

## ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

<b>Report to</b>	<b>The Executive</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>10 February, 2014</b>
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Consultation on budget proposals 2014-15</b>
<b>Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	<b>Councillor H.E. Jones</b>
<b>Lead Officer(s)</b>	<b>Chief Executive</b>
<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Interim Head of Democratic Services</b>
<b>Nature and reason for reporting</b>	
This paper provides feedback with regards to the consultation exercise (which ended on 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2014) on budget proposals and summarises feedback received.	

### A – Introduction / Background / Issues

#### Background

On 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013 a report on the updated Budget Strategy and Initial Draft Revenue Budget 2014/15 was considered by the Executive.

The Executive resolved to approve the initial 2014-15 budget proposals for formal consultation and to delegate to the Head of Function (Resources) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources, the authority to finalise the budget consultation document.

The Budget consultation consisted of a consultation document which was available online, by email or by post. Copies were also available in Public Libraries.

In terms of promoting the Budget Consultation, the following actions were taken:

- Press release issued to media contacts
- Note to all Council staff
- Messages on Council Facebook page

- Regular tweets from Council Twitter account
- Front page article on Anglesey Council website & splash page for period of consultation

The budget consultation received coverage in the local newspapers and other media.

The two Scrutiny Committees have considered budget proposals and observations are made in a separate report to this Committee.

Budget proposals have also been considered by:

- Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee (17/01/2014)
- Town and Community Councils (23/01/2014)
- Schools Forum (27/01/14)
- Democratic Services Committee (30/01/14)

Feedback from these sessions is included in Appendix 1.

### **Summary of Key Findings**

The Budget Consultation received a total of 234 responses including those from representatives groups.

Responses are summarised in Appendix 2 under various themes. Copies of all responses received are reproduced in Appendix 3.

The vast majority of responses received to date (205) focus on proposals to reduce the admission age in schools (this includes an on-line petition with 50 signatures). These proposals are included under the Education Service in Appendix B of the consultation document.

<b>B – Considerations</b>	
See feedback received	

<b>C – Implications and Impacts</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Finance / Section 151</b>

<b>C – Implications and Impacts</b>		
<b>2</b>	<b>Legal / Monitoring Officer</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Human Resources</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Property Services</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>5</b>	<b>Information and Communications Technology (ICT)</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Equality</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>7</b>	<b>Anti-poverty and Social</b> <b>(see notes – separate document)</b>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Communication</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>9</b>	<b>Consultation</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>10</b>	<b>Economic</b>	
<b>11</b>	<b>Environmental</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>12</b>	<b>Crime and Disorder</b> (see notes – separate document)	
<b>13</b>	<b>Outcome Agreements</b>	

<b>CH – Summary</b>
Feedback provided on budget consultation as detailed above.

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<b>D – Recommendation</b>
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The Executive to consider responses to the budget consultation as detailed in this report.
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**Name of author of report** Huw Jones  
**Job Title** Interim Head of Democratic Services  
**Date** 31/01/14

<b>Appendices:</b>
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<b>Background papers</b>
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2014/15 Budget Consultation –Meeting the Challenges.
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## VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE 17/01/2014

### MEETING THE CHALLENGES – BUDGET CONSULTATION 2014-15

The Executive's initial proposals for the 2014/15 Budget encompassing service reductions and efficiency savings as outlined in the Meeting the Challenges Budget Consultation document were presented for the Committee's consideration.

The detailed savings proposals put forward by Social Services covering Adult Social Care, Learning Disabilities Services and Children's Services which were not incorporated in the Consultation document were tabled at the meeting and were explained by the Director of Community. The Director of Community said that the 2014/15 financial year will be an extremely challenging one in budget terms and that the situation has only been ameliorated to an extent by the fact that the consultation and planning process has commenced much earlier. There has been much discussion as regards putting forward proposals which are achievable in order to try to avoid a pattern of overspending especially in respect of Adult Social Care and those proposals are still being discussed and modified. There has been differentiation in the savings targets imposed on services with some services having to meet higher targets than others. There is also an ongoing dialogue with regard to grant funding with the Welsh Government seeking to change the use of grants in way that increasingly advocates more regional working. This change of emphasis can impact upon local agreements. The Officer went on to say that although Social Services have been given greater budgetary protection than some other services, they remain below the savings target and further work is required. In response to a question about greater joint working in relation to the learning disability provision at Bryn y Neuadd, the Director of Community said that the service is highly integrated in terms of management and planning. The work required in this service area is around better housekeeping but given that contracts involve individual clients the approach must be measured and requires that a plan and service expectations be carefully and clearly set out.

The Portfolio Member for Housing and Social Services said that in formulating their savings proposals, the Social Services had carefully scrutinised their statutory requirements and had looked at all other provision on the basis of affordability.

The Chief Officer of Medrwn Môn commented that a reduction in the funding support to the Third Sector has been based historically on a specific sum. The proposals as set out need to be discussed further in terms of their implications for the Third Sector particularly in relation to the following considerations –

- Whether it is possible to forward plan to prepare the sector for future reductions
- Whether it is possible to give an indication of the sector's funding prospects based on the kind of pattern which the review of contracts has disclosed and in order to enable pre-emptive planning and also in order to identify opportunities.
- The need for a dialogue on commissioning grants in order to clarify the Authority's commissioning intentions with regard to the Third Sector.
- The potential to explore Third Sector capacity to support and contribute to alternative forms of provision in relation to discretionary services thus providing an opportunity for Social Services to safeguard services they regard as important but which are not mandatory.

The Director of Community acknowledged that such a discourse is essential in terms of shaping both Social Services and the Third Sector workforce. Efforts are being made to strengthen commissioning and purchasing arrangements involving closer working with the Health Sector with a view to increasing opportunities for jointly shaping and profiling provision. The Officer emphasised the changeability of the situation and she said that consequently there needs to be an element of trust within the immediate "family" of organisations in terms of recognising that information shared might not be definitive at the point of issue.

The Chief Officer of Medrwn Môn confirmed that the organisation would be responding formally to the Budget consultation. He welcomed the intention to monitor contracts as an opportunity for the Third Sector to demonstrate value for money.

The Director of Community said that she would forward details in relation to the savings to the Chief Officer of Medrwn Môn.

**It was agreed to note the Executive's initial budget proposals with particular reference to the Social Services' proposals for efficiency savings.**

DRAFT

## Town and Community Councils Liaison Meeting

Thursday, 23 January 2014 at 7.00 pm

### Present

Arfon Owen  
Margaret Thomas  
Arnold Milburn  
Marilyn Hughes  
Gwyn Jones  
Gareth Cemlyn Jones  
Chris Gordon Topps  
Jack Jones  
Arfon Jones  
John Jukes  
Anna Jones  
Cliff Everett  
Dafydd Roberts  
Geraint Parry  
Eifion H. Jones  
Elfed Jones  
Ian Owen  
Ted Thomas  
Owen Davies  
B Kotkowicz  
Stan Zalot  
Dafydd Griffiths  
JE Lewis  
Julia Dobson  
Enid Mummery

### Representing Town and Community Councils

Cylch y Garn  
Llangefni  
Llangefni  
Amlwch  
Amlwch  
Llanfairpwll  
Aberffraw  
Llanerchymedd  
Llanerchymedd  
Llanerchymedd  
Tref Alaw  
Tref Caergybi  
Dwyran  
Llangoed a Llanddona  
Pentraeth  
Llanbadrig  
Llanfihangel Esceifiog  
Llanfihangel Esceifiog  
Llanddyfnan  
Beaumaris  
Beaumaris  
Llaneilian  
Llangristiolus a Cerrigceinwen  
Llanbadrig  
Bro Rhosyr

### Hefyd yn bresennol/Also Present:

Cllr Ieuan Williams  
Cllr H.E. Jones  
Cllr Alwyn Rowlands  
Richard Parry Jones  
Gwen Carrington  
Clare Williams  
Huw Jones

Leader, Isle of Anglesey CC  
Portfolio Holder – Finance  
Portfolio Holder – Corporate Governance  
Chief Executive  
Director of Community  
Head of Function - Resources  
Interim Head of Democratic Services

## **Apologies:**

Trewalchmai Community Council  
Menai Bridge Town Council  
Cllr Meirion Jones

## **1. Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2013 were confirmed as a correct record.

## **2. Meeting the Challenges – Budget Consultation 2014/15**

Councillor H.E. Jones, Portfolio Member for Finance summarised the context of the Council's medium term financial strategy and the key issues noting in particular the projected £7.5m of savings required during 2014/15. He also referred to the guidelines received from Welsh Government in relation to the Council's budget and requested the views of the Town and Community Councils on the proposed 5% increase in Council Tax. In conclusion, the Portfolio Holder highlighted the fact that the Council's proposals focused on protecting front line services.

Comments were then invited on the details in the consultation document. The main points raised by Town and Community Councils representatives are summarised below:-

### **Local Service and Joint Working**

- Town and Community Council's have powers to raise revenue in order to provide local services. Town and Community Council's should be encouraged to work jointly together to manage local services e.g. public conveniences. More should be done to involve local communities to raise revenue. Town and Community Council's on Holy Island and further afield should work together to explore options (Holyhead Town Council).

### **Grants and Community Services**

- Town and Community Council's should be able to access capital grants. However, rules concerning e.g. Cyfenter prohibit this. The new Leader Programme should allow Town and Community Council's to access grants. Holyhead Town Council have recently refurbished the Empire Cinema for community use and more should be done to share good practice (Holyhead Town Council).



- Use of Charitable Trust Budget and one-off payments to Town and Community Councils to provide services e.g. via capital grants. The Charitable Trust should consider this in the next financial year (Holyhead Town Council).

**Action: Holyhead Town Council and Beaumaris Town Council to provide an overview at the next meeting on managing community services.**

### **Assets**

- The need to utilise Council assets in order to realise savings (Holyhead Town Council). The Leader of the Council noted that an Officer in the Economic Development Service had been appointed to develop local partnerships and to liaise with Town and Community Councils on such matters.

### **Community Benefits**

- The issue of Community Benefits was raised in the context of major developments and scope to re-invest in community services (Holyhead Town Council). The Leader noted that a report on Community Benefits would be considered shortly by the Executive.

### **Increase in Council Tax**

- In relation to the proposed 5% increase in the Council Tax, clarification was requested on what a 1% increase would equate to in monetary terms (Llangoed Community Council).
- The 5% increase was considered fairly reasonable and would equate to an increase of 86p per week for a Band D property (Llangefni Town Council).
- The impact of 5% Council Tax rise in real terms for local residents was raised and scope to raise revenue e.g. charging for the use of public conveniences (Beaumaris Town Council).

### **Education**

- School budgets and use of savings arising from closure of Ysgol Llanddona. Reference was made to the strategic outline programme and modernisation strategy considered recently by the Executive. The Leader drew attention to strategic proposals in the following areas:

- Holyhead, Beaumaris, Llannau and the South West area.
- Use of vacant school buildings and what are the Council's intention e.g. use for social housing (Aberffraw Community Council).
- Staffing Levels in schools and ratio of teacher to classroom assistants (Aberffraw Community Council).

### **Toursim**

- Council Attractions – reduction in opening hours. Concern about the implications of proposals on tourism and the contribution of tourism to the local economy (Beaumaris Town Council).
- Importance of tourism to the Island referred to and local facilities e.g. public conveniences.

### **Public Conveniences and Housing**

- Public conveniences in Church Bay and management of the facility during the winter. Community Council awaiting a response from the Council (Cylch y Garn Community Council).
- If this provision is to be transferred to Community Councils then the Council should provide a financial contribution (Llangristiolus and Cerrigceinwen Community Council).
- Grants for Businesses re: public conveniences. Clarification requested on status of grant and this would need to be communicated to Town and Community Councils. Also signage on buildings which are part of the scheme should be more visible (Amlwch Town Council).

#### **Action: Information to be provided to Town and Community Councils**

- Housing development in Newborough and closure of public conveniences. Facilities should be provided for public conveniences due to close proximity to Ynys Llanddwyn. Also access issues to be addressed if housing development is to proceed (Newborough Community Council).

### **Maritime Service**

- Maritime Service and the level of beach wardens required (Aberffraw Community Council).
- In relation to beach wardens, the Council should consider the role of voluntary bodies e.g. RNLI (Beaumaris Town Council).

### **Social Care**

- Social Care – The current consultation on Older Adult Social Care was referred to and the importance of dialogue with local communities at the outset (Beaumaris Town Council).

### **Level of Detail in consultation document and other observations**

- Insufficient details to comment fully and not enough background information in the document e.g. what does a reduction of £104k in relation to public conveniences provision mean in reality (Llaneilian Community Council).
- Timescale of consultation raised and limited time to respond.

### **3. Any Other Business**

Llanfairpwll Community Council drew attention to a public meeting held on 24 January 2014 in the village regarding transmission lines.

## **Extract from the Minutes of the Meeting of the Schools Forum held on 27 January, 2014**

### **Item 4 Update on the 2014/15 Budget**

It was reported that several corporate meetings had been held since the last meeting of the Forum in order to reach a decision on the best option for schools for 2014/15. The importance of financial cuts in the Authority was noted in order to try to ensure that school budgets are protected because of:

- i. The Welsh Government's Statement on protecting school budgets
- ii. The Authority's situation in relation to Estyn.

The Chairman gave an overview of the decision taken in relation to school budgets for 2014/15 and reminded the Forum that the initial proposal was to cut £500k from school budgets. Following deliberations the Authority has now confirmed that this will not now be happening and that school budgets will not be cut in 2014/15. He also noted that discussions are ongoing in an attempt to safeguard post-16 funding, but the whole amount cannot be protected, only approximately £250k. He emphasised that it would only be possible to do this for this year and that it is unlikely that the same support will be available for 2015/16.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance reiterated that it will only be possible to do this for this year since it is reserves, underspend etc. that have been used to protect school budgets.

The schools noted their appreciation to the Authority and Elected Members for their work in ensuring that this has been possible for this year.

The Director of Lifelong Learning echoed that this is very positive news for schools in Anglesey and that it reinforces the Authority's commitment to education. However, he noted that it is vitally important that schools are aware that this will only be possible for this year and that there will be a challenge to be faced next year. He noted that the support of the Elected members had been crucial during the discussions this year.

### **Item 11 Central Efficiencies**

An overview was given of the central savings in the Lifelong Learning Service and it was emphasised that they will not have a direct influence on what is happening in schools. It was noted that the Department has to find £900k of savings and this will include the Youth Service, Libraries and Culture. The proposals put forward up until now are:

- Grant to Young Farmers and the Urdd: continue but in a different way in future (saving of £20k)
- Rationalise the number of Youth Clubs – this will be a forerunner to taking a second look at the Youth Services Strategy for the future (saving of £20k )
- Reduce the support to Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin / PPA (saving of £3k )
- Implement the recommendations of the SEN Task and Finish Group (saving of £80k)

- Charging rents on clubs / agencies that use the Jesse Hughes Centre in Holyhead (income of £ 1,000)
- Cuts in the Early Years training budget (saving of £7k)
- Cut in the maintenance support for Early Years (saving of £30k)
- Discussions already begun with schools and nurseries to lower the school entrance age so that children can begin school in the term following their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. It was noted that there was a risk connected with this proposal regarding the response of the schools and the Nurseries (saving of £170k for part of the year, i.e. 7/12)
- Cut the 2 x community wardens posts (saving of £15k)
- Await a decision from Welsh Government regarding the closure of Ysgol Llanddona (saving of £55k for part of the year, i.e. 7/12)
- Delete training packages for Youth Clubs (saving of £7k)
- Keep the administration and monitoring element of the GEY grant centrally (income of £30k)
- Underspend on specific headings within the budget (saving of £140k)
- It was noted that it will not be possible to include the increase in free school meals so it leaves the department around £360k under the target and these savings will have to be made.

It was noted that there was a procedure in the Council for Departments to present "growth bids" to the centre for additional statutory requirements and they are carefully scrutinised. This year the Lifelong Learning Department will present the following 2 bids:

- Improving National Schools Model (£70k)
- Increase in the number of places that are bought in Ysgol Y Bont (£150k)

Noted that there will be the same enormous challenges to find the same element of savings for 2015/16.

**Extract from the minutes of the Democratic Services Committee held on 30 January, 2014**

**Consultation on Budget Proposals 2014/15**

The Interim Head of Democratic Services gave a summary of the proposed savings in relation to Democratic Services. He noted that the Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2014 has scrutinised the budget savings affecting Corporate Services and an extract from the minutes was attached to the report to this Committee for information.

Members of the Committee raised the following main issues with regard to proposed savings :-

- Concerns raised at the proposals affecting the civic and ceremonial budget and impact on the annual civic events programme. In relation to this budget the Interim Head of Democratic Services advised that the main expenditure relates to the Chairman's Civic Sunday Service and the Annual re-enactment of the Freedom of the County Ceremony to the RAF. Members considered that there was scope to review the expenditure by reducing associated catering costs;
- Concerns raised at the proposals affecting the Anglesey Show. The Interim Head of Democratic Services advised that the main area of expenditure was the hiring of the Councils marquee at the Show and associated service costs. Members considered that there was scope to review expenditure associated within this budget;
- The deletion of the vacant post of Scrutiny Officer was raised. It was noted that the Williams Report published recently highlighted the importance of scrutiny, and the Councils scrutiny arrangements should be adequately supported. In addition reference was made to a need to review the number of items on Scrutiny Committee agendas to allow for meaningful scrutiny. It was advised that this would be discussed further with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of each Committee as part of reviewing work programmes.

**RESOLVED to accept the report and to forward the above issues raised to the Executive.**

## Summary of Responses to Budget Consultation

Themes	Summary of Key Messages
The proposed 5% increase in Council Tax (86p per week for the average Band D property) to help protect key Council services	<p>Opposition to increase proposed increase of 5%:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% increase opposed (response Numbers 1, 2, 8, 9 and 19)</li> <li>• Concern at year-on-year increase in Council Tax (response No 4)</li> <li>• Impact of Council tax rise on household income and the economic situation of the Island highlighted (Bodorgan Community Council – response No 10. Also no 46).</li> <li>• The Council shouldn't rise council tax 5% every year (Pentraeth Community Council – response No 44).</li> <li>• Some comments on level of tax increase made at the Town and Community Council's Liaison Meeting but broadly accepted.</li> <li>• Increase in proposed Council Tax broadly supported (see response No 3).</li> <li>• 5% Council Tax rise unavoidable and focus on improved efficiency applauded (response no. 79).</li> <li>• General comments on higher taxes to retain services (response no. 87)</li> </ul>
Local Services and role of Town and Community Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of Services by Town and Community Councils.</li> <li>• A number of comments highlighted at the Town and Community Council Liaison Meeting including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Scope for Town and Community Councils to raise revenue in order to manage local services e.g. public conveniences – public conveniences are an important part of the necessary infrastructure to support the tourism industry (see also comments from Beaumaris Town Council - No 11)</li> <li>○ Access to capital grants and European funding for Town and Community Councils should be explored further including grants available from the Isle of Anglesey Charitable Trust.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Energy Island Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Justification of Energy Island expenditure questioned (response No 1, 2, 9 and 10).</li> <li>• Energy Island programme welcomed (response no. 69)</li> </ul>

## Summary of Responses to Budget Consultation

Themes	Summary of Key Messages
Importance of Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A general theme highlighted at the Town and Community Council Liaison meeting.</li> <li>• Reductions in tourism budget and attractions opposed (response No 3 and 58).</li> <li>• Tourism should be given higher priority by the Council (response from Beaumaris Town Council No 11).</li> <li>• Impact of cutbacks on the visitor attractions highlighted (Beaumaris Town Council and Town and Community Councils Liaison Meeting)</li> <li>• Investment in visitor facilities important (response no 86)</li> </ul>
Fees and Charges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact of increase in parking charges on Town Centres and Tourism (see response from Bodorgan Community Council (no 10) also response No 1, 2, 8, 9 and 79).</li> </ul>
Highways and Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need for the park and ride development at Sant Tysilio questioned, also cost of lighting the car park. Comments on transportational links in the Menai Straits area and cost and use of subsidised bus service between Llangefni and Caernarfon (see response No 6).</li> <li>• Highways maintenance budget should be safeguarded (see response No 3, 8 and 58). Further consultation urged, including road safety issues (response no 43).</li> </ul>
Leisure Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management arrangements of Llangefni, Holyhead and Amlwch Leisure Centres should be reviewed (see Beaumaris Town Council response No 11)</li> <li>• Sports Centres and Llangefni Golf Course should be safeguarded but staffing levels reviewed (see response No 7).</li> </ul>
Management of Council Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disposal of assets and use of capital receipts (see Town and Community Councils Liaison meeting notes, see also Beaumaris Town Council response (11) and response no. 79).</li> <li>• Importance of maintenance budget for Beaumaris Pier highlighted (see Beaumaris Town Council response – 11).</li> <li>• Empty properties should be sold and monies re-invested in services (see response No 4).</li> </ul>
Issues concerning Service Delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No objection to reducing opening hours in libraries since greater use of on-line services (see response No 7).</li> <li>• Front line services should be safeguarded (see response No 9).</li> </ul>



## Summary of Responses to Budget Consultation

Themes	Summary of Key Messages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to see improvements in Home Care services and Council owned residential homes should be sold (see response No 4).</li> <li>• Adult Services should be safeguarded (see response No 3).</li> <li>• High-quality care for the elderly important (response no. 86)</li> <li>• Reduction proposed in beach warden budget supported (see response No 3).</li> <li>• Issue of maritime budget raised at Town and Community Councils Liaison meeting and scope for the voluntary sector to support.</li> <li>• Dialogue required between the third sector and the Council on provision of discretionary services and commissioning (Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee).</li> <li>• Partnership working should be encouraged between the public sector and the third sector in relation to service delivery. Transformational changes need to reflect needs of communities. Impact of proposals in relation to equality duties (see response No 18. See also response no. 69 re. social enterprises).</li> <li>• School Patrols – impact of proposed cuts on the health and safety of children (response no. 11)</li> <li>• Review arrangements for green waste collections (response no. 3).</li> <li>• Youth Services should be safeguarded (response no. 3).</li> <li>• Control of dog fouling - review arrangements (response no. 3).</li> <li>• Scope to consider benefits of joint working with other authorities (response no. 9).</li> <li>• Implications regarding decommissioning CCTV (response no. 43).</li> <li>• Impact of second homes on communities (response no. 87).</li> </ul>
Management Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay levels of management highlighted and the Council should consider pay reduction (see response No 1, 9,19 and 79).</li> <li>• Use of agency staff (Pentraeth Community Council – response No 44)</li> </ul>

## Summary of Responses to Budget Consultation

Themes	Summary of Key Messages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priority should be given to reducing staffing levels e.g. by releasing staff, early retirement etc. (see response No 8 and 80).</li> </ul>
Member and other Staff related issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Out of county visits by Councillors and staff should be prohibited and greater use of technology (see response No 4).</li> <li>Encourage use of Council buildings for conferences and seminars (Pentraeth Community Council (see response No 44).</li> <li>Allowances for Members should be eliminated or reduced (see response No 8).</li> <li>Management of sickness absence needs improving (response no. 3)</li> </ul>
Income Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunities to raise income to be considered (response no 69)</li> <li>Charging for the use of public conveniences should be considered (Beaumaris Town Council, Town and Community Councils Liaison meeting.</li> <li>Charging for internet use in libraries should be considered (see response No 3).</li> <li>Various proposals to raise income (response no. 86)</li> </ul>
Education Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modernisation programme welcomed (see response no 46 and 69)</li> </ul>
Education Service – School Admissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern at the proposed reduction in the school admissions age. The vast majority of responses (a total of 205) were on this issue. See responses:  12–17; 20–23; 25–29; 31–34; 36–39; 41– 42; 45; 47-54; 56-57; 59–68; 70–79; 82– 85; 88–99; 100–182; 183–232- web petition.</li> </ul>
General Comments on Consultation Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insufficient level of detail in document to allow for meaningful comments and some matters of detail requiring clarification (issue raised at Town and Community Council Liaison meeting, see also response from Beaumaris Town Council (11)and response no. 81).</li> <li>Timescale allowed for responses raised (Town and Community Council Liaison Meeting).</li> <li>Importance of Members taking account of views received to ensure that this is a meaningful process (see response No 9).</li> </ul>

## Summary of Responses to Budget Consultation

Themes	Summary of Key Messages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council objectives commended but many challenges facing the Council in the future (see response No 9).</li> <li>• Financial support for organisations (eg Medrwn Môn) should be reviewed (see response no. 5)</li> <li>• Priorities acknowledged focusing on supporting the vulnerable, economic development, raising standards and modernising schools (see response no. 46)</li> <li>• Commitment to regeneration and developing the economy welcomed (see response no 69)</li> </ul>

**Atodiad 3/Appendix 3**

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24<sup>th</sup> JAN 2014

Meeting the Challenges  
Budget Consultation 2014/15  
Chief Executive's Office  
Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Council Offices  
LLANGEFNI  
Anglesey  
LL77 7TW

ADRIAN PRIDMORE  
27 JAN 2014  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPT

Dear Sirs,

**Re: 2014/15 Budget Proposals.**

We see again a recommendation for 5% rise in the Council Tax, and that this rate of increase to be applied to the following year as well. To expect people to pay an increase of twice the inflation rate is totally unacceptable.

Anglesey's economy will receive a boost if Wylfa Newydd and the offshore energy developments proceed, so how can the authority justify the level of its expenditure on its Energy Island programme, an area it has little influence or power over?

The authority needs to seriously explore the benefits of joint working with neighbouring authorities, which will undoubtedly deliver savings and efficiencies of scale.

It is interesting to note that Denbighshire Council who face the same difficulties, are only seeking a 3.5% increase in the Council Tax.

- Is this consultation regarding the budget just a sham as in previous consultations?
- The pay levels within the authority at management levels are by any standards very high. Why not propose salary reductions as clearly we cannot afford to pay at these levels?
- Parking charges and free bus passes schemes are unfair across the population and flawed in their economic value
- Expenditure on 'Energy Island' promotion should be stopped
- Can we support larger authorities so that the resulting bodies are responsible for much larger populations thereby reducing costs per resident

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

NO 2

[REDACTED]

24<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Meeting the Challenges  
Budget Consultations 2014/15  
Chief Executive's Office  
Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Council Offices  
LLANGEFNI  
LL77 7TW

Sirs,

Having read the document, it begs a question about its actual title, should it not be Avoiding the Challenges? An expectation that the electorate will meekly accept a 5% increase in the council tax year on year, with inflation running at less than half that amount for ever diminishing levels of service is insulting and exhibits a degree of extreme arrogance on the part of officers and the elected members.

Other Welsh Authorities are facing the same cost pressures, but yet are advocating increases in the council tax at well under 5%. Does that demonstrate a better understanding of what is affordable to their electorate? Anglesey is a small authority and it begs the question of whether the members have ever compared its management costs in terms of "per head of population" with other authorities, and if not, why not?

The potential energy generating projects at Wylfa and offshore will no doubt be a major boost to the local economy, which has been decimated over the last years (through no fault of the authority). However, can the council justify its level of expenditure on the "Energy Island", a non-statutory function in an area of activity where it realistically has little influence?

In conclusion, can you honestly believe that increasing parking charges will not further damage our town centres, and also impinge on the tourist industry,

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

No 3

Gethin Jones

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 22 January 2014 16:45  
To: BUDGET CONSULTATION  
Subject: Budget Consultation

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Anglesey Council,

I am writing regarding the budget proposals for 2014/15. I would like to offer some feedback.

I am broadly in favour of Council Tax increases so long as the revenue raised, is used both efficiently and effectively.

The sickness levels at the Authority are a disgrace and would not be tolerated in the private sector, I work in retail and a 'back to work interview' after any period of sickness is mandatory each and every time. Each occasion you are off sick, you go progress through a monitoring system and ultimately into a disciplinary procedure if you are off sick too often. The sickness absence level at the Council which has been reported, sits very badly with the public who already feel that the Council workers have excellent perks in terms of holidays.

I find the Council inefficient when it comes to administration which can lead to duplication of documents being posted. I believe you should strictly monitor what is being posted out.

I question the need for fortnightly green waste collections during the winter. Could this not be reduced to monthly collections during the winter months?

I would hesitate before cutting Youth Services as I believe this would be counter-productive and lead to more anti-social behaviour.

I think cutting wardens at beaches is fine as I can honestly say every time I see a beach warden during the summer, they are sitting in their cars, reading the paper, texting and in the case of one at Cemaes, was no where near the main beach area (I was there for over an hour so doubt that this was a meal break). I am not saying that is the case with all of the wardens but that is the general impression I get. If they are present for health and safety reasons, they should actually be out of their vehicles and near the public.

I think reductions in Tourism would be counter-productive as with better management and publicity, your tourism sites could be very profitable. If a visitor turned up at South Stack or Beaumaris Gaol on one of the days it was closed (during the main season) it would create an extremely bad impression of Anglesey. Why don't you promote value season passes for Anglesey residents? I've got a card which I purchased, that gives me two-thirds of ticket prices on Ffestiniog Railway as an example. Locals are tourists too!

I would suggest that the current control of dog fouling is a lost battle and would be better outsourced as some other local authorities have done. As a responsible dog owner I hate seeing our beaches and coastal paths covered in dog waste.

Regarding the Library Service. Why do you not charge a small fee for internet use?

I urge you to keep excellent adult services such as Falls Prevention, as I believe these schemes save the Authority money in the long term by reducing the number of people who are vulnerable to falls and therefore reduces demand on the care system.

My last point is regarding Highway Maintenance. I commute from my home to Llangefni along rural lanes. I note that some work has been done to resurface and also some 'patching' but the roads are still in a shocking state of disrepair. I believe that the Highways Maintenance budget cannot be cut down anymore. I am not a person who has put in claims for car maintenance thus far, but I am losing patience as my car regularly suffers damage through the poor road surface caused by rain and (in previous years) snow damage. I have had so much work done that is suspension/shock absorber related. It is really not worth me 'reporting a pothole' on an individual basis to the Council as most of the lanes are covered in them. In darkness or when covered in puddles, they are simply unavoidable. I also often suffer tyre punctures from debris on the road. As you will be aware, I have to use these lanes to get to work, there are no main roads on the route! I think a cut in maintenance will result in more claims to the council for damage sustained.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my feedback.

Kind Regards





no 4

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 January 2014 15:00  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Budget Consultation Response

Dear Sirs

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

My major concern would be that there is a proposal to increase Council Tax by 5% year on year when most working people do not expect to see their incomes rise above 2% per year and inflation is currently at 2% (lower than the figures used in the consultation document).

Could the Council not consider a Council Tax set at (say) inflation plus 1%?

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

5

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 January 2014 14:39  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** ACC Budget

Hi

These are my views as regards the budget

Sell off all your Residential Homes for the elderly - the council is not running them properly. The folks have never had a say in how the money is spent - food is bought through a consortium paying very high prices, no food bought locally to support the economy. Money spent on fixtures and fittings again paying huge amounts of money instead of sourcing reasonable prices like you do in your own home and consulting the residents and letting them decide like you do at home.

Similarly with home care, and i speak from experience both residential and home care, the folks rarely if at all have a choice of when they get up or go to bed because there isn't enough staff or the time to give them. We are in 2014 and life should be better for older people. They need to stay within their communities to stop this fracture within their lives, sell the homes and let other agencies develop retirement villages. Living in a council run residential home with the threat of closure hanging over them for so long is just plain abuse to the residents and staff.

You also have empty property, why hang on to these when they are in a dreadful state because you have neglected them, would you do this if it were your own property, i think not - so why do it to the tax payer/islanders. It's no use saying we haven't got the money for repairs, sell them and re-invest in our future.

Another way of saving money is to stop sending councillors/ staff on fact finding missions all over the country which cost the earth, there's plenty of technology to help them experience examples of how other authorities/projects work, from the council offices.

Finally why do you give financial support to the likes of Medrwn Mon, total waste of tax payers hard earned money. Charities can negotiate with you themselves, you are just paying to duplicate services. Paying high salaries for nothing.

Regards

[REDACTED]

6

Some suggestions regarding budget savings from [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

1. The Park and ride development by St.Tysilio, Llanfairpwll.

How much does this scheme like this cost us?

What evidence did the Council have that it was needed?

I use the Llanfair – Bangor bus service fairly regularly. When questioned, none of the drivers can recall picking up passengers at this point. This subsidised service, in part, journeys through Park Menai. The sight of a passenger alighting or boarding in Park Menai is as rare as hens' teeth, yet tax payers subsidise it. The St. Tysilio car park has ten light posts (admittedly L.E.D.). It is overkill. There is sufficient light drift from the sodium lights on the main road alongside. At 3 a.m. there are no cars there yet the lights are blazing! The bus service ends at 6p.m. Those responsible for this waste would not do so in their own homes. If ten light posts were really required, did no one know that they could be solar powered and would extinguish automatically late evening when there was no further need for the facility? Such an arrangement would require less expense wiring from the mains system and would have no subsequent running costs.

The argument that it relieves congestion on the bridge is nonsensical. In terms of car share parking, the numbers using this facility is statistically totally insignificant in terms of reduction of traffic flow over the bridges. It cannot be justified.

2. A hefty sum was spent some years ago on at consultation exercise for a year round ferry service along the Menai Straits.

Who dreamed up this absurd idea?

The Menai Straits Ferry could not possibly pay. We are not talking about the Grand Canal in Venice. Passenger volume and climate suggests that the idea is unworkable., Workers would not go by car to the ferry point, hang around in the cold and wet ,using slime covered jetties to go to work in Caernarfon or Bangor, where they would still face cold and rain to walk to work. The Menai Straits is tidal, the Grand Canal barely so. This is an example of a scheme dreamed up by the ministry of daft ideas involving waste of staff resources.

2. Reopening the line from LLangefni to Gaerwen.

£23.5 million is admitted as the minimum cost for this other daft idea.

It is inconsistent with evidence from the council that bus services are being curtailed. The LLangefni -Gaerwen service would pick up no further passengers between the two points, besides the factor that workers will not go by car to the station, hang about in the cold and rain and face further transfer from Bangor station to their place of work. Does the Council not know that the much praised train service from Wreccsam to London failed within a few months because of insufficient passengers? Get real with your plans. Arriva of course would welcome this huge investment from public funds. Let them put their money where their mouth is.

3. Some years ago the Council was involved in a public consultation on the improvement of the Menai crossing. Widening or another bridge was mooted. Whatever happened as a result? Nothing! Further consultations may now be necessary, probably with inaction on the subject. Yet the Council is still peddling the idea of developing the Ty Mawr site and spending a very substantial sum on the St.Tysilio so called park and ride. Such ideas show lack of joined up thinking in

relation to the improvement of access to the Bridges and future third crossing. Has it not occurred to anyone that this land lies in the path of possible approach roads in the future?

#### 4. Subsidised bus services.

I have already referred to the ludicrous and costly loop round Park Menai.

Is the Council aware of the 5.15 p.m. (or thereabouts) service from LLangefni to Caernarfon? It runs directly to Caernarfon with ONE stop only at Portdinorwic. It runs along the A55 with its non-existent bus stops, across the Britannia Bridge. It very rarely has more than three passengers, and passengers cannot be picked up or alight except at Portdinorwic. Planners need a reality check as taxpayers are bled dry by such nonsensical schemes. How can this service be justified? It is argued that the similar routed morning service is for the convenience of workers commuting between Caernarfon and LLangefni. It is clearly over funded for the sake of handful of passengers and cannot be justified.

I call for a reality check at County Hall and that Councillor should have no further truck with ideas lacking common sense.

7

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 January 2014 15:11  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Views

Appreciate that some cuts have to be made but think more should be done to save money.

I would have no objection to cutting the hours that Libraries are open especially as more people are using Welsh Libraries online (ebooks)

Sports centres and the golf course at Llangefnï should be retained at all cost... Things will get better but if these facilities go now we would never get them back, consider more use of swipe cards to save on underemployed receptionists. Look at staffing levels at sports centres, especially late at night when equipment etc could be stowed away in the less expensive morning shifts.



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 January 2014 15:47  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** proposed budgets 2014-15 and beyond

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to make the following points in response to the 'budget consultation' process:

1. The proposed Council Tax increase of 5% year-after-year is unacceptable.

Councillors and others responsible for setting the budget should be able and willing to "live within their means". The rest of us have to do this in our day-to-day lives, so there is no excuse for those responsible for administering public money to adopt a lower standard of financial management.

Council Tax is the largest single cost that most of us have to pay from our household budgets. It is therefore particularly important that this tax be kept under control.

A council tax increase in line with inflation (say of 2.5 percent based on recent typical CPI figures) would be reasonable. Increases in excess of inflation are not.

2. Given the figures that a one-percent increase in the Council Tax equates to £291k extra revenue, keeping the Council Tax increase in line with inflation would require approximately £700-750k of additional savings. This is probably equivalent to reducing employment in the Council by about 14 or 15 people. It is difficult to believe this cannot be achieved in 'the largest employer on the Island'.

Of course, priority for job reductions should be given to those people wishing to retire early, to go part-time or to take voluntary redundancy. Compulsory redundancy should only be used as a last resort.

3. Councillors' allowances should be eliminated, or at least significantly reduced. It is time to re-adopt the idea that being a councillor is an opportunity to serve the community, not an excuse to gain additional income (and an additional pension!) from the public purse.

I recognise that this proposal would not save significant amounts of money. But it would help to send a message that "we're all in this together" and would provide an excellent example of moral leadership which could be followed in other councils.

4. Parking charges should not be increased.

Ideally, they should be abolished in places where they cause other problems. For example, introducing parking charges in Coed Cynol, Menai Bridge, has just increased congestion in Waitrose car park. Parking charges at Beaumaris Health Centre have just increased congestion on the already-overcrowded streets of Beaumaris.

5. I have serious reservations about the proposed cuts to the highway maintenance budget. I don't know the details of this budget, but the council surely ought to be able to fill in potholes when they appear and to keep the roads on Anglesey in good condition.

With best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



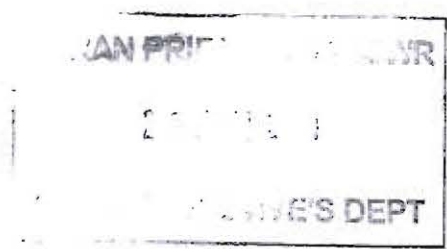
9

# Malltraeth Ymlaen 'cyf'

Bodorgan Community Centre  
BODORGAN  
Ynys Mon  
LL62 5AB

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014

Meeting the Challenges  
Budget Consultation 2014/15  
Chief Executive's Office  
Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Council Offices  
LLANGEFNI  
Anglesey  
LL77 7TW



Dear Sirs,

**Re: 2014/15 Budget Proposals.**

Malltaeth Ymlaen, the Community Group for Bodorgan considered your Budget Proposals for the next financial year at their meeting last night. Our members were aghast to see again a recommendation for 5% rise in the Council Tax, and that this rate of increase be applied over the following years as well. Don't the officers that prepare these reports realise that Anglesey has a low wage economy; or at least what is left of it. To expect the working person to pay an increase of twice the inflation rate is not only unaffordable, but unacceptable and insufferable. We make the following observations with a complete understanding of the need to cut back expenditure on public services, but please do so in an objective manner, with the preservation of front line services as your main priority.

There is a perception within a segment of the public that officials have lost sight of their primary duty to deliver services of economic value, and appear to expect the authorities to operate for their own benefits. It appears that elected members are reluctant to challenge the officers advising them. Can we be assured that there is some purpose to this consultation exercise, and that the elected members will take heed of the views of the electorate? The comments made by the former Leader last year, were insulting in drawing a conclusion that the low level of response could be interpreted as "that most people agreed". To put matters in perspective, the authors of the report peddle the line that the 5% increase is only 94p/week; but this is a bit rich when considering that the relevant Director and Head of Service are paid respectively £2179 & £1528 per week; hardly comparable to typical Anglesey income levels.

The Council's objectives are commendable, and provide a significant challenge in the current economic situation. However, significant and ruthless management skills will be required to achieve them. Last year we were told that we had to devote 1.8% of the tax increase to fund the necessary managerial skills. To include an additional sum £1.3 million for a pay and grading review, with an ongoing commitment for £700K in additional remuneration in subsequent years is ludicrous, and totally unacceptable. It may be part of an agreement with the unions to evaluate posts, but bearing in mind that it has dragged on for over 14 years, it is

# Malltraeth Ymlaen 'cyf'

a clear example of management failings. We assume that each post is continuously under review for its efficiency and effectiveness.

Anglesey's town centres are virtually dead, yet the officers propose to offset revenue cuts by seeking an additional £100K in parking fees. This is unlikely to be a boost to those centres. We are also advised that increasing parking fees to offset revenue cuts is illegal. To state that the introduction of free bus passes to pensioners makes the availability of the reduced concessionary car park pass to the same group less relevant, is another illustration of how far out of touch with reality officers are. Some communities have to exist without buses, or endure very infrequent services.

Anglesey's economy will no doubt receive a boost if Wylfa Newydd and the offshore energy developments proceed, but can the authority justify the level of expenditure on its Energy Island programme, non-statutory activities in an area where realistically it has little influence or power.

Has the authority fully explored the benefits of joint working with neighbouring authorities, which might deliver efficiencies of scale? Has senior management ensured that all sections under their control are as economic, efficient and effective as possible? We were concerned to hear a suggestion emanating from staff gossip, that one revenue and capital intensive section is under the control of an individual, allegedly devoid of any managerial experience, and having only basic elementary academic qualifications. Should this assertion be correct, it does raise concerns about the overall management abilities in our authority.

Please ensure that where unavoidable cuts take place at the "coal face", the supporting bureaucracy is trimmed back at the very least to the same extent. It is interesting to see in the press that both Denbighshire and Flintshire Council who face the same difficulties, are only seeking a 3.5% increase in the Council Tax. Why does Anglesey have to be different?

To summarise our concerns we pose the following questions

- Is this consultation regarding the budget just a sham box ticking exercise as in previous consultations?
- The pay levels within the authority at management levels are by normal standards very high. Has a pay reduction been considered?
- As pay levels are so high are real efforts made to ensure competent qualified people are in the management roles?
- Parking charges and free bus passes schemes are unfair across the population and flawed in their economic value
- Expenditure on "Energy Island" promotion should be stopped
- Can we be a supporter of larger authorities so that the resulting bodies are responsible for much larger populations thereby reducing cost per resident?

Yours faithfully,



S A Jones - Secretary

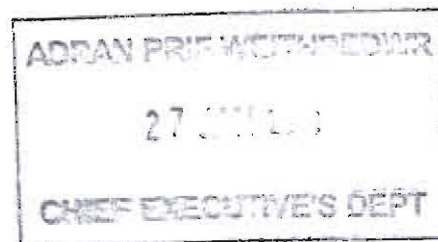
*Cyngor Cymuned* **BODORGAN** *Community Council*

Clerc/Clerk – Mrs Rhian Khardani. Tel: – 01248 750508/ 07748 689 323.

Rhosyr  
Rhostrehwfa  
LLANGFN  
Ynys Mon  
LL77 7YP

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014

Meeting the Challenges  
Budget Consultation 2014/15  
Chief Executive's Office  
Ynys Mon County Council  
County Offices  
LLANGFN  
LL77 7TW



Dear Sir,

**Re: 2014/15 Budget Proposals.**

The Bodorgan Community Council considered your draft budget proposals for the 2014/15 financial year at their meeting of the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2013.

As the members had some concerns about some aspects of the proposals, I have been instructed to write to you to express those concerns.

Whilst the Council fully accepts the financial difficulties that the authority faces, they were concerned about how you proposed to address those difficulties. There was extensive concern about the virtual acceptance of a 5% increase in the Council Tax for the next three years, but with little regard to the local economic situation. How can your officers justify an increase well in excess of inflation in what is predominately a very low wage economy; the County Council being one of the few exceptions from that norm? That statement is not meant to convey any disrespect, but rather to emphasise the need for a ruthless business orientated approach. The members have no wish to see any increase in unemployment, but unfortunately it is inevitable that the public sector must share the "pain" with the private sector. Members were concerned about the ability of working households to be able to afford increases of this magnitude year on year, and that for a diminishing level of service, but no visible reduction in the supporting bureaucracy.

The members have noted that two other North Wales councils have announced that they will limit their increases to 3.5 % or less, whilst the Police increase is only 3%. How can those bodies, who face the same cost pressures acknowledge the difficulties for their electorate, whilst Anglesey appears to be treating theirs with total contempt?





TOWN HALL/NEUADD Y DREF, CASTLE STREET/STRYD Y CASTELL,  
BEAUMARIS, ANGLESEY/YNYS MON LL58 8AP  
TEL/FFON : 01248 810317 e-mail/e-bost: beaumaristowncouncil@tiscali.co.uk  
TOWN CLERK/CLERC Y DREF: PROFESSOR T W ASHENDEN JP, BSc(Hons), PhD

Our Ref: TWA/PSG/7055

20 January 2014

Meeting the Challenges: Budget Consultation  
Chief Executive's Office  
Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Council Offices  
Llangefni  
LL77 7TW

### **MEETING THE CHALLENGES – BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL RESPONSE**

Beaumaris Town Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on Anglesey County Council's budget proposals for 2014/15. Financially these are difficult times and it is good to see that the County Council is making efforts to live within its means.

The document makes several generalised statements about the budget and is frequently unspecific about how cuts will be made. This makes it difficult to comment constructively. If you are serious about engaging with communities you need to be clearer about how you propose to change services. In particular The Council asked for clarification on three specific items in the document:

1. Increase in Council Tax

The document refers to a 5% increase. On page 8 this is said to be 94p per week for the average band D property whereas on page 11 it is said to be 86p per week.

2. Library Services

What does 'Remodelling library services' mean (Appendix B)? It delivers a significant saving but there is no clarity about what is involved. Beaumaris Town Council would not be able to support (or even comment on) this proposal without knowing what is intended.

3. Youth Clubs

What does 'Rationalise Youth Clubs' mean (Appendix B)? This is a significant saving with no clarity about how it will be achieved or what the impact will be.



In relation to the rest of your proposals the Town Council's comments fall into four areas:

## 1. TOURISM

The Town Council feels that insufficient priority has been given to activities which support the tourist industry.

While the Town Council welcomes support to the Energy Island Project, the future of Wylfa B is subject to uncertainties beyond the control of the County Council whereas tourism is already a major industry on the island and deserves wholehearted support. A more balanced approach is required with a reasonable proportion of funds for economic development being used to support and maintain the facilities and services which support tourism. For example the strategic objectives of the Destination Management Plan include:

- SO 2.2.2 Support local heritage attractions
- SO 2.2.3 Support existing leisure attractions
- SO 3.5.4 Make adequate provision for public toilets

All of which are subject to cuts in the proposed budget.

The Destination Management Plan values tourism to Anglesey at £233 million per year and 4000 jobs. Ill considered cuts in council services will damage that income and employment whereas wisely targeted spend and services will underpin and support this vital industry.

Examples of ill considered cuts in the proposed budget include:

1. Proposed reduction in opening hours at Beaumaris Gaol (which is already only open six days a week). This is an important tourist attraction and deserves to be better exploited. It is already the case that visitors express their disappointment at the limited opening hours to Town Council staff and in the visitor's book at the Tourist Information Point.
2. There appears to be no provision for maintenance of Beaumaris Pier. This is a valuable tourism resource and was renovated and improved at considerable cost. The benefits of the renovation are now being realised. However without a maintenance budget there is a real risk that damage (for example following a storm) or even reasonable wear and tear could result in its closure with a devastating impact on the tourism industry in the town.
3. The reduction in Marine Wardens will have an impact on the revenue from launching fees. It also reduces the County Council's ability to create the sort of welcoming atmosphere around its launch points which will encourage repeat visits.
4. As identified in the County Council's own destination management plan public toilets are a key tourism resource. Yet opportunities have been missed to take action such as charging in order to preserve the service.

More imagination and flair could be shown in how the budget is used. For example some tourist destinations (e.g. Gaol, Courthouse) provide all-weather attractions while others (e.g. South Stack Lighthouse) are not attractive in bad weather or out of season. The Town Council would like to see some evidence that this is taken into account in their management and staffing. For example there could be better exchange of staff when one destination is closed while another is open.

## 2. LEISURE CENTRES

The document makes proposals to maintain the leisure budget to allow time for changes to provision.

On the face of it, this proposal amounts to continuing support to loss making leisure centres elsewhere on the island while Beaumaris Leisure Centre already has to stand on its own feet. Beaumaris Town Council has, with reservations, accepted that the management of the local leisure centre has had to change. It has embraced the change and gives support to the Friends of the Canolfan. There now needs to be a sense of urgency in changing the management of the leisure centres in Holyhead, Llangefni and Amlwch. Continuing to maintain the status quo is not helping to bring about the necessary change.

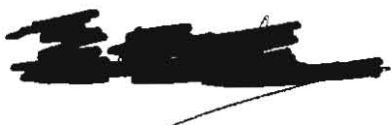
## 3. SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS

A saving of £25,000 will be made by reducing the number of patrols. Councillors were surprised to see this item. School crossing patrols are provided where there is an identifiable risk to children. Putting the health and safety of children at risk for £25,000 seems to be a false economy.

## 4. DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

Reference is made in the proposals to disposal of assets. While the disposal of property which is a liability can have some benefits, once an asset has gone it has gone forever and there is a danger of falling into the trap of 'selling off the family silver'. Some of the unused land and property held by the council could be put to better use, for example by generating a rental income or providing facilities to social enterprises and voluntary bodies that would not otherwise be able to afford suitable premises. Two properties in Beaumaris provide examples. The old taxi rank at West End could have been rented out to generate a long term income rather than a short term capital gain. The Day Care Centre could be in productive use, volunteers are having to deliver services from an unsuitable property in town while the purpose built Day Care Centre building sits unused.

Yours sincerely

A large, dark, irregular redacted area covering the signature of the Town Clerk.

Professor T W Ashenden  
Town Clerk

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 27 January 2014 15:02  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Ymgynghoriad: Cwrdd â'r Heriau (Y Gyllideb 2014-2015) / Consultation: Meeting the Challenges (Budget 2014-2015)

Dear Sir/Madam

I write as Chair of Governors of Ysgol Kingsland. Although the budget consultation document is wide-ranging in its scope, I am naturally concerned most about the aspects which could potentially affect our school.

I note that there is a proposal to make savings of £210k by reducing the school admissions age. I would like to place on record that it would not be possible to accomplish this in all settings. Indeed, our school is currently close to capacity with no room for expansion. The nursery class is oversubscribed for the third year running. In fact, a working group of governors has been working very hard to establish much needed pre-school provision in the Kingsland area which will be dependant on funding from the early years grant. Wales PPA is supporting us in this aim. In short, the point I wish to emphasise is that local conditions mean that in some cases there is a need to increase, not cut, the funding for pre-school provision.

Regards  
[REDACTED]



# Cylch Meithrin Bryngwran

Y Neuadd Gymunedol, Y Stryd Fawr, Bryngwran  
Caergybi, Ynys Môn, LL65 3PP  
Rhif Eilusen - 1056266

27<sup>ain</sup> Ionawr 2014

Ateb yr Heriau: Ymgynghori ynghylch y Gyllideb 2014/15,  
Swyddfa'r Prif Weithredwr,  
Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn,  
Swyddfeydd y Cyngor,  
Llangefni,  
LL77 7TW

Rydym yn ysgrifennu mewn ymateb i'r newidiadau arfaethedig i gyllid Ysgolion Meithrin ar Ynys Môn. Ar ôl mynychu'r cyfarfod brys a gynhaliwyd yn y Gaerwen heno, byddem yn hoffi mynegi ein pryderon am y newidiadau arfaethedig fel yr amlinellwyd gan Carys Gwyn. Rydym yn hynod bryderus bod y newidiadau hyn yn y broses o gael eu gwneud heb unrhyw ymgynghori â'r rhai yr effeithir arnynt. Rydym yn teimlo'n gryf y dylai'r Mudiad Meithrin a'r holl asiantaethau eraill sy'n cael eu heffeithio fod wedi cael eu cynghori am eu cyfle i ymgynghori ar hyn mewn modd agored, yn hytrach na chanfod hyn wythnos cyn diwedd y cyfnod ymgynghori. Amlinellir ein prif bryderon isod, yn seiliedig ar y wybodaeth a gynhwysir yn atodiad b o'r cynigion cychwynnol.

#### Gwasanaeth Addysg

Addysg Ganolog - Gostwng Grant i Neuaddau Pentref a Chanolfannau Cymunedol -20  
Addysg Ganolog - Rhesymoli Clybiau Ieuenctid -24  
Addysg Canolog - Gostwng y Gefnogaeth i'r Mudiad Meithrin a WPPA -3  
Addysg Canolog - Gweithredu Argymhellion Grŵp Tasg a Gorffen AAA ar gyfer Cefnogaeth i Integreiddio Cynradd -80  
Addysg Ganolog - Cynyddu Rhent i Ddefnyddwyr Cymunedol yng Nghanolfan Ieuenctid Jesse Hughes -1  
Addysg Canolog - Defnyddio Cyllid Grant Allanol ar gyfer Canolfan Ieuenctid Jesse Hughes -20  
Addysg Canolog - Torri Cyllideb Hyfforddiant Blynnyddoedd Cynnar -7  
Addysg Ganolog - Cefnogaeth Blynnyddoedd Cynnar i Ganolfannau -13  
Addysg Ganolog - Gostwng Cymorth Adeiladu Cefnogaeth Blynnyddoedd - Lleihau Atgywelrio a Chynnal a Chadw -17  
Addysg Ganolog - Gostwng Oedran Derbyn Ysgolion o fis Medi 2014 -210  
Addysg Ganolog - Gostwng Swyddi Wardeiniaid Cymunedol -13  
Addysg Canolog - Cau Ysgol Llanddona -82  
Addysg Ganolog - Defnyddio Gweinyddu Grant SEG -35

Rydym yn teimlo'n gryf y bydd y gostyngiad yn y meysydd uchod, yn enwedig y rhai sydd wedi'u hamlygu, yn amharu'n ddifrifol ar addysg plant ieuenigaf y sir, y plant hynny sy'n dal dyfodol y wlad hon yn eu dwylo, a'r plant a fydd yn y dyfodol yn gwneud y penderfyniadau eu hunain.

Mae'r Mudiad Meithrin yn sefydliad sydd wedi bod yn flaenllaw o ran addysg blynnyddoedd cynnar ers nifer o flynyddoedd ac mae bob amser wedi rhoi anghenion y plentyn yn gyntaf. O'r hyfforddiant a ddarperir a safonau gofynnol y staff y mae'n eu cyflogi, mae'r plant wedi cael sicrwydd o addysg diogel, sicr, ac un sy'n meithrin. Mae ethos y Mudiad bob amser wedi bod yn un o annog a datblygu'r plentyn

tra'n eu galluogi i ddysgu. Mae hefyd wedi cefnogi'r iaith Gymraeg bob amser a thrwy ei 'ddull trochi' wedi sicrhau bod plant sy'n dod o gartrefi cwbl Saesneg â lefel dda o Gymraeg sylfaenol cyn mynd i mewn i'r lleoliad ysgol gynradd. Gyda llai cefnogaeth i'r Mudiad, mae angen gofyn y cwestiwn, pa mor hir y gallant barhau i ddarparu'r cychwyn amhrisiadwy hwn i addysg plant Ynys Môn?

Rydym yn deall bod costau hyfforddi yn uchel iawn; fodd bynnag, yn achos gofal plant ifanc, a ddylid gosod pris ar hyfforddi'r rhai sy'n gofalu am ein plant? Onid oes ffyrdd o ostwng y gost petaem yn gweithio gyda'n gilydd i ystyried yr opsiynau? Rydym yn teimlo y dylai llawer mwy o wybodaeth gael ei darparu ar beth yn union a olygir gan hyn.

Os yw'r oedran ysgol yn cael ei gostwng i ganiatáu i blant fynd i mewn i ysgolion cynradd prif ffrwd, mae nifer o faterion i'w hystyried.

- 1) Mewn ysgolion gwledig llai, byddai potensial i blant mor ifanc â thair oed fod mewn ystafell ddosbarth â phlant hyd at 7 oed. Mae hyn yn peri pryder gwirioneddol i ni fel darparwyr addysg i blant oed meithrin a rhieni. Rydym yn teimlo na ellir sicrhau diogelwch y plant ifanc mewn amgylchedd o'r fath.
- 2) Mae dynameg dosbarth o blant 6-7 oed yn gwbl wahanol i un dosbarth o blant 3-4 oed. Mae'r arddulliau dysgu plant a dealltwriaeth o gysyniadau yn amrywio'n fawr. Byddai hyn yn achosi problemau cynllunio enfawr i'r athrawon. A yw ysgolion cynradd yn gwybod am y cynllun hwn? A yw'r penaethiaid wedi cael y cyfle i ymgynghori ar hyn?
- 3) Gyda phlant o'r oedran is hwn bydd yn rhaid recriwtio mwy o staff i sicrhau bod y gymhareb 1:8 yn cael ei chynnal, gan arwain at gostau uwch yn yr ysgol gynradd. A yw hyn wedi cael ei ystyried?
- 4) Byddai'r effaith ar y dosbarth yn enfawr pe byddai newydd-ddyfodiaid yn cyrraedd bob tymor fel maent yn ei wneud yn y lleoliad Meithrin. Nid yn unig newydd-ddyfodiaid, ond rhai yn ôl pob tebyg nad ydynt erioed wedi bod yn yr ysgol o'r blaen ac a fyddai'n amharu ar y dosbarth cyfan am ddiwrnodiau os nad hirach, gan fod rhai plant yn ei chael yn hynod o anodd setlo.

Pe byddai'r Cylch Meithrin yn cau yn y pentref, yna ni fyddai wedyn unrhyw ddarpariaeth ar gyfer addysg i'r plant ieuengaf a byddai hyn hefyd yn achosi problemau pan fyddai'r plant yn ymuno â'r dosbarthiadau cynradd. Ni fydd y plant wedi cael unrhyw brofiad o fywyd ysgol cyn cael eu gwthio i mewn i ffordd o fyw'r brif ffrwd, lle mae disgwyliadau o safbwynt ymddygiad, y gallu i gynnal sylw, a gwybodaeth o'r iaith Gymraeg. Pwy ydych chi'n credu fydd yn sicrhau bod y plant â gallu sylfaenol cyn dechrau'r ysgol gynradd? Gan ein bod yn byw mewn byd ddiwylliannol amrywiol lle nad oes llawer o gartrefi gyda rhieni sy'n siarad Cymraeg, ond lle disgwylir i'r plant ddysgu Cymraeg yn yr ysgol, mae llawer o sylfeini'r iaith wedi cael eu haddysgu yn y lleoliad Meithrin, lle mae caneuon, cyfrif, lliwiau, siapiau a chyfarchion cael eu dysgu a'u hymarfer o ddydd i ddydd. Ble fydd ein hiaith Gymraeg yn y blynyddoedd i ddod? A allwn ni ddweud yn onest mewn dosbarth prif ffrwd gyda phob un o'r galwadau eraill ar yr athro/athrawes a'r cynorthwyr dosbarth y bydd y plant ieuengaf yn cael eu cefnogi a'u meithrin yn yr un modd ag y maent yn y lleoliad Meithrin? A fyddant yn wirioneddol gweld y newid o fywyd cartref i fywyd yr ysgol yn un hawdd?

Rydym yn Gylch Meithrin sydd â darpariaeth ar gyfer plant o oed dwy a hanner tan y mis Medi ar ôl eu 4<sup>ydd</sup> pen-blwydd. Er bod y plant yn gallu mynychu'r ysgol o'r mis Medi ar ôl eu pen-blwydd yn 3 oed, nid yw hyn ond am y 10 awr yr wythnos sy'n cael eu caniatáu. Fel Cylch Meithrin rydym yn cynnig gwasanaeth i'r rhieni sy'n caniatáu i'w plant fynychu'r ysgol feithrin o 9am tan 1pm, trwy ddefnyddio clwb brecwast a chyfleusterau clwb cinio. Mae hyn yn galluogi i rieni weithio oriau hirach, gan wella'r economi a chyflawni cynlluniau'r llywodraeth i gael pobl yn ôl i'r gwaith. Os bydd y cynlluniau i leihau cyllid a gostwng yr oedran mynediad i blant fynd i'r ysgol yn mynd ymlaen, beth fyddai'n digwydd i'r rhieni hyn? Pwy fyddai'n casglu'r plant o'r ysgol? Beth fyddai'n digwydd i'r ffigyrau diweithdra petai'r Cylch Meithrin yn cau? Sut mae'r costau yn mynd i gael eu gostwng os oes angen cyflogi staff newydd yn yr ysgolion i ofalu am y plant a oedd yn ddigon hapus a bodlon yn y lleoliad Meithrin?

Yr eiddoch yn gywir

Debra Micahael

Person cofrestredig

Cylch Meithrin Bryngwran

# Bryngwran Nursery

Community Hall, High Street, Bryngwran  
Holyhead, Anglesey, LL65 3PP  
Charity number - 1056266

27 January 2014

Meeting the challenges: Consultation regarding the Budget 2014/15,  
Chief Executive's Office,  
Anglesey County Council,  
Council Offices,  
Llangefni,  
LL77 7TW

We are writing to you in response to the proposed changes to the funding of Nursery Schools on Anglesey. After attending the emergency meeting held at Gaerwen this evening, we wish to note our concerns regarding the proposed changes as outlined by Carys Gwyn. We are extremely concerned that these changes are in the process of being implemented without any consultation with the ones affected. We feel strongly that Nursery Associations and all other agencies that are affected should have been consulted regarding their opportunity to state their case on this in an open way rather than finding out a week before the end of the consultation period. We outline our main concerns below, based on the information contained in the attachment on the initial proposals.

#### Education Service

Central Education - Reduce Grant to Village Halls and Community Centres -20

Central Education - Rationalise Youth Clubs -24

Central Education - Reducing Support to Mudiad Meithrin and WPPA -3

Central Education - Implementation of the SEN Task and Finish Group Recommendations for Support to Primary Integration -80

Central Education - Increase Rent to Community Users in Jesse Hughes Youth Centre -1

Central Education - Use of External Grant Funding for the Jesse Hughes Youth Centre -20

Central Education - Cut Early Years Training Budget -7

Central Education - Early Years Support for Centres -13

Central Education - Reduction of Early Years Building Support - Reduce Repairs & Maintenance -17

Central Education - Reduce Schools Admission Age from September 2014 -210

Central Education - Reduce Community Wardens Posts -13

Central Education - Closure of Ysgol Llandonna -82

Central Education - Utilisation of SEG Grant Administration -35

We feel strongly that a reduction in the above areas, especially those that have been highlighted, will have a serious effect on the education of the county's youngest children, those children who have the future of this country in their hands, and the children who will in the future make the decisions themselves.

Mudiad Meithrin is an organisation that has been foremost as regards early years education for a number of years and it has always put the needs of the children first. With the training that is provided and the standards required of the staff it employs, the children have had certainty of a safe and sure education, and one that nurtures them. The ethos of the Mudiad has always been one of encouraging

and developing the child whilst allowing them to learn. It has also supported the Welsh language at all times and through its 'immersion' method has ensured that children who come from completely English homes have a good level of basic Welsh before they go to primary school. With less support for the Mudiad, the question needs to be asked, for how much longer can they continue to provide this invaluable start to the education of Anglesey children?

We understand that training costs are very high, but, in the case of caring for young children, should a cost be put on training those who look after our children? Are there not ways of reducing the costs if we worked together to consider the options? We feel that much more information should be provided regarding what exactly is meant by this.

If the school entry age is reduced to allow children to attend mainstream primary schools, there are a number of matters to be considered

1) In smaller rural schools, there would be a potential for children as young as three years old to be in a classroom with children up to 7 years old. This causes us great concern as providers of education to nursery age children and as parents. We feel that the safety of the young children cannot be guaranteed in such an environment.

2) The dynamics of a classroom of 6-7 year olds is completely different to a classroom of 3-4 year old children. The teaching methods and the children's understanding of concepts vary greatly. This would cause enormous planning problems for the teachers. Do the primary schools know about this plan? Have the headmasters had an opportunity to consult on this?

3) With children of this lower age, more staff will have to be employed to ensure that the 1:8 ratio is being maintained, with that leading to greater costs in the primary schools. Has this being considered?

4) The effect on the classroom would be enormous if newcomers would arrive every term as they do in the Meithrin placement. Not only newcomers, but children, it seems, who have never been in a school before and who would disrupt the whole class for days if not longer, as some children find it very difficult to settle down.

Were the Cylch Meithrin to close in the village, then there would be no educational provision for the younger children and this would also cause problems when the children join the primary classes. The children will not have had any experience of school life before being pushed into the ways and methods of the mainstream, with expectations as regards to behaviour, the ability to focus attention and knowledge of the Welsh language. Who do you think will ensure that children have the basic skills before they start at the primary school? Because we live in a varied cultural world with not many homes where parents speak Welsh but where it is expected that children learn Welsh at school, many of the basics of the language are being taught in Meithrin locations where songs, counting, colours, shapes and greetings are taught and practised day to day. Where will our Welsh language be in years to come? Can we honestly say that in a mainstream class with all the other demands on the teacher and classroom assistants that our youngest children will be supported in the same way as they are in Nursery school? Will they really see the change from home life to school life as an easy one?

We are a Nursery Group with a provision for children from two and a half until the September after their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday. Even though the children can attend school from the September after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday, this is only for the 10 hours a week which is allowed. As a Nursery Group we provide a service to parents that allows their children to attend nursery from 9am to 1pm by using the breakfast club and the facilities of the lunch club. This allows parents to work longer hours, thereby improving the economy and meeting the government's plans to get people back to work. If these plans to reduce finance and also the school admission age for children, what will happen to these parents? Who would collect the children from school? What would happen to the unemployment figures if the Nursery class closes down? How can costs be reduced if there is a need to employ new staff in the schools to look after the children who were quite happy and satisfied in the Nursery placement?

Yours sincerely

Debra Michael

Registered Person

Bryngwran Nursery

No 14

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 15:24  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I AM OPPOSING THE PROPOSITION IN THE DOCUMENT "MEETING THE CHALLENGES" BUDGET CONSULTATION 2014/15 OF LOWERING THE CHILDRENS AGE TO START SCHOOL FROM SEPT 2014.

No 15

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 16:22  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** closing down anglesey nurseries

I am opposing the proposition in the document 'meeting the challenges' budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from Sept 2014.

[REDACTED]



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 14:50  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Ysgol feithryn

I am very disappointed at the council thinking that closing ysgol feithryns is a good idea. I live in a rural area and with out them there is nothing for my child to do. Transport is expensive and seriously unreliable. Its not just an amazing place for children to progress and make friends its a great place for parents to chat to. The parent of 2-3 years olds who take they child there chose to do it to better their child's education and we also pay for them to go to. If u want to better the education system put more money into it rather than taking it away.

I also disagree with these big primary schools u want to build. This will mean bigger classes for teachers which in turn lead to less time with an individual child.

It is the council at fault not the education they get.

[REDACTED]

17

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 16:25  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

"I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014



22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014

Dear All,

**Re: Consultation: Meeting the Challenges Budget 2014 - 2015**

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the above consultation document. This response reflects a portfolio of 9 Organisations representing the hardest to reach communities across the Island under the Lleisiau Lleol project managed by Medrwn Môn.

The project looks specifically at how public services are delivered and promoting opportunities for communities to engage in discussion with service providers about how services are designed and delivered, and potentially offering insights into how services can be delivered in a different way- which echoes statements within the consultation document.

The project also acknowledges the severity of the current financial situation across the public sector and the third sector and therefore the need to work more closely in partnership and to think smarter about the way in which services are delivered. The Portfolio approach of Lleisiau Lleol itself is a good example of how projects can be delivered effectively in partnership with other Organisations within a limited amount of resources.

It is extremely important for us that the transformational changes reflect the needs and aspirations of communities and allow for open discussion between services and communities – being transparent about what can and cannot be achieved within assigned budgets and resources. It is also important to consider that where funding for community resources and services is being cut we are also then realistic about how much communities can deliver within communities without those resources.

Our priority is to ensure that consultations are always prepared and delivered in a transparent and accessible way, and some of the portfolio have asked for clarification on the definition of 'stakeholder' in particular for this consultation. In addition is there written information on how the consultation meets the Public Sector Equality Duty to consult and engage- particularly as the decisions made will specifically impact services provided to a number of protected groups (for instance,

decisions about adult social care budget will have a disproportionate impact on older and disabled people).

Once again thank you for the opportunity to respond and we await feedback following the closing date.

Yours Sincerely

Lyndsey Williams

Project Manager

Portffolio Lleisiau Lleol 'Gwrandwch' / 'Listen' Community Voice Portfolio

[REDACTED]

Meeting the Challenges  
Budget Consultation 2014/15  
Chief Executive's Office  
Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Council Offices  
LLANGEFNI  
Anglesey  
LL77 7TW

Dear Sirs,  
**Re: 2014/15 Budget Proposals.**

I strongly oppose the proposed 5% rise in the Council Tax, and that this rate of increase to be applied to the following year as well. The pay levels within the authority at management levels are by any standards very high. Why not reduce expenditure overall and in particular cut staffing levels with salary reductions across the board as clearly we cannot afford to pay at these levels?

Ask the question "Are we getting value for money which we Council Tax Payers provide?" I don't think we are, for example with under performing primary schools in particular. So make the council more efficient, rather than waste even more of our taxes!!

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

ADRAN PRIF WEITHREDWR  
28 JAN 2014  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPT

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 17:50  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Ymgynghoriad cau Cylchoedd Meithrin Ynys Môn

"I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014."

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 18:24  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Budget consultation 2014/15

"I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from september 2014 . and any cuts to the ysgol feithrin budget allowances. [REDACTED]"

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 18:31  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Opposing

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/2015 of lowering the childrens age to start school from September 2014.  
Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 19:50  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** opposing the closure of all cylchoedd meithrin on anglesey

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15.

Yours

[REDACTED] (parent)

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 20:04  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document meeting the challenges budget consultation 20014/15

Gethin Jones

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 19:59  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** FW: Oposing "meeting the challenges"

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from September 2014

Regards

[REDACTED]

Work sustainably - Do you really need to print this e-mail?

**Confidentiality:** This email and its attachments are intended for the above named only and may be confidential. If they have come to you in error you must take no action based on them, nor must you copy or show them to anyone; please reply to this email and highlight the error.  
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**Viruses:** Although we have taken steps to ensure that this email and attachments are free from any virus, we advise that in keeping with good computing practice the recipient should ensure they are actually virus free.

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 19:49  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Oposing "meeting the challenges"

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the children's age to start school from September 2014

Sent from my iPad

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 20:30  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014.

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 21:13  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014.

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 21:19  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/2015 of lowering the childrens age to start school from september 2014.

Mr [REDACTED] Mrs [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

30

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 20:29  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I AM OPPOSING THE PROPOSITION IN THE DOCUMENT "MEETING THE CHALLENGES" BUDGET CONSULTATION 2014/15



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 21:27  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Ymateb i'r ddogfen 'Cwrdd a'r Heriau'

Yn dilyn cyfarfod a gynhalwyd nos Lun, Ionawr 27ain gyda Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin Mon, rydym wedi dychryn a cael ein siomi yn fawr iawn am y ffordd y mae yr Awdurdod Addysg Ynys Mon wedi mynd o amgylch torri cyllid Cylchoedd Meithrin yr Ynys heb DDIM trafodaeth.

A yw'r Awdurdod Addysg wedi ystyried sut effaith caiff hyn a'r addysg y plentyn ac yn sicr y iaith Gymraeg?

I bentref bach fel Bodffordd, mae y Cylch Meithrin yn sylfaen werthfawr, ddiwyllianol ac cymunedol.

Fe fuasai torri y grant yn gyfan gwbl yn golygu colli darpariaeth i blant o dan tair oed gan na allai y Cylch ymdopi heb yr arian.

A yw'r ysgolion yn foldlon derbyn y plant heb iaith, addysg ac ei bod dal yn ei clytiau yn dair oed?

Y Cylch Meithrin yw y bont cyswllt cyntaf rhwng y cartref a'r ysgol i blentyn.

Ar ddiwedd y dydd, y plant fydd yn dioddef ac yn yr oes ohoni, cam yn nol yw hyn dim cam ymlaen.

Fe rydym yn teimlo fod dyfodol plant Ynys Mon ac cadw'r iaith Gymraeg yn fyw yn blaenoriaeth i ni fel darparwyr addysg yn y blynyddoedd cynnar.

Dawn Owen ac Llinos Rowlands (Cyd-Arweinyddion)  
Gaynor Jones (Trysorydd)

CYLCH MEITHRIN BODFFORDD

Email from Gaynor Jones, Bodffordd Nursery

Following a meeting held on Monday evening January 27 with the Anglesey Nursery Schools Association, we are upset and very disappointed at the way that Anglesey's Education Authority has gone about cutting the finance of the Nursery Schools on the Island without ANY discussions.

Has the Education Authority considered what sort of effect this will have on children's education and for certain on the Welsh language?

Within a small village such as Bodffordd, the Nursery School is of great value, culturally and within the community.

Cutting the grant completely would mean losing the provision for children under 3 years old because the Nursery couldn't manage without the money.

Are the schools willing to accept the children without them having any sort of language, education with those children being still in their nappies at three years of age?

The Nursery is the first bridge between the home and the school for a child.

At the end of the day, it will be the children who suffer and in this day and age it will be a backward step and not a step forward.

We feel that the future of Anglesey's children and keeping the Welsh language alive is our priority as early years education providers.

Dawn Owen and Llinos Rowlands (Co-Leaders)  
Gaynor Jones (Treasurer)

BODFFORDD NURSERY

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 21:43  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges"  
budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014.

I work at Cylch Meithrin stryd Y bont as a 1 to 1 worker, Do you not realise how many people will loose their jobs!! A woman i work with, the leader has been working for meithrin for 30+ years!!! Do you not have hearts!! This is a disgrace! and what about children who turn 3 August, The children who turned 3 September will have nearly 9 months more advantage than them. I'm sure you could cut corners elsewhere, for example not spending huge amounts of money of expanding reception room's and building huge stone wall signs!! It's the children who suffer, and the 150+ people you are putting out of work, shame on you!!!!!!

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 22:09  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

"I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014.

## Gethin Jones

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 22:36  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Cuts to Munaid Meithrin service.

Sirs,

The proposed cuts to the Mudiad Meithrin service have been brought to my attention. I fail to see how such ill-conceived ideas can result in anything but harm to our youngest children and lowering of standards of education for primary school children generally. To suggest that 3 year old children should be entered into main stream schools is, in many cases, not practical. Without the Mudiad Meithrin to encourage these children to socialise and learn discipline then there will be more and more disruption in classes, especially where there are children up to 7 years old in the same classroom as the 3 year olds. This could lead to different aged siblings being in the same classroom, causing problems.

Another point that seems to have been overlooked is that some 3 year olds are not completely toilet trained. As teachers are not allowed to deal with toilet accidents will the schools employ a nurse for this? If the child has a bowel movement and both parents are at work or otherwise unavailable who is going to clean the child up?

Then there is the matter of the Welsh language. With so many children coming from families with no knowledge of Welsh, such as from RAF Valley, the Mudiad Meithrin provides basic teaching of the language to enable the children to join in fully at primary school. If extra tuition is needed to get these children up to standard there will be a need for extra teachers or the Welsh language will suffer. It is a well known fact that the earlier a language is introduced the easier it is to learn. There have been suggestions about introducing a further foreign language into primary schools. If the children are already struggling to master Welsh they will have difficulty tackling yet another one without the standard of their overall work suffering.

From a very concerned grandparent,

Mrs [REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 09:34  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

i am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15

Gethin Jones

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 09:34  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** budget consultation

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15, of lowering the childrens age to start school from September 2014.

Not only will the island suffer by the staff of these nurseries losing their jobs but the children and staff of the schools also. My daughter started the uned feithrin at ysgol y Graig. They've already had to split the sessions because of the amount of children starting, approx 27 children per session. It was hard enough getting her a place even though we live around the corner to the school. I cannot imagine how impossible it will be for the teachers to cope with more children of a lower age alongside the children who are ready to learn and want structure in the classroom. The older children will have less time for learning as the teacher will be running around after the younger children who aren't ready for school. What they need is to be in a nursery where they are prepared for school life.

[REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 10:22  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Cylchoedd Meithrin

I am opposing the proposition in the document 'meeting the challenges' budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the age that children start school from Sept 2014.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 10:30  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Cylchoedd Meithrin

I am apposing the proposition in the document "meeting challenges" budget consultation 2014/2015; of lowering the age that the children start school from September 2014.

Yours Faithfully,

[REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 10:47  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Cylchoedd Meithrin

I am opposing the proposition in the document 'meeting the challenges' budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the age that children start school from Sept 2014.

Regards  
[REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 10:51  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Messages

Dear Consultation Team

Overall everyone seems to be in agreement with plans, but feel it inappropriate that they are not able to respond to you directly as it has been done on e-mail and therefore not anonymised.

People are a little dissatisfied that their council tax will be rising and are surprised by some of the past expenditures which are being cut, as they feel they were wasteful expenses in the first place – this has made people question what other waste continues within the council.

Saving is a new philosophy and there is little talk, action or motivation other than at senior management level. Targets are not passed down and so people feel that they are not able to personally contribute.

I will send any other feedback as obtained.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Gwasanaeth Cymdeithasol / Social Services  
Swyddfa'r Sir / County Offices  
Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn / Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Llangefni, Anglesey, LL77 7RW

Tel. [REDACTED]  
Mob. [REDACTED]  
<http://www.anglesey.gov.uk>

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 11:05  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the children's age to start school from sept 2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the children's age to start school from sept 2014 as I believe that if this action takes place it will create problems for the local primary schools as the children will not get the attention they need at this age due to not enough members of staff, not enough space to accommodate more children, and they have fewer resources I believe personally this would be a catastrophe for our children to be starting school at the age that is being proposed. The closing of all of the Cylch Meithrins on the Isle of Anglesey would be very disappointing as a parent of two children who attend Cylch Meithrin in Rhosybol, and I feel the council has their priorities very wrong when it comes to wanting to cut the fund for the Cylch Meithrins. The Cylch Meithrin in Rhosybol has helped my eldest child who still attends after the pre-school in Ysgol Rhosybol, he had a severe speech delay when he first started 14 months ago and has come on leaps and bounds since he is a different child with his speech and is now a very sociable little boy, we believe that the Cylch Meithrin has significantly helped bring on his speech. Our youngest has just started the Cylch Meithrin in Rhosybol and is due to finish in July 2015 so this particular proposition will affect us greatly, not only are the staff losing their jobs which is also bad for the Island in itself, parents struggling to find work/to to work, but it's the children that will be losing out the most. Cylch Meithrin helps with easing children out of the home setting and also introduces the children to ways of education without their parents being present. It also offers a good transitional base between home and 'big school'. It boosts the children's confidence and not only that they learn to play and socialise with other children of their own age, encourage sharing and communication skills. Research by the university of Wales, Bangor has also shown that children who attend Cylch Meithrin develop considerably across a wide range of Welsh language skills, which is also great to hear as our children's first language is English which is spoken at home, so this is a big help for them before they make the big step of going to a more formal setting in primary school. As a mother who will be looking for work in September 2014, this proposition will make it very difficult for me to try and find suitable work if the Cylch shall close down. In Rhosybol they have a great set up where pre-school is in the morning, and Cylch Meithrin in the afternoon, so the children have a full day there if their parent chooses that option. Which many parents at Rhosybol choose to do with work commitments, it also gives a boost of education for the children who can learn in a smaller setting than at school, which is good for their age as they tend to concentrate better and get less distracted. My children have always been happy at Cylch Meithrin they really enjoy their time there as well as learning and the staff are very friendly but professional. A lot of hard work goes on behind the scenes they work so hard to give the children the best start, it's a shame if that work will feel wasted. Our personal opinion is we couldn't ask for a better educational start for our children, and we would be very upset if Cylch Meithrin would have to close. So we ask you kindly to reconsider the proposal of closing the Cylch Meithrins and lowering the children's age to start school as we truly believe that it would be a great loss to the children, parents, community and the staff. Also a heavy strain on the local primary schools who simply would find it difficult to find space for the children, extra staff, resources and most of all the attention that is needed for children this age.

Yours Sincerely

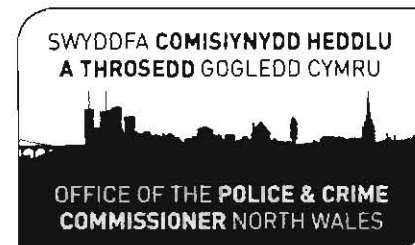
[REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 11:13  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document MEETING THE CHALLENGES budget consultation 2014/2015 of lowering the children's age to start school from September 2014. Also removing the grants that are provided to the Cylchoed meithrin.



Budget Consultation  
2014/15, Chief Executive's Office,  
Isle of Anglesey County Council,  
Council Offices,  
Llangefni,  
LL77 7TW

Ein Cyf / Our Ref: WR/GJ/519

29<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Dear all

**Re: Consultation - Meeting the Challenges: Budget 2014 / 15**

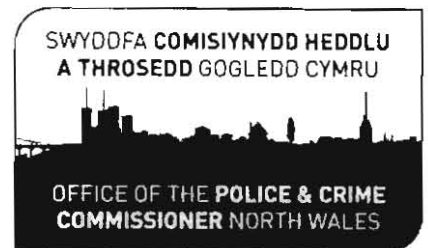
Thank you for consulting me with regard to your financial planning for 2014 / 15. I am writing with reference to an item listed under the social services heading in Appendix B, namely 'Adult Social Care - CCTV savings'. I had in fact read the article in the December 19<sup>th</sup> edition of the Chronicle, 'CCTV could go as part of council cuts', and had commissioned some work to inform this response.

I believe that the proposal to decommission the council's CCTV infrastructure might be contrary to section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This provides that "without prejudice to any other obligation placed on it, it shall be the duty of each Authority to which this section applies, to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need **to do all it reasonably can** (the emphasis is mine) to prevent crime and disorder in its area." I don't believe this statutory constraint is mentioned in the budget consultation document. Has the council had regard to it?

We know, from research and analysis carried out previously in north Wales, that public space CCTV is a contributory factor to reducing certain categories of crime. The research, published in January 2011, found amongst other things that there had been a significant reduction of 25% in violence against the person offences at camera zones compared to 18.7% away from camera zones.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Williams, Kelly Louise, *The Impact of CCTV Cameras on Crime and Disorder in Anglesey and Gwynedd*, (January 2011).



Additionally, the value of public space CCTV as a contributor to detecting crime should not be under-estimated. During the work done in putting together a business case for the Regional CCTV Project, it was found that CCTV was associated in some way with 9% of the crime detections in north Wales. Withdrawing the provision would inevitably mean more victims whose crime remains undetected, some of whom are vulnerable people.

Whilst people tend to focus on reducing and detecting crime as primary CCTV functions, I believe it should also be borne in mind that CCTV plays an important part in protecting vulnerable people e.g. people missing from home, or people in respect of whom there is concern for safety. Here I return again to the point that vulnerable people are prioritised in your proposed plan. The feeling of safety in public places is one of the foundation stones of my Police and Crime Plan. Fundamentally, some people go out and use council services because they feel safe. CCTV is a contributor to that feeling of safety.

On page 2 of the consultation document, there is reference to 'developing the economy' being an overwhelming and consistent priority. Public space CCTV is a key enabler to this. It has been shown on many occasions that footfall increases the more people perceive a safe environment.

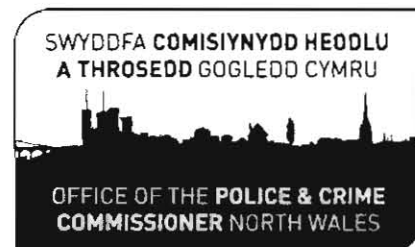
On page 5, one of the criteria on which the proposed medium term financial strategy is based is shown as 'recognising the huge challenge of the potential new nuclear build, other major energy-related developments, and the need to prepare for these changes'. Surely, CCTV needs to be an inherent part of the existing infrastructure and it is likely that it will act as a foundation to be built upon.

The impact of CCTV has been studied many times, both locally and nationally. One authoritative piece of research was completed by Professor Martin Gill and Angela Spriggs in 2005<sup>2</sup>. An important conclusion included in this document was that "police officers and the media point to the effectiveness of CCTV in high profile cases", (p.115). I believe it is extremely important not to restrict one's view of CCTV to its effect on crime and anti-social behaviour statistics. They are but one measure. Reference to CCTV is often made in media reports of offenders brought to justice – I believe we should not underestimate the safety message such references convey.

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<sup>2</sup> Gill, Martin & Spriggs, Angela, HO Research Study 292 *Assessing the Impact of CCTV*, (February 2005).





In the same study, it was highlighted that CCTV was found to be "sometimes effective in addressing crime when used for 'special initiatives'".

The successes of schemes which have targeted specific issues such as drugs or alcohol – related crime in partnership with the police are mentioned, (p.118). Drugs and alcohol feature as core issues associated with offending in north Wales. This same theme applies to how valuable CCTV has proved to be in managing public order at the time of major incidents like flooding.

There are a number of other points I would like to raise as part of the debate - for instance, whether collaboration with Gwynedd Council and Conwy County Borough Council has come to nought on the subject of CCTV? Next, there is no reference in the consultation document to decommissioning costs, which I understand would be significant (they have previously been estimated at £1500 per camera), and how they would be dealt with. Additionally, the complete decommissioning of CCTV may force additional spending on other budgets, for example street lighting in respect of which I note that there is reference in the documentation to a proposed saving on £200K in 2014/15.

I wish to make the representation to you in the strongest terms that decommissioning CCTV would be a critical error. The withdrawal of CCTV involves a risk of inflicting real and lasting damage on our communities.

I would also like to comment on a number of other proposals you have within your saving plan.

I note under lifelong learning you are planning to rationalise the youth club provision. We would welcome the opportunity to view these plans in more detail and understand what this means in the future. As you know anti-social behaviour is a key concern for our citizens here in North Wales, and any provision of youth activity and the engagement that goes with that, can act as a very effective preventive measure in any youth related anti-social behaviour. We appreciate that changes may have to be made, but further consultation would be gladly received.

I also note that you are looking to reduce the number of school crossing patrols. Again, safety on the roads outside of our schools is a priority for our communities in North Wales. Again it would be good to have further detail on this issue on a local basis.

SWYDDFA COMISIYNYDD HEDDLU  
A THROSEDD GOGLEDD CYMRU



OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER NORTH WALES

I also urge you to consult further on your proposals to reduce highway maintenance. Safety on the roads is a key priority in the policing and crime plan and reducing maintenance of the road, and the deterioration of them subsequently, can increase the danger and hence occurrence of accidents on our roads. These issues have proven time and time again to be major concerns for our citizens in North Wales.

We appreciate the difficulties the current financial climate is having on budgets, and we would like to work with you through these issues, and to have further consultative mechanisms to understand the impact further.

Yours Sincerely

Winston Roddick  
Police and Crime Commissioner

Mark Polin  
Chief Constable

44

# Cyngor Cymuned PENTRAETH Community Council

Clerc/Clerk - Eifion H. Jones, Felin Bryn Hyrddin, Pentraeth, Ynys Môn.LL75 8HJ

01248 450360

e-bost / e-mail cyngor.pentraeth.council@hotmail.co.uk

Fy nghyf. / My ref.

CYLL-1/14

Eich cyf. / Your ref.

Dyddiad / Date

27ain Ionawr 2014.

Y Prif Weithredwr,  
Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn,  
Swyddfa'r Prif Weithredwr,  
LLANGEFNI,  
Ynys Môn.  
LL77 7TW

Annwyl Syr,

## Parthed : Cyllideb 2014/15.

Yn y dyddiau dyrys yma, lle mae'n anodd cael dau ben llinyn ynghyd, mae tasg anodd gan y Cyngor Sir i resymoli gwasanaethau a gwariant. Nid yw'n hawdd torri gwasanaethau gydag adnoddau a llafur yn dal i fynd i fyny.

Mae Cyngor Cymuned Pentraeth yn cydymdeimlo a'r Aelodau yn eu gwaith o geisio cadw gwasanaethau ar lefel rhesymol tra'n ceisio darbwylo a rhesymu gyda'r boblogaeth eu bwriadau a'u hamcanion.

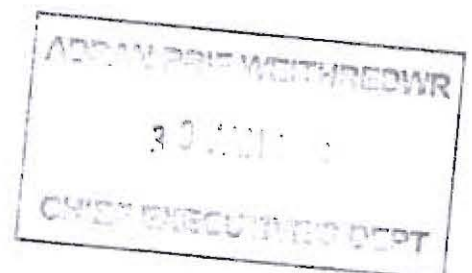
Mae'r Cyngor Cymuned yn cyd-fynd ar hen ddihareb - 'Yng ngenau'r sach y mae cynilo', ac yn annog y Cyngor Sir i gymeryd sylw o'r canlynol -

1. Lle mae'n bosibl, trefnu i gynadleddau a seminarau gael eu cynnal o fewn i adeiladau'r Cyngor Sir.
2. Llogi gweithwyr di-anghenraid.
3. Peidio a chynyddu'r dreth, lle yn bosibl, o 5% bob blwyddyn.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,



Clerc y Cyngor Cymuned.



# TRANSLATION

**Letter from:** Pentraeth Community Council  
**Letter to:** Chief Executive  
**Dated:** 27 January 2014.

Dear Sir,

**RE. : Budget 2014/15**

In these difficult days where it is difficult to make ends meet, the County Council has a hard task to rationalise services and expenditure. It is not easy to cut services with resources and labour still going up.

Pentraeth Community Council has every sympathy with the Members in their task of trying to keep services at a reasonable level, whilst trying to persuade and reason with the population about their intentions and objectives.

Pentraeth Community Council concurs with the old proverb – ‘You need to save the flour at the top of the bag’, and we ask the County Council to take heed of the following :

1. Where possible, arrange for conferences and seminars to be held within County Council buildings.
2. Hiring unnecessary workers.
3. Not to increase the council tax rate, where possible, by 5% every year.

Yours faithfully,

**Eifion Hughes**  
**Community Council Clerk.**

Cylch Meithrin Stryd y Bont,

Canolfan Plant,

Ffordd y Coleg,

Lôn Talwrn,

Llangefni.

29/01/14

Annwyl Swyddogion,

Rydym yn ysgrifennu atoch ynglŷn â'r ddogfen Cwrdd Ar Heriau Ymgynghoriad ar y Cyllid 2014-2015 ar newidiadau addysgol, ar effaith bydd hyn yn cael ar gylchoedd meithrin, y cymunedau a'r diweithdra ar Ynys Môn.

- Nid ydych wedi cymryd i ystyried lles y plant bychain ond ar y cyllid yn unig..
- Pe bai cylch meithrin yn cau ni fydd darpariaeth ar gyfer plant 2 a 2 ½ oed. Bydd y plant yma yn colli cyfle ar brofiad cyn ysgol.
- Mae'r cylchoedd meithrin yn gam cyntaf i'r plentyn drosglwyddo o'r cartref a gadael ei rhiant am gyfnod. Bydd y plentyn yn dysgu sgiliau cymdeithasol fel gwneud ffrindiau, cydchwarae a rhannu yn ogystal â datblygu a dysgu llawer drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg.
- Mae'r cylch meithrin yn rhan o gynlluniau rhai rhieni sydd yn gweithio ac angen gofal plant, er mwyn iddynt allu mynd i weithio. Mae hefyd yn rhoi cyfle i rieni di-waith i fynegi cyrsiau a fydd yn arwain at swyddi.
- Bydd plant o gartrefi di-gymraeg ddim yn clywed yr iaith Gymraeg a bydd yr iaith yn lleihau ar Ynys Môn.
- Dim yn unig fydd 33 o gylchoedd meithrin yn cau, a bydd tua 130 o staff yn y cylchoedd meithrin hyn yn ddi-waith, bydd hyn yn cael effaith ar economi a chymunedau Môn hefyd.

Credwn y buasai cynnal trafodaeth fanwl rhwng Mudiad Meithrin a swyddogion y Cyngor yn gallu datrys y problemau fydd yn codi er mwyn sicrhau y bydd darpariaeth blynnyddoedd cynnar yn parhau ar Ynys Môn.

Fel un o'r cylchoedd meithrin cyntaf ym Môn rydym yn erfyn arnoch i ail ystyried yr hyn yr ydych yn bwriadu gwneud. Mae'n dangos bod angen cylchoedd meithrin ar yr Ynys, oherwydd cawsom ni ein sefydlu yn y chwe degau cynnar ac yn dal i weithredu dros hanner can mlynedd yn ddiweddarach. Mae'n bwysig i barhau addysg feithrin yn y cylchoedd meithrin dim yn unig i'r plant a'i teuluoedd ond i'r cymunedau hefyd.

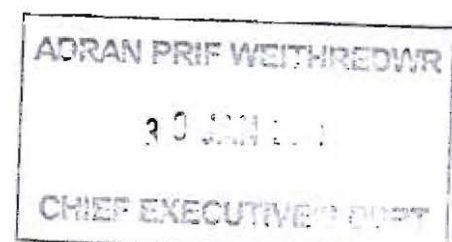
Rydym yn mawr obeithio y byddwch yn rhoi sylw i'n pwyntiau cyn gwneud penderfyniadau pendant.

Yn gywir

11



7 aelod o staff Cylch Meithrin Stryd y Bont.



# TRANSLATION

**Letter to:** Officers

**Letter from:** Stryd y Bont Nursery

**Dated:** 29 January 14

Dear Officers,

We are writing to you regarding the document Meeting the Challenges: Consultation on the Budget for 2014 – 2015 and the educational changes, and the effect that this will have on nursery units, the communities and unemployment on Anglesey.

- You have not taken the welfare of the young children into consideration, only the financial aspects.
- If a nursery group should close there will be no provision for 2 and 2½ year old children. These children will lose out on the pre-school experience.
- The nursery group are the first step for the child to transfer from the home and leave their parents for a period. The child will learn social skills such as making friends, playing together and sharing as well as developing and learning a lot through the medium of Welsh.
- The nursery group is part of the plans of working parents who must have child care so that they can go out to work. It also gives unemployed parents an opportunity to frequent courses which will lead to employment.
- Children from non-Welsh speaking homes will not hear the Welsh language and the language will decrease on Anglesey.
- Not only will 33 nursery groups close but there will also be around 130 staff in these groups who will be unemployed and this will also have an effect on the economy and the communities of Anglesey.

I believe that having a detailed discussion between Mudiad Meithrin and Council Officers could solve the problems that will arise in order to ensure that the Early Years provision continues on Anglesey.

As one of the first nursery schools in Anglesey we beseech you to reconsider what you intend doing. It shows that there is a need for nursery groups on the Island, because we were established in the early sixties and we are still functioning over 50 years later. It is important to continue with nursery education in the nursery groups not only for the children and their families but for the benefit of the communities as well.

We sincerely hope that you will give attention to the points raised by us before you make a definite decision.

Yours faithfully,

**7 members of Stryd y Bont Nursery Unit.**

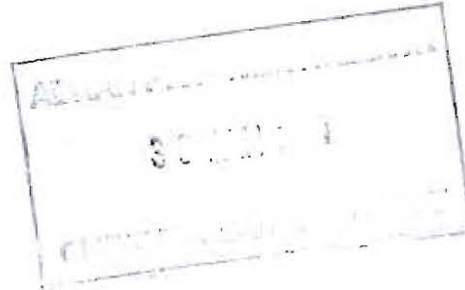


## THE ANGLESEY SYNOD YNYS MÔN

Yr Eglwys Yng Nghymru ar Ynys Môn | The Church in Wales on the Isle of Anglesey

Archddiacon Môn | Archdeacon of Anglesey  
Yr Hybarch | The Venerable R Paul Davies

Consultation on 2014/15 Budget  
Chief Executive's Office  
Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Council Offices  
Llangefni  
Anglesey  
LL77 7TW



20 January 2014

Dear Sir / Madam

### Consultation on 2014/15 Budget

Thank you for the opportunity for comment on the 2014/15 Budget. The Anglesey Synod welcome the document *Meeting the Challenges* and considered its contents in a Synod meeting at Llanfairpwll today.

We are mindful that the task of identifying approximately £20m of savings in total by 2018/19 is an exceptionally difficult one and wish to commend you for the open and transparent way in which you are approaching this exercise. The Church in Wales on Anglesey wishes to support you in this task and, in that spirit, offers the following comments.

#### 1. Priorities

The Anglesey Synod wishes to support the overwhelming and consistent priorities of:

- Supporting the most vulnerable
- Developing the economy
- Raising the standards of and modernising our schools

#### 2. Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget Proposals 2013/14

The Anglesey Synod is aware of the immediacy of the financial problems and affirms the need for a Medium Term Strategy. We are, however, concerned about increases in Council Tax at 5% a year. We are aware of the major negative effect that the economic crisis has had on so many residents on the island - particularly the vulnerable. Anecdotal evidence looms large in our pastoral ministry.

#### 3. Efficiency Savings

The Anglesey Synod welcomes the establishment of three Programme Boards to review how the council is structured and operates in the future. It approves the protection of School budgets in line with the Welsh Government policy; it supports the review of Adult social care and in particular the exploration of work with partners to provide the most cost effective models of care; it also affirms the reduction in leisure, library and cultural activities together with a re-structure of back office services. The Synod would welcome a conversation with Ynys Môn to explore how it might be able to help with some of these library and cultural services across the Island.

Yr Hybarch | The Venerable R Paul Davies Archddiacon Môn | Archdeacon of Anglesey

✉ Yr Archddiacondy, Ffordd Belmont, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2LL 📧 archddiacon@me.com ☎ 01248 354360

Mrs Linda Gibson Ysgrifenyddes y Synod | Synod Administrator

✉ 11 Maes Cynlas, Bryn Du, Ty Croes, Ynys Môn LL63 5SN 📧 lindagibson7@btinternet.com ☎ 01407 811136

#### 4. Response to specific questions:

*a) Increasing the social services budget so as to avoid major cuts to current activity levels.*

This is important but must not be at the cost of undue pressure to vulnerable households through an over-realistic increase in Council Tax.

*b) Maintaining the leisure budget to allow time for changes to the provision.*

A good principle but again not at the cost of undue pressure to vulnerable households through an over-realistic increase in Council Tax.

*c) Prioritising growth in children services and Energy Island Programme*

We support this but not at the cost of undue pressure to vulnerable households through an over-realistic increase in Council Tax.

*d) Further assumptions we should make in medium term financial planning*

We should not underestimate the negative effect that a 5% increase in Council Tax could have amongst the poorest and most vulnerable on the Island. The average increase in Council Tax for 2013/14 in Wales is 2.9%. We represent the highest increase (alongside the Vale of Glamorgan which represents considerably more wealth than Anglesey). Whilst we note the caution in use of reserves on page 8, we suggest that the Council might consider use of reserves (respecting the recommended minimum level) to cushion this significant increase in this particular context.


*e) Priorities for the Capital Plan*

We support a review of council assets and how they are used. We also support economic development and regeneration programmes, making full use of EU funding opportunities. We do, however, that it is difficult to comment on the proposal for rationalisation of schools as there is little detail. The benefit of this will depend on particular circumstance and we must be mindful of how enormously important rural schools are to the lifeblood of rural communities.

*f) Proposed increase in Council Tax*

Already commented upon

These concerns are offered in the spirit of support and partnership. The Church in Wales on Anglesey is committed to working with Anglesey County Council, supporting it and praying for it regularly.

*Yours faithfully,*  


R Paul Davies  
Archdeacon of Anglesey  
On behalf of the Anglesey synod





**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 12:00  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for schools.

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 12:39  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Meeting the challenge

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenge "budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the children's age to start school from September 2014. we r in aberffraw a small village already devastated by closure of primary school, this change would have a disastrous affect on the village nursery, also no parents wants to put a 3 yr old on a minibus to go to the school it is a ridiculous idea. Melissa davies, aberffraw

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 11:56  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Meithrin

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for. schools.

[REDACTED]

50

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 28 January 2014 16:31  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** cylch meithryn

I am opposing the proposition in the document 'meeting the challenges' budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from Sept 2014.

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 12:50  
**To:** ymgynghoriadcyllideb@ynysmon.gov.uk  
**Cc:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Fw: Cylchoedd Meithrin

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;  
**To:** <ymgynghoriadcyllideb@ynysmon.gov.uk>;  
**Subject:** Cylchoedd Meithrin  
**Sent:** Tue, Jan 28, 2014 9:11:53 PM

I swyddfa'r Prif Weithredwr

Mae gen i un cwestiwn syml yr hoffwn i ateb yn ei gylch ar fyrder os gwelwch yn dda.

Ar ba ddyddiad y cyhoeddwyd y ddogfen "Cwrdd â'r Heriau Ymgynghoriad ar y Gyllideb 2014/15"? Rwyf ar ddeall mai dim ond ddoe (27 Ionawr) y rhoddwyd gwybod i Gylchoedd Meithrin y sir am yr arbedion arfaethedig. Pam yn y byd y rhannwyd yr wybodaeth ar gymaint o fyr rybudd, dridiau'n unig cyn dyddiad cau unrhyw ymateb i'r ddogfen hon?

Onid ydi hyn yn awgrymu'n hynod o gryf eich bod yn ymwybodol bod yr arbedion arfaethedig yn gwbwl afrealistig ym maes addysg y blynyddoedd cynnar a'ch bod eisiau rhoi cyn lleied o gyfle â phosib i rieni a staff leisio barn yn eu cylch?

Rwy'n gryf o'r farn mai cam gwag iawn fyddai gostwng oed derbyn i ysgolion cynradd. Mae Cylchoedd Meithrin yn cynnig gwasanaeth cwblw unigryw a hanfodol i blant y sir, ac yn wir drwy Gymru gyfan. Byddai parhau â'r arbedion dan sylw efallai'n cynnig ateb i chi yn y tymor byr ac o bosib yn eich helpu i ymddangos fel petaech yn gwneud eich gwaith yn effeithiol i Lywodraeth Cymru ond, credwch chi fi, ni fyddwch yn gwneud unrhyw ffafr â phlant ifanc y sir - nhw yw'r dyfodol wedi'r cyfan ac maent yn haeddu llawer gwell na'r hyn y mae Cyngor Môn yn bwriadu ei gynnig iddynt.

Beth yw'r pwysicaf? Diogelu addysg feithrin hollbwysig ein plant, yntau bodloni ar wasanaeth eilradd er mwyn arbed ceiniog neu ddwy ac yna gorfod ailwampio'r holl system eto mewn ychydig o flynyddoedd, unwaith y byddwch yn sylweddoli mai camgymeriad elfennol oedd bwrw ymlaen â'r newidiadau dan sylw?

Allwch chi gadarnhau ar unwaith eich bod wedi derbyn yr e-bost yma os gwelwch yn dda, ynghyd ag ateb fy nghwestiwn ar ddechrau'r e-bost? Wedi'r cyfan, dwi'n siwr y cytunwch chi na allwn ni fforddio gwastraffu amser mewn cyfnod ymgynghori mor fyr.

Yn gywir  
 [REDACTED]

To the Chief Executive Office

I have one simple question to which I would like to receive an answer urgently please.

On what date was the document "Meeting the Challenges Consultation on the Budget 2014/15" published? I am given to understand that it was only yesterday (27<sup>th</sup> January) that the county's Meithrin Groups were given the information about the proposed savings. Why on earth was this information shared at such short notice, and only three days until the closing date for any response to this document.

Does this not suggest quite strongly that you are aware that the proposed savings are completely unrealistic in the area of early years education and that you want to give as little opportunity as possible for parents and staff to voice their opinion on them?

I am strongly of the opinion that it would be a backward step to reduce the age of admission into primary schools. Nursery groups offer a completely unique and essential service to the county's children, and indeed throughout Wales. Proceeding with the proposed savings would maybe offer you an answer in the short term and would possibly help you to appear as if you were doing your work effectively to the welsh Government but believe you me, you will not be doing the young children of the county any favours – they are the future after all and they deserve much better than what Anglesey County Council is intending to offer them.

What is the most important? Safeguarding essential nursery education for our children or being satisfied with a second rate service in order to save a penny or two and then having to change the entire system yet again in a few years, once you realise that it was a elementary mistake to go ahead with the changes under consideration?

Can you confirm at once that you have received this email please, together with an answer to my question at the beginning of the email? After all, I am sure you will agree that we cannot afford to waste any time in such a short consultation period.

Yours truly



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 11:56  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Meeting the challenges

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for schools.

Sent from my iPhone

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 13:01  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

To Whom It May Concern

We object to the proposals in the document 'meeting the challenges'  
[REDACTED] and family  
Cylch Meithrin Aberffraw



54

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 13:09  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Attachments:** DSCN2491.JPG

Please find enclosed a picture of the letter my daughter has written on closing the cylchoedd

plis peidiwch a cau ysgol feithrin  
 oherwydd nes i cael hwyli yna  
 ac nes i ddysgy ab-ff-i  
 gyd nes i cael lot o trips  
 ysgol ac nes i gweld Santa  
 Claus yna ac natn Santa Choi  
 ei iddy fi ac nes i ddysgy  
 peintio yna a dwi yn corio  
 i'cau oedd fi yn chwara gyda  
 Iafi ac oedd ni yn chwara  
 ceir mae brawd bach fi yn  
 mynd i ysgol feithrin ac mae  
 o yn dweyd gen o lot o  
 fffrindia ac mae o yn dweyd  
 poblo peth ac mae na  
 byth cweth drwy nes i dysgy  
 Siarad yno ac nes i cael  
 hwyli yna so plis plis paid a  
 cau ysgol feithrin i lawr.

# TRANSLATION

54

## **A pupil at Ysgol Corn Hir**

Please don't close the Nursery School because I had fun there and I learned all of my ABC. I had a lot of school trips and I saw Santa Claus and Santa gave me a dog and I learned to paint there and I remember I played with lori and we played with cars. My little brother goes to the nursery school and he says that he has a lot of friends there and he says everything and there is never anything bad. I learned to speak there and I had a lot of fun there so please don't close the nursery school.

**Gethin Jones**

---

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 13:49  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Anglesey cylchoedd

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 16:13  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** cylchoedd meithrin

I am apposing the proposition in the document "meeting challenges" budget consultation 2014/2015, of lowering the age that the children start school from September 2014.

[REDACTED]

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 16:55  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Opposing

I am opposing the proposition in the document 'meeting the challenges' budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the age of children to start school from sept 2014.

Sent from my iPhone

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [Redacted] <[Redacted]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 17:32  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Budget Consultation - Feedback

Without wishing to waste words and your time, my concerns fall into two main categories:

Tourism - reducing the amount spent maintaining the coastline, and reducing opening times of South Stack lighthouse are retrograde steps. We need to do more to attract visitors to the island for the sake of the economy. These measures just make it less attractive.

However, the attractions themselves are not charging an economic rate for admission, so we are not making the revenue we should from the tourists who come.

PLEASE get somebody competent to run the tourism department.

Highways - saving nearly half a million pounds by reducing maintenance on our already neglected and decrepit roads is an insult to all council tax payers. The damage caused to cars is huge, and our infrastructure is being literally eroded.

If routine repairs are neglected, the end result will be that in a few years time we have rudimentary cart-tracks instead of proper roads, and the cost of restoring them will be prohibitive. Not what we want for the 21st century 'Energy Island'.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 17:34  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Admission age for schools

I am opposing the proposition in the document ;Meeting the challenges; Budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for schools



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 17:49  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Meeting the challenges

I am opposing the proposition in the document meeting the challenges budget consultation 2014\2015 of lowering the children's age to start school from September 2014.

My three years old would have to travel four miles on a bus without supervision, there would be no preschool education for 2-3 year old

Mrs [REDACTED] (Aberffraw mothers)



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 18:24  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I AM OPPOSING THE PROPOSITION IN THE DOCUMENT MEETING THE CHALLENGES BUDGET CONSULTATION 2014/15 FOR REDUCING THE ADMISSION AGE FOR SCHOOLS

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 18:41  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** ysgol talwrn

i strongly object to taking money away from the community of talwrn as the implications for the community of closing the cylch long term would close ysgol talwrn you need to think again long term

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 19:10  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for schools.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 19:13  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Protect education and social care in line with Welsh Government expectations  
 Meeting the Challenges: Budget Consultation 2014-15

First of all I am seething in the way that not many (99%) of our Anglesey councillors did not know what was going on the subject of forced closure of the cylchoedd Meithrin on the Island by next year.

In this document it has one line which reads "to move the early years education to the primary schools"..... then nothing!!!

Until we parents, staff of the Cylchoedd Meithrin informed our local councillors quickly on Tuesday this week, you were obviously hoping this would quietly slip through before anyone had a chance to have their say! Where is the consultation on this – again Anglesey Council doing things the wrong way – when are you going to learn?

The implication of this is huge! Where do I start?

#### Losing 130 jobs (or even more)

- If there was a factory on Anglesey that was shutting its doors with a loss of 130 jobs there would be an out-cry and the government would try and step in to help.....you are creating these job loses!
- The figure could well be more due to closing the Cylchoedd, then the Cylchoedd Ti & Fi would have to close too (potential health risk to young parents who would then have no were to go, to speak to others in the same boat.
- We know that some Cylchoedd offer a "wrap around" club after Cylch with children staying on for lunch – this is very popular with working parents. Parents have said in no uncertain terms today, that they would have to give up their jobs should they Cylchoedd close because 2 hours per day at primary school is no good to them. Therefore more job loses.
- At the Cylchoedd we have students from the "Cam wrth Gam" on a yearly basis, training staff up for their Level 3 in "Early Years Education" – now there would be no more students and no potential jobs for these youngster on the Island. More youngsters leaving the Island to look for work!

#### 2-3 year old losing their right to pre-school experience with the opportunity to hear the Welsh language as soon as possible.

- On numerous occasions, we are the Cylchoedd have been told by primary schools they can tell which children have attend a Cylch before primary – valued skills (preparation towards education) that the children have been taught previously.
- We are all Estyn and CSSIW registered.
- A solid foundation in Welsh in the early years, to ensure that pupils from English background have the opportunity to learn the Welsh language as soon as possible.

English speaking parents are furious when they heard yesterday & today, that the only hope of their children hearing and speaking Welsh at the youngest age possible (Ti & Fi & Meithrin) will be taken away from them.

#### The effect on local communities,

- rent from the Cylchoedd helps towards many local village halls.

#### Larger primary schools are already full (Bodedern, Beaumaris etc).

- Where and how are you going to solve this one?

#### The smaller primary schools

- the 3 year olds will be in the class with other children of up to the age of 7 years old (not fair on the 3 year olds, the 7 year olds nor the poor teachers) especially when the proposed intake days at the beginning of each term x 3!

Here below are some of the face book comments today:-

"Makes me so mad reading about the council thinking of cutting Nursery school grants! All the work we (as staff) are expected to do, all the planning, the assessments, scrap books, treasure books plus all the extra the Registered Person & treasure have to do ....OH AND LOOK AFTER THE CHILDREN (in the middle of all the paper work that's expected!!) they should be thinking of putting more money in not cutting it to ensure nursery staff are paid monthly and proper resources can be purchased!!"

"Dwi yn agreeio hefo chdi ond sgen nhw ddim pres - pawb ar benefits - di nhw ddim yn contributio dalu council tax etc !! ond ar ol hun fydd na mwy ar benefits!!"

"Well said!!"

"Louise you got it wrong - so wrong - the council will be CLOSING all the cylchoedd by sept 2015 because with no grant there will be no cylchoedd!!! A lose of 130 jobs on the island!!! No cylchoedd - no Ti a Fi's. Dim cymraeg, dim sgiliau, etc etc cyn mynd i'r ysgolion a yn dair oed. Intakes yn mis Medi, ionawr a pasg. Sut mae'r ysgolion am neud da. Dim lle yn Bodedern fel Mae hi. Yn ysgolion llai - mae'r plentyn tair oed mewn dosbarth gyda plant I fyny i 7 oed!!! Dim yn deg ar neb na'r athrawon. Keep protesting. 130 job loses ar yr Ynys bach ni!!!! X...[See More](#)"

"Diawledig de!!! Oni di clywed lot yn ol fydd na up roar yn 2015!! Yr holl pwysa ma nhw di rhoi ar staff ysgolion Meithrin ag i be!?!? I gau bob un!"

"Mae Cyngor Gwynedd wedi gwrthod neud hyn 6 mis yn ol a dim un sir arall yn Cymru yn gwneud hyn - typical o Ynys mon (getting it wrong again!) ond unwaith fydd rhain wedi cau fydd na byth troi yn ol so protestio all the way rwan plis x"

"Mae'n RHAID arbed y ddarpariaeth werthfawr yma. Methu credu fod ffasiwn beth yn cael ei ystyried!!!! "

"Wedi siarad a 10 cynhorwydd ddoe. Plaid ar ei ochor Ni hefo iaith gymraeg. Ieuan Williams cadeirydd yn cefnogi CAU cylchoedd ond yn digalonus am y peth (o di-duns!!!) mi nes siarad gyda fo neithiwr. Simedig iawn ynte I glywed hyna am ddyn lleol cymraeg!!!"

"Clywch, clywch Louise. Mae'r gwaith sydd yn cael ei wneud mewn mudiadau meithrin yn werthfawr iawn! X"

"It will be more than a 130 jobs if they include the cylchoedd run by ppa . I think it's been in the pipe line for a number of years and that's why they keep on upping our work load"

"Colled fawr i hogia bach Ynys Mon.Mae nhw yn cael profiadau a gofal arbennig mewn cylch meithrin.Dwi'n siwr gallai'r cyngor arbed arian mewn llefydd eraill.mae na lot o wastraffu mewn llawer i adran!"

"Tristwch imi yn bersonol i'w meddwl bod y Cyngor yn meddwl cau ein Cylchoedd Meithrin a'r Ynys Mon wrth dorri ein grantiau 'Rwyf wedi gweithio i'r mudiad ers dros ugain mlynadd,wedi dechra yn Cylch Meithrin Bodffordd pan oedd fy mhlant fy hun yno,ag bellach mae fy wyr a'n wyres fach yn mynegi y Cylch. Mi ydwi yn un or "hen stagers" sa chi'n deud!! Mi fedrai ddweud a llaw ar fy nghalon fy mod wedi mwynhau BOB diwrnod yn gwmni y plant bach 'ma,a peth braf ydi cael codi yn bore yn edrach ymlaen i fynd i fy ngwaith. I bentref fach fel Bodffordd ag wrth gwrs i phob cymuned arall,mae y Cylch Meithrin yn sylfaen werthfawr,ddiwyllianol a chymunedol. Mae y Cylchoedd y bont cyswllt cyntaf rhwng y cartref a'r ysgol i blentyn.Mae dyfodol plant Ynys Mon a chadw'r iaith gymraeg yn fyw yn flaenoriaeth ini fel darparwyr addysg y blynyddoedd cynnar. 'Rwyf yn erfyn arnoch i gyd i gefnogi eich cylchoedd lleol a phob un arall. Diolch xx

Mrs [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

# TRANSLATION

"Terrible isn't it!!!! I heard a long time ago that there will be uproar in 2015!! All this pressure they have put on nursery school staff and for what!?! To close every one!"

"Cyngor Gwynedd refused to do this 6 months ago and no other County in Wales is doing this – typical of Anglesey (getting it wrong again!) but once these have closed there will be no turning back so protest all the way now please".

"This valuable provision MUST be saved. Can't believe that such a thing is being considered!!!"

"Spoke to 10 Councillors yesterday. Plaid on our side with the Welsh language. Ieuan Williams the Chairman supports closing Nursery Groups but is despondent about it. I spoke to him last night.

"Hear, hear Louise. The work done in nursery groups is extremely valuable!"

"Great loss to the young children of Anglesey. They get excellent care and experiences in nursery groups. I'm sure the Council could save money in other places. There's a lot of waste in many departments!"

"It's a sadness to me personally to think that the Council is considering closing our nursery groups on Anglesey by cutting our grants. I have worked for the organisation for over 20 years, starting in Bodffordd Playgroup when my own children went there, and now my grandson and granddaughter attend the playgroup. I'm one of the old stagers you could say! I can say hand on heart that I have enjoyed every day in the company of these little children and it's lovely to get up in the morning looking forward to your work. For a small village like Bodffordd and of course for every community, the playgroup is a valuable foundation culturally and for the community. The playgroups are the first link between the home and school for the child. The future of the children of Anglesey and keeping the Welsh language alive is our priority as Early Years providers. I implore you all to support our local playgroups and every other one. Thank you".





**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 19:20  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am apposing the proposition in the the document " meeting the chalanges" budget consultation 2014/2015 for reducing the admition age for schools



bb

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 19:23  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am apposing the proposition in the the document " meeting the chalanges" budget consultation 2014/2015 for reducing the admition age for schools

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 19:25  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am apposing the proposition in the the document " meeting the changes" budget consultation 2014/2015 for reducing the admition age for schools

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 19:26  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for schools.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Uned Datblygu Economaidd  
Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn  
Canolfan Fusnes Môn  
Parc Busnes Bryn Cefni  
Llangefni - Ynys Môn  
LL77 7XA



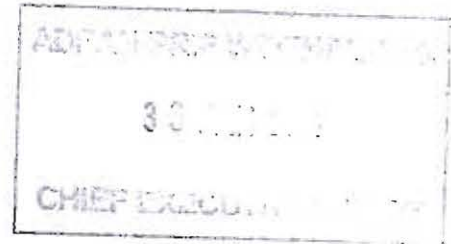
**Partneriaeth Adfywio Economaidd Môn  
Anglesey Economic Regeneration Partnership**

69  
Economic Development Unit  
Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Anglesey Business Centre  
Bryn Cefni Business Park  
Llangefni - Anglesey  
LL77 7XA

Consultation on 2014/15 Budget  
Chief Executive's Office  
Isle of Anglesey County Council  
Council Offices  
Llangefni  
Anglesey LL77 7TW

Ein Cyf / Our Ref: ELJ/DE

30 Jan 2014



Dear Sir / Madam

The Anglesey Economic Regeneration Partnership welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Meeting the Challenges Budget Consultation 2014/15.

The Partnership comprises of representatives from the Public, Private, Community and Voluntary sectors on the Island and in addition to being the Welsh Government recognised Local Partnership for the delivery of the Rural Development Plan 2007-13 on Anglesey, takes a holistic overview of Economic Regeneration on the Island.

- The partnership realises the challenge imposed on the Council by the reduction in Government funding and recognises that this imposes pressures on the activities it is likely to be able to deliver in the future. Against this backdrop, the partnership welcomes the Council's continued commitment to "regenerating our communities and developing the Economy". As an Economic Regeneration Partnership we believe that the continued support of the Council to Developing the Economy has never been so important.
- As noted in the report, along with their obvious benefits for the Economy, the potential new nuclear build, and other major energy –related developments bring with them challenges for the Council. It is right that it recognises this and prepares itself for them so that the Island benefits in the long term. Accordingly, the partnership welcomes the identification of the Energy Island Programme as an area of proposed growth.
- The Council's commitment to modernise its schools is welcomed by the Partnership. If Anglesey's children are to fully benefit from the opportunities afforded by new economic opportunities on the Island, then it is important to realise that they have to compete in the global world and we need to give them

Ffôn / Tel: 01248 752431 / 2435 Ffacs / Fax: 01248 752192

E-bost / E-mail: [datecon@ynysmon.gov.uk](mailto:datecon@ynysmon.gov.uk) [econdev@anglesey.gov.uk](mailto:econdev@anglesey.gov.uk)  
Safle'r wê / Website: [www.mon-ewrop.org](http://www.mon-ewrop.org) [www.anglesey-europe.org](http://www.anglesey-europe.org)



CYNGOR SIR  
YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL



Cronfa Amcuddbyddol Ewrop ar gyfer Datblygu  
Gwledig Swmp ym Boddarddi  
mewn Ardaloedd Gwledig  
The European Agricultural Fund for  
Rural Development Europe Investing in  
Rural Areas



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

a global standard of education. If this means larger schools (as evidenced by the demand for places at the new Ysgol y Graig at Llangefni ) then the Council should use the opportunities afforded by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme to do this.

- The partnership believes that there are opportunities for the Council to outsource some of its services e.g. elderly care provision; leisure centres and museums; public conveniences. Community Councils and Social Enterprises should be considered as potential alternative deliverers for these services alongside the private sector.
- There may be opportunities for the Council to increase its income e.g. rents / rates charged and appraise other revenue streams against the cost of administering them.

The Partnership trusts that the information provided will assist in finalising the budget and help the Council plan for the challenging period ahead.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dennis Evans', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dennis Evans

**Chair**  
**Anglesey Economic Regeneration Partnership**



70

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 19:34  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I AM OPPOSING THE PROPOSITION IN THE DOCUMENT "MEETING THE CHALLENGES" BUDGET CONSULTATION 2014/15 FOR THE ADMISSION AGE FOR SCHOOLS

Sent from Windows Mail

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 19:52  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

i am opposing the proposition in the document meeting the challenges budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for schools it is disgraceful that you are going to this!!!!!!



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 20:37  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Budget consultation opposition

To whom it may concern, I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for schools.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Thankyou

Sent from my iPhone

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 21:04  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Under 3 Funding

Cylch Meithrin Thomas Ellis Leader attended the meeting held on the 27th January at Tarfarn y Gorse.

As acting treasurer the leader reported to me the upsetting news of the Under 3 funding was facing financial cuts, to which I was devastated.

In a nutshell, the ethos of the Cylch Meithrein is to provide a High Standard of Conduct ensuring a safe, fair and trusting environment for all, educating our future very young children in all activities through the medium of Welsh. To sum up some positive points.

Transition - Children settle in quickly and get use to the school environment, thus ensuring

a smooth transition into main school.

Social Skills - Children learn routine, table manners, please/thank you, sharing etc.,

Observations - Access to the referral scheme (helping hands 1-1) and links to professional

help, ABC unit offer support to the individual child. An excellent service to which

I have contributed.

Training - Leaders and assistants regularly attend courses to maintain and develop new skills.

Fundraising - involving local community to raise money for the Cylch,- encourage parents to

take an interest and builds relationships.

Achievements - having fun and children enjoying themselves.

It is a huge benefit to provide an equal opportunity (not to worry about collecting fees as in the past) to have the under 3 grant and I believe over the years, our dedicated team have achieved and maintained Cylch standards. After all, Our policy aims is to ensure that all aspects of its activities promote equal opportunity for every individual regardless of nationality, colour, race, gender, sexuality, disability, religion, age, marital status, culture or social class.

Should the under 3 grant be stopped will demoralize the entirety of the setting. This will cause a

knock-on-effect across Anglesey as many staff face redundancy and school community's plummet further into despair. Questions need to be answered, legality of redundancy, and money to pay maternity leave. Due to the lack of paid jobs already in the area children will suffer, is this a way forward for our future, and the future of children.

[REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 21:08  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Re-consider proposal to close Cylchoedd Meithrin

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

To Whom it may concern,

I am one of many unhappy parents appalled by the proposed decision to closure our local Meithrin. This is a very important part of Talwrns local community. The 2 local ladies that run the group have been amazing at settling my son into school, he started off very shy and has come on so much in the past 6 months he has been their. I know for a fact he wouldnt of done so well in a larger setting with more children. We are a young family who are currently in the process or moving to Talwrn our daughter is in the school and our son in the Meithrin. We have fallen in love with the village and hope further generations can have what our children have got now. Closure of Meithrin would have a huge impact on the village school, Meithrin offer a solid foundation for the younger ones.

We hope you take on board everyones views on the matter and that the childrens best interests are the priority!!!!

[REDACTED]  
Cylch Meithrin Talwrn

75

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 21:46  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Opposing the budget consultation.

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014.

I also disagree with the budget cuts to Mudiad Meithrin's funding and early years training.

Nursery schools are vital to rural communities and provide children with their first steps into the social & learning environment.

The proposed cuts and changes to nursery school education will have a disastrous effect on local communities and economies.

Community spirit will be a thing of the past as people become anonymous faces in the new 'Super Schools' that will be built to replace all the small local schools.

Cheryl Parry

Sent from my iPhone

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 23:08  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Cylch Meithrin Talwrn

Dear Sir / Madam,

I would like to object to your plan of stopping grant money available to the cylchoedd meithrin as this would have a detrimental affect on our community and our school.

We rely on children coming to the school from our cylch especially after the school was under threat 2 years ago of being closed. If children go to a big, better funded meithrin we fear they won't be coming back to our small school as they will be going to the school that meithrin is attached to.

Being in our cylch meithrin also give children a good transition into a small, friendly school where they will know other children and teachers.

As the money saved would be relatively small I feel this time the needs of these children should be considered as higher priority.

Thank you very much for your time reading this email.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Mother of two children who both attended Cylch Meithrin Talwrn before starting in Ysgol Talwrn.

77

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 23:09  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Meeting the challenge

I am opposing the proposition in the document meeting the challenge budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the children's age to start school from September 2014. this is a great concern for me ad I have no transport and I honestly do not see how having 3yr Olds in a primary school is going to work, it will cause disruption to the older children, my daughter is 3 and still in nappies u think this will put more stress on teachers, also no one I know who doesn't drive is willing to put a 3 yr old on a bus with no assistant on bus to care for such young children, kirsty ederle, mother to child attending aberffraw nursery



78

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 09:48  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the childrens age to start school from 2014

Sent from Samsung Mobile

**Gethin Jones**

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79

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 10:10  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Response to Budget proposals

The document addresses the financial challenge facing Anglesey in a constructive manner. Some of the necessary cuts will feel uncomfortable and it is important that people can see that no one group are being treated unfairly.

- Beyond sensible and economic management there should be no reduction in funding of Social Services.
- Leisure spending must be governed by usage and the number of people affected by any cuts.
- Attracting inward investment which creates jobs is vital. Energy Island and other schemes which actively encourage appropriate development must be supported and impediments to development removed.
- 5% increase in Council Tax is unavoidable.
- Council's drive to improve efficiency is to be applauded and must be pursued vigorously.
- Proposed savings Appendix B 'Lifelong Learning' - Acceptable with exception of Early Years funding. This may prove short sighted.
- Council staffing levels should be reduced wherever practical and pay should be strictly appropriate to duties and responsibility.
- Increased parking fees may be counterproductive, discouraging shoppers and tourists and so effecting local businesses.
- Council should consider which council assets could be sold to release capital. Buildings, land and farms should all be considered.

[REDACTED]

30/01/14



**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 10:19  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Budget

Why don't you look at your staffing levels, and make some cuts there, like the hospitals are doing?  
Sent from my iPad

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 10:41  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Fw: Consultation:Meeting Challenges,Budget 2014-2015

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** "budgetconsultation@anglesey.gv.uk" <budgetconsultation@anglesey.gv.uk>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 30 January 2014, 10:36  
**Subject:** Consultation:Meeting Challenges,Budget 2014-2015

Having looked through Appendix B would it have been more realistic if the actual current spending was also shown as well as the proposed saving? This would then give a clear indication on the extent of the savings in relation to the expenditure.

Why in App B are increases in revenue shown as a minus amount?

A number of proposed savings caught my eye,one in particular,the saving of £15000 by replacing diesel fuelled vehicles with LPG fuelled vehicles. Will this just be a saving in the fuel costs? What is the effect on Capital Purchase Costs/Lease Charges?

What is the value of the Council Tax which is not collected? Could you give this in actual monetary value and the number of accounts involved.

How many Council Dwelling are currently unoccupied? Can these be identified by (a) In good order and awaiting occupation. (b)Empty and awaiting renovation or repair.(c) Empty and retained wind and weather tight.

What actions are being taken to encourage Tenants of under occupied Council properties ie one tenant in a three bed property,to move to more appropriate Council accommodation?

Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 12:53  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Ymateb ir ddogfen

Ar ol y cyfarfod Nos Lun 24/1/14, roeddem fel cylch wedi dychryn ac wedi cael ein siomi yn fawr am y ffordd y Mae pethau wedi cael ei wneud heb ddim trafodaeth gyda'r Mudiad.

Ydych chi wedi ystyried sut effaith y caiff hyn ar addysg ac yn sicr y iaith gymraeg. Mae sylfaen y cylch meithrin yn werthfawr i blant y gymuned.

Wrth dorri y grantiau bydd hyn yn golygu colli darpariaeth i blant o dan 3 oed gan na allai y cylch ymdopi heb arian.

A ywr ysgol yn fodlon derbyn y plant heb iaith ac addysg. Y cylch meithrin yw'r bont rhwng yr ysgol ar cartref.

[REDACTED]  
Cylch Meithrin Porthaethwy

Sent from my iPhone

TRANSLATION

Following the meeting on Monday evening 24/1/14, we were shocked and very disappointed as a group with the way that things have been done without any discussion with the Meithrin Group.

Have you considered what sort of effect this will have on education and definitely on the Welsh language. The foundation given by the nursery group is very valuable to the children of the community.

By cutting these grants it will mean losing a provision for children under 3 years old as the group could not function without funding.

Is the school willing to accept the children without a language and education. The nursery group is the bridge between the school and the home.

[REDACTED]

Menai Bridge Nursery Group

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 12:54  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Admission age of children into primary school

I am opposing the proposition in the document meeting the challenges budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the children's age to start school from September 2014.

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED]

30<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

We would like to respond to the **Budget Consultation 2014/15**, particularly with regard to changes affecting pre-schoolers. As we understand it, the proposal is that under-four-year-olds will be put into schools rather than retained in nursery setting.

Our 3 year old daughter currently attends the Cylch Meithrin attached to Ysgol Gymuned Moelfre; I understand that under the proposed changes the Cylch would have to close. She is the third of our children to attend Moelfre Cylch Meithrin, which has been excellent for all of them. It provides an ideal transition to the school, so that when the children move up they do so without stress or anxiety, and with a sound start in their education. If 3-year-olds were to be in a school setting instead, this would likely be much less suitable for them, being too formal and with teachers having the near-impossible task of balancing their needs against the needs of older children.

The school and nursery together are the heart of Moelfre village. The school has grown in numbers in recent years, not to any small extent due to the success of the Cylch in attracting children both from the village and from the surrounding area. Breaking that link could threaten the future of educational provision within the village and thus also threatens the whole Moelfre village community.

The proposed changes are to cut costs, despite the fact that we are often told that education will not be affected by cuts. We believe there is nothing more important than the education of the young, and particularly that they are learning in a happy and anxiety-free environment as is currently the case. I also rather doubt that the saving could be anything more than minimal, as additional staff would have to be employed in the school setting (probably on higher salaries than current nursery staff) to keep the '1 to 8 ration' that is required.

The Cylch Meithrin in Moelfre has been running for many years with a high level of success, good to excellent Estyn results, and enormous satisfaction from local parents. We hope you will reconsider any changes which threaten the continuation of it and other similar nursery provision on Anglesey.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Parents

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 13:19  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for schools.

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 17:56  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Consultation Response

I suggest that income could be increased as follows:

- Rationalisation of bus services to maximise usage.
- Introduction of a small payment (50p or £1) for each journey taken on the current Free Pass Scheme.
- Introduction of a small payment for use of Swimming Pool facilities etc so that users are not a burden upon other tax payers.
- Reduce paperwork and waste by filtering documents so that residents can opt for information/bills etc in their preferred language.
- Reduce emptying of green bins in winter to once per month (Say 1st week of month December to March).
- Maximise opportunities for Council income from windfarms.

I feel it is important to maximise opportunities for ultimately increasing income to the Island by investing in visitor facilities including:

- Continue provision of public toilets
- Continue to invest in Open Spaces, countryside and coast
- Continue Highway Maintenance provision
- Continue/increase support for Leisure & Heritage
- Consider provision or support for planning applications for improved facilities on our beaches to attract visitors and to provide shelter in inclement weather.

The above five items are listed with the intention that visitors will experience good roads, clear signage, well maintained paths and experience a comfortable visit.

Finally, on the assumption that the vast majority of money coming into the Island is derived from (a) Incoming residents bringing their pensions with them to spend on the Island from salaries earned elsewhere, and (b) Visitors on holiday/visiting relatives, I believe all the above items are essential, as is the need to continue to provide high quality care for the elderly.

Yours sincerely,

~~Alun Jones~~





29 Ionawr, 2014

Annwyl Syr/Fadaw,

Môn? Tybed faint o dai haf sydd yn Yng  
Pa les ydynt i ni'n llesol? Dim!

Yn amlwg maent yn golygu fod llai o dai ar  
ein cyfer ni. O'u herwydd hefyd mae  
sefydliadau'n cau e.e. Siopau, am fod  
diboblogi yn ystod y gaeaf. Beth am  
dolyblu eu trefthi nhw sydd mor gyfoethog?

I fod o fudd i ni, rhaid i'r ail gartrefi  
hyn fod yn broffidiol. Un fanteis o godi'r  
drefthi fyddai gofodi canran fach neu fawr i  
roi eu tai ar y farchnad. Canlyniad  
trefthi uwch yn mwy o gyllid i gadw  
Cartrefi henoed, ysgolion a thŷtedau ar agor.  
Dyna fyddai'n llesol i ni drigolion  
yt ymys.

Yn gywir,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted address block]

# TRANSLATION

87

Correspondence from: [REDACTED]

Dated: 29.01.14

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wonder how many summer homes there are in Anglesey? What good are they for us locally? None! It obviously means that there are fewer houses available for us. It is also because of them that our facilities are closing e.g. shops, because of depopulation during the winter. What about doubling the Council Tax for those who are so rich?

To be of any benefit to us all these second homes have to be profitable. One advantage of increasing the Council Tax would be to compel a small or a large percentage to put their houses on the market. The result of higher Council Tax would be more funding to keep residential homes, schools and toilets open. That would benefit us as residents of the Island.

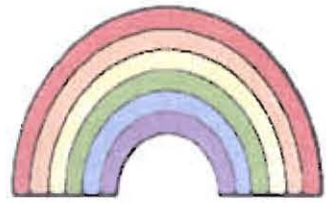
Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]



**Cylch Meithrin Corn Hir**

Caban y Cylch  
Bryn Meurig  
Llangefni LL77 7JB  
01248 722851



Cylch Meithrin Corn Hir



29 Ionawr/January 2014

Ymgynghoriad ar Gyllideb 2014/15  
Swyddfa'r Prif Weithredwr  
Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn  
Swyddfa'r Cyngor  
Llangefni  
Ynys Môn  
LL77 7TW



29 Ionawr 2014

Annwyl Mr Richard Parry Jones

**Par: Cwrdd â'r Heriau Ymgynghoriad ar y Gyllideb 2014/15**

Hoffwn ymateb fel staff y Cylch.

Rydym wedi bodoli fel Cylch Meithrin Corn Hir ers 2008, cyn hynny roeddem wedi ein lleoli ym Mhenrallt. Ar hyn o bryd rydym ar agor 30 awr yr wythnos ac yn gofalu am 30 o blant yn ystod sesiynau y bore ac 28 yn ystod y prynhawn. Gobeithion y byddwn yn gallu pahau i weithredu fel yr ydym ar hyn o bryd ac y gallwn dderbyn 35 o blant bach yr ardal ym mis Medi.

Yn ogystal a hyn mae gennym restr o 10 o blant. Er ein bod yn gylch mawr mae yna awyrgylch gartrefol yn y cylch. Mae ein drws ar agor i rieni drafod unrhyw broblem ac mae hyn yn dangos yn y teimlad o berthyn sydd yma.

Rydym yn dim cryf iawn o chwech yma,( yn cynnwys 3 cymhorthyddydd 1 -1), sydd a cymhwysterau Lefel 3 rydym yn gweithio'n agos iawn gyda'n athrawes cysylltiol sef Glenys Roberts or Tim Blynyddoedd Cynnar, Cyllun Cyfeirio, Uned ABC ac Ymwelwyr Iechyd . Mae ganddom ni berthynas agos gyda'r pwyllgor (gwirfoddolwyr) sydd yn gweithio'n galed yn ein cefnogi.

Rydym yn cynnig safon uchel iawn o ddysgu drwy chwarae, yn trochi'r plant yn yr iath Gymraeg, ac yn cynnig profiadau gwych i'r plant. Mae ganddom ni aradl TGCH werth chweil newydd sbon gyda dwy gyfrifiadur ddesg,cliniadur, Ipad a teledu 32" sgrin fflat.(wedi ei rodd gan fusnes lleol)

Mae'r Tim Blynnyddoedd Cynnar yn cynnig hyfforddiant bendigedig ac yn ein cefnogi yn agos iawn. Rydym yn gweithio'n galed ar arsylwi y plant ac yn creu Llyfrau Trysor dros y flwyddyn yn dangos uchelbwyntiau y plant sydd yn cynnwys eu gwaith crefft ag yn y blaen. Drwy arsylwi yn effeithiol rydym yn gallu cynnig cymorth i blant a'i teuluoedd sydd ac anghenion ac yn angen Dwylo Ychwanegol yn eitha prydlon er lles y plentyn. Mae'r staff i gyd brofiad yn eu gwaith, yn broffiesynol ac yn effeithiol ac wrth gwrs mae hyn yn dangos yn y gefnogaeth a gawn ni gan deuluoedd y plant. Rydym wedi dysgu holl blant Ysgol Corn Hir ac mae perthynas gynnes yno o hyd drwy'r plant a'u rhieni tu allan i gathiau'r ysgol.

Mae'r sgiliau sylfaenol rydym yn dysgu i'r plant mor bwysig wrth iddynt symud ymlaen i'r ysgol, ac mae'r broses o gydweithio gyda Ysgol Corn Hir yn ymddangos drwy'r plant gan fod y trosglwyddo i fyny yn ddi-drafferth. Rydym yn defnyddio neuadd yr ysgol i wneud gweithgareddau symud ac mae'r plant wrth eu bodd, maent yn meithrin perthynas gyda Mrs Meinir Hughes ac hefyd Mrs Delyth Roberts (Dosbarth Debryn)

Mae'r plant yn dod i'r cylch mewn gwisg ac mae hyn yn dysgu sgiliau perthyn yn gynnar iawn, maent wrth ei bodd yn dod i'r "ysgol enfys". Rydym yn cynnal Cyngerdd Nadolig a Dydd Gwyl Dewi a thrwy hyn yn cymdeithasu gyda rhieni plant y cylch.

Teimlwn yn siomedig iawn am cynllnau y cyngor – does dim angen newid beth sydd yn gweithio yn effeithiol, mae dyfodol plant yr ardal yn eich dwylo - gadewch iddynt aros yn ein dwylo ni.

Yn gywir



Arweinyddion Cylch Meithrin Corn Hir

# TRANSLATION

88

**Correspondence from:** Cylch Meithrin Corn Hir  
**Dated:** 29.01.14

Dear Mr. Richard Parry Jones,

**Re: Meeting the Budget Challenges for 2014/15**

We would like to respond as members of staff at the Playgroup.

The Corn Hir Playgroup was established in 2008 and we were previously based in Penrallt. We are currently open 30 hours a week and look after 30 children during the morning sessions and 28 in the afternoon. We hope that we will be able to operate as currently and that we will be able to accept 35 of the area's children in September.

We also have a list of 10 children. Although we are a large Playgroup we have a welcoming atmosphere. Our door is always open for parents to discuss any problems and this demonstrates the sense of belonging here.

We are a very strong team of 6 here, including 3 1-1 assistants with level 3 qualifications and we work very closely with the link teacher, Glenys Roberts from the Early Years Team, the Referral Scheme, the ABC Unit and Health Visitors. We have a close relationship with the Committee (volunteers) who work hard to support us.

We offer a very high standard of learning through play, immersing the children in the Welsh Language and offering great experiences. We have a brand new high quality ICT area with two desktop computers, a laptop, an iPad and a 32" flat screen TV (donated by a local business).

The Early Year's Team provides superb training and supports us very closely. We work hard on observing the children and create a Treasures Book of the year showing the highlights including craft work etc. by the children. Through effective observation we are able to provide the support for children and their families and who need Extra Hands quite urgently for the benefit of the child. All the staff are experienced, professional and efficient and this shows the support we have from the families of the children. We have taught all the children of Ysgol Corn Hir and still have a warm relationship with the children and their parents outside the school gate.

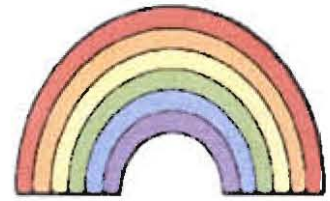
The basic skills we teach the children are so important for them as they progress through the school and the process of collaboration with Ysgol Corn Hir is exemplified through the children as they are able to transition without any difficulties. We use the school hall to undertake movement activities and the children love it, they nurture a relationship with Mrs Meinir Hughes and also Mrs Delyth Roberts (Reception Class).

The children come to the Playgroup in uniform and this teaches them sense of belonging at a very early stage, they love coming to the rainbow school. We have a Christmas and St. David's Day Concert where we are able to socialise with the parents.

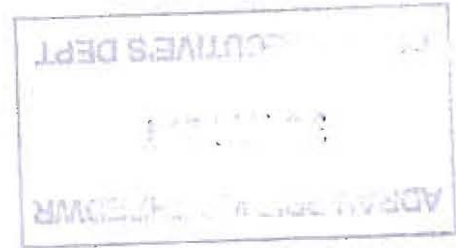
We feel very disappointed about the Council's plans – there is no need to change what works effectively, the future of the children is in your hands – let them stay in our hands.

Yours faithfully,

**Leaders of the Corn Hir Playgroup.**



Ymgynghoriad ar Gyllideb 2014/15  
Swyddfa'r Prif Weithredwr  
Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn  
Swyddfa'r Cyngor  
Llangefni  
Ynys Môn  
LL77 7TW



29 Ionawr 2014

Annwyl Mr Richard Parry Jones

**Parthed: Cwrdd â'r Heriau Ymgynghoriad ar y Gyllideb 2014/2015**

Hoffwn ar ran Pwyllgor Cylch Meithrin Corn Hir ymateb i'r grynodedb o'r arbedion arfaethedig i'r gwasanaeth addysg yn enwedig i'r arbedion hynny sydd â'r potensial i gael effaith andwyol iawn ar Gylchoedd Meithrin Môn.

Mae yna o leiaf 5 pwynt sydd yn mynd i gael effaith sylweddol ar y Cylchoedd Meithrin:

- Gostwng grantiau i neuaddau pentref a chanolfannau cymunedol
- Lleihau'r cymorth i'r Mudiad Meithrin a WPPA
- Torri'r gyllideb hyfforddi ar gyfer y blynyddoedd cynnar
- Gostwng cymorth blynyddoedd cynnar – lleihau trwsio a chynnal a chadw
- Gostwng oed mynediad i ysgolion o fis Medi 2014

Teimlwn yn gryf y gall yr arbedion cronus hyn orfodi nifer fawr o Gylchoedd Meithrin yr Ynys i gau.

Fe fyddai hyn yn golled enfawr i'r Ynys ar sawl lefel:

- Colli darpariaeth addysgol i blant 2-3 oed. Cyfnod bwysig yn natblygiad plentyn pan maent yn dysgu sgiliau sylfaenol megis cyd-chwarae, rhannu ag eraill, cyfathrebu ayyb a lle gwell i ddysgu'r sgiliau yma ond mewn Cylch Meithrin mewn awyrgylch cyfeillgar, gartefol? Yn aml iawn dyma'r tro cyntaf i blentyn fod i ffwrdd oddi wrth ei fam ac mae'n hanfodol fod y plentyn yn cael y cyfle i wneud hyn mewn awyrgylch ofalgar, anffurfiol.
- Mae pob Cylch Meithrin yn arddel y dull trochi o gyflwyno'r iaith Gymraeg ac mae hyn yn rhoi sylfaen gadarn o sgiliau deall a chyfathrebu sydd yn hwb mawr iddynt wrth ddechrau yn yr Ysgol Gynradd.

- Colli swyddi uniongyrchol o fewn y Cylchoedd – mae oddeutu 130 o staff meithrin yn cael eu cyflogi dros Ynys Môn mewn 33 Cylch. Byddai colli'r ddarpariaeth yn cael effaith niweidiol ar y rhieni hynny sydd eisiau gweithio rhan amser. Bydd colledion i'r economi leol gan fod y Cylchoedd yn cefnogi nifer o neuaddau pentref a chanolfannau cymunedol led led yr ynys ac yn prynu nwyddau a bwyd gan fasnachwyr lleol.
- Mae'r Cylchoedd yn creu awyrgylch a chymdeithas clos o fewn y pentrefi a threfi wrth i'r plant a'r rhieni ddod i adnabod ei gilydd ac mae hyn yn dilyn trwy'r blynyddoedd ysgol. Byddai colled fawr i'r gymdeithas leol.
- Mae pob Cylch yn elusen gofrestredig ac yn gweithio'n galed iawn i godi arian ar gyfer adnoddau i'r plant a theimlwn eu bod yn cynnig darpariaeth addysgol fforddiol ar gyfer y blynyddoedd cynnar. Rhaid cofio fod y Cylchoedd yn cael eu rhedeg gan Bwyllgor o wirfoddolwyr sydd yn cynnig eu hamser yn rhad ac am ddim. A fyddai'n wir arbed arian i leoli plant 3 oed dros yr Ynys mewn ysgolion sydd yn aml yn orlawn yn barod yn enwedig wrth gysidro'r gwaith ehangu ar yr adeiladau a chyflogi staff?

Gall yr arbedion arfaethedig yma gael nifer fawr o effeithiau hir dymor ar ddyfodol ein plant, yr economi leol, dyfodol yr iaith Gymraeg yn ein Sir, dyfodol ein cymdeithas a'n diwylliant. Fel Pwyllgor, erfynwn arnoch i ail edrych ar y ffigurau gan feddwl yn ddwys am yr effeithiau hir dymor ac i gynnal trafodaethau manwl gyda'r Mudiad Meithrin er mwyn sicrhau parhad yn yr ddarpariaeth addysgol bwysig yma er lles ein plant.

Yr eiddoch yn gywir



**Ynys Môn**

(Is-gadeirydd Pwyllgor Cylch Meithrin Corn Hir)

# TRANSLATION

89

Dear Mr. Richard Parry Jones,

## **Re: Meeting the Budget Challenges for 2014/15**

On behalf of the Corn Hir Playgroup Committee I would like to respond to the summary of proposed savings in the Education Service, particularly those with a potentially adverse effect on Anglesey's Playgroups.

These 5 points impacts considerably on the Playgroups:

- Reduction in grants for village halls and community centres.
- Reducing support for the Playgroups Association and WPPA
- Cutting the training budget for Early Years.
- Reducing Early Years support – reduction in repairs and maintenance
- Lowering the admission age to schools from September 2014.

We feel strongly that these cumulative savings could force a great number of Playgroups in Anglesey to close.

This would be a great loss for the Island on several levels:

- Losing an educational provision for 2-3 year olds. An important period in the development of the child when they learn basic skills such as playing together, sharing with others, communication etc. and where better to learn these skills than a Playgroup in a friendly and welcoming environment? Very often this is the first time the child has been away from his mother and it is essential that children are given the opportunity to do so in an informal and caring environment.
- Every Playgroup advocates the immersion method of introducing the Welsh language and this gives children a firm foundation of communication and understanding skills that benefit them greatly when they start primary school.
- Losing direct posts within the Playgroups – approximately 130 Playgroup staff are employed in Anglesey in 33 Playgroups. Losing the provision would have a detrimental impact on those parents who wish to work part time. There would be losses to the local economy as the Playgroup support a number of village halls and community centres across the Island and purchase goods and food from local traders.
- The Playgroups create a close knit community and environment within the villages and towns as the children and their parents get to know each other and this continues through school years. It would be a great loss for the local community.
- Every Playgroup is a registered charity and they work hard to raise funds for resources for the children and we feel that they provide an affordable educational provision for Early Years. It must be borne in mind that the Playgroups are run by a committee of volunteers who devote their time free of charge. Would it really save money to place 3 year olds across the Island in schools that are often already overcrowded particularly given the work to extend buildings and employ staff?



# TRANSLATION

These proposed savings could have very many long term effects on the future of our children, the local economy, the future of the Welsh language in our County, the future of our society and our culture. As a Committee we implore you to reconsider the figures and think carefully about the long term effects and to enter into a detailed dialogue with the Playgroup Association in order to ensure the continuation of this important educational provision for the benefit of our children.

Yours faithfully,



Vice-Chairman of the Corn Hir Playgroup Committee.

**Wales Pre-school Providers Association's (WalesPPA) response to the Meeting the Challenges Budget Consultation, 2014/ 15.**

**To whom it may concern,**

Wales PPA is a Wales wide membership organisation and national charity working to support the early years sector including 14 members and providers of early years education and care in local communities across the island of Anglesey.

It is important to note that Wales PPA only received this important consultation document and accompanying letter by email on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2014 although the letter is clearly dated 23<sup>rd</sup> December which is a month earlier. This has given the organisation minimal time to share and consult on the document with our relevant members and compose this response to your consultation.

In your consultation document, it is clearly stated on page 2 that 'supporting the most vulnerable' is one of the key priorities for the council as is a commitment to 'regenerating communities', 'improving education, skills and modernising schools' and 'becoming customer, citizen and community focused'. In pages 4 and 5 we are told that the executive is seeking 'to protect the services used by the most vulnerable' and to protect 'education and social care in line with Welsh Government expectations' yet many of the proposed budget cuts to education services within lifelong learning appear to be targeting services to the early years sector which is one of the most vulnerable sectors of Anglesey's residents. Young children within the early years are among the most vulnerable citizens in society today.

We are unclear what exactly the proposed cuts mean to the sector as there is no clear explanation of what is proposed however it appears that 5 of the 15 proposed savings in this section directly impact on services to the 'Early Years' and at least a further two of the cuts will have a detrimental and potentially catastrophic impact on early years childcare provision and associated parental support groups who meet in village or community halls. Far from being supportive of and in line with Welsh Government's expectations, this is in direct contravention of current Welsh Government Policy including Building Brighter Futures, Child Poverty Strategy and the UNCRC.

We are disappointed that there has been no prior discussion with organisations such as ours so as to assessing the potential impact of any proposed cuts on the early years sector and therefore we feel that due regard has not been paid to the sector in managing the likely service reduction if the proposals are accepted. While we can see the reasons why the council are forced to consider savings across all budgets, we feel that without prior open discussion with representatives of key stakeholder organisations such as Wales PPA and providers ahead of the proposals appearing in this consultation document, all potential service reductions are not being considered in 'a careful and measured way' as indicated on page 8.

Maggie Kelly, Wales PPA, 26 Connaught House, Riverside Business Park, Benarth Road, Conwy LL32 8UB [maggielik@walesppa.org](mailto:maggielik@walesppa.org)

We urge that any decisions regarding proposed funding cuts directly and indirectly to the early years sector be suspended until such time as there can be an open and meaningful conversation with ourselves and other similar organisations on what exactly is being proposed and an open assessment of the potential reduction in service is carried out. It is imperative that the needs of this vulnerable group are protected in a viable and reasonable manner.

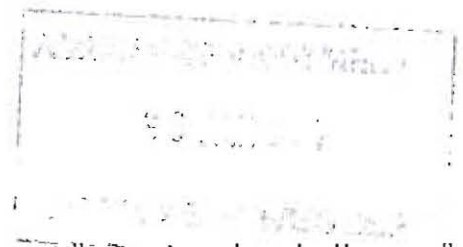
Maggie Kelly,

28<sup>th</sup> January 2014

On behalf of Wales Pre-school Providers Association and members in Anglesey.

Consultation response to [budgetconsultation@anglesey.gov.uk](mailto:budgetconsultation@anglesey.gov.uk)

Also send directly to Richard Parry Jones, Chief Executive , Isle of Anglesey County Council, Swyddfa'r Sir, Llangefni, Ynys Mon LL77 7TW



Dear Sir/Madam,

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 of lowering the children's age to start school from September 2014 as I believe that if this action takes place it will create problems for the local primary schools as the children will not get the attention they need at this age due to not enough members of staff, not enough space to accommodate more children, and they have fewer resources I believe personally this would be a catastrophe for our children to be starting school at the age that is being proposed. The closing of all of the Cylch Meithrins on the Isle of Anglesey would be very disappointing as a parent of two children who attend Cylch Meithrin in Rhosybol, and I feel the council has their priorities very wrong when it comes to wanting to cut the fund for the Cylch Meithrins. The Cylch Meithrin in Rhosybol has helped my eldest child who still attends after the pre-school in Ysgol Rhosybol, he had a severe speech delay when he first started 14 months ago and has come on leaps and bounds since he is a different child with his speech and is now a very sociable little boy, we believe that the Cylch Meithrin has significantly helped bring on his speech. Our youngest has just started the Cylch Meithrin in Rhosybol and is due to finish in July 2015 so this particular proposition will affect us greatly, not only are the staff losing their jobs which is also bad for the Island in itself, parents struggling to find work/ to work, but it's the children that will be losing out the most. Cylch Meithrin helps with easing children out of the home setting and also introduces the children to ways of education without their parents being present. It also offers a good transitional base between home and 'big school'. It boosts the children's confidence and not only that they learn to play and socialise with other children of their own age, encourage sharing and communication skills. Research by the university of Wales, Bangor has also shown that children who attend Cylch Meithrin develop considerably across a wide range of welsh language skills, which is also great to hear as our children's first language is English which is spoken at home, so this is a big help for them before they make the big step of going to a more formal setting ion primary school. As a mother who will be looking for work in September 2014, this proposition will make it very difficult for me to try and find suitable work if the cylch shall close down. In Rhosybol they have great set up where pre-school is in the morning, and Cylch Meithrin in the afternoon, so the children have a full day there if their parent choices that option. Which many parents at Rhosybol choose to do with work commitments, it also gives a boost of education for the children who can learn in a smaller setting than at school, which is good for their age as they tend to concentrate better and get less distracted.

My children have always been happy a Cylch Meithrin they really enjoy their time there as well as learning and the staff are very friendly but professional. A lot of hard work goes on behind the scenes they work so hard to give the children the best start it's a shame if that work will feel wasted. Our Personal opinion is we couldn't ask for a better educational start for our children, and we would be very upset If Cylch Meithrin would have to close. So we ask you kindly to reconsider the proposal of closing the Cylch Meithrins and lowering the children's age to start school as we truly believe that it would be a great loss to the children, parents, community and the staff. Also a heavy strain on the local primary schools who simply would find it difficult to to fit such an amount of children it's ridiculous to suggest in fact, the extra staff, resources and most of all the attention that is needed for children this age. Also to add to this I am disgusted with the amount of notice the parents and staff have had to oppose this proposition, most of the parents still have no idea that this is going on and I personally think this is unfair and too add that the council's website where it was noted had crashed so no one had access to see this also it was in a hard place to find. If you really do have the children's best at heart you would not go through with this proposal.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

30<sup>th</sup> January 2014

To Whom it may concern,

Re: Meeting the Challenges : budget 2014-5

I am writing to raise my concerns regarding the proposed changes to early years education in the above document. I feel that a more detailed exploration of the significance of reducing the school admission age and reduction in other aspects of early years funding is warranted.

The existing cylch structure provides a reassuring and gentle environment for young children to learn about school. As a mother who does not have the benefit of bilingualism, I feel it is very important for children who do not speak welsh to be sensitively introduced to the concept of another language in an appropriate environment with appropriately trained staff. Reducing the school admission age would not allow this to happen in some areas, such as my own village of Talwrn. Very young children who are completely naïve to even the concept of the welsh language, could be put in a class with children as old as seven and a teacher who is not specially trained in educating very small children. Many young children are very shy and would be completely overwhelmed by such an experience.

The effects on older children also have to be considered. Having very young children who need a lot of attention, who may not understand welsh and who also need assistance with basic tasks such as hand washing and toileting could remove the focus of the teachers and classroom assistants from older children who need their attention in order to learn.

Nursery education through the medium of welsh is extremely important in the maintenance of the welsh language. Children from welsh speaking families benefit as they have early years education in their own language. Children from non-welsh speaking homes benefit because they are introduced to the Welsh language and gain an understanding of numbers and letters and commonly used welsh phrases prior to their entry into school when the important task of learning through the medium of welsh begins. If a child from a non-welsh speaking home has early exposure to Welsh, how much easier will it then be for that child to perform well at a Welsh school.

Many of the existing cylchau have had extremely positive feedback from ESTYN. The current system supports the employment of 130 skilled staff across the island. I have always found our local cylch to be a caring and supportive environment for any child, particularly those who are anxious about starting cylch. I am concerned that a busy classroom environment would not be able to support the needs of these very vulnerable young children.

If the school age was reduced, additional staff would be needed to maintain safe adult to child ratios. This may obliterate any savings made by removing funding from cylchau. If younger children are expected to attend school, changes are likely to be needed to the existing fabric of the buildings and playgrounds in order to maintain their safety; again, this could be costly.

Early years education is not uniform across Ynys Mon. The changes may well be very appropriate for some areas, but less so for others. I feel that a more individualised assessment is required and consideration should be given to whether or not there is capacity within existing schools for new, younger children, when some schools, especially those around Llangefni, are already full.

Finally, there may be a detrimental effect on community facilities if buildings and maintenance grants are reduced or removed. Many cylchau are based in village halls and if these grants are no longer received there may be issues around the survival of some of these valuable facilities.

The "Meeting the Challenges" document does not describe in detail exactly what changes to early years education are proposed. I am concerned that decision makers will not be aware of the significance of these changes when considering whether or not to accept the proposals due to this lack of detail in the document. There are obviously significant issues that need to be discussed further and consideration needs to be made as to whether the monies saved are really worthwhile given the potential adverse effects on the Welsh language and some of the youngest, most vulnerable members of our society.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 17:39  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** opposition to proposition

To whom it may concern

I am opposing the proposition in the document "meeting the challenges" budget consultation 2014/15 for reducing the admission age for schools.

We find this news very devastating and shocking. Our children need cylchoedd Meithrin. They provide our children with strong foundations and are an asset to our community. Please make the right decision and keep them open. The opposite will result in a lot of heart ache and lost hope for future generations. Education is the key to success.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]



Gethin Jones

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 17:23  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Cylchoedd Meithrin

To whom it may concern,

I am writing with regards to the proposed cuts in grants for Ysgolion Meithrin. Whilst I appreciate that savings have to be made, please can you ensure that any decisions are made based on up to date, correct information.

Here in Talwrn, we have been faced with the threat of closure of the primary school twice in the last five years, and on both occasions, the facts that were used to back the proposed closure could not stand up to closer scrutiny. If the Cylch Meithrin has to close, you have to make sure that there are real alternatives for the pre-schoolers of Talwrn. The primary school in Talwrn is not structurally suitable / large enough to accommodate in essence another class of children. The Meithrinfa in Llangefni is already full. You have a responsibility to offer the children and their parents education in their own environment. If you stop the feeder pool for Ysgol Talwrn, numbers will dwindle and the primary school will once again be under threat of closure, without any real alternatives for the children; the last time that the school was threatened with closure, the council could not tell the parents where they could send their children. They expected individual families to find individual schools to take on the children, as no school in the near vicinity had the capacity to take all the children. It is important that children have a sense of identity and know where they come from / belong.

If you identify possible closures to meet the savings that have to be made, please make sure that you have real alternatives that are at least equal to the places you want to close; and that real savings will be made, not simply moving the expenditure to another source.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 17:03  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Fwd: stopping under three funding to cylchs on angelesy

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** Wed, Jan 29, 2014 at 6:50 PM  
**Subject:** stopping under three funding to cylchs on angelesy  
**To:** [budgetconsultation@angelsey.gov.uk](mailto:budgetconsultation@angelsey.gov.uk)

i attending a meeting arranged by the mudiad meithrin regarding the stopping of the under three grant to cylch meithrins and children starting part time school the term after their third birthday.

Closing Cylchs across Anglesey would be very wrong, cylchs have given children across Anglesey and the rest of Wales a very good start in life, we have time to help these child transition from the home and then into school. During this time we have help them develop at there own pace, we nurture these young children and prepare them for school, we have the time to help them develop at there own rate and not pressure them to succeed before they are ready. i think there would be a lot of pressure on the school nursery teachers having a new intake each term. it takes a lot of time in the september term for these children to adapt to the school routine and having a new intake each term will disrupt this. also you will get children who may not be potty trained, it is not the job of teacher to potty train children when they have more than enough on their shoulders already.

i think it would be a crime committed by Anglesey County Council to stop the under three funding that helps these cylch offer this fantastic start to a young child and would ask you to really think about the harm you will do if you go ahead with your descision

a very unhappy leader  
[REDACTED]

Annwyl Syr / Madam,

Ysgrifennaf atoch mewn ymateb i'r toriadau posibl i'r ddarpariaeth Mudiadau Meithrin a fyddai efallai yn effeithio ar ein Mudiad ni sef Mudiad Morswyn. Rydym yn cynnal y Mudiad o fewn Ysgol Gymraeg Morswyn, Caergybi. Rwyf i a'm holl staff yn erbyn y newidiadau posibl ac yn ymwybodol ni fyddai lle i'r disgyblion yn Ysgol Gymraeg Morswyn oherwydd diffyg gofod a hefyd oherwydd fod yr ysgol a'r dosbarth Meithrin / Derbyn yn llawn ar hyn o bryd a gyda'r niferoedd sydd yn y Cylch ac yn dymuno symud i fynu'r ysgol bydd y dosbarth hwn yn llawn ar gyfer 2014/2015.

Rwyf hefyd yn poeni am addysg y plant ar gyfer yr oed Mudiad Meithrin ac yn gofyn y cwestiwn a fyddai gan ysgolion gyllid i arianu ratio addas o staff i'r nifer o blant ?

Credwn felly os bydd yn newidiadau yn digwydd fod y cymal nesaf a ddaeth gan Mr Hywel Jones Prif Weithredwr Mudiad Meithrin yn wir ar gyfer ein sefyllfa ni.

*"...mai'r unig gylchoedd ar □l fydd yn cynnig addysg plant tair oed fydd y cylchoedd hynny lle mae ysgolion yn rhy llawn i'w derbyn"*

Yr eiddoch yn gywir,



Mrs   
Arweinydd Cylch Meithrin Morswyn  
Caergybi

# TRANSLATION

96

**Correspondence from:** Morswyn Play Group Leader

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to you in response to possible cuts to the Play Group provision that could affect our Playgroup at Morswyn. We hold the Play Group within Ysgol Gymraeg Morswyn in Holyhead. All my staff and I are against these possible changes and are aware that there would be no room for pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg Morswyn because of lack of space and also because the school and the reception/nursery class are full at the moment and with the numbers in the playgroup and those who wish to move up to school the class will be full for 2014/15.

I am also worried about the children's education and ask whether schools would have any funds to finance a suitable ratio of staff to children?

If these changes are made we believe that the following comments from Mr. Hywel Jones the Chief Executive of the Playgroup Association would be true in our case.

*"....the only play groups that will be offering education for 3 year old children will be those where schools are too full to accept them".*

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 30 January 2014 16:51  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** Meeting the challenge

I am opposing the proposition in the document "Meeting the challenge" budget consultation 2014/2015 of lowering the children's age to start school from September 2014 and the closure of all Cylchoedd Meithrin on the island.

This proposal will have a detrimental effect on each and every community on the island and the future of the education system.

Most of the schools in central Anglesey are full or over subscribed as it is. Where are you going to put these children when some of the schools have no room or the facilities to cope with them.

CHIEF SOCIAL WORKER DEPT

Ionawr 28, 2014

Annwyl Cyngorwyr,

Rwy'n drist iawn yn gorfod meddwl am ysgrifennu yr llythyr yma.

Mae ein Cylch Meithrin ni wedi cael ei sefydlu ers blynnyddoedd yma'n Talwrn. Rwyf i am dwy chwaer wedi cael ein haddysg cynnar yno ac nawr rwy'n fam i ddau o blant oedran tair a hanner a dwy oed, Mae 'n mab yn mynychu'r cylch yn ddyddiol., ac rwyf eisiau i'm hogan fynych pam ei bydd yn ddwy a hanner.

Mae gan ein cylch ni llawer iawn o fanteision:

1. mae'r cylch yn darparu ein plant ermwyn fynychu'r Ysgol Cynradd.
2. Mae'r cylch yn helpu ein plant i fagu hyder, sgiliau chymdeithasol a phersonol.
3. mae'r cylch yn gyhwyn sylfaenol in plant.
4. Mae'r ddwy "Antis" sydd yn dysgu ein plant yn ddwy, hoffus, caredig a llawn hwyl, mae'r plant yn meddwl y byd ohonynt fel y rhieni.

Mae'r anfanteision o cau ein Cylch Meithrin yn ddi ddiwedd:

1. Ydi plant 3 oed mewn dosabrth o blant 6/7 oed am weithio?
2. Ydi'r athrawon am newid y plant os ydynt dal mewn clytiau?
3. Pa ysgol mae'n plant am fynychu os ydi'n ysgol ddim hefo lle?,
4. A fydd trafndiaeth ar gael os oes rhaid ini fynd ar plant i ysgol arall sydd mewn dalgyrch arall.
5. sut ydych chi am arbed arian, fyddwch chi angen cymhorthydd dos-bath ychwanegol ermwyn staffio ir plant syn mynd i fynychu'r ysgol yn 3 oed?

Mae Cylch Meithrin Talwrn fel un teulu mawr a ydych chi am tori'r awyrgylch braf yma,? Dim ond i arbed dipyn o bres?

Gofynnwch i chi eich hunnain, ydi addysg plentyn ddim gwerth y myrmyn arian ydychi am ei gwtogi /cael gwared?

Yn gywir

# TRANSLATION

98

Correspondence from: [REDACTED]  
Dated: 28.01.14

Dear Councillors,

I am very sad thinking about having to write this letter.

Our Playgroup was established many years ago here in Talwrn. My two sisters and I received our early education there and now I am a mother of a 3½ year old and a 2 year old. My son attends the group every day and I want my daughter to do so as well when she reaches 2½ years of age.

Our group has very many advantages:

1. The group prepares our children for primary school.
2. The group helps our children to gain confidence and social and personal skills.
3. The group is a firm foundation for our children.
4. The two "Aunties" who teach our children are pleasant, generous and full of fun and children think the world of them as do the parents.

The disadvantages of closing our Playgroups are endless:

1. Will 3 year olds in a class of 6-7 year olds work?
2. Will the teachers be changing the children if they're still in nappies?
3. Which schools will the children be attending if the school has no vacancies?
4. Will transport be available if children have to go to another school in another catchment area?
5. How are you going to save money, you will need an additional classroom assistant in order to provide staffing for the children who attend schools at 3 years of age.

Talwrn Playgroup is like a big family, are you going to disrupt this pleasant atmosphere? Only to save a bit of money?

Ask yourselves the question, is not a child's education worth the little bit of money that you are going to be saving.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Ionawr 28 2014

Annwyl Cyngorwyr,

Gan eich bod nawr wedi darllen gymaint o llythyrau, negeseuon, galwadau ffon a e-bostiau, rwyf dim ond yn ysgrifennu nodyn byr. yn erbyn cau ein Cylchoedd Meithrin.

Mae genni blentyn tair oed sydd yn mynychu'r cylch yn Talwrn. yn ddyddiol, ag i feddwl ei bod yn hogan bach swil a ddim wedi bod oddi wrth ni fel rhieni, mae wedi ymgartrefu yn anhygoel gyda cymorth y ddwy weinyddes sydd yno. Mae'r Cylch yn rhoid gymaint o profiadau i'r plant maen anhygoel. Mae wdi paratoi fy mhentyn er mwyn mynychur ysgol cynradd.

Mae'r Cylchoedd Meithrin yma yn tynnu ein cymuned ni at ein gilydd dim er mwyn lles y plant ond ni fel rhieni hefyd.. Mae Nainiau a teidiau yn dod yn ran or cylch,

Cadwch ein cylchoedd Meithrin yn agored ac ysyriwch beth ydych chi am ei wneud, un pnderfynniad yn gallu gwneud gymaint o ddrwg i gymunedau bach, ac lles addysgol plenty.

Yn gywir

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]





# TRANSLATION

Correspondence from: [REDACTED]  
Dated: 28.01.14

Dear Councillors,

As you have now read so many letters, messages and e-mails and received so many phone calls I am just writing a short note against the closure of Playgroups.

I have a 3 year old child who attends the Talwrn Playgroup every day and to think that she had been a shy little girl who had not been away from her parents, she has settled down incredibly well with the help of the two assistants there. The Playgroup provides so many opportunities for the children it's incredible. It prepared my child for attending primary school.

These Playgroups bring our communities together not just for the welfare of the children but for us as parents as well; grandmothers and grandfathers become part of the group.

Keep our Playgroups open and consider what you are going to do, one decision can do so much damage for small communities and the educational welfare of children.

Yours faithfully,  
[REDACTED]

# DERBYNMYD 82 O'R LLYTHYR HAW GAN LIHANOL UNIGOLION

100 - 1834

Ymgynghoriad ar Gyllideb 2014/15  
Swyddfa'r Prif Weithredwr  
Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn  
Swyddfa'r Cyngor  
Llangefni  
Ynys Môn  
LL77 7TW

29 Ionawr 2014

Annwyl Mr Richard Parry Jones

**Par: Cwrdd â'r Heriau Ymgynghoriad ar y Gyllideb 2014/15**

Hoffwn ymateb yn benodol i'r arbedion arfaethedig o fewn y gwasanaeth addysg yn enwedig y ddarpariaeth ar gyfer y blynyddoedd cynnar. Siom enfawr oedd clywed na thrafodwyd elfennau o'r ddogfen uchod gyda'r Mudiad Meithrin a bod y cyfnod ymgynghori a osodwyd wedi bod mor hynod o fyr. Teimlaf yn gryf bod angen edrych y tu hwnt i'r ffigurau er lles a dyfodol plant Ynys Môn, dylid cynnal trafodaethau trwyadl gyda'r rhanddeiliaid i geisio rhesymoli a chynllunio rhag blaen.

Hoffwn i chi ystyried y sylwadau isod os gwelwch yn dda cyn gwneud penderfyniadau a all chwalu cymdeithasau a than-seilio Cymreictod ein Sir.

- Mae pob toriad arfaethedig i'r blynyddoedd cynnar yn effeitho Cylchoedd Meithrin Môn a gall hyn gael nifer o effeithiau hir dymor andwyol iawn i'r Sir
- Mae'r Cylchoedd yn darparu addysg feithrin o safon uchel i blant o 2-4 oed. Mae'r cyfnod yma yn natblygiad plentyn yn un hanfodol bwysig ac mae'r ddarpariaeth feithrin gan y Cylchoedd yn rhoi sylfaen gadarn i'r plant cyn iddynt ddechrau yn yr ysgol gynradd gan feithrin sgiliau megis cyd-chwarae, rhannu a chymdeithasu, sgiliau deall a chyfathrebu yn yr iaith Gymraeg, dod allan o glwt ayyb a hynny i gyd mewn awyrgylch gartrefol, ofalgar.
- Mae Cylchoedd Meithrin Môn yn chwarae rôl bwysig o fewn y gymuned, mae nifer ohonynt yn defnyddio neuaddau pentref a chanolfannau cymunedol, mae'r Cylchoedd yn cael eu rhedeg gan wirfoddolwyr ac yn cynnal gweithgareddau o fewn y gymuned leol sydd yn dod a phobl at ei gilydd ac yn meithrin cyfeillgarwch
- O ran yr economi leol, maent yn cyflogi dros 130 o staff dros yr Ynys, yn talu rhent ac yn prynu nwyddau a bwyd yn lleol. Mae'r ddarpariaeth yn galluogi rhieni ymgymryd â gwaith rhan-amser gan hybu'r economi ymhellach.

Heb y Cylchoedd Meithrin ym Môn ni fydd darpariaeth addysg i blant rhwng 2-4 oed, ni fydd cyfle i blant gael cymdeithasu a dod i nabod ei gilydd o fewn awyrgylch anffurfiol, gartrefol y Cylch. Ni fydd y plant wedi cael sylfaen gadarn yn yr iaith Gymraeg a gall hyn arwain at ddirywiad yn yr iaith led led yr Ynys. A fydd ysgolion yn gallu ymdopi gyda'r niferoedd ychwanegol o blant yn enwedig y rhai sy'n llawn yn barod? Yn y pen draw a fydd costau llawer uwch os oes angen ehangu'r ysgolion a chyflogi staff ychwanegol? Bydd colledion o fewn yr economi leol, diwylliant, iaith a chymdeithas; a yw'r arbedion ariannol yn ddigonol i warantu hyn?

Byddai'n drasiedi petai Cylchoedd Meithrin Môn yn cau oherwydd materion ariannol yn deillio o ddiffyg ymgynghori a thrafod a chynllunio'r dyfodol er lles ein plant. Erfynaf arnoch i ail edrych ar y ffigurau ac i drafod ymhellach gan sicrhau fod y plant yn cymeryd y brif ffocws mewn unrhyw drafodaethau.

Yn gywir

(Rhiant Cylch Meithrin Corn Hir)

# TRANSLATION

100 - 182

82 LETTERS OF  
SAME RECEIVED FROM  
INDIVIDUALS

Dear Mr. Richard Parry Jones

## Re: Meeting the Budget Challenges for 2014/15

I would like to respond specifically to the proposed savings within the Education Service particularly the provision for the Early Years. It was extremely disappointing to hear that aspects of this document had not been discussed with the Playgroup Association and that the consultation period was so extremely short. I feel strongly that you need to look beyond the figures for the benefit and the future of the children of Anglesey, and that thorough discussion should be held with the stakeholders.

I would like you please to consider the observations noted below before making decisions that could decimate communities and undermine the Welshness of our County.

- Every proposed cut to the Early Years affects Anglesey Playgroups and could have a number of very adverse long term effects for the County.
- The Playgroups provide nursery education of a high standard for 2-4 year olds. This period in a child's development is essentially important and the nursery provision provided by the Playgroups gives them a firm foundation before they start primary school and fosters skills such as playing together, sharing and socialising, comprehension and communication skills in the Welsh language, coming out of nappies etc. all this in a caring and welcoming environment.
- Anglesey's Playgroups play an important part in our community, many of them use village halls and community centres and are run by volunteers and provide activities within the local community that bring people together and nurture friendships.
- In terms of the local economy, they employ over 130 staff on the Island, pay rent and purchase goods and food locally. The provision enables parents to undertake part time work which further boost to the economy.

Without the Playgroups in Anglesey there would be no educational provision for children between 2-4 years old and no opportunity for them to socialise and get to know each other within an informal and welcoming atmosphere. Children will not have had the firm foundation in the Welsh language which could lead to a deterioration in the language throughout the Island. Will schools be able to cope with the additional numbers of children particularly those that are already full? Ultimately will there be much higher costs if schools have to be extended and additional staff employed. There will be losses within the local economy, culture, language and society; are the financial savings sufficient to justify this?

It would be a tragedy if Anglesey's Playgroups were to close because of financial considerations and as a result of lack of consultation and future planning for the welfare of our children. I implore you to reconsider the figures and to enter into further discussions thereby ensuring that the children are the main focus in any deliberations.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

**Gethin Jones**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 January 2014 15:58  
**To:** BUDGET CONSULTATION  
**Subject:** oppose the proposition 'budget consultation 2014/15' of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014 and closure of ALL of Cylch Meithrins on Isle of Anglesey.

Dear Anglesey County Council,

I just signed [REDACTED] petition "Anglesey County Council: oppose the proposition 'budget consultation 2014/15' of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014 and closure of ALL of Cylch Meithrins on Isle of Anglesey." on Change.org.

oppose the proposition 'budget consultation 2014/15' of lowering the childrens age to start school from sept 2014 and closure of ALL of Cylch Meithrins on Isle of Anglesey.

Sincerely,  
[REDACTED], United Kingdom

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There are now 50 signatures on this petition. Read reasons why people are signing, and respond to Shiree-Nicole Webb by clicking here:

<http://www.change.org/petitions/anglesey-county-council-oppose-the-proposition-budget-consultation-2014-15-of-lowering-the-childrens-age-to-start-school-from-sept-2014-and-closure-of-all-of-cylch-meithrins-on-isle-of-anglesey/responses/new?response=19ef950ed708>

