing Director said that Traffwll has received planning permission and that money has been spent, therefore it is definitely happening. A request was made for them to sell the Park to Menter Môn so that benefits were kept local. He accepted the point regarding jobs, but it is a good thing if it's possible to use the money. A discussion is needed with local members on how to model this.
- Councillor Douglas Fowlie said that councillors should take responsibility if they need anything done in their own area. He asked what Menter Môn would like to see from councillors to strengthen the relationship? Dafydd Gruffydd said maybe it was a matter of picking up the phone or sending an email. Anyone is welcome to contact him, or any member of staff. Elen added that they are arranging a series of face-to-face meetings with each ward. Cooperation to move this along is appreciated.
- Councillor Gary Pritchard explained some points that had been raised during the discussion. He said that he is aware that they receive less funding this year, and that it looks as though they'll receive even less next year. It's a challenge that is discussed regularly with Dafydd and Elen and the Executive. The community element is incredibly important. As part of his role as Leader and Portfolio Holder, it is recognised that there are many benefits to the enterprise that aren't recognised under the key performance indicators. There is a financial challenge, but praise need to be given to

Menter Môn. He wanted to thank them for all their work and for making a real difference in Anglesey.

**It was RESOLVED to accept the presentation and its content.**

## **5 GWYNEDD AND ANGLESEY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25**

The report of the Deputy Chief Executive was presented to the Committee for consideration.

The Portfolio Holder for Adult Services and Community Safety said that it is statutory that the Safety Partnership exists under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Members of the partnership include Anglesey County Council, the Police, the Probation Service, the Health Board and the Fire and Rescue Service. Specific responsibilities and fields include crime and disorder, substance misuse, reducing crime, serious assault and more importantly, commissioning domestic homicide reviews. They answer to, and work with the regional North Wales board that meets every quarter.

Daron Owens began by summarising the reports main points. She felt it was important to note that they do not receive continuous funding to commission projects or services directly. The only commission is for domestic homicide reviews as funding isn't provided on a regular basis for community safety. There is an emphasis on what will be done within the partnership. The team works closely with the North Wales regional board as they also set the priorities for crime and antisocial behaviour prevention. Significant work has been done to continue the serious violence strategy for North Wales. It has been part of the steering group for the past 11 months. The team receives funding from the Home Office every year, that allows them to continue with this regional prevention work.

After considering the report, the Committee discussed the main following points:-

**Questions were asked about measuring the Partnerships priorities (that are based on a local needs assessment process) and noting any new or additional local needs.**

- Councillor Euryr Morris asked in what way do the priorities for 2025/2026 fully reflect local needs on Anglesey, based on recent data and evidence? The Senior Community Safety Operational Officer for Gwynedd and Môn said, as is noted in the report, their priorities are based on the Safer North Wales Regional Board's Strategy. The board's vision is for North Wales to be a safe and inclusive place to live, work and visit. The purpose of the regional Board is to achieve this vision by dealing with crimes and disorder across the county. The basis of the Strategy is the strategic assessment by the police, that reports on risks and threats within crime areas that affect North Wales, and the main aim of the document is to inform those who make strategic decisions and set priorities. The Police Crime Commissioner's scheme also influences these areas, and it is based on a detailed consultation with the public. Therefore, the Regional Board's strategy sets the framework for on



Community Safety Partnerships within the region, and they report on their work every quarter to the Board. However, they have a responsibility to agree on their own specific actions in response to local need. As all priorities and actions are based on evidence, data and consultation with the public, Daron Owens said that they are confident that they fully reflect the local need on Anglesey but are open to recommendations on any area that is missing. Councillor Euryrn Morris asked how the Partnership measures the effectiveness of their activities in relation to reducing crime and disorder on Anglesey? Daron Owens said that it is important that the Community Safety Partnerships' strategies and activities are based on and driven by evidence. An evidence-based method allows them to have a good understanding of the crimes and antisocial behaviour landscape in these areas, and the problems and matters that should be prioritised. The evidence allows them to make informed decisions about which activities are likely to be most effective when reducing crime and antisocial behaviour, and to understand if their commitment work on a practical level. The evidence they consider is in many different forms, for example – crime data, the transfer of strategic information and constant insight shared by the different responsible authorities, the local community, and academic research on what works. They have analysis partnership in order to provide constabulary data on crime to support decisions based on evidence. The Police also regularly look at crime figures and review each regional and local change. Any significant change needs a further analysis. Then, problematic areas will be reviewed, with policing plans in place to deal with the problem. Local policing methods include providing day to day resources to deal with matters as they become apparent. The data constantly changes, and the Police respond to this every week to note and understand any increase and to put measures in place if needed. Daron noted that they keep a clear focus on achievements and putting actions in place and measuring the effect by incorporating a method where their plans have clear activities and results that are connected in order to measure and monitor the effectiveness of their broad work stream.

**Questions were asked about the effectiveness of the statutory partnership according to the expectations of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.**

- Councillor Euryrn Morris asked how effective is the co-working between the statutory agencies (Police, Health, Fire and Rescue Service and others) in achieving the aims? Daron Owen said that it is a statutory requirement to have a Community Safety Partnership in place, according to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and the idea behind this is that crime is a problem for everyone not just the police. They bring together local services to deal with crime and antisocial behaviour. The main responsibility is that the accountable services do everything possible to prevent crime and disorder and develop plans to do this. They act on the principle that no one agency has the ability to reduce and prevent crime, and that an effective, local response requires a coordinated community response by relevant agencies. However, the problems they regularly try to address are complex, and each organisation that form part of the Partnership will have their organisational priorities, their strains and limitations. The partnership's role is to work across these boundaries and barriers to choose and drive priorities and

activities forward. Success is dependent on the Partnerships partners making an effort to prioritise a method where they foster working relationships and share information regularly. Daron said that she is confident that the co-working is very effective, and also meets the statutory duties set upon them. Councillor Euryr Morris thanked her for the response but raised concern about the data that is used and said he would be happier if it said, 'Anglesey's data'. He would like to see a dashboard to be able to view the situation at the end of the year to see the difference. Daron accepted the comment and confirmed that she would include this in the next report.

**Action 1:**

Include the dashboard in the next annual report to measure and show the progress and effect of projects, comparing the performance at the start and end of the year with the Senior Community Safety Operational Officer for Gwynedd and Môn.

- The Chief Executive appreciated the detailed information that was shared with the Committee. He said that they receive confidential data from the Police regularly. The priorities meet the needs and there are differences, and the work programme reflects that. A lot of work depends on grants. Processes need to be followed in order to ensure that grants come through. Councillor Ken Taylor made a comment about data. He said that he's almost certain that the Chief Auditor had recently reported on figures in the Anglesey Town Council, and that they are positive.
- Councillor Non Dafydd said that she had listened on the emphasis on prevention. She said that patients in Benllech, Llanfairpwll, Beaumaris, Gwalchmai for example were going to lose access to Occupational Therapy services unless other provision is available. She asked what effect losing the provision will have? Daron Owens said that she wasn't aware of this before the meeting and that she would raise this with the board in a few weeks. An update will be shared after 7 November.

**Action 2:**

Provide an update to Committee Members following a meeting with the Health Board on 7 November in relation to the proposed reductions in Occupational Therapy services across the Island due to funding limitations by the Senior Community Safety Operational Officer for Gwynedd and Môn.

**Action 3:**

Chief Executive to engage with the Director of Social Services and the relevant Portfolio Holder to ensure that concerns regarding the effect of the proposed reductions to Occupational Services across many surgeries on Anglesey are reflected in the consultation process.

- Councillor Sonia Williams noted that domestic violence and abuse is on the rise. She asked for examples of early intervention that is happening. Daron Owens said that they do not receive funding to intervene on projects but that the matter is important to them. A lot of work has happened to raise awareness. A support line is available to professionals, but more awareness is needed around that. White Ribbon Day on 25 November and a lot of work

is happening regionally. Councillor Sonia Williams accepted the points, but she would like to know what is being done to try and prevent an incident rather than the steps that are taken after an incident. Very often, it isn't even noted that domestic abuse happens to men. Daron Owens said that funding for serious violence have allowed them to provide 'Men in Work' sessions to allow Council staff to be confident to talk.

- Councillor Pip O'Neill asked what support is in place to help people that leave prison to reintegrate in the community, especially in relation to training and development programmes, as well as access to accommodation? Daron Owens said that the Council's Housing Service follows Welsh Governments pathway when someone leaves prison and that the Probation, Housing and Prison Services work together to ensure that an individual has access to services, including homelessness. She said she's aware that the Housing department have a resettlement pathway for prisoners that they action for everyone who leaves prison that have gone into HMP without a stable home, or who do not have stable accommodation when they are released. Two Resettlement Officers are employed through the HSG. They are employed by Anglesey County Council and work for the internal Housing Support Team. The Housing Service works closely with colleagues in the Police and Probation. One of the main aims is to reduce reoffending by providing accommodation hand in hand with emotional and wellbeing support. The Prisoner Resettlements officers visit prisons to complete a necessary housing assessment. They can do this via video. The aim of this is to reduce the risk of homelessness and to follow a good accommodation plan when they are released. Each individual will have an individual support plans and this includes access to training, volunteering and employment. They work with DWP and MônCF to provide employment support. Digartref Cyf were successful with an application for the Rural Homelessness Lottery. They also support taking people who leave prison to health appointments, probation meetings and much more. Some cases are complex, and other agencies have to provide support – for example, Children, Adults Services, CMHT and the Food Bank. Currently working on a pilot with the Integrated Offenders Management (IOM) group hand in hand with North Wales Police and Probation. They have 11 nominals on IOM, and the aim of the pilot is to ensure that they have a continuous home after being released. Agencies have shown that having accommodation of standard can reduce reoffending. They work with other local authorities if someone is released from prison who are prohibited from coming to the Island. Although there aren't many cases like these, they are difficult to manage as accommodation must be provided out of county. Eiliw Llŷr added that 50 units are available for people who leave prison. Benefits support is available, and 6 accommodation units are being supported. The Head of the Probation Service has expressed that the relationship with the Council is excellent.
- Councillor Douglas Fowle asked if support is available for individuals who don't return to their family home and are the rules the same for women and men. Eiliw Llŷr said if anyone makes an application for support they have a responsibility to provide appropriate accommodation for them. The service can work with the individual after that. Women and men are treated the same.

**It was RESOLVED to note the contents of the report and supporting documents, and note that the Scrutiny Committee supports the priorities and direction of work for the future.**

## **6 COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME- 2025/2026**

A report by the Scrutiny Manager, that noted the forward work programme for the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for 2025/2026, was presented to for consideration.

Meeting on 13 November will concentrate on Education matters.

Meeting on 26 November will concentrate on Health matters.

**It was RESOLVED to agree on the current version of the forward work programme for 2025/2026 and to note the progress made to date in terms of actioning the forward work programme.**

The Chair have special thanks to the Scrutiny Manager, Anwen Davies, for her excellent work over the years and wished her well on her retirement.

The meeting concluded at 3.40pm.

**COUNCILLOR DYLAN REES  
CHAIR**

22/11/2024

# Isle of Anglesey County Council Scrutiny Report

<b>Committee:</b>	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	13.11.25
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>School improvement guidance: framework for evaluation, improvement and accountability</b>
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	Cllr. Dylan Rees

## 1. Who will be the portfolio holder presenting / leading the report?

<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	<b>Role</b>
Councillor Dafydd Roberts	Portfolio Holder for Education
<b>Service Officer (Supporting)</b>	<b>Role</b>
Aaron Evans	Director of Education, Skills and Young People

## 2. Why the Scrutiny Committee is being asked to consider the matter

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make clear Welsh Government expectations of local authorities in contributing to school improvement, in the context of national guidance which will soon become statutory.</li> <li>• Ensure that the information presented on expectations regarding national school improvement is up to date.</li> </ul>
--

## 3. Role of the Scrutiny Committee and recommendations

- ☒ For assurance  
☐ For recommendation to the Executive  
☐ For information

<p>Recommendation(s):</p> <p>The Scrutiny Committee is requested to:</p> <p><b>R1</b> Consider the implications of the national guidance and expectations upon local authorities in contributing to school improvement – in particular the role for scrutiny committees</p> <p><b>R2</b> Note the key function of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee (as the designated scrutiny for education matters) to focus its scrutiny activity (through the Scrutiny Panel) on measuring the impact of support provided to schools by the Learning Service.</p>
--

#### **4. How does the recommendation(s) contribute to the objectives of the Council's Plan?**

This is directly aligned to the priorities set out in the Council Plan 2023-28 – one of which is stated as 'Education – ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations'.

#### **5. Key scrutiny themes**

Key themes the Scrutiny Committee should concentrate on:

1. How the guidance underpins the ongoing development of the self-improving system
2. The role of elected members on the Scrutiny Committee in the new school improvement guidance
3. The role of the Local Authority in supporting the improvement of schools
4. The degree to which the guidance supports the commitment to tackle the impact of poverty on attainment

#### **6. Key points / summary**

The School Improvement Guidance establishes a school-led, proportionate system for evaluation, improvement and accountability that prioritises learner progression, well-being and implementation of the Curriculum for Wales. The culture has moved from high accountability to self-evaluation processes that are based on consistent and honest evidence.

The guidance was introduced to align the system with the Curriculum for Wales and new assessment arrangements. This is reflected in the move from compliance and judgement to a sustainable, school-led improvement model that tackles inequality and the impact of poverty on attainment. It was also introduced to create coherent expectations across schools, the Local Authority, and Estyn so all tiers work together to support curriculum reform.

The Guidance was also originally produced at a time when the Local Authority focused on its support for behaviour, emotional and mental well-being, Additional Learning Needs, attendance, HR, finance, buildings, Welsh language development, and commissioning support for teaching and learning, leadership development and curriculum planning. Following change to the education system in Summer 2025, the Local Authority now provides direct support for teaching and learning, leadership, professional learning and curriculum planning and this is reflected in the guidance.

Key messages:

1. Evaluation is school-led and continuous: self-evaluation must use multiple evidence sources including progress from baseline, learning walks, work scrutiny and pupil voice and must disaggregate by key groups and language pathways.

2. The overarching areas for self-evaluation in schools are:
  - vision and leadership
  - curriculum, learning and teaching
  - well-being, equity and inclusion
3. Improvement is focused and publishable: each school produces one concise School Development Plan (SDP) with a small number of measurable priorities, named leads, resourcing, timescales and success criteria; SDP summaries must be published, and there are good examples of those on the island.
4. Accountability is proportionate and risk based: the Learning Service and schools themselves can broker tailored support to meet the needs of schools. The Local Authority is still required to ensure high standards. Inspection by Estyn acts as a backstop within a supportive system.
5. Peer to peer working is central in the new system: school to school support and system leaders deliver capacity building, reciprocal challenge and professional learning across clusters.
6. Use a mixed evidence base, not single measure: decisions, escalation and support should be based on triangulated quantitative and qualitative evidence, emphasising progression.
7. Transparency and stakeholder voice: learners, parents and communities should inform evaluation.

Strategic leaders in the Learning Service are responsible for brokering and coordinating bespoke support for schools based on their evaluated needs and priorities – such decisions are made alongside the headteachers. Senior managers within the service, alongside school leaders in some cases, will provide constructive external challenge to schools' self-evaluation and SDPs. Our system leaders, school headteachers, lead and enable peer to peer activity, ensuring support is targeted and recorded. Peer-to-peer and school-to-school activities are essential for capacity building and professional learning, sharing effective practice, and reducing dependence on central intervention. The service holds termly reviews with school headteachers to assess progress, identify risk and trigger proportionate escalation where required. This work is recorded, and the progress of schools is reported to the Director of Education, Skills and Young People, who continues to be responsible for ensuring learners make appropriate progress.

Governing bodies are the accountable bodies for their schools and oversee the evaluation and improvement process. Governors play a key strategic role and agree on the school's strategic aims. The headteacher and the senior leadership team are responsible for leadership, direction, and management of the school within those strategic aims. The headteacher is responsible for internal organisation and management, and for advising on the strategic aims and implementing them.

Estyn plays a key accountability role in the new system. Inspection activities are used to provide independent assurance of standards and to inform national improvement priorities. As the national education inspectorate, they also support the school system by publishing evidence, best practice, thematic reports, etc.

For elected members and those who are members of the scrutiny committee, the new guidance emphasises their key function in focusing scrutiny on the impact of support by the Learning Service (this is the through the work of the Scrutiny Panel). It should also be noted the elected members should maintain strategic separation from their governor roles, while using governor insight to inform scrutiny.

## 7. Impact assessments

### 7.1. Potential impacts on groups protected under the Equality Act 2010

Welsh Government on the school improvement guidance (<https://www.gov.wales/school-improvement-guidance-impact-assessment-html>). Could also include the following:

#### Positive impacts:

- Improved access and inclusion when self-evaluation explicitly identifies barriers faced by protected groups and action plans remove those barriers.
- Better-targeted support where data-led improvement planning highlights attainment gaps for groups such as pupils with disabilities or from minority ethnic backgrounds, enabling tailored interventions.

#### Potential negative impacts:

- Worsening attainment gaps if improvement measures rely on assumptions about access to resources without adjustments for disadvantaged pupils.

#### Mitigations for schools:

- Use disaggregated data to identify gaps for protected groups and monitor the effect of improvement actions on those groups.
- Embed reasonable adjustment and accessibility into curriculum planning, assessment methods, and well-being support so changes don't create barriers for pupils with disabilities.

### 7.2. Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage (strategic decisions)

Welsh Government on the school improvement guidance: <https://www.gov.wales/school-improvement-guidance-impact-assessment-html>. Could also include the following:

#### Potential negative impacts:

- Widening attainment gaps if actions assume equal home support or digital access.
- Reduced access to enrichment when activities require payment, transport, or equipment.
- Weaker engagement because consultation/engagement methods under-represent low-income families.



Key positive impacts:

- Targeted support driven by disaggregated data (catch-up tutoring, mentoring).
- Whole-school equity focus, with clear objectives in the School Development Plan.
- Stronger collaboration across schools to pool resources and specialist help.

Mitigation actions for schools:

- Add explicit socio-economic objectives in the School Development Plan with measurable criteria.
- Disaggregate and review data termly for disadvantaged learners.
- Ring-fence funding/staff time for targeted interventions.
- Use multiple engagement routes to include low-income families in planning.

7.3. Potential effects on opportunities to use Welsh and not treat the language less favourably than English

Welsh Government guidance does not include potential effects on opportunities to use the Welsh language and not to treat the language less favourably than English. However, they could include the following:

Potential decline in Welsh use going unnoticed if monitoring is not disaggregated by language pathway/continuum.

Potentially strengthen Welsh provision by including language measures in self-evaluation and the School Development Plan.

Mitigation actions for schools:

- Disaggregating data by language pathway and reviewing termly.
- Adding clear Welsh equality objectives/targets in the School Development Plan and named leads, making it explicit, costed, monitored and protected in every improvement decision.

7.4. Potential impact on the Council's Net Zero Carbon target

Positive / Neutral / Negative and how

Welsh Government guidance does not include potential impact on the Council's Net Zero Carbon target. However, they could include the following:

Potential positive impacts include:

- Opportunities to embed low-carbon learning through curriculum planning and school improvement priorities that emphasise sustainability, green skills and behaviour change.
- Economies of scale from local collaboration: joint improvement activities can be designed to minimise travel (virtual CPD, clustered events).

- Behaviour change via whole-school approaches (active travel, reduced printing) driven by improvement monitoring and well-being priorities.

Potential negative impacts include:

- Increased energy use in schools if improvement actions lead to extended hours, e.g., community functions outside regular school hours.
- Higher travel emissions due to staff training, school-to-school working, increased parent pupil/parent interventions, meetings or enrichment activities.

Mitigation action for schools:

- Identify a school sustainability lead linked to the Council's team.
- Default to virtual or local professional learning and cluster events.

## 8. Financial implications

The report does not identify any specific financial implications for the Local Authority.

## 9. Appendices

<https://hwb.gov.wales/school-improvement-and-leadership/evaluation-improvement-and-accountability/school-improvement-guidance-framework-for-evaluation-improvement-and-accountability/>

<https://www.gov.wales/school-improvement-guidance-impact-assessment-html>

## 10. Report author and background papers

Aaron C Evans, Director of Education, Skills and Young People  
Euros Davies, Strategic Leader (Secondary sector)

22/11/2024

# Isle of Anglesey County Council

## Scrutiny Report

<b>Committee:</b>	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	13 November, 2025
<b>Subject:</b>	Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	Councillor Dylan Rees

### 1. Who will be the portfolio holder presenting / leading the report?

Portfolio Holder	Role
Councillor Gwilym O Jones	Chair of the Education Scrutiny Panel
Councillor Dafydd Roberts	Portfolio Holder for Education and Welsh Language
Service Officer (Supporting)	Role
Aaron Evans	Director of Education, Skills and Young People

### 2. Why the Scrutiny Committee is being asked to consider the matter

Note progress made and to provide assurance
---

### 3. Role of the Scrutiny Committee and recommendations

- ☒ For assurance  
☐ For recommendation to the Executive  
☒ For information

<p>Recommendation(s):</p> <p><b>R1</b> Note the progress made during the last period in terms of the work of the Education Scrutiny Panel.</p>
--

### 4. How does the recommendation(s) contribute to the objectives of the Council's Plan?

<p>Direct link to the Council Plan: 2023-2028.</p> <p>Education is one of the six key strategic aims (Council Plan: 2023-2028) namely - ensuring an effective education provision for today and for future generations. It is considered that Elected Members have a crucial role in realising this aim by scrutinising and holding to account.</p> <p>The work of the Education Scrutiny Panel contributes towards this aim.</p>
---

## 5. Key scrutiny themes

Key themes the Scrutiny Committee should concentrate on:

1. The impact of the Scrutiny Panel's forward work programme against the Council Plan.
2. Key areas for strengthening the work of the Scrutiny Panel
3. The effectiveness of the Field Work Sessions against the outcomes of the Scrutiny Panel

## 6. Key points / summary

### 1. SUMMARY

**1.1** Members will be aware of how the scrutiny panels contribute towards the Council's governance arrangements:

- Social Services Scrutiny Panel
- Resources Scrutiny Panel
- **Education Scrutiny Panel**

### 1.2 Panel Governance Arrangements

- i. The Scrutiny Committee<sup>1</sup> confirmed the Panel's terms of reference in a way that creates the conditions to broaden the remit of its work with the following key benefits:
- ii. Developing a scrutiny model for Education that focuses on a smaller group of Members working together on specific themes so that they can be more involved, develop a level of expertise in the subject and encourage good attendance and teamwork.
- iii. Strengthen Members' capacity to further challenge performance by improving the quality of their general knowledge and understanding regarding school performance data.
- iv. A forum for discussing information on Service risks as a basis for the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee's forward work programme.
- v. A forum for developing a group of Members with the expertise and ownership to lead discussions on Education issues at the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

Members will be aware of the robust governance arrangements in place as a basis for the work of the Panel<sup>2</sup>

Furthermore, arrangements have been put in place to regularly report on progress to the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee through the Chair of the Panel, Cllr. Gwilym Owen Jones. The membership of the Panel is attached (Appendix 1).

### 2. FOCUS ON THE EDUCATION SCRUTINY PANEL'S WORK

This is the Education Scrutiny Panel's sixth progress report and covers the period February 2025-October 2025

<sup>1</sup> Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, 16 September, 2025

<sup>2</sup> Meetings of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held on 20 April and 27 June 2017

Following an independent review of our Scrutiny arrangements, commissioned in the summer of 2024, an Improvement Plan was developed outlining five key themes for action.

Theme 4 highlighted the need for a more streamlined and flexible structure for Scrutiny. This includes achieving a better balance between formal and informal meetings, allowing space for fieldwork sessions focused on timely, strategic priorities aligned with the Council Plan; with an emphasis on evidence-based scrutiny to both support the Learning Service and ensure accountability. At the heart of this new approach is ensuring the voice of the learner remains a golden thread throughout. During the period noted, the Panel met formally three times with a series of fieldwork sessions in between<sup>3</sup>, considering the following issues:

## **2.1 Curriculum for Wales:**



In February<sup>4</sup> the Panel had the opportunity to engage in field work by visiting a Primary School focusing on the following theme→Curriculum for Wales. During the fieldwork session, Members of the Panel were given a better understanding of the Curriculum for Wales led by Graham Donaldson, whilst assessing the progress of the curriculum within the Primary Sector illustrated through practical examples from the classroom by pupils of the School. The Panel was able to identify and recognise how the curriculum focuses on developing skills, knowledge, and experiences across six Areas of Learning. It emphasises critical thinking, problem-solving, well-being, and creativity, aiming to foster active, engaged, and lifelong learners.

Members acknowledged how the school's implementation of the curriculum offers numerous opportunities for students with Additional Learning Needs, aligning with the school's educational philosophy, which places inclusion at its core.

The school has successfully integrated the curriculum through a range of diverse projects, incorporating a broad spectrum of the following cross-curricular skills:

- i. Literacy and Languages
- ii. Ecology
- iii. History
- iv. Mathematics and Numeracy
- v. Science and Technology
- vi. Digitalisation
- vii. Geography
- viii. Problem-solving.

Specific focus was given to the following aspects:

-  Highlighting the school's best practices in implementing the curriculum.
-  The importance of the Voice of the Learner through practical examples as demonstrated by Pupils.

## **Outcomes:**

---

<sup>3</sup> Formal meetings of the Education Scrutiny Panel held on 27/03/2025, 24/06/2025, 24/09/2025

Field work sessions of the Education Scrutiny Panel held on 20/02/2025, 08/09/2025, 09/09/2025, 10/09/2025

<sup>4</sup> 20/02/2025

- i. Measure local progress in delivering the Curriculum for Wales. Specific focus on the Primary and Secondary Sectors and developments in the transition period.
- ii. Identify the school's good practice in implementing the Curriculum for Wales through examples in the classroom.



## 2.2 Self-evaluation of the Impact of the Education Scrutiny Panel:

At its formal meeting in March<sup>5</sup>, Panel Members were invited to discuss and evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the Education Scrutiny Panel by undertaking a self-assessment, guided by the following core questions:

### Self-assessment core questions:

1. What were the highlights of the Education Scrutiny Panel during the past year?
2. In your opinion, what impact did the Education Scrutiny Panel have during 2024/25 in supporting the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee to make recommendations to the Executive?
3. What aspects of the Education Scrutiny Panel's Work Programme could be improved or delivered more effectively in the future?
4. What development needs do you have to support you in the role as a Member of the Education Scrutiny Panel?
5. Any general observations on the influence and / or impact of the work of The Education Scrutiny Panel in the decision-making process?

The following key points were highlighted:




-  Members noted areas for improvement included the need for more thorough scrutiny focusing on areas of concern and stronger follow-up on actions to ensure effective oversight.
-  Members expressed a desire to engage in more practical work as a Panel, aiming to ensure that their efforts have a direct impact and lead to meaningful influence on the decision-making process.

### Outcomes:

- i. Members expressed interest in training to support continuous improvement and develop understanding of the new Estyn inspection framework.
- ii. Members emphasised the importance of having a clear remit for each piece of work, aligned with the Panel's vision and terms of reference, to assess whether the objectives are being achieved.

## 2.3 Effective Transition → readiness to learn:

During a formal meeting of the Education Scrutiny Panel on 24<sup>th</sup> of June, Members received a comprehensive overview on Effective Transition → readiness to learn, in order to prepare them for the next series of field work sessions scheduled to take place across different schools<sup>6</sup> during September 2025. Specific attention was given to the following aspects:

-  School governing bodies must create and publish a collaborative transition plan to support learners moving from Year 6 to Year 7, in line with the Transition from Primary to Secondary School (Wales) Regulations 2022.
-  Plans must place the learner at the center, addressing individual progression, well-being, and continuity of learning through coordinated curriculum and teaching across the 3–16 continuum.
-  Strong partnership between secondary and feeder primary schools is essential, with

<sup>5</sup> 27/03/2025

<sup>6</sup> Ysgol y Graig Fach, Llangefni, Ysgol Y Tywyn, Caergeiliog, Ysgol David Hughes, Menai Bridge

coordinated curriculum and assessment planning across the cluster to ensure smooth transitions.

- ✚ Transition plans must include clear proposals for review and evaluation, focusing on their impact on learning continuity and learner progression.

As part of the fieldwork sessions, members were presented with the following set of key scrutiny questions designed to guide and support effective scrutiny:

**2a.** To what extent does the school have clear strategies in place to ensure continued educational progress for learners when moving from Nursery to Reception and/or Year 6 to Year 7

**2b.** How effectively is the school working with other catchment schools on transition?

**2c.** How open and effective is sharing information about wellbeing/additional learning needs (ALN) of pupils as they transition?

**2d.** How familiar are learners with their new school?

During the various field work sessions, Members noted strong professional dialogue and communication among schools within the catchment area. However, it was highlighted that additional transition activities could be developed, resources permitting, between secondary schools and their respective catchment primaries, with several pupil-led suggestions provided, highlighting the importance of incorporating the voice of the learner. Members' also noted a more consistent approach is needed across the entire schools to ensure clear and effective communication and information-sharing between schools and parents, particularly during transitions from one school to another (e.g. shared proformas).

#### **Outcomes:**

- Opportunities were identified to develop additional transition activities, resources permitting, between secondary schools and their respective catchment primaries. Several pupil-led suggestions were shared, reinforcing the importance of incorporating the voice of the learner in transition planning.
- Improved Communication and Information-Sharing: Members identified the need for a more consistent approach across the schools to strengthen communication and information-sharing between schools and parents, particularly during key transition points between schools.

#### **2.4 Corporate Safeguarding-schools contribution:**

The Panel met on 24th September to discuss Corporate Safeguarding arrangements, focusing on the contribution of schools. This was part of a joint discussion with the Social Services Panel to consider the key messages emerging from the scrutiny of Corporate Safeguarding reports prior to their presentation to the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee<sup>7</sup>. The following key points were noted:

- ✚ The Learning Service are conducting Safeguarding Support Visits to provide further assurance that schools are following relevant procedures, provide support where required and to ensure that there is a healthy culture of safeguarding within each school.
- ✚ Independent reviews are carried out on the "First Door" service.
- ✚ Learning Service and Social Services operate collaboratively, have an integrated approach with a strong working relationship (as "one team") between both services
- ✚ Each school has a designated safeguarding lead for clarity to parents and children.
- ✚ Early identification and intervention through systems such as "My Concern" enables prompt

<sup>7</sup> Action point agreed upon during a meeting of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 14/01/25

staff action.

- ✚ Staff training and awareness are prioritised, supporting a trauma-informed approach across schools.

**Outcomes:**

- The Education and Social Services Scrutiny Panels reviewed key messages emerging from Corporate Safeguarding reports before presentation to the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.
- Initial discussions focused on the panels' role in scrutinising the reports, with a follow-up meeting in December to further examine schools' contributions.

**2.5 Improving Attendance:**

During the same Panel meeting on 24th of September, members also received a detailed presentation on the theme of improving attendance — the next area of focus for the fieldwork sessions scheduled for November 2025<sup>8</sup>.

The Learning Service aims to return to the pre-pandemic attendance target of 95%, with expectations set for schools and regular meetings held with the secondary sector to monitor and support progress. The following key points were noted:

- ✚ Attendance remains significantly below pre-lockdown levels, with high levels of continuous absences. This aligns with the national Picture. Regular analysis, monitoring, and reporting informs targeted interventions at both school and learner levels.
- ✚ A communications campaign is underway, led by schools, including a video for secondary schools and targeted messages on social media to raise awareness among pupils and parents.
- ✚ Main challenges include high sickness-related absences, increased mental health issues among pupils, and a lack of understanding among some parents about the long-term impact of poor attendance.
- ✚ Content and messaging to support this work will be finalised by February 2026, aligning with strategic plans to improve attendance across the service.

**Outcomes:**

- Evaluate the effectiveness of the local authority's role in supporting schools to improve pupil attendance. Findings will be presented in the next Scrutiny Panel progress report, during February 2026.

**2.6 Scrutiny Panel work programme for the period February, 2025→October, 2025**

The forward work programme was reviewed at every meeting of the Panel with the aim of ensuring a robust work programme to support the Panel's contribution to the Council's governance arrangements.

Moving forward, the themes in the Education Scrutiny Panel's forward work programme will continue to reflect the priorities of the Learning Services under the following headings, with a focus on fieldwork:

- Work towards ensuring progress, achievement and educational equality
- Using an integrated approach to ensure fairness and mitigate the impact of poverty

<sup>8</sup> 10/11/2025-Ysgol Gynradd Rhosybol, 11/11/2025-Ysgol Gynradd Llangoed, 12/11/2025-Ysgol Gyfun, Llangefni



- iii. Support children, young people and staff to be safe, healthy and improve their wellbeing
- iv. Ensure that Education on Anglesey is fit for purpose for future learning communities.

Fieldwork will be meaningful and closely aligned with the Education Scrutiny Panel's work programme, empowering Members to engage and challenge effectively during meetings while also contributing to the ongoing development of our scrutiny model.

## **6. MATTERS TO BE ESCALATED TO THE PARENT COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION**

No matters to be escalated by the Panel

## **7. Impact assessments**

### **7.1. Potential impacts on groups protected under the Equality Act 2010**

N/A

### **7.2. Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage (strategic decisions)**

N/A

### **7.3. Potential effects on opportunities to use Welsh and not treat the language less favourably than English**

N/A

### **7.4. Potential impact on the Council's Net Zero Carbon target**

N/A

## **8. Financial implications**

N/A

## **9. Appendices**

Education Scrutiny Panel Membership (Appendix 1)

## **10. Report author and background papers**

Elin Allsopp, Scrutiny Officer, Anglesey County Council, Council Offices, Llangefni LL77 7TW

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE EDUCATION SCRUTINY PANEL

Member	Scrutiny Committee
Cllr Gwilym Owen Jones (Chair)	<b>Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee</b>
Cllr Margaret M Roberts (Vice-chair)	
Cllr Non Dafydd	
Cllr Derek Owen	
Cllr Arfon Wyn	<b>Corporate Scrutiny Committee</b>
Cllr Alwen Watkin	
Cllr Keith Roberts	
Vacant Seat- (Anglesey Independents)	

22/11/2024

# Isle of Anglesey County Council Scrutiny Report

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>13th November, 2025</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme</b>
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	<b>Cllr Dylan Rees</b>

## 1. Who will be the portfolio holder presenting / leading the report?

<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	<b>Role</b>
Not applicable	
<b>Service Officer (Supporting)</b>	<b>Role</b>
Elin Allsopp	Scrutiny Officer

## 2. Why the Scrutiny Committee is being asked to consider the matter

Assist the Scrutiny Committee in considering, agreeing and reviewing its forward work programme for 2025/26

## 3. Role of the Scrutiny Committee and recommendations

- ☒ For assurance  
☐ For recommendation to the Executive  
☐ For information

Recommendation(s):  
 The Committee is requested to:  
**R1** agree the current version of the forward work programme for 2025/26  
**R2** note progress thus far in implementing the forward work programme

## 4. How does the recommendation(s) contribute to the objectives of the Council's Plan?

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.

## 5. Key scrutiny themes

Not applicable

## 6. Key points / summary

### 1. Background

1.1 Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective local government scrutiny function<sup>1</sup>. 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 programming<sup>2</sup>

- 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. **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.

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

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

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 2025/26 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.<sup>3</sup>

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).

## 7. Impact assessments

7.1. Potential impacts on groups protected under the Equality Act 2010

Not applicable

7.2. Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage (strategic decisions)

Not applicable

7.3. Potential effects on opportunities to use Welsh and not treat the language less favourably than English

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.

<sup>3</sup> Meeting of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee convened on 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2025

7.4. Potential impact on the Council's Net Zero Carbon target

Not applicable

**8. Financial implications**

Not applicable

**9. Appendices**

Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2025/26

**10. Report author and background papers**

Elin Allsopp, Scrutiny Officer, Isle of Anglesey, Council Offices, Llangefni. LL77 7TW

**ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR SCRUTINY → MAY, 2025 – APRIL, 2026**  
**[Version dated 05/11/25]**

**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

[\[AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk\]](mailto:AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk)

<b>CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>May, 2025 (20/05/2025 )</b>	<b>May, 2025 (20/05/2025)</b>
Election of Chair: 2025/26	Election of Chair: 2025/26
Election of Vice-chair: 2025/26	Election of Vice-chair: 2025/26
<b>May, 2025 (21/05/2025)-Additional Meeting</b>	
Results of Engagement on Post-16 Education Provision	
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi School building	
<b>June, 2025 (17/06/2025) – Q4</b>	<b>June, 2025 (12/06/2025) – Education / Welsh Language</b>
Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Qtr4: 2024/25	Welsh Language: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Report on the Welsh Standards: 2024/25</li> <li>• Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032: Measure Progress→2024/25</li> </ul>
Annual Delivery Plan: 2025/26	UK Government Funded Programme [Ynys Môn Levelling Up Programme – Measure Progress]
Canolfan Addysg y Bont Roof Repair: Lessons Learned	
<b>Item for Information:</b> Ambition North Wales Qtr 4: 2024/25 Progress Report	
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26
<b>No meeting scheduled</b>	<b>July, 2025 (15/07/2025) – Emergency Services</b>
	North Wales Police
	North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26

CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
<b>September, 2025 (17/09/2025) – Q1</b>	<b>September, 2025 (16/09/2025) – Joint Working with Grŵp Llandrillo Menai &amp; Bangor University</b>
Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Q1: 2025/26	Grŵp Llandrillo Menai
Recommendations of the Scrutiny Task and Finish Group: Letting of Council Accommodation – update on progress	Bangor University
Membership of Scrutiny Panels	Membership of Scrutiny Panels
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26
<b>October, 2025 (15/10/2025)</b>	<b>October, 2025 (14/10/2025) – Crime and Disorder</b>
Annual Report North Wales Regional Partnership Board (Part 9): 2024/25	Menter Môn
Regional Emergency Planning Service Annual Report: 2024/25	Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Community Safety Partnership Annual Report: 2024/25
Results of Consultation on Proposal to Relocate Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi to a New School Building for 11-18 Year Old Learners	
Modernising Learning Communities: Strategic Outline Case (exempt item)	
<b>Item for Information:</b> Ambition North Wales: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Report: 2024/25</li> <li>Qtr 1: 2025/26 Progress Report</li> </ul>	
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26
	<b>November, 2025 (13/11/2025) - Education</b>
	School improvement guidance: framework for evaluation, improvement and accountability
	Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report
	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26
<b>November, 2025 (18/11/2025) - Q2</b>	<b>November, 2025 (26/11/2025) – Health</b>
Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q2: 2025/26	Audit Wales: Urgent and Emergency Care: Flow out of Hospital-North Wales Region- measure progress
Self-Assessment, Performance and Wellbeing Report 2024/25	Welsh Ambulance Services Trust
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board



CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
	<b>December, 2025 (10/12/2025)- Special Meeting</b>
	Waste-title tbc
	Education Digital Strategic Plan
<b>January, 2026 (21/01/2026) – 2026/27 (morning)</b>	<b>January, 2026 (20/01/2026)</b>
2026/27 Budget Setting (Revenue Budget) – initial budget proposals	Corporate Safeguarding
Resources Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	Gwynedd and Ynys Môn Public Services Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Report 2024/25</li> <li>• Governance arrangements / scrutiny of delivery of the Wellbeing Plan</li> </ul>
	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26
<b>January, 2026 (21/01/2026) (afternoon)</b>	
Modernisation of Learning Communities – Objections Report and Final Decision on Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	
Towards Net Zero Strategic Plan	
<b>Item for Information:</b> Ambition North Wales Qtr 2: 2025/26 Progress Report	
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26	
<b>February, 2026 (18/02/2026) – 2026/27 Budget</b>	<b>February, 2026 (12/02/2026) - Education</b>
Final Draft Budget Proposals for 2026/27 – revenue & capital	ALN & Inclusion Partnership Gwynedd and Ynys Môn-update
Resources Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26
<b>March, 2026 (18/03/2026) - Q3</b>	<b>March, 2026 (17/03/2026)</b>
Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q3: 2025/26	Annual Report on Equalities: 2024/25
Housing Revenue Account Business Plan: 2026/2056	Ynys Môn Free Port – measure progress
	Prosperity Fund Enterprise Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared Prosperity Fund-Measure Progress</li> <li>• UK Government Funded Programme [Ynys Môn Levelling Up Programme] – Measure Progress</li> </ul>

CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
<b>Item for Information</b> - Ambition North Wales Qtr 3: 2025/26 Progress Report	
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26
<b>April, 2026 (22/04/2026)</b>	<b>April, 2026 (21/04/2026)-Tackling Poverty</b>
	Ynys Môn Citizens Advice
	Medrwn Môn
	Communities for Work Plus Programme: Annual Report 2024/25
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2025/26

**Items to be scheduled:**

Corporate Scrutiny Committee	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Census 2021	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Action Plan
Modernisation of Learning Communities and Strengthen the Welsh Language Programme	Improving Reliability and Resilience across the Menai Straits
Smallholdings Estate Strategic Plan 2025-2030	Impact of Tourism on Anglesey Local Communities (resolution of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, 21/06/2023)
Ambition North Wales Qtr4: 2025/26: Progress Report	Ynys Môn Local Development Plan
North Wales Corporate Joint Committee	Local Tourism Levy for Wales
Health and Safety Strategic Plan	Anglesey Homelessness
	North Wales Fire & Rescue Service
	UK Government Funded Programme [Ynys Môn Levelling Up Programme] – Measure Progress (June /July 2026)
	Natural Resources Wales