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
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RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD	NOTICE OF MEETING
CYFARFOD ARBENNIG O'R PWYLLGOR SGRIWTINI PARTNERIAETH AC ADFYWIO	EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DYDD MERCHER, 10 RHAGFYR, 2025 am 10.30 o'r gloch yb	WEDNESDAY, 10 DECEMBR, 2025 at 10.30 am
CYFARFOD HYBRID – YN YSTAFELL BWYLLGOR , SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNGOR, LLANGEFNI AC YN RHITHIOL DRWY ZOOM	HYBRID MEETING – IN COMMITTEE ROOM, 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, Euryn Morris, John Ifan Jones, Dylan Rees **(Cadeirydd/Chair),** Margaret M Roberts, Ken Taylor, Sonia Williams

Annibynnwyr Môn/Anglesey Independents

Douglas Fowlie, 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)

A G E N D A

1   **<u>APOLOGIES</u>**

2   **<u>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</u>**

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

3   **<u>WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING CONSULTATION</u>** (Pages 1 - 12)

To submit a report by the Head of Highways, Waste and Property.

4   **<u>DIGITAL EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2031</u>** (Pages 13 - 32)

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

22/11/2024

Isle of Anglesey County Council
Scrutiny Report

Committee:	Partnerships and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Date:	10/12/2025
Subject:	**Waste Collection and Recycling Consultation**
Scrutiny Chair:	Councillor Dylan Rees

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

Portfolio Holder	Role
Councillor Ieuan Williams	Portfolio holder for Highways, Waste and Climate Change
Service Officer (Supporting)	**Role**
Huw Percy	Head of Service Highways, Waste & Property

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

The Council has a statutory obligation to achieve a 70% recycling rate, which is not currently being met. In order to increase the recycling rates and reach the statutory obligation, the Council must consider making changes to the waste collection and recycling arrangements.

There is a requirement to consult with those likely to be affected when any proposal to introduce a significant change to a service is considered, especially where the proposal is to reduce the service. Since any change to the collection service will impact every householder on Anglesey, a full consultation process will therefore be required.

The potential service changes may be highly emotive and the financial implications of introducing the potential changes, and indeed not introducing them, are considerable and beyond the financial delegation of officers. It is therefore imperative that the Committee consider whether the Council should consult, what is being consulted on, and the timing of the consultation.

3.   Role of the Scrutiny Committee and recommendations

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

Recommendation(s):

1.

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg
This document is available in Welsh

R1 Recommend the consultation process on potential changes to the recycling and waste collection service to help reach 70% statutory recycling targets to the Executive.

R2 Recommend the questions to be asked as part of the consultation process to the Executive.

R3 Recommend the timetable for the public consultation, starting on 7 January 2026 and lasting for 6 weeks to the Executive.

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

The proposed public consultation is directly aligned to the Council's Resources & Recycling Strategic Plan 2024-2029, Public Participation Strategic Plan 2023 to 2028, Strategic Communications Plan 2023 to 2028, and Strategic Equality Plan 2024 to 2028.

5.   Key scrutiny themes

Key themes the Scrutiny Committee should concentrate on:

1. Requirement to consult on changes to waste collection and recycling
2. Proposed consultation questions
3. The timing of the consultation
4. Risks and challenges

6.   Key points / summary

The Council has a statutory obligation to achieve a 70% recycling rate by 2024/25. Failure to meet recycling targets can result in a fine from Welsh Government. Based on the current recycling rate of around 65%, it is estimated that the Council will face annual fine of around £350k.

In June 2025, the Welsh Government published their Collections Blueprint 2025. The document outlines what they recommend for waste collection. The Council already meets most of the recommendations.

Support on how to increase recycling rates has been received from WRAP Cymru. Their main recommendation was to reduce the weekly residual waste capacity to 60l, in line with that recommended in the Welsh Government's Collections Blueprint 2025.

This could be achieved by collecting residual waste less frequently and/or reducing the size of the bin and WRAP Cymru estimate that this would increase the Council's recycling rate by at least 5%. The modelling so far favours moving to 4 weeks over purchasing new smaller bins because:

- Cost of new bins
- Sticking to 3 weeks likely to mean higher staffing requirements
- Overfilling smaller bins could make them harder to empty and easier to damage.

In addition, consideration is being given to making recycling easier by reconfiguring the trolley box to collect paper & cardboard together and providing households with additional containers to store extra recycling they may have.

These proposals are based on local trials and evidence from other local authorities in Wales that have a recycling rate of 70% or more.

The Council needs to decide as soon as possible if it wants to introduce service changes in order to increase its recycling rate and therefore needs to hear the opinions of Anglesey householders regarding potential service changes.

If, following consultation, the Council decides to introduce a service change, significant financial investment will be required for improvements. Welsh Government has stated that they would only fund applications where there is a credible plan to achieve 70% or more exists. Consulting with householders will therefore demonstrate that the Council is serious about meeting the 70% statutory recycling target. Not having a meaningful plan to achieve the 70% recycling target also increases the risk of being fined by Welsh Government for not reaching the statutory targets in any given year and impacts the costs of operating business as usual.

The proposed questions consider a range of potential changes to the service provided which are aimed at increasing recycle rates and by their nature includes the required status quo option. Additional and alternative questions have been considered, however those included in Appendix 1 are considered the most pertinent to the proposed service changes. Legal Services and the Communications Unit have assisted in formulating the draft consultation questions.

Delaying the consultation could lead to the process being impacted by pre-election restrictions. Any delay could reduce the prospect of receiving significant capital funding from Welsh Government to fund the costs of any service change e.g. upgrades to recycling infrastructure. This means that the Council would have to fund this or face the side effects on the delivery of the service.

It should be noted that due to the need to secure budget, consult, and complete works to develop the infrastructure, it is highly unlikely that any change to the collection regime can be introduced before 2029.

7.   Impact assessments

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

> The consultation will ensure that the views of those protected under the Equality Act 2010 are sought.

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

> Provision will be made in the consultation to allow anyone experiencing a socio-economic disadvantage to respond in a method that is cost free and convenient to them (e.g. electronic survey, local drop-in sessions etc).

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

> All consultation material will be available in both Welsh and English.

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

> Positive as this should increase recycling rates.

8. Financial implications

> There are no significant costs of conducting the proposed public consultation. Officer time will be the main resource which is already funded.

9. Appendices

> Appendix 1 - Draft Consultation Document
>
> Appendix 2 – Draft Timetable

10. Report author and background papers

> Meirion Edwards, Chief Waste Management Officer

Consultation on potential changes to recycling/waste collection services on Anglesey

Introduction

Anglesey County Council has set out a clear commitment to protect the environment and reducing our carbon footprint in its Council Plan 2023-2028 and recycling plays a vital role in this work. By reducing the amount of waste that goes to disposal, we can reduce emissions, conserve valuable resources, and help create a cleaner, greener Island for future generations.

All Council's in Wales must meet the Welsh Government recycling target of 70% or face monetary penalties. The Council's Resources and Waste Strategic Plan 2024-2029 includes a commitment to increase recycling rates and meet the 70% target.

If you are interested in learning what happens to your recycling, please click here.

Anglesey currently recycles 65%. Based on this recycling rate, the County Council could face a fine of around £350k per year. This is money that could be spent on essential services.

We know that we can do better as recent data and research show that around 52% of the waste currently placed in black bins on Anglesey could be recycled. We also know that food waste recycling is relatively low compared to other local authorities, and that some households find storing excess cardboard problematic.

Evidence from other Councils in Wales has proven that giving households more opportunities to recycle, while reducing the amount of space available for general ('black bag') waste leads to higher recycling rates. The Welsh Government's Collection Blueprint recommends that to maximise recycling households should have no more than the equivalent of one standard full black bag (60litres) or less per week – most Anglesey households currently have a 240 litre black bin that is collected once every 3 weeks.

To help meet national targets and avoid financial penalties, we want to make recycling easier and more convenient for residents. We are exploring potential changes, which include:

- Adjusting the configuration of the trolley box to make it easier to recycle by collecting paper & cardboard together
- Providing households with additional containers to store extra recycling
- Reducing the weekly volume collected by emptying black bins every 4 weeks rather than every 3 weeks

Please note that no change is currently being considered to green garden waste or nappy collections.

Any changes would require investment in new vehicles and improvements at our waste and recycling sites. Because of this, the earliest any change to the collection service could start would be 2029.

We understand that different households have different needs and that some may have particular concerns about any changes. This consultation is your opportunity to share your views and an opportunity to ensure these are fully understood before any decisions are made. Your feedback will help us shape a service that meets residents' needs, support our environmental goals, and helps Anglesey reach the 70% recycling target.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete the questionnaire below:

Section 1: Your views on recycling and waste services

1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Achieving the Welsh Government's recycling target of 70% on Anglesey is important".
   o Strongly agree
   o Agree
   o Neither agree nor disagree
   o Disagree
   o Strongly disagree

   (If disagree or strongly disagree – please state why)

2. What barriers, if there are any, make recycling difficult for you?
   o Not enough space / recycling containers are too small
   o Unsure what can and can't be recycled
   o Don't produce much recycling
   o Recycling is messy and unhygienic
   o Limited indoor storage before putting materials outside
   o Physical difficulties (lifting, carrying, mobility)
   o Not interested in recycling
   o No barriers – already recycle everything we can
   o Other (please note)

Section 2: Your current waste and recycling levels

3. On a typical collection day, how full are your

	Quarter full of less	Half Full	Three quarters full	Full	Full before collection day	Don't use
Black bin						
Food bin						
Top box of trolley box						
Middle box of trolley box						
Bottom box of trolley box						

Section 3: Potential Service Changes

4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "The Council providing additional storage options would help you recycle more".
   o Strongly agree
   o Agree
   o Neither agree nor disagree
   o Disagree
   o Strongly disagree
   (If disagree or strongly disagree – please state why)

5. To what extent do you support or oppose changing the black bin collection from every 3 weeks to every 4 weeks
   o Strongly support
   o Support
   o Neutral
   o Oppose
   o Strongly oppose
   (If oppose or strongly oppose – please state why)

6. Please use this opportunity to tell us about any concerns, suggestions or household circumstances that might affect how you manage waste and recycling, particularly if you have answered "disagree", "strongly disagree", "oppose" or "strongly oppose" to any of the previous questions.

Section 4: About you

7. What is your Post Code:

8. How many live at your address?

9. What is your age range:

10. Do you receive an assisted collection service?

11. Do you use the nappy/clinical waste collection service?

Draft Timeline for Potential Service Change:

Action (*)	Completed by
Executive decision to commence public consultation	December 2025
Public consultation	January - February 2026 (6weeks)
Post consultation analysis	March – May 2026
Decision making process (Scrutiny, Executive approval) in respect of service change	May – July 2026
Concept design	Autumn 2026
Detailed design	Spring 2027
Construction phase and permit approvals	To be completed by Summer 2029
Service change commencement	Autumn 2029

*Each action in the table above is subject to the normal decision making process within the Council.

In order to maximise the likelihood of receiving grant funding from Welsh Government, an Initial (ISPA) bid needs to be presented as soon as possible. More detailed funding applications will need to be submitted if the ISPA is successful.

Communication Plan- Consultation on potential changes to recycling/waste collection services on Anglesey

#	Main Tasks/ Actions	End Date	Resposible Officer
1.0	**Governance**		
1.1	Attend a briefing session with the Executive	02.12.2025	HP/MPE/Executive
1.2	Agree for consultation to commence (start date, duration and questions).	16.12.2025	Executive
2.0	**Consultation Questionnaire**		
	Electronic		
2.1	Raise early warning ticket with IT to prepare electronic questionnaire.	17.11.2025	JJ
2.2	Electronic questionnaire testing.	10.12.2025	LAJ/ MC
2.3	Electonic questionnaire agreed and complete.	15.12.2025	LAJ
2.4	Electronic questionnaire goes live.	07.01.2026	LAJ/MC
2.5	Electronic questionnaire closes (after 6 weeks).	18.02.2026	LAJ/MC
	Paper		
2.5	Liaise with the following sites to request them to issue hard copies of questionnaire; Libraries, Leisure Centres, Recycling Centres, Cyswllt Môn.	28.11.2025	LAJ/GJ/LJ/SD
2.6	Distribute hard copies of questionnaires to sites listed in 2.4 above.	07.01.2026	LAJ
2.7	Collect hard copies of questionnaires.	19.02.2026	LAJ
3.0	**Awareness Raising of Consultation**		
3.1	Continue with general weekly Social Media messages (pre-consultation).	Weekly up until the consultation	GJ/LJ/SD
3.2	Prepare consultation launch message/image for Social Media.	28.11.2025	EO/GJ/LJ/SD
3.3	Prepare a press release to inform the public on the upcoming consultation (following the Executive decision on 16.12.25).	28.11.2025	GJ/LJ/SD
3.4	Post consultation launch message/ image on Social Media.	07.01.2026	GJ/LJ/SD
3.5	Re-post consultation launch message/ image on Social Media.	28.01.2026	GJ/LJ/SD
3.6	Consider further awareness raising options e.g. adverts and local radio	28.11.2025	GJ/LJ/SD
3.7	Email all Elected Members to infom them of the consultation go live date.	31.12.2025	GJ/LJ/SD
3.8	Issue 'Y Ddolen' message to infom staff of the consultation go live date.	07.01.2026	GJ/LJ/SD
3.9	Email all Town/ Communmity Councils to inform them of the consultation go live date.	07.01.2026	GJ/LJ/SD
4.0	**Drop-in Sessions**		
4.1	Agree a series of drop-in sessions at Council libraries during the consultation period.	07.01.2026	LAJ
4.2	Agree a Social Media message to advertise the drop- in sessions locations and dates.	To be agreed during the consultation period.	EO/GJ/LJ/SD
5.0	**Equality Impact Assessment**		
5.1	Discuss the requirements for completing an EIA with the Policy and Welsh Language Manager and agree any required actions.	21.11.2025	LAJ
5.2	Prepare a draft EIA and share with the Policy and Welsh Language Manager for feedback.	05.12.2025	LAJ
6.0	**Project Review**		
6.1	Weekly review meetings.	Weekly	LAJ
7.0	**Evaluation of the Consultation**		
7.1	Complete an evaluation report on the consultation.	08.05.2024	JJ/LAJ

Timeline columns (week commencing): 17-Nov-25, 24-Nov-25, 01-Dec-25, 08-Dec-25, 15-Dec-25, 22-Dec-25, 29-Dec-25, 05-Jan-26, 12-Jan-26, 19-Jan-26, 26-Jan-26, 02-Feb-26, 09-Feb-26, 15-Feb-26, 23-Feb-26, 04-May-26

Options:

Option	Description	Estimated increase in recycling by implementing the change	Estimated % Recycling by implementing the change	Estimated revenue cost	Estimated capital cost
1	Do not make any changes to the black bin / recycling collection service at the doorstep	0%	64.7%	£361k per year 9fine)	**£8.1M** (but a high risk of not receiving a contribution towards upgrading buildings / machinery / equipment / drainage).
1A	Do not make any changes to the black bin / recycling collection service at the doorstep, but offer an additional container for cardboard and paper and only change the use of parts of the box trolley.	<0.5%	65.2%	£327k per year (fine) + additional collection costs.	**£8.25M** (but a high risk of not receiving a contribution towards upgrading buildings / machinery / equipment / drainage).
2	Reduce the weekly residual waste volume by collecting the current 240-litre black bins every 4 weeks and offering an additional container for cardboard and paper	+5.6%	70.3%	£460k (additional collection costs less fine)	**£14.3M**
3	Reduce weekly residual waste volume by collecting new 180-litre black bins every 3 weeks and providing an additional container for cardboard and paper	+5.2%	69.9%	£460k (additional collection costs less fine)	**£15.2M**+ (**£900k** for new bins)
4	Reduce weekly residual waste volume by collecting new 140-litre black bins every 3 weeks and providing an additional container for cardboard and paper	+6.7%	71.4%	£460k (additional collection costs less fine)	**£15.2M** + (**£900k** for new bins)

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Isle of Anglesey County Council
Scrutiny Report

Committee:	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Date:	10 December 2025
Subject:	Digital Education Strategic Plan 2026-2031
Scrutiny Chair:	Councillor Dylan Rees

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

Portfolio Holder	Role
Councillor Dafydd Roberts	Portfolio holder for Education and the Welsh Language
Service Officer (Supporting)	**Role**
Aaron Evans	Director of Education, Skills and Young People
Rhys Williams	Education Strategic Leader (Primary)

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

The Digital Education Strategic Plan contributes to the development of a modern education system that is suitable for today and future generations. The current plan expired in 2024; therefore, it is necessary to establish a new plan for the next period. The committee is requested to consider the contents of the 2026-2031 strategic plan.

3. Role of the Scrutiny Committee and recommendations

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

Recommendation(s):
The committee is requested to accept the contents of the Digital Education Strategic Plan for the period 2026-2031 ahead of its presentation to the Executive.

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

The Council Plan notes the following vision:

"To create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive."

Education's objective is: "*Ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations.*"

The Digital Education Strategic Plan plays a vital role in the vision and reflects our commitment to constructing a modern education system which is suitable for today and for future generations, where each school has the technology, the skills and the support required to give learners the best possible start.

This strategic plan also corresponds to the Council's Digital Strategic Plan (see background paper), creating a coherent approach that prioritises access, inclusion, and user needs. This supports education and wider digital services to realise the aim of creating a healthy and prosperous Anglesey where people can thrive.

5.   Key scrutiny themes

Key themes the Scrutiny Committee should concentrate on:

There are five key priority areas to the plan that the committee should concentrate on, i.e.:

1. Sustainability
2. Connectivity
3. Collaboration
4. Professional Learning
5. Data Protection and Digital Resilience

Within the above priority areas, the committee should give particular consideration to the following aspects:

1. Identifying and addressing the key risks and challenges schools face in terms of cyber security, data protection and resilience.
2. Assessing the Learning Service's efficiency in supporting schools to develop their own digital strategies through collaboration and partnership.
3. Upcoming training programme plans for staff and teachers on digital security to protect children.

6.   Key points / summary

There are five key priority areas to the Digital Education Strategic Plan 2026-31, i.e.:

1. Sustainability

- Long-term Viability: Ensure that digital investments are financially sustainable to avoid future disruption.

- Resource Allocation and Equality: Use finances efficiently to support current and upcoming digital initiatives.

2. Connectivity

- Network Infrastructure: Monitor and improve school connectivity, including upgrading bandwidth where required.
- Digital Security: Review and develop systems to protect learners (e.g., smoothwall, Senso).
- Support for Schools: Provide equipment and support for schools to operate digital security solutions.

3. Collaboration

- Develop School Strategies: Support schools to create their own digital strategies.
- Digital Coordinator Networks: Strengthen the role of digital coordinators in schools.
- Leadership and Sharing Good Practice: Promote local leadership and share good practice through clusters and networks.

4. Professional Learning

- Training Programme: Collaborate to create professional learning programmes for staff.
- Technology Integration: Training on the use of digital equipment in the curriculum.
- Feedback and Evaluation: Arrange feedback systems with clusters and schools.
- Software and Hardware Reconciliation: Work with the Council's IT team to coordinate resources.

5. Data Protection and Resilience

- ICT Security: Forward plan for cyber security and access management.
- Data Migration to Hwb SharePoint: Move data from on-site storage to a national platform.
- Security Upgrade: Encrypt devices, use cloud filtering solutions and provide secure access to staff.

7. Impact assessments

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

This strategic plan strives to ensure that every pupil, whatever their background or location, has equal access to digital resources. By fostering digital skills among pupils and staff, the strategic plan supports the wider vision to create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.

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

The plan ensures that modern digital devices and appropriate connectivity are available to schools, reducing the digital gap between learners. It supports every learner (including those who are disadvantaged) to access online educational resources, giving everyone the same opportunity to succeed in school, regardless of their economic background.

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

This strategic plan strives to ensure that each pupil has equal access to digital resources through Welsh and English.

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

N/A

8. Financial implications

Although the Council has earmarked a sum to fund the plan in the future, it is unlikely that the funds earmarked up to now will be sufficient. Therefore, it will be necessary to add to the fund, but this will be challenging given the difficult financial situation the Council is currently facing.

9. Appendices

Digital Education Strategic Plan 2026-2031

10. Report author and background papers

Digital Schools Strategic Plan 2022-2024

Digital Schools Strategic Plan 2022-2024 End-point Report
Authors – Aaron Evans (Director of Education) and Mathew Henshaw (Chief Digital Officer)

Digital Strategic Plan 2024-2029

Ynys Môn
THE ISLE OF
Anglesey

Digital Education Strategic Plan 2026–2031

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn y Saesneg /

This document is also available in English.

CYNGOR SIR
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COUNTY COUNCIL

www.ynysmon.llyw.cymru

Foreword

Digital technology is vital in education as it offers richer learning resources, promotes cooperation and communication, and provides flexibility and convenience. It also helps pupils and students develop essential 21st century skills such as digital literacy and problem solving.

This plan represents our commitment to nurturing a dynamic and inclusive digital learning environment for all learners and staff in Anglesey schools.

By focusing on sustainability, infrastructure development and strong device management, our aim is to provide our schools with the necessary equipment and resources to thrive in an increasingly digital world. Collaboration with schools will be vital in providing the training and support required to ensure the successful integration of digital technologies in our educational practices.

The "Team Môn" mindset continues to be at the core of everything we do. By continuing to collaborate, we are in a good position to be able to succeed in the next chapter of our digital journey.

Councillor Robin Williams
Portfolio Holder for Finance, Council Business and Customer Experience

Councillor Dafydd Roberts
Education Portfolio Holder

Mathew Henshaw
Chief Digital Officer

Aaron C Evans
Director of Education, Skills and Young People

Why is a Digital Education Strategic Plan required?

Our vision is to create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.

The Digital Education Strategic Plan plays an essential part in the vision and reflects our commitment to building a modern education system that is suitable for today and future generations – where every school has the technology, skills and support required to give learners the best possible start.

This strategic plan corresponds to the Council's Digital Strategic Plan, which focuses on ensuring that inhabitants and visitors have access to high quality services through digital and traditional channels.

By integrating the Digital Education Strategic Plan with the Council's wider plan, the Council aims to support educational needs whilst also addressing our citizens' wider digital requirements.

With continuous support from Welsh Government, this strategic plan builds on the current momentum to ensure that Anglesey schools are ready for future opportunities and challenges.

Who is the Digital Education Strategic Plan for?

1. Pupils: Ensure there is access to modern digital equipment and mediums to improve learning experience.

2. Education Workers: Provide the digital infrastructure and support to integrate technology effectively into teaching approaches.

3. Schools: Facilitate permanent digital transformation to create a more efficient and participatory learning environment.

4. Parents and Guardians: Keep informed and part of their children's education through digital methods.

This strategic plan also corresponds to the Council's Digital Strategic Plan's wider aims, which aim to ensure that the inhabitants and visitors of Anglesey can gain access to services of high quality through a variety of digital and traditional channels.

Accurate data up to 12/3/2025 and PLASC 2025 data

265 Secondary Teachers

Secondary Schools 5
4561 Chromebooks
1401 Windows
211 iOS
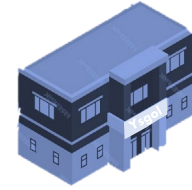
3 Language Centres

5 Specialist Language Immersion Teachers

755 ALN Learners

37 Primary Schools
5060 Chromebooks
500 Windows
1157 iOS

3567 Secondary Learners

1 Special School
71 Chromebooks
62 Windows
43 iOS

4092 Primary Learners

245 Primary Teachers

Council Plan 2023–2028 Strategic Objectives

The Council Plan is the main document which is the focus of the decisions made on each level; providing a framework for planning and driving priorities forward; shaping annual expenditure; monitoring performance and progress.

At the plan's core is our ambition to work with inhabitants, communities and partners on Anglesey to ensure the best possible services, improve the quality of life for everyone and create opportunities for future generations.

Its six main objectives reflect the main areas the Council should focus on.

The Council Plan's vision is to:

'Create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.'

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Council Plan 2023 to 2028

Welsh Language
Increasing opportunities to learn and use the language.

Social Care and Wellbeing
Providing the right support at the right time.

Education
Ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations.

Housing
Ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home.

Economy
Promoting opportunities to develop the island's economy.

Climate Change
Responding to the crisis, tackling change and working towards becoming a net zero organisation by 2030.

Council Plan 2023-2028-Values

The organisation's core values are the foundation of the Council Plan 2023–28, and they are used to develop and lead vision, strategic plans and services.

Respect
We are respectful and considerate towards others whatever our differences.

Collaboration
We work as a team with our communities and partners to achieve the best outcomes for the people of Anglesey.

Honesty
We are committed to high standards of conduct and integrity.

Promoting the Council and the Island
We create a sense of pride in working for the Council and present a positive image of the Council and the island.

Cynllun y Cyngor 2023 - 2028 (llyw.cymru)

Strategic cycle

The strategic cycle notes the plans in place to ensure we can fulfil our priorities and objectives.

This plan is a key strategic plan that corresponds to the Council Plan and contributes towards achieving the strategic objectives and vision.

Council Plan 2023 to 2028 (gov.wales)
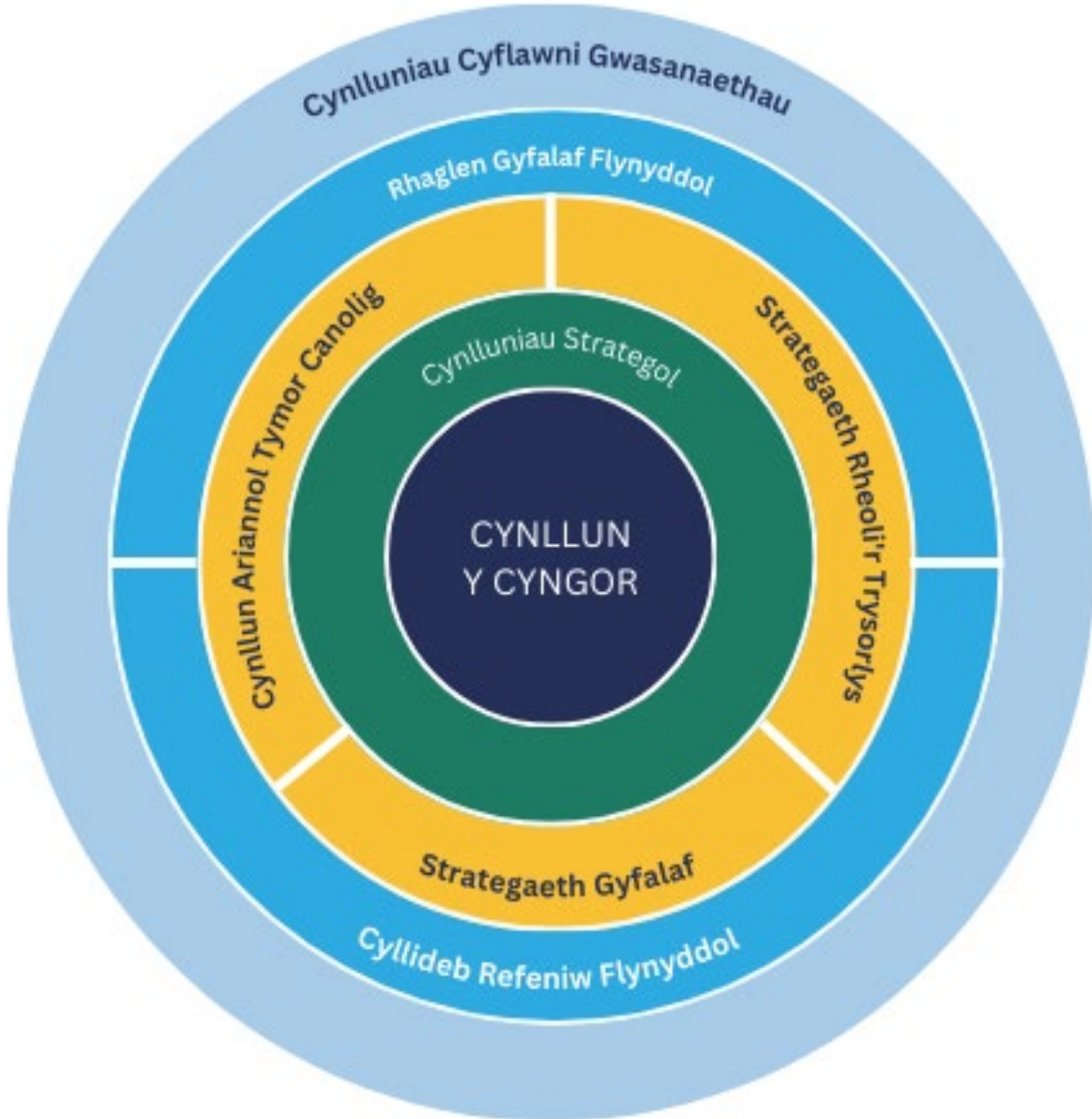
Key priority areas

- Sustainability

- Connectivity

- Collaboration

- Professional learning

- Data protection and digital resilience

Sustainability

Why is this important?

By concentrating on financial sustainability, the Digital Education Strategic Plan can achieve its aims of improving education, supporting inclusion and preparing students for the future reliably and consistently.

A Service Level Agreement (SLA) sets out the sustainability framework for schools to ensure there is a strong financial basis to maintain a service of the highest possible standard.

To ensure that IT capacity is available to support digital innovation in our schools and to prepare our learners for a digital future.

What will we do?

- Ensure that the strategic plan is financially sustainable.

- Ensure that funds are used efficiently to support current and future digital initiatives.

- Identify any additional grants that may be available to support this work and take advantage of them.

- Use the Council's procurement processes effectively to ensure the best value for money and to ensure compliance.

How will we do this?

- Develop a detailed budget plan that outlines all expected costs and use the funds strategically. This includes initial investments in a digital infrastructure, ongoing maintenance, and improvements in the future.
- Identify and ensure various funding sources, such as government grants, private sector partnerships and community fundraising initiatives.
- Continue to develop effective collaboration, internally in the Council and with external stakeholders to make the most effective and efficient use of resources.
- Purchase by following the appropriate procurement processes.

Connectivity

Why is this important?

Schools need quick, easy, resilient and reliable access to resources and data.

The demand on networks has increased quickly and continues to do so, therefore, it is essential to meet the current digital education needs but also to protect future needs.

To support schools in preparing for online exams with strong management solutions that correspond to national digital expectations and standards.

What will we do?

- Provide and monitor a network infrastructure which is adequate for all schools.

- Invest into the upgrade of school bandwidth where appropriate.

- Review processes already in place to protect our learners, e.g., smoothwall and ensure they are developed continuously in accordance with national guidelines.

- Support schools with equipment to protect learners and support schools to operate a solution in accordance with the EdTech programme, e.g., Senso as a classroom management tool.

How will we do this?

- Use management systems to standardise the experience for everyone.
- Take advantage of new technologies.
- Use the national security service/platform to ensure digital access to the internet.
- Commit to delivering continuous improvements to the network.
- Develop secure areas to store network infrastructure.
- Review school bandwidth use regularly and as part of the annual SLA review.
- Support schools with the use of classroom management equipment in accordance with the EdTech programme.

Collaboration

Why is this important?

By concentrating on strategic collaboration within the Council and with external stakeholders, the Council will ensure development and improvements for schools to evolve and keep up with the most recent technological developments.

With schools collaborating more closely through the school-to-school model, the opportunities to standardise technology, applications, and the introduction of digital technology in schools ensure that appropriate learning and professional support are available.

There are expertise within the Council in addition to practitioners within our schools. In moving forward, it is essential that we learn from experience and collaborate to make the most effective use of limited resources.

What will we do?

- Facilitate and support schools to proactively develop their own digital learning and sustainability strategy.

- Build on the current collaboration network to develop the digital coordinator role within each school formally.

- Develop strategic communication and collaboration within catchments based on the Schools as Learning Establishments framework.

- Develop leaders within our schools who can lead locally.

How will we do this?

- Develop a joint understanding of the roles and responsibilities within schools and the Council.

- Facilitate collaboration through termly ICT forums.

- Promote Digital Learning Facilitator cluster work by supporting collaboration between schools.

- Regular review to respond to new technology and solutions.

- Schools share best practice and feedback through the IT Forum.

- Closer collaboration within the Council by reviewing current arrangements and establishing a Digital Education Steering Group with clear and purposeful governance.

Professional Learning

Why is this important?

School staff with strong digital skills can adapt quickly to new technologies and incorporate them in their teaching approaches, which enables them to collaborate more effectively with others and to share good practice and innovative teaching approaches.

The continuous development of digital skills also contributes to the professional growth of school staff, making them more confident and competent in their roles, leading to job satisfaction. Teachers can also gather and analyse student performance data, which helps identify learning gaps and tailor the teaching to satisfy the individual needs of students.

What will we do?

- Work with stakeholders and schools to prepare fit for purpose professional learning programmes.

- Construct a procedure for joint feedback and evaluation with schools and clusters.

- Ensure that the support on the national EdTech programme is utilised.

- Reconcile software and hardware so we can arrange professional learning for them.

How will we do this?

- Operate comprehensive training programmes that focus on the development of digital applications.
- Provide ongoing support through digital learning guidance, access to online resources and bespoke IT support teams.
- Establish practice communities where school staff can share experiences, best practice, and innovative teaching approaches.
- Offer incentives such as accreditations, professional learning credits and recognition programmes to motivate school staff to improve their digital skills.
- Encourage the use of digital equipment across a variety of subjects by aligning them with the curriculum's aims and learning objectives.
- Assess the effectiveness of digital skill training programmes regularly through feedback from teachers and evaluations of student outcomes.

Data protection and digital resilience

Why is this important?

To ensure that learners, teachers and staff are safe online.

To ensure that school data, systems and services are secure.

To manage and protect the integrity of devices and equipment.

Under the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018, schools must have the appropriate technical and security measures in place.

Schools must ensure they have adopted and that they comply correctly with the data protection policies, in particular the Schools Data Protection Policy and the Schools Information Security Policy.

What will we do?

- Strengthen ICT security through proactive planning.
- Strengthen and ensure there are robust processes in place to manage data protection access and governance.
- Protect school networks with a robust infrastructure.
- Ensure that content filtering arrangements are fit for purpose.
- Encrypt devices and ensure they satisfy security standards.
- Ensure secure access to core services
- Support digital transformation through initiatives.
- Manage IT risks and strengthen post-incident recovery.

How will we do this?

- Forward plan each change with appropriate security measures.
- Move school data to Hwb SharePoint.
- Decommission local storage and migrate data securely to the cloud.
- Install firewalls and access controls on networks.
- Implement a content filtering system based on the cloud.
- Upgrade and encrypt devices where required.
- Use strong authentication for staff access.
- Operate digital initiatives in partnership with Digi 360 Cymru.
- Establish ICT recovery and threat management processes.

Governance: Monitoring and evaluation

We will establish robust arrangements to ensure that the strategic plan is delivered. These arrangements will provide clarity, accountability, cohesion, and structure to effectively monitor progress.

The Digital Education Strategic Plan Steering Group will be responsible for developing, implementing and monitoring the strategic plan. The Steering Group will report to the Leadership Team – Capital and Digital. Any specific projects will follow the Digital Business Requirements Framework.
Schools will have the opportunity to provide feedback annually through the ICT Forum.

Progress will include information about actions, outcomes, and impact, highlighting successes and issues.

An annual progress report and a review of the strategic plan will be completed.

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