

Cyfarfod Fforwm Cyswllt Cynghorau Tref a Chymuned

Town and Community Councils Liaison Forum Meeting

Nos lau, 18 Gorffennaf 2019 7.00 yh

Thursday, 18 July 2019 7.00 pm

Siambr y Cyngor Swyddfeydd y Cyngor Llangefni LL77 7TW Council Chamber Council Offices Llangefni LL77 7TW

Rhaglen

Agenda

1. Croeso ac Ymddiheuriadau

1. Welcome and Apologies

2. Cofnodion

2. Minutes

Cadarnhau cofnodion y cyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 14 Mawrth 2019 – ynghlwm.

Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2019 – attached.

Materion yn codi:

Matters arising:

- **2.1 Heriau Ariannol –** Ymateb Llywodraeth Cymru copi ynghlwm er gwybodaeth.
- **2.1 Financial Challenges -** Welsh Government's response copy attached for information.

3. Polisi Gosod Tai Cyffredin (Cysylltiad Lleol)

3. Common Housing Allocations Policy (Local Connection)

Cyflwyniad gan y Gwasanaeth Tai ar yr ymgynghoriad cyfredol sy'n dod i ben ar 5 Awst 2019:

Presentation by the Housing Service on the current consultation which will close on 5 August 2019:

https://www.ynysmon.gov.uk/cy/Cymryd-rhan/Ymgynghoriadau/Ymgynghoriadau-cyfredol/Holiadur-Tai-Cymdeithasol----Adolygur-Polisi-Gosod-Tai.aspx

https://www.anglesey.gov.uk/en/Getinvolved/Consultations/Currentconsultations/Social-Housing-Questionnaire---Reviewing-the-Lettings-Policy.aspx



4. Arolwg Etholiadol – Ynys Môn – 2019

Cyflwyniad gan y Comisiwn Ffiniau a Democratiaeth Leol Cymru.

5. Unrhyw fater arall

4. Electoral Review – Isle of Anglesey – 2019

Presentation by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

5. Any other business

Town and Community Councils Liaison Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 14 March 2019 at the Council Chamber, Llangefni at 7.00 pm

Present:

Town and Community Councils

Cllr Gordon Warren
Cllr Brian Potter
Cllr Barbara Williams
Cllr Cerys Jones
Cllr Hanna Huws
Cllr Gareth Cemlyn Jones
Amlwch
Llanbadrig
Llanddona
Llanddyfnan
Llanfairpwll
Llanfairpwll

Cllr Einion Williams Llanfihangel Ysgeifiog

Cllr Margaret Thomas Llangefni

Cllr J E Lewis Llangefni / Bodffordd

Cllr Ifor Wyn Humphreys Llangristiolus

Clir Bethan Jukes Llannerchymedd / Medrwn Môn

Sydna Roberts (Clerk) Llannerchymedd

Cllr A W Jones Mechell Cllr Angela Gliddon Pentraeth Eifion H Jones (Clerk) Pentraeth Cllr Ella Fisk Menai Bridge Cllr Eryl Mair Lewis Menai Bridge Trearddur **Cllr Keith Roberts** Trearddur Cllr Bill Rowlands Cllr Edna Jones Trewalchmai Margaret Price (Clerk) Trewalchmai

Cllr Gordon Browne Valley
Cllr Iwan Jones Valley
Cllr Adam Owen Valley

Isle of Anglesey County Council

Fôn Roberts

Cllr Llinos Medi Leader of the Council (Chair)
Cllr Ieuan Williams Deputy Leader of the Council

Annwen Morgan Assistant Chief Executive – Improving Partnerships, Communities and Services

Partnerships, Communities and Services
Head of Children and Families Services

Huw Jones Head of Democratic Services

Rhian Wyn Jones Policy Officer

Also present:

Lis Perkins Anglesey Fair Trade Partnership

Anna Jane Evans Christian Aid Wales / Anglesey Fair Trade

Partnership

Greg Owens Vice-Chair, Independent Remuneration Panel for

Wales

Saz Willey Member of the Independent Remuneration Panel

for Wales

Inspector Llinos Davies North Wales Police

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following:

Bodedern Community Council Holyhead Town Council Cllr Eurfryn Davies – Llandegfan Community Council Cllr Meirion Jones – Isle of Anglesey County Council

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2018 were confirmed as a correct record.

Matters arising:

2.1 Public Conveniences – Business Rates

Cllr J E Lewis requested a general update on the above.

It was noted that the Council is currently consulting on its draft local toilets strategy, in accordance with its duty under new legislation, and the Chair stated that an update would be given to this forum in due course.

2.1 Financial Challenges

Submitted, for information – the Welsh Government's response to an invitation extended by the Leader, on behalf of the Forum, to Welsh Government Ministers to attend a meeting of the Forum to discuss the financial challenges facing the island. It was noted that Julie James AM, the Minister for Housing and Local Government, was unable to accept the invitation due to other commitments.

The Leader was requested to write a further letter to the Welsh Government, to convey the disappointment of town and community council representatives that the Welsh Government had declined the invitation and to ask them to reconsider the matter.

3. Anglesey Fair Trade Partnership

A presentation was made by Lis Perkins and Anna Jane Evans on behalf of the Anglesey Fair Trade Partnership. An outline was given of the work of the Partnership – which is entirely undertaken by volunteers - including:

- Stall selling Fair Trade products at the Council offices during Fair Trade Fortnight (on 6 March 2019)
- Stand at the Anglesey Show
- Holding discussions with local farmers
- Working to raise awareness in schools

It was noted that the Partnership was looking for more opportunities to work with organisations on the island. Packages containing samples of Fair Trade produce and contact details for the Partnership were shared with those present.

Wales was the world's first Fair Trade country. The County Council has had Fair Trade status for ten years and Llangefni and Menai Bridge are also Fair Trade towns. The need to continue to remind people of the importance of Fair Trade and encourage more towns and villages to achieve Fair Trade status was emphasised.

Town and community councils were encouraged to keep Fair Trade at the forefront of their minds in all aspects of their work and to take every opportunity to promote Fair Trade so as to raise awareness of poverty and seek to make the world a fairer place.

4. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales' Determinations relating to Town and Community Councils

A presentation was made by Greg Owens (Vice-Chair) and Saz Willey, who are members of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, on the Panel's determinations as they relate to town and community councils.

In addition to the presentation, a handout listing the relevant determinations was distributed. The handout also explained which determinations were mandatory and which were optional and therefore requiring individual councils to make a decision. It was noted that determination 49 was the only new determination and that the remainder should have already been implemented.

Specific reference was made to determination 46 – reimbursement of the costs of care. The purpose of this determination is to enable any person whose ability to participate as a member of an authority would be limited by their responsibilities as a carer, or for a member to receive care support to enable that individual to carry out their role. It was noted that the take-up for this reimbursement was low and the Panel members asked councils to let them know of any barriers to claiming this reimbursement so that the Panel could consider how to resolve the issue.

Reference was also made to the need to promote diversity, noting that the current councillor profile was narrow. It was hoped that the payments that have been introduced would encourage participation by people who would not otherwise be able to do so.

Cllr Gordon Warren (Amlwch) suggested that determination 40 should be amended to "...payment of **up to** £150". Greg Owens responded that the Panel would consider this. However, the Panel's aim in determining a specific sum, rather than expecting individual councils to make a decision, was to seek to avoid situations where pressure is placed on individuals to opt for lower payments.

In response to questions relating to salaries of community council clerks and taxation, it was confirmed that the statutory powers of the Panel did not extend to these areas, and that enquiries should be referred to One Voice Wales.

Councils were encouraged to submit their observations on the Panel's determinations, noting that the consultation on the 2020/21 draft annual report would take place in the autumn. They were also reminded that a Statement of Annual Payments needs to be published and sent to the Panel by 30 September each year ((see the Annual Report, section 3.39 and Appendix 4):

https://gov.wales/independent-remuneration-panel-wales-annual-report-2019-2020

5. North Wales Police – Raising Awareness of 'County Lines'

A presentation was made by Inspector Llinos Davies, North Wales Police, on 'County Lines'.

'County Lines' is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more areas within the UK. They use dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of "deal line". They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move and store the drugs and money. They will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons.

Reference was also made to the practice where drug dealers take over the property of a vulnerable person and use it as a place from which to run their business ('cuckooing'). Victims are often fearful of going to the Police and worry that they will be implicated in the criminality.

As for what to look for:

- It usually takes place in a multi-occupancy or social housing property.
- There may be an increase in the number of comings and goings, including people you have not seen before.
- There may be new vehicles outside the property.

- An increase in anti-social behaviour in and around the property.
- Unknown people in possession of keys to the property.

It was emphasised that the Police should be informed of any instances, providing as much detail as possible. Car registration numbers would be particularly useful.

The Police can be contacted by phoning 101, or by using the Police's website. It was noted that contact details for local Police officers were also available on their website.

Fôn Roberts, the County Council's Head of Children and Families Services, stated that his service worked regularly with the Police, as part of statutory Safeguarding duties, and he explained that the service routinely dealt with problems related to County Lines. He emphasised that the Police should be informed of emergency situations but, if anyone wished to share any doubts or needed advice, they would also be welcome to contact Teulu Môn at the County Council.

Teulu Môn contact details:

https://www.anglesey.gov.uk/en/Residents/Children-and-families/Teulu-M%C3%B4n-supporting-children-and-families/Teulu-M%C3%B4n.aspx

Cllr A W Jones (Mechell) stated that the Police were missing opportunities to raise awareness within communities by failing to attend community councils' monthly meetings. Inspector Davies responded that this would be the best option ideally, but that she was unable to commit to this as the number of Police officers had reduced significantly. Cllr Gordon Warren (Amlwch) referred to the lack of response by the Police to telephone requests for assistance and Inspector Davies explained that calls were assessed and categorised centrally and therefore beyond her control. She gave an assurance that these observations would be fed back to the Police.

6. Review of Polling Stations

The Head of Democratic Services stated that the Council was required to hold a review of the island's polling stations by January 2020 and explained that the intention was to begin a two-month consultation period in April. However, this timescale could not be confirmed until the situation with regard to leaving the European Union became clearer – ie, the review will have to be deferred if European Elections are held in May.

7. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next Forum meeting will be held on Thursday evening, 18 July 2019.

It was agreed consideration be given to the possibility of holding Forum meetings at different locations across the island.

8. Any other business

8.1 Valley Community Council – invoice

Cllr Gordon Browne stated that Valley Community Council pay an annual fee to the County Council for a car park in the village and explained that they had been waiting for some time for an invoice from the County Council to enable them to make the latest payment. The Assistant Chief Executive responded that she would look into this as a matter of urgency.

8.2 Radioactive Waste Disposal Facilities

Cllr Hanna Huws (Llanfairpwll) expressed concern with regard to the current consultation on identifying locations for radioactive waste disposal and asked the Council to object to locating facilities on the island. The Leader explained that the County Council, in response to an enquiry by the media, had already stated that it is not considering making a voluntary application to host such a facility within the county.

The meeting ended at 8.35 pm.

Julie James AC/AM Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol Minister for Housing and Local Government



Ein cyf/Our ref DC-JJ-05677-19

Cllr Llinos Medi Leader, Chair of Anglesey Town & Community Councils Liaison Forum

<u>llinosmedihuws@ynysmon.gov.uk</u>

1 May 2019

Dear Llinos,

Thank you for your further letter of 6 December inviting me to attend a meeting of the Town & Community Councils Liaison Forum. Unfortunately, my diary commitments are such that I am unable to accept your invitation.

I do understand the significant challenges facing local government in delivering public services. We discussed the challenges and opportunities for the Isle of Anglesey during our recent meeting, I will also be regularly discussing these challenges with representatives of local government at the meetings of the Finance Sub Group of the Partnership Council for Wales.

I welcome your authority and town and community councils coming together through the Community Councils Liaison Forum, it is important for local government to work together when making decisions on their budgets and the provision of local services. Local authorities should work closely with the community and town councils in their area as part of their budget setting process and encourage honest, open dialogue to identify the most effective way in which both sectors of local government may work together for the benefit of their communities.

Yours sincerely,

Julie James AC/AM

Y Gweinidog Tai a Llywodraeth Leol Minister for Housing and Local Government

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre: 0300 0604400

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.