



# Complete Agenda

Democratic Services  
Council Offices  
CAERNARFON  
Gwynedd  
LL55 1SH

Meeting

**COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE CRIME AND DISORDER**

Date and Time

**10.30 am, THURSDAY, 19TH JANUARY, 2023**

**This meeting will be webcast**

[https://gwynedd.public-i.tv/core/l/en\\_GB/portal/home](https://gwynedd.public-i.tv/core/l/en_GB/portal/home)

**Note: a briefing session will be held for members at 10:15am**

Location

**Hybrid**

**Siambwr Hywel Dda, Council Offices, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1SH**

**AND**

**Virtually via Zoom**

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(DISTRIBUTED 11/01/23)

# **COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

## **MEMBERSHIP (18)**

### **Plaid Cymru (11)**

#### Councillors

Elwyn Edwards  
Elin Hywel  
Edgar Wyn Owen  
Beca Roberts

Delyth Lloyd Griffiths  
Kim Jones  
Llio Elenid Owen  
Rhys Tudur

Annwen Hughes  
Linda Morgan  
Arwyn Herald Roberts

### **Independent (6)**

#### Councillors

Gwilym Jones  
Peter Thomas  
Gruffydd Williams

Robert Glyn Daniels  
Elfed Powell Roberts  
Rob Triggs

### **Liberal Democrats / Labour (1)**

Councillor Stephen Churchman

### **Ex-officio Members**

Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council

# AGENDA

## 1. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

## 2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

To receive any declaration of personal interest

## 3. URGENT ITEMS

To note any items that are a matter of urgency in the view of the Chairman for consideration.

## 4. MINUTES

5 - 12

The Chairman shall propose that the minutes of the meeting of this Committee, held on 27.10.2022 be signed as a true record.

## 5. ANNUAL UPDATE BY THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (GWYNEDD AND ANGLESEY). 13 - 36

To provide an overview to Members of the activities of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Community Safety Partnership (CSP), January 2023 for the period of 2021-22, and developments for 2022-23.

## 6. SCRUTINISING THE DRAFT WELL-BEING PLAN.

37 - 49

To provide an opportunity for members of the Committee to scrutinise the content of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Draft Well-being Plan and submit any observations.

## 7. GRASS CUTTING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE.

50 - 52

To review the County roadside maintenance arrangements.

## 8. AN OUTLINE OF THE WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICE REVIEW WORK PROGRAMME 53 - 62

To outline the matters requiring attention in the areas of Waste and Recycling and present a work programme for reviewing the matters requiring attention in the areas of Waste and Recycling.

## 9. COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD PROGRAMME 2022/23. 63 - 64

To adopt a revised work programme.

## 10. PERFORMANCE CHALLENGE MEETINGS.

65

To nominate representatives to attend performance challenge meetings.

## COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, 27 OCTOBER 2022

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**Present:**

**COUNCILLORS:** Elin Hywel (Chair)

Stephen Churchman, Delyth Lloyd Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, Gwilym Jones, Linda Morgan, Edgar Owen, Llio Elenid Owen, Elfed Powell Roberts, Arwyn Herald Roberts, Beca Roberts, Peter Thomas, Rob Triggs, Rhys Tudur and Gruffydd Williams.

**Officers in attendance:**

Bethan Adams (Scrutiny Advisor), Rhodri Jones (Democracy Services Officer) and Eirian Roberts (Democracy Services Officer).

**Present for item 5:**

Councillor Dafydd Meurig (Cabinet Member for the Environment), Gareth Jones (Assistant Head of Environment) and Rebeca Jones (Planning Manager (Joint Planning Policy)).

**Present for item 6:**

Councillor Dafydd Meurig (Cabinet Member for the Environment), Wyn Williams (Countryside Manager) and Gareth Jones (Assistant Head of Environment Department).

**Present for item 7:**

Councillor Berwyn Parry Jones (Cabinet Member for Highways and Municipal Services and Gwynedd Consultancy), Steffan Jones (Head of Highways and Municipal Department) and Emlyn Jones (Assistant Head of Gwynedd Consultancy).

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Robert Glyn Daniels, Elwyn Edwards and Kim Jones.

**2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

No declarations of personal interest were received.

**3. URGENT ITEMS**

None to note.

**4. MINUTES**

The Chair signed the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on 28 September, 2022, as a true record.

**5. NATIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS TO MANAGE THE EFFECT OF SECOND HOMES AND HOLIDAY LETS ON THE ABILITY OF LOCAL PEOPLE TO GAIN ACCESS TO HOUSING IN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND THE AMENDED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN.**

## COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, 27 OCTOBER 2022

The report was presented by the Cabinet Member for the Environment, the Assistant Head of Environment and the Planning Manager (Joint Planning Policy). Attention was drawn briefly to the following principal points:

- It was explained that in the past there had been difficulties when trying to control the number of second homes in Gwynedd. This was because there were no regulations in place to prevent people from amending the use of their homes without the need to apply for planning permission.
- Details were given that a new use class had been made to convert housing into accommodation for students in Welsh cities and this had driven a scrutiny investigation to look at the possibility of creating a new use class for housing converted into second homes or holiday lets.
- An investigation was commissioned by the Cabinet in 2019 to look into this area and the inspection report was adopted in October 2020 which included recommendations on the grounds of planning, licensing and finance. The Welsh Government undertook further investigation and had very similar findings.
- It was confirmed that three further class uses had now come into effect, namely:
  - C3 – Main Home
  - C5 – Second Home
  - C6 – Short-term holiday lets
- It was noted that owners had the right to change between these use classes without planning permission. In order to manage this, an Article 4 Direction must be made. It was noted that this would give the Council powers to require owners to apply for planning permission before changing the use class of their houses.

Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and offer observations. During the discussion, the following matters were raised:

Attention was drawn to other campaigns that contributed to these developments such as Simon Brooks' report and the 'Hawl i Fyw Adra' organisation.

It was asked how the process of collecting evidence and data would be funded.

- In response to the query, the Head of the Environment Department acknowledged that there were three steps to ensure that article 4 came into effect. Currently, the department was prioritising the first step, namely collection of evidence that was being undertaken by the Joint Policy Service. Since this was unprecedented work, it was anticipated that there was a need for guidance from Counsel and therefore a need for additional finance.
- It was confirmed that additional planning officers would need to be recruited when article 4 comes into effect. It was likely that this would take place during 2023/24. An application had been submitted to the Welsh Government since September 2022 for additional resources to ensure that the Council was in a strong position to act effectively when article 4 came into force.
- It was explained that recruitment was a wider problem within the department due to the pressure to qualify and the language emphasis of the posts. It was confirmed that work was being undertaken to ensure that the department's jobs

## COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE, 27 OCTOBER 2022

appealed to graduates. The department shares the opportunities available with universities in order to attract candidates.

It was asked whether it was possible to get a report on the development of the recruitment policy to consider whether the time-schedule to implement article 4 at the start of 2024 was achievable.

- In response to the query, the Assistant Head of Environment Department agreed that recruitment could be part of the department's report at the March 2023 meeting, however, the report would focus mainly on the options for the areas where the article four direction could be justified. It was emphasised that it was currently aimed to meet the timescale but this could change as it was difficult to anticipate what obstacles may arise knowing that the process was unprecedented.
- It was explained that the changes to the use class had been implemented since 20 October 2022. Since then the Department had been implementing the legislation when dealing with planning applications for new housing by using a planning condition to remove the right for a change of use from the main home (C3) to C5 and C6 uses. As a result, formal permission would be required to change the housing class use, and the aim was that this is done now before article 4 comes into effect.

It was also considered whether legislation was likely to create problems in areas where second homes were not currently a concern. It was asked whether consideration had been given to areas that bordered other authorities and whether there was collaboration with those authorities so that everyone followed the same rules.

- In response to the query, the Planning Manager (Joint Planning Policy) acknowledged that they had to be mindful that the system does not create problems in areas where no issues currently exist. In order to try and prevent this, the department was following a continuous process of gathering evidence.
- It was confirmed that there was regular collaboration with the Eryri National Park Authority. Evidence gathered was shared with them, and the collaboration process was very positive thus far.

A member noted the need to give consideration to buffer zones. In response to a question regarding the size of the action areas of the article 4 direction, the Assistant Head of Environment Department noted that the area could be based on the electoral ward or a specific area. He expanded that no options in terms of the size of the area were discounted, and he agreed that there was a need to consider areas on the periphery of an area where a direction would be in force.

It was questioned how areas requiring an article 4 direction would be identified, and it was asked if there were specific criteria to accept these.

- In response to the query, the Planning Manager (Joint Planning Policy) noted that a great deal of evidence went in to identifying an area that requires the direction. These included the Welsh language, the situation of schools and how many houses are rented out as Short-term Holiday lets. Evidence collected regarding each aspect was considered in detail to see whether the area needs an article 4 direction and the information will also be used for the benefit of new policies in the Amended Local Development Plan.

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It was asked if enquiries were being made with the public to get the voice of the area's residents.

- In response to the query, the Planning Manager (Joint Planning Policy) noted that a consultation strategy was being developed with the communication team. There were no specific examples of how to undertake this, however, there was a need to ensure that we meet with the statutory requirements and give people in the area an opportunity to voice their opinion.

It was asked whether a year's notice had to be given to change a dwelling's use use, what happens to housing sold prior to the article 4 direction coming into force, and the use class changing.

- In response to the query, the Assistant Head of the Environment Department noted that unfortunately it was not possible to prevent changes between the class uses during the sale of housing process until the article 4 direction had come into force. Although there was nothing that could currently be done in planning terms (apart from applications for new housing as already explained), it was possible that a new owner would have other interventions to consider such as taxation.

The members expressed their thanks for the report.

### **RESOLVED**

- (i) To accept the report, noting the observations made during the meeting.**
- (ii) That a further report is submitted to the Committee at its meeting on 9 March 2023, examining the potential area options where use of an Article 4 Direction can be evidenced.**
- (iii) To ask the Department to include information about the consultation and recruitment in the report.**

### **6. INTRODUCING THE RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

The report was submitted by the Cabinet Member for Environment, the Countryside Manager and the Assistant Head of Environment. Attention was drawn briefly to the following principal points:

- The Cabinet Member for the Environment explained that the draft plan had appeared before this Committee prior to consultation and had been developed following the consultation undertaken over the summer. The consultation included 7 questions based on the action points
- A total of 294 responses were received to the questionnaire, with the majority indicating a general satisfaction with the rights of way improvement plan

Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and offer observations. During the discussion, the following matters were raised:

It was asked whether the department had considered seeking volunteers to assist them to improve rights of way? It was believed that people were eager to volunteer as this brought communities together. This would also be a good way of collaborating with town and community councils.

- In response to the query, the Countryside Manager noted that it was a challenge for officers to coordinate volunteers. Responding to an interest could be challenging at times as resources were not available to continuously support



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volunteers. It was also important to remember that health and safety issues needed to be considered with some aspects of volunteering. However, it was recognised that not enough advantage was taken of volunteering and included in the plan and there was room for improvement here.

- The Countryside Manager proceeded to confirm that there was a strong relationship with community and town councils especially with funding and grants issues. On-going work was undertaken to collaborate with town councils and public bodies.

It was noted that volunteers needed health and safety training and they could then undertake the work of inspecting footpaths. Praise was given to the work of the service considering the cuts to the budget.

It was asked how the plan would allow horses to travel safely along the paths bearing in mind obstructions such as gates and the proximity to road traffic.

- In response to the query, the Countryside Manager confirmed that regular applications were received from a horse society for permission to use more of the paths. Some paths were already suitable such as Lôn Las Ogwen. This path was wide and flat and suitable for horses and bicycles.
- The Countryside Manager proceeded to say that there was inconsistency in the types of paths that are part of the network and therefore horses and bicycles could not travel on every one. Work was being done to ensure that there was consistency across all the Lonydd Glas network and to get a safety assessment so that every user was safe when using the paths.

It was asked if work was being undertaken to make the paths more accessible to people with mobility difficulties or for people with vision impairment. It was assumed that some people had difficulties using the paths due to the distance between signs, especially if their vision was poor.

- In response to the query, the Countryside Manager noted that he was aware of these difficulties. The department had been working for some years to reduce the number of obstacles on the paths – such as replacing a stile with a gate, and if possible completely removing the gate to leave a gateway without any obstruction.
- It was expanded that this work was regularly reviewed. The department is continuing to learn as people use the paths and an equality impact assessment would be prepared for the plan.

It was asked whether it was possible to receive a report from the department regarding the condition of the footpaths network.

- In response to the query, the Countryside Manager confirmed that a sample of the condition of paths in 6 communities were available. These samples indicated the inconsistencies in the network. This could be for several reasons such as the landscape. There was a new system of managing and responding to complaints by now. In looking at the complaints, the types of enquiries received may be explored to make a further assessment of the condition of the paths.

Thanks were expressed for the report.

### **RESOLVED**

- (i) To accept the report and approve that the Environment Department prepare a final version of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan and to incorporate the**

**recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee in relation to including further information regarding volunteers and access for all matters.**

**(ii) Recommend that the Cabinet adopt the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.**

## **7. LOCAL FLOOD STRATEGY**

The report was presented by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Municipal and Gwynedd Consultancy, the Head of Highways and Municipal Services and the Assistant Head of Gwynedd Consultancy. Attention was drawn briefly to the following principal points:

- The Head of Highways and Municipal Department explained that the document detailed inland and coastal flooding risks but that these were considered separately.
- The inland flooding risks were discussed and it was explained that each area was considered independently in order to state the risks that impact on different parts of the county. In the past, it was considered that too local a consideration had been made and therefore the department was eager to look at areas according to catchment areas in order to ascertain the more real risks.
- The coastal flooding risks were discussed. It was emphasised that the department wanted to ascertain the most vulnerable areas in order to apply for grants to get materials to protect them.

Members were given an opportunity to ask questions and offer observations. During the discussion, the following matters were raised:

It was asked by approximately how much the sea level would rise as a result of the climate change impact, and what could be done to prevent this and the situation in the Fairbourne area.

- In response to this query, the Assistant Head of Gwynedd Consultancy noted that there was a presumption that the sea level would increase by approximately a metre in the future due to climate change. He explained that there was a specific plan for the Fairbourne area in the context of mitigating the impact and the effect on the community. He noted that a community impact assessment would be undertaken.

Reference was made to the department's intention to look regularly at the catchment areas to review their flooding risks. It was asked how the department would undertake this.

- In response to the query, the Assistant Head of Gwynedd Consultancy confirmed that a number of minor projects were being implemented within the catchment areas to get clear information about each area. These projects are rectified prior to the submission of information to Natural Resources Wales who feed the information into their database.
- It was expanded that it was possible to use Natural Resources Wales' map to see how many properties there would be in a high-risk area in the catchment area. As information was fed regularly into the database, this information was likely to consistently change. As the department worked in high risk areas and resolved problems, the information would be fed back to Natural Resources Wales for them to update their information.
- It was emphasised that although this process took time, the priorities that would need to be followed would change with time to ensure that flood prevention support went to the areas where it was most needed. The information was transferred from

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the department to Natural Resources Wales twice a year. This was sufficient for the department.

It was noted that it was key to consider what side effects the projects to safeguard the coast in one catchment area had on nearby areas. It was possible that resolving coastal flooding risks in one community had a negative impact on another area. It was important to take these risks into consideration when trying to produce a framework.

In response to observations in the context of flooding risks in Pwllheli and Porthmadog, it was noted that Natural Resources Wales led on plans in these areas. It was explained that there was input from the Department and enquiries would be made regarding the timetable. A member emphasised the importance of communication with communities.

Reference was made to the department's strategy to look at inland and coastal flooding separately. It was asked if there was a risk for the full picture to be lost by not considering both together.

- In response to this query, the Assistant Head of Gwynedd Consultancy emphasised that this was not a problem. Since projects were implemented as parts of catchment areas, these impacts would not be lost.
- It was expanded upon that there was collaboration with many organisations such as Natural Resources Wales, and Town and Community Councils. In the past, collaboration had been challenging. The situation had improved by now and everyone had a shared vision and aspiration.

Thanks were expressed for the report.

### **RESOLVED**

**To accept the report, noting the observations made during the meeting.**

### **8. COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD PROGRAMME 2022/23**

The report was presented by the Scrutiny Advisor and she briefly drew attention to the following main points:

- It was confirmed that the committee had adopted the work programme at the previous meeting on 28.09.2022. Since then one report had slipped back on the timetable, namely the 'Well-being Plan' item. A request had been made to officers to present this report to the committee in January. Four items had already been programmed for January and therefore there was a need to prioritise.
- It was explained that the item 'Amended Local Development Plan' had been timetabled for January. It was confirmed that an information session for members had been held recently. It was proposed to remove this item from the January timetable and give priority to the 'Well-being Plan' report in its place. There was a need to scrutinise the well-being plan as it would inform the priorities of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board for the next period.

In response to an enquiry about the contents of the item 'Amended Local Development Plan' it was confirmed that it was only the plan's time-schedule/process that would be scrutinised, not the contents of the plan itself. This information has already been shared in the information session to members.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) To prioritise the 'Well-being Plan' item for the 19 January 2023 meeting and remove the 'Amended Local Development Plan' item.**
- (ii) To adopt the amended work programme for 2022/23.**

The meeting commenced at 10.30 a.m. and concluded at 12.35 p.m.

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CHAIR

# Agenda Item 5

**REPORT TO:** COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (CRIME AND DISORDER) GWYNEDD LOCAL AUTHORITY

**DATE:** 19/01/2023

**REPORT BY:** COUNCILLOR DILWYN MORGAN  
DARON OWENS – SENIOR OPERATIONAL OFFICER

**SUBJECT:** ANNUAL UPDATE BY THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (GWYNEDD AND ANGLESEY)

<b>1.00</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</b>
1.01	To provide an overview to Members of the activities of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Community Safety Partnership (CSP), January 2023 for the the period of 2021-22, and developments for 2022-23.
<b>2.00</b>	<b>BACKGROUND</b>
2.01	<p>The Community Safety Partnership is required to formally report to this committee each year to present an overview. This ensures that the Partnership delivers its obligations in accordance with sections 19 and 20 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2006.</p> <p><b>The committee’s duty is to scrutinise the Partnership’s work, rather than the work of individual members (bodies).</b></p>
2.02	<p>There is a statutory duty on <b>Local Authorities</b> in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and subsequent amendments because of the Police and Criminal Justice Act 2002 and 2006, to work in partnership with the <b>Police, the Health service, the Probation Service and the Fire and Rescue Service</b>, to address the local community safety agenda. These are the main agencies that make up the Community Safety Partnership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Community safety partnerships were originally called crime and disorder partnerships, and although the name has been changed, the areas or responsibility have not, and they remain –</b></li><li>• Crime and Disorder</li><li>• Substance Misuse</li><li>• Reducing reoffending</li><li>• We will also have a responsibility to formulate and implement a strategy to prevent and reduce serious violence, following amendments to the Crime and Disorder Act as a result of the new Serious Violence Duty expected next year.</li><li>• Under the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004, CSPs also have a statutory duty to establish Domestic Homicide Reviews. These are a review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by— (a) a person to whom he was related or with whom he was or had been in an intimate personal relationship, or</li></ul>

	(b) a member of the same household as himself, held with a view to identifying the lessons to be learnt from the death.
2.03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community Safety Partnership has now been in place for 24 years, latterly, as a two-county partnership. The changes that the partnership has faced over the years are numerous. Indeed, it could be said that the landscape today looks nothing like that which existed in 1998, when CSP's became a statutory requirement.</li> <li>• What has not changed however is the commitment and engagement of all partners. Quarterly meetings are always well attended.</li> <li>• Partners and local Members who attend the meetings contribute positively, and quarterly data on crime figures and plan delivery are shared at every meeting.</li> <li>• Every responsible member of the partnership contributes financially to have in place a partnership analyst, so that regular data can be supplied in order that evidence-based decisions can be made.</li> <li>• Working between partners is fundamental to community safety. The main reason for the introduction of CSP's back in 1998, was to ensure that crime and disorder was seen as 'everybody's problem' and not the realm of the Police alone.</li> <li>• Some of the main changes the partnership has, and currently faces are listed below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of local grants – all of the grants, which the partnership once received have now either ended, or have moved to a regional grant position, managed on a North Wales basis. However, by ensuring we play our part in the regional structure, monies are still being secured, including additional funding in the past 18 months for both Domestic abuse/sexual violence and substance misuse, in Gwynedd and Anglesey.</li> <li>- Loss of local co-ordinators – some posts have been lost because of the withdrawal of funding, others became a regional resource. However, by maintaining close and purposeful membership of the regional groups, we are confident that local needs are embedded in all regional plans and activity.</li> <li>- The main challenges we all face of course, is the changing face of criminality in our communities today. <b>Even though Gwynedd and Anglesey remain amongst the safest places to live</b>, we face the same issues as all other areas of the UK. Crime today is far reaching and complex, with the use of technology enabling a level of exploitative crime, arguably not seen before. Organised crime gangs exist across the UK, and most are involved with drug related crime. These gangs are known as county lines gangs and have been the subject of much responsive activity in North Wales, which have impacted greatly on the criminal gangs' activity in the area.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
3.00	<b>THE PARTNERSHIP'S PRIORITIES/DOCUMENTS FOR SCRUTINY</b>

3.01 The partnership works to an annual plan. Attached is the 2022-23 plan, which is based on the priorities within the Safer North Wales Board’s Strategy. These priorities are:

- Preventing Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour
- Tackling Violent Crime
- Tackling Serious Organised Crime
- Protecting and building resilient communities and maintaining public safety.

These priorities are also closely linked to the Police’s regional strategic assessment and the Police and Crime Commissioner’s plan.

**4.00 OVERVIEW OF OFFENDING RATES OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

4.01 Background:

- The Police look at crime figures constantly, and review all changes on a regional and local basis. Any significant changes are subject to further analysis. Problem areas will then be reviewed, with Policing plans put in place to tackle the issues. Local policing methods include the daily tasking of resources to tackle issues as they emerge.
- The Partnership received data on crime levels on a quarterly basis, and the ‘softer’ or longer-term approaches of tackling crime trends will be the basis of the partnership plan. (During the lockdown period, data was received on a monthly basis.) The data we generally use, is that of a comparison between the period in the current year, and the same period in the former year.

**CRIME DATA**

1. Below is the most recent crime data for Gwynedd for January 2023 from the Partnership Analyst within North Wales Police. This outlines the figures for the year to date, with comparison to previous years and the picture across North Wales.

**Gwynedd**

Gwynedd - Crime & Incident Data	Fiscal Year		% Change (YTD)	North Wales % Change (YTD)
	2021/22 (YTD)	2022/23 (YTD)		
All Victim Based Crime	6,880	6,274	-8.8%	-4.4%
Violence with injury	815	827	1.5%	1.3%
Violence without injury	1,339	1,234	-7.8%	-2.8%
Stalking & Harassment	1,329	1,112	-16.3%	-13.7%
Sexual offences	318	276	-13.2%	5.8%
All Acquisitive Crime	1,253	1,304	4.1%	13.1%
Burglary Residential	167	136	-18.6%	-11.6%

<b>Burglary - Business and Community</b>	90	76	<b>-15.6%</b>	11.1%
<b>Robbery</b>	16	10	<b>-37.5%</b>	-27.3%
<b>Vehicle Crime</b>	146	125	<b>-14.4%</b>	-1.4%
<b>Theft and Handling</b>	834	957	<b>14.7%</b>	21.5%
<b>Criminal Damage &amp; Arson</b>	890	942	<b>5.8%</b>	-4.7%
<b>Domestic Crime</b>	1,414	1,351	<b>-4.5%</b>	-4.5%
<b>Domestic Incidents (non-crime)</b>	498	592	<b>18.9%</b>	7.5%
<b>Hate Crime</b>	210	187	<b>-11.0%</b>	-14.7%
<b>Anti-Social Behaviour</b>	2,487	2,239	<b>-10.0%</b>	-8.7%

2. Violence against the person offences have, overall, decreased in Gwynedd in 2022/23, compared to the same period last year. This follows the pattern being seen across North Wales as a whole, where *Violence with Injury* offences have increased slightly, and *Violence without Injury* offences have decreased.
3. In April 2020, the Home Office made changes to the category of Stalking & Harassment and included additional offence types within it, such as coercive and controlling behaviour. This, along with more scrutiny around secondary/additional crimes led to large increases in offence numbers both across the force and nationally. Year-to-date data for 2022/23 shows that these initial increases have stopped and reductions in volumes are now being seen across the force and, by a larger percentage, in Gwynedd.
4. The 2022/23 year-to-date recorded level of Sexual Offences in Gwynedd has decreased in comparison to 2021/22, whereas across North Wales as a whole there has been an increase. There can be significant fluctuations in reported offences from week to week, partly due to reporting of historic offences.
5. Burglary Residential offences have reduced in Gwynedd this year by -18.6%, in comparison to last year. Force wide, there has been -11.6% decrease overall. Burglary – Business & Community offences have also decreased in Gwynedd this year, in comparison to last year. As a whole, North Wales has experienced an 11.1% increase in Burglary – Business & Community offences this year, compared to last. Year-to-date, there has been a marked increase in the volume of Theft & Handling offences in Gwynedd and also across the force area, in comparison to last year. This is mainly driven by an increase in Shoplifting, which falls within the Theft and Handling category. Shoplifting in Gwynedd is 53.8% higher year-to-date in comparison to last year, with the force seeing an overall increase of 32.3%. With increases in the cost of living, it is predicted that shoplifting offences will rise over the coming months.
6. A slight increase in the year-to-date volume of Criminal Damage & Arson offences has been seen so far in Gwynedd this year, whilst across North Wales there has been a slight reduction.



	<p>7. Domestic Crime in Gwynedd has fallen by -4.5% year-to-date, in comparison to last year. This percentage reduction is also being seen across the force area. Domestic Incidents (Non-Crime) are calls received by North Wales Police's Control Room which have a domestic element to them; however do not constitute a criminal offence and are therefore not recorded on the force records management system. They include incidents such as verbal domestic disputes, where no criminal offences have taken place. These incidents generate a CID 16 referral, for consideration of sharing with the relevant safeguarding partners. It is difficult to analyse the reasons behind the increases being seen in Non-Crime Domestic Incidents, however it is hoped that public confidence in the force has played a part in more people coming forward to report such incidents.</p> <p>8. Following some sharp increases in Hate Crime on Gwynedd, during and post COVID, the 2022/23 volumes are now showing a decrease in comparison to last year. These decreases are being seen across North Wales as a whole.</p> <p>9. ASB in Gwynedd has seen a year-to-date decrease of 10% in 2022/23, in comparison to the same period in 2021/22. This equates to approximately 250 fewer incidents being reported. Repeat victims of ASB, repeat locations where ASB is occurring, and high-risk vulnerable victims are referred for review to monthly multi-agency tasking groups.</p>
<b>5.00</b>	<b>WORK COMPLETED SO FAR DURING 2022</b>
5.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A questionnaire laid the foundation for establishing the plan for this year, through asking partners for information about any upcoming activities or projects that linked with the Safer North Wales Board's priorities.</li> <li>• The 2022-23 plan (attached) sets out the activity the Partnership wanted to achieve during this financial year. The activity is monitored and reported on a quarterly basis to the CSP, so that any remedial activity can be agreed if required.</li> <li>• Crime figures are shared on a quarterly basis through a performance report prepared by the Police Analyst, so that any trends and additional activity needed could be discussed.</li> <li>• We have a statutory duty under the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 to establish Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs). These are a review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by— (a) a person to whom he was related or with whom he was or had been in an intimate personal relationship, or (b) a member of the same household as himself, held with a view to identifying the</li> </ul>

lessons to be learnt from the death. Sadly, the Partnership was required to commission 3 additional DHR's this year. This work inevitably has significant and continuing resourcing implications, including Home Office sign off which can be a very lengthy and unwieldy process.

A summary of the work completed this year:

- Fraud was identified by the partnership as a priority in terms of raising awareness for staff working with vulnerable individuals. As a result, training sessions by the Economic Crime Unit of the Police were held in January for Local Authority staff working with vulnerable individuals to raise awareness of frequent scams and tactics used by fraudsters.
- The Safer Streets 2 Project in Bangor was completed in March. Working alongside our colleagues in Highways and the Police, the project meant an additional 41 CCTV cameras and improvements to lighting in the Hirael/Deiniol area of the city.
- Earlier in the year, a SOC (Serious Organised Crime) Group was introduced to cover Gwynedd and Anglesey. Chaired by the Police, the group includes representation from several key agencies and services. By taking a multi-agency, cross-departmental approach, this gives a valuable opportunity to share information on individuals that are cause for concern in our area.
- The CSP is preparing for the Serious Violence Duty, which is expected to come into force in January 2023. The Duty requires specified authorities to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence, including identifying the kinds of serious violence that occur in the area, the causes of that violence (so far as it is possible to do so), and to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence in the area. A regional Task and Finish Group has recently been set up to implement the duty and prepare a Strategy. Public Health Wales have been leading on the development of a Regional Needs Assessment, which is currently in draft form. This will set the basis of the Strategy.
- We continue to attend the regional group and work collaboratively to implement the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy in both Councils. This also includes supporting the work of the sub-group which focuses on a social media campaign on poly drug use, targeted at recreational users and young people.
- The Partnership ensures continued attendance and input to the new Police VAWG (Violence Against Women and Girls) Partner Meetings that meets monthly. This group was set up in March with the purpose of taking a partnership approach to delivering the NPCC (National Police Chief's Council) VAWG Delivery Framework, which focuses on building trust and confidence between women and girls and the Police, prevention activity and disruption of perpetrators.
- We have been working closely with Local Policing Teams to identify areas that could benefit from the Westminster Government's Shared Prosperity Fund. One of the investment priorities within the fund is 'Community and Place', and one of the Levelling Up Missions aims that by 2030 homicide, serious violence, and neighbourhood crime will have fallen. As part of this work, we have identified specific locations across Gwynedd and Anglesey where additional CCTV or improved street lighting could be introduced, with the objective of improving

	<p>perceptions of safety and reducing neighbourhood crime. A bid is currently in the process of being put together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In August and September, virtual training sessions were organized and held by the Police on the Prevent Duty. The Prevent Duty is part of the Government’s overall counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST, and the aim is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism by stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. The sessions were available to Gwynedd and Anglesey staff, and approximately 100 individuals attended. We are planning to expand the offer to more staff in the future. These sessions are in addition to the mandatory e-learning package.</li> <li>• The CSP oversees Prevent delivery in the area (a duty within the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism). This year, we have been working with the new Home Office Regional Prevent Advisor to develop our Action Plan and ensure best practice, which this year involved more localised information on current risks and threats, rather than the usual regional approach for North Wales.</li> <li>• Furthermore, the creation of a Regional Prevent Delivery Group earlier in the year is a very positive development to report. This enables North Wales Prevent leads to come together to network, discuss best practice and improve current arrangements across the region. The Senior Officer attends the group on behalf of the CSP. One clear example of the benefit of this regional conversation was the ability for us to submit a bid at short notice across all counties in the region to the Reducing Radicalisation Fund by the Home Office. With Anglesey as the lead LA, the bid was successful. Evidence highlights that the online space can be a significant driver for the radicalisation and exploitation of young people. This funding will result in media literacy sessions within educational settings to improve critical thinking skills and identify fake news online. We are awaiting details regarding the identification of a suitable provider to deliver the project across the region. The project will then be completed by March 2023. There will be opportunities for us to increase the roll out further rounds of this funding.</li> <li>• The Council has recently received White Ribbon Accreditation, following work by our colleagues in Corporate Support Department. We have been providing a Community Safety input in terms of beginning to implement the Action Plan. This has also involved ensuring relevant partners are linked in to the work i.e. Police, Regional VAWDASV Advisor.</li> <li>• Following discussions with the local Police, we explored the possibility of extending the current provision of the Safe Spaces Scheme locally. The Scheme is run by the charity ‘UK Says No More’, with the aim of providing a safe and discrete way for people experiencing domestic abuse to contact friends/family or specialist support services. Presently the Scheme is only suitable for Pharmacies and Banks as a result of strict quality assurance/confidentiality reasons. We are currently in discussions to try and encourage our independent pharmacies across the region to sign up, and will be supporting with any necessary promotional material that the charity has provided with us.</li> </ul>
6.00	<b>WORK ONGOING:</b>
6.01	Work ongoing:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to implement local projects identified within the plan for Q3 – through monitoring process.</li> <li>• Continue to support the implementation of the regional alcohol plan in both Authorities and development of the poly drug communications campaign.</li> <li>• Continue to attend the regional task &amp; finish group in preparation for the Serious Violence Duty, so that the LA best placed meet the new requirements promptly.</li> <li>• Continue to work closely with the new Home Office Prevent Regional Advisor to update LA Prevent and Channel arrangements, working alongside our partners in the new Regional Prevent Delivery Group. We will also focus on the training to increase awareness of the Duty and the signs of radicalisation so that staff are aware of what to look out for and are best placed to make a referral for any concerns.</li> <li>• The Partnership is very mindful of the current cost of living crisis we are facing, and the rise we have seen in theft and handling crimes locally. Research has shown that socio-economic deprivation is linked to greater chances of interacting with the justice system, being a victim of crime, or not feeling safe in a community. We are also aware that the current situation could lead to desperation for many, inevitably providing further opportunities for organised crime groups. The new Chief Constable for North Wales Police, Amanda Blakeman, is the national policing lead for serious organised acquisitive crime so this will be an important area for the CSP’s ongoing work.</li> <li>• We will continue providing an input and supporting the implementation of the White Ribbon Accreditation Action Plan.</li> <li>• We will continue discussions to extend local roll out of the Safe Spaces scheme in our pharmacies.</li> </ul>
<b>7.00</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
7.01	To note the contents of the report and attached documents, and state whether or not the Scrutiny Committee supports the priorities and future direction of the work.
<b>8.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
8.01	1. 2022-23 Plan

## **Gwynedd and Anglesey Community Safety Partnership – Annual Plan 2022-23**

### **Background**

The Community Safety Partnership is a group of organisations working together to look at how best we can tackle crime and disorder. The requirement to have such a partnership in place on a local level is enshrined in law, within the Crime and Disorder Act of 1998. A number of organisations have a role to play within the partnership, including the local authority, the police, the probation service, fire and rescue service and the health board.

We have responsibilities under the 1998 Act for a number of areas, including – reducing crime and disorder, reducing re-offending, substance misuse and antisocial behaviour. We also have a duty to commission Domestic Homicide Reviews in certain specific circumstances.

Our plan will deliver against the priorities of the Safer North Wales Partnership Board’s Strategy which are:

- 1) Preventing crime and anti-social behaviour
- 2) Tackling violent crime
- 3) Tackling serious organised crime
- 4) Protecting and building resilient communities and maintaining public safety

We are also steered by the priorities and objectives of the following:

- North Wales Strategic Assessment
- North Wales Police and Crime Plan (2021-24)
- North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy (2021-24)
- Home Office Beating Crime Plan 2021

**Work plan for the next 12 months**

#	Actions	Output	Outcome	Responsibility	Timescale	Contributing towards
1	Trading Standards to work alongside North Wales Police on a call blocker project for individuals identified as being targets or victims of cold calls.	A number of call blockers leased to consumers targeted by cold calls	Reduce potential for crime	Trading Standards in both counties Contacts: Andrew Lloyd Parry & Catherine Webb	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 4 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
2	Trading Standards respond to intelligence from National Scams team on potential scam victims. Commitment to contact 10 people each month who have been targeted by scammers to provide information and advice.	Individuals targeted previously receive advice and information so reduce likelihood of being victimised again	Reduction in Repeat victims  Greater awareness around scams	Trading Standards in both counties Contacts: Andrew Lloyd Parry & Catherine Webb	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 4 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
3	Trading Standards will work alongside North Wales Police with both an inspection program and targeted visits to premises selling age restricted products. This is an attempt to curb availability of age restricted products (such as alcohol, tobacco and vapes) which can lead to anti-social behaviour and public order issues in rural communities.	Test purchases undertaken at local establishments to understand conformity to Challenge 25	Reduction in underage sales	Trading Standards in both counties Contacts: Andrew Lloyd Parry & Catherine Webb	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 1 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>  <b>Priority 4 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>

4	Anglesey Trading Standards wish to adjust and improve on their working relationship with Social Services to create better data sharing pathways. This will ensure that victims are identified and support can be provided as well as signposting any potential victims to Social Services.	Improved working practices in order to increase early information sharing	Improve identification and help provide early intervention	Anglesey Trading Standards Contact: Catherine Webb	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 4 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
5	Trading Standards to focus on sharing 'Trader Packs' across the area. The packs are full of legislation and statutory guidance for traders, which they must sign to confirm they have read and agreed to the terms and conditions within. Gwynedd will be targeting second hand cars, and Anglesey will focus on 'home improvement' businesses.	Trader packs shared locally so that traders are aware of relevant legislation and responsibilities	Ensure traders are acting within the legislation  Protection of consumers	Trading Standards in both counties Contacts: Andrew Lloyd Parry & Catherine Webb	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 4 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
6	Anglesey Education department will prioritise further training in schools around peer sexual harassment. This is in response to the Estyn report " <i>We don't tell our teachers – Experiences of peer-on-peer sexual harassment among secondary school pupils in Wales</i> ". A work plan will be implemented to start in the Summer term.	Creation and implementation of work plan in the Summer term in response to Estyn report	Improved awareness so teachers are better placed to identify and intervene at an early stage	Anglesey Education Department Contact: Gwyneth Hughes	Summer term 2022	<b>Priority 2 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
7	Anglesey schools are again this year conducting a School Health Research Network (SHRN) questionnaire. The	Distribution of questionnaire and analysis of	Better understanding of the wellbeing of our	Anglesey Education Department	Summer /Autumn term 2022	<b>Priority 1 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>

	purpose of this is to understand different aspects of the school environment and how they influence student health and wellbeing. This will set a direction on substance misuse training. Much of the 'Universal' work will be delivered through the Healthy Schools team. However more intensive work is being offered by the Youth Team and the more specialist Children's Service.	answers provided to steer future working	pupils to support planning Earlier intervention	Contact: Gwyneth Hughes		
8	Gwynedd County Council continue to work on supported accommodation throughout the county, which will have a positive impact on all our CSP priority areas. This has been possible with the Phase 2 funding. The support with the accommodation will provide links and access to all essential services such as Substance Misuse, Probation, and Mental Health etc. A partnership approach will be taken when considering who is placed in the accommodation to ensure that the placements are successful and does not bring additional issues to the area or risks.	4 new pods for temporary accommodation will be operational soon, a partnership approach will be taken when considering who is placed in the accommodation to ensure placements are successful	Services better placed to provide early intervention support for individuals  Reduced numbers of clients presenting with complex needs and requiring more intensive support  Closer working relationships with clients and case workers	Gwynedd Housing and Property Contact: Cerys Williams	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 1 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
9	Discussions in recent CSP meetings have focused on cocaine use in our communities, and the link with county lines and the	Work alongside APB/North Wales Alcohol	Increased awareness of the reality and impact of	CSP	Q1 2022 and beyond	<b>Priority 3 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>



	exploitation of vulnerable children and young people. An ongoing piece of work will focus on raising awareness between partners and communities.	Strategy Group to create a local awareness campaign  Share local posters with Pubwatch members	recreational/casual use of cocaine  Contributing to the Government's 10-Year Drugs Plan			
10	In response to the latest Community Profile, a new SOC (Serious Organised Crime) Forum has been set up across both Counties. This is being led by the Police, but key agencies and services will take lead roles in the 4P approach that will underpin the meeting structure.	Appropriate representation from all agencies at the multi-agency meeting, all agency and department to provide input into the local work	Implementing a local multi-agency SOC 4P plan	North Wales Police Contact: Llinos Davies	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 3 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
11	The partnership members all have some responsibilities in relation to the Home Office Prevent programme (radicalisation in relation to terrorist activity). This work will be updated over the course of this year in terms of developing and improving current plans/training/Channel requirements. The work will involve working closely with the new Home Office regional advisor.	Update Prevent plan Arrange Prevent training sessions for LA staff Review Channel arrangements	Contribute to the regional CONTEST Board Action Plan  Contribute to the HO Prevent outcomes of reducing radicalization	CSP / relevant Local Authority departments	Q1 2022 and beyond	<b>Home Office Prevent Plan</b>  <b>Regional CONTEST Board Plan</b>

12	<p>Preparing for the new Protect Duty that is due in the next 18 months.</p>	<p>Awareness of any developments in the status of the duty Work with PSPG Groups in each county when timely to implement the duty locally</p>	<p>Able to meet our responsibilities under the new Protect Duty  Contribute to the regional CONTEST Board Action Plan</p>	<p>CSP / Protective Security Preparedness Groups (PSPG) in each county</p>	<p>Throughout 2022-23 and beyond</p>	<p><b>Home Office Protect Duty</b>  <b>Regional CONTEST Board Plan</b></p>
13	<p>There is a Regional Substance Misuse Plan in place. Aspects of the substance misuse regional work plan which will improve on services in Gwynedd and Anglesey –</p> <p>1) One of the APB (Area Planning Board) priorities identified for 22/23 is provision for women only groups. Women may not feel comfortable attending Recovery/ Peer Groups with men present- particularly if they have experienced any form of abuse or violence. The APB will look at how we can develop group provision to be able to offer Women’s only Groups across NW – face to face and/ or online.</p>	<p>Local needs in relation to drug and alcohol services are agreed by Regional Board – including securing the funding to implement  All actions identified are put in place locally</p>	<p>All developments contribute to the outcomes of the regional plan</p>	<p>Rhiannon Mair</p>	<p>Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting</p>	<p><b>Regional Substance Misuse Plan</b></p>

	<p>2) One of the key focus areas will be the NW co-occurring implementation plan which has been revised and refreshed and aligned to a number of WG plans. This work will involve the establishment of a Co-occurring Implementation group to oversee the plan alongside partners that will be led by the third sector. Membership to include but not limited to T4MH Partnership Board, Mental health division, Substance Misuse Services, Local Authorities, Caniad and voluntary sector.</p> <p>3) The use of BUVIDAL continues to be effective with positive outcomes. A stock of Buvidal medication was secured for 2021/22 for BCU Health Board. There have been a number of very positive outcomes and the aim is to encourage further roll out amongst other prescribing services such as Dechrau Newydd and Berwyn Prison.</p> <p>4) The development of a residential rehabilitation regional panel for North Wales. During Q3 21-22 the APB and BCUHB staff visited rehab centres to better understand</p>					
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	<p>provision and the referral process. Next steps are to meet with service users who have completed rehab placements. The Rehab Cymru portal will be undergoing a re-build in order to support the streamlining of paperwork for key workers, once this has been completed, a pilot for the regional panel will be arranged.</p> <p>5) Naloxone and nasal naloxone training for NW police officers who expressed an interest has been rolled-out across North Wales. Consideration is now being given to stock management and training on a regular basis.</p> <p>6) Focus on developing Peer Support/ Recovery Groups – particular for Women and Younger People and in rural areas.</p> <p>7) Additional funding to support Young people – and will be looking to develop provision/ build capacity to better meet the needs of young people.</p>					
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14	The Area Planning Board has developed a 4-year North Wales Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy. We will continue to support the delivery of this in Gwynedd & Anglesey. This includes a number of potential campaigns, including a seasonal demand campaign to target visitors during the Summer.	Local Authorities to adopt the regional alcohol harm reduction plan  Attendance at regional group meetings to identify tasks and implement locally	Over the course of the year – depending on what plans are deliverable, a contribution is made to the outcomes of the regional plan - this is a long-term ambition – 4-year plan	CSP / Daron Owens	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 2 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
15	We will ensure that the responsibilities placed upon the CSP in relation to conducting domestic homicide reviews (DHR's) are completed appropriately. In essence, this entails ensuring that proper review panels, chairs and authors are commissioned and that final review reports are presented and accepted by the Home Office.	Review panels, Chairs and authors commissioned for the DHRs.  DHRs undertaken and submitted to the Home Office	Responsibilities placed on the CSP in terms of undertaking DHRs are completed appropriately. Action plan in place to respond to recommendations – lessons learnt in order to improve services for the future.	CSP / Mannon Trappe & Daron Owens	Ongoing	<b>Priority 2 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
16	One of the priorities for the new plan will be trying to satisfy ourselves that we are doing enough to get messages out to the public in terms of VAWDASV. Our focus	Contact with Communications department to see what information has	Increased awareness and availability of information around	CSP / Daron Owens	Q1 2022 and beyond	<b>Priority 2 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>

	ongoing will be taking stock of our progress in terms of training, awareness raising, and messaging/campaigns. This work will be in line with the revised VAWDA SV Strategy.	previously been shared and identify any gaps / further resources	VAWDASV support services			
17	Monitoring the progress of Ask & Act training - National Training Framework as required in the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) 2015 Act.	Continue rolling out of training package  Contact with Regional Training Development Officer and relevant training departments to monitor progress	Improved awareness in the Local Authorities of domestic abuse to enable effective signposting to support services	Training departments both counties / Daron Owens	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 2 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
18	Domestic abuse remains a priority area of work for the police with dedicated domestic abuse initiatives being run periodically throughout the year including awareness campaigns.  Domestic abuse matters training is still being rolled out across North Wales Police to all the workforce to increase the understanding of the complex nature of domestic abuse.	Awareness campaigns and initiatives to be held by the Police  Rolling out of training to all of the workforce	Increased awareness and availability of information on support services for the public and across the Force	North Wales Police / Llinos Davies	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 2 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
19	There will be a particular focus by the Police on Violence Against Women and Girls this year with joint operations	Working in partnership between the Police and Licensing	Reduction in offences linked to night time economy	North Wales Police / Llinos Davies	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the	<b>Priority 2 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>

	alongside licensed premises and licencing authority.				quarterly CSP Meeting	
20	The police will ensure increased visibility on the streets especially in Bangor and areas around the University.	Increased Police patrols around these areas	Visible presence in problem areas  Increase feelings of street safety for students and the public	North Wales Police / Llinos Davies	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 1 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>  <b>Priority 4 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
21	Preparing for the Serious Violence Duty (due in the next 18 months). Information sharing and planning with relevant departments.	Development of regional needs assessment in North Wales to identify the burden and trends of violence in the region  Respond to needs assessment as required in the shape of a specific strategy	Partners aware of responsibilities under the Duty and better placed to enact when it comes to force	CSP / Daron Owens / Further partners	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 2 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
22	Police hate crime investigations will be managed via the Western Investigative Standards boards.	Investigations managed by Western Investigative Standards boards.	Improved level of service and outcomes of investigations for victims of hate crime	North Wales Police / Llinos Davies	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly	<b>Priority 4 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>

					CSP Meeting	
23	Hate crime has increased significantly in both areas, much of this is as a result of increased tensions arising from Covid restrictions/travel and second homes. However, moving forward, this will be one of the CSPs priorities in the new plan in terms of better understanding the types of incidents we are seeing in our area, the time of year etc. This will involve working in collaboration with the North West Community Cohesion Team. We are also very mindful of the impact of our population almost doubling with visitor numbers in the Summer months, and the impact this can have on our local data.	<p>Arrange presentation by Diversity Unit in next CSP meeting</p> <p>Discussion of latest hate crime data with analyst so that any trends are identified</p> <p>Support of any campaigns/initiatives by Community Cohesion team</p>	Increased awareness and understanding about hate crime incidents in our area to facilitate planning	North Wales Police/ Llinos Davies & David Haydock CSP / Daron Owens / Community Cohesion / Tony Jones	Q1 2022 and beyond	<b>Priority 4 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
24	The Police will use a mobile visibility van during summer months to improve visible neighbourhood policing presence in areas affected by ASB and increased community tension resulting from increased seasonal population.	Deployment of van in identified areas	<p>Improved presence in problem areas</p> <p>Increase feelings of safety</p>	North Wales Police / Llinos Davies	Summer 2022	<b>Priority 1 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
25	The police will hold prevention initiatives at caravan parks over the summer period due to such locations being a hotspot for	Preparatory work at the tourism and reducing seasonal	Supporting preventative work around sexual & domestic offending	North Wales Police / Llinos Davies	Summer 2022	<b>Priority 2 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>



	sexual offence and domestic reporting over the summer period.	demand meetings by the Police  Identification of relevant caravan parks  Arrange and hold visits at these sites	A reduction in this type of offending			
26	Deliver the objectives set out in the Regional and Sub-regional Integrated Offender Management plans	Attendance at regional meetings  Identified actions implemented locally	Objectives delivered locally	Daron Owens to attend regional meeting and provide feedback	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Regional IOM Plan</b>
27	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service (NWFRS) will continue to deliver the Phoenix youth intervention program.	Continued roll out of intervention program in the region	Reduction in fires/ASB Reduction in repeat offenders	NWFRS / Paul Jenkinson	Throughout 2022-2023. Monitored at the quarterly CSP Meeting	<b>Priority 1 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
28	We are planning to work on a Safer Streets bid for Holyhead during round 4 of the Fund by the Home Office.	Prepare an application working in partnership with the Police and	If successful - enabling the local authority to implement a variety of crime prevention	North Wales Police / Llinos Davies	Q1 2022 and beyond if successful	<b>Priority 1 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>

		relevant Council departments  Submission of final application	tools and increase public feelings of safety	CSP/ Daron Owens		<b>Priority 4 on the Safer North Wales Plan</b>
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<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Communities Scrutiny Committee
<b>DATE</b>	19 January 2023
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SCRUTINISING THE DRAFT WELL-BEING PLAN</b>
<b>CABINET MEMBER</b>	Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
<b>PURPOSE</b>	To provide an opportunity for members of the Committee to scrutinise the content of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Draft Well-being Plan and submit any observations

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places a duty on Public Services Boards to publish a Well-being Plan which outlines how it is intended to improve the well-being of the area's residents.
- 1.2 As you will know, the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board includes representation at the highest level from the main public bodies in the area.
- 1.3 The first stage of the work of creating the Well-being Plan was to undertake an assessment of local well-being and carry out research in order to understand and learn more about those areas.
- 1.4 In May 2022, Assessments of Local Well-being for the Gwynedd and Anglesey areas were published with both counties split into 14 smaller areas (8 in Gwynedd and 6 in Anglesey).
- 1.5 The Assessments brought together a range of information about the communities of Gwynedd and Anglesey. We have examined the latest research, gathered data and engaged with our community groups to ascertain what is good about our communities, and which aspects are not so positive.
- 1.6 The Well-being Assessments were an opportunity to consider the challenges and opportunities our communities are facing; especially the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, Brexit and the cost of living crisis.
- 1.7 The Board considered the aforementioned information when creating the Draft Well-being Plan for Gwynedd and Anglesey. A copy of this document can be found in **Appendix 1**.
- 1.8 There is a statutory duty on the relevant Scrutiny Committee within the Council to scrutinise the content of the document as part of the process of developing the Plan. However, it is important to note that we as a Council are only one of the partners and the content of the final plan will be the decision of the Public Services Board.

## 2. DRAFT WELL-BEING PLAN

- 2.1 The plan outlines how the Board intends to make a real difference to the lives of residents by working together in order to deliver for the entire area.

- 2.2 Members of the Public Services Board are eager to make a meaningful contribution to the partnership landscape without duplicating the work of other partnerships and therefore the Well-being Plan draft seeks to clearly highlight whether the Public Services Board has a role in leading or delivering the well-being priorities.
- 2.3 The **Well-being Objectives** were drawn up after analysing the main messages that emerged from the Well-being Assessment conducted during 2021/22.
- 2.4 The PSB has identified three Well-being Objectives:
- **We want to work together to mitigate the impact of poverty on the well-being of our communities**
  - **We want to work together to prioritise the well-being and success of our children and young people.**
  - **We want to work together to support our communities to shift towards Zero Net Carbon.**
- 2.5 It is also important to note that the **Welsh language** will be a golden thread that runs throughout the plan. We will promote the use of the language in all fields of work and will work with communities to develop Welsh-medium services and activities.
- 2.6 For each of these objectives, there are detailed tables providing more information as to why they were chosen and the steps we propose to take to achieve them. As explained above, these will be amended and refined during the consultation period as we receive more information and receive people's opinions.
- 2.7 The Board believes that these are fields in which we could collaborate better, in a period of significant cutbacks in public sector resources, in order to secure the best results for the residents of Gwynedd and Anglesey.
- 2.8 The draft objectives are in line with those that have already been proposed for the Gwynedd Council Plan 2023-28.
- 2.9 As part of the consultation, the Public Services Board invites you to scrutinise the content of the draft Well-being Plan and give specific consideration to the following questions:
- Do you believe that the well-being objectives and the priorities identified to realise the objectives will improve the social, environmental, cultural and economic well-being of both counties?
  - Are there any priorities missing?
  - Which priorities should be focused on first?
  - Where could the Board collaborate and influence in order to make a difference?
  - In what way could the communities assist to deliver the plan's priorities and to develop them further in the future?
  - Any other comments.

### **3. NEXT STEPS**

- 3.1 The three-month statutory consultation period will end on 6 March. Following this, the Board will consider the responses to the consultation before creating a final Well-being Plan.
  
- 1.9 Once the Board will have approved the final version, the Well-being Plan will be submitted to the Boards/Full Councils of the statutory members for approval prior to publication in May 2023. The statutory members are Gwynedd and Anglesey Councils, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority and Natural Resources Wales.
  
- 3.2 In the case of Gwynedd Council, it will be submitted to the Full Council (on **date to be confirmed**)

**Appendix 1** - Gwynedd and Anglesey Well-being Plan (Draft).



## CONSULTATION DRAFT

# ANGLESEY AND GWYNEDD WELL-BEING PLAN 2023-2028

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## 1. Welcome

Welcome to the consultation on the draft of the second Well-being Plan for Anglesey and Gwynedd. The Public Services Board, or often called the PSB, have used the information contained in the [Well-being Assessment](#) to look at how to improve well-being across the region. We are interested to know if you think the plans we have will help to make things better for you and your community. We'd also like to know if you have any other ideas about how we can work together for the benefit of our communities.

The plan will change and evolve over the next few weeks as we get more information and an even better understanding of what matters and how we can work together to make Anglesey and Gwynedd a better place to live, work and visit. That's why some of the detail around the proposed objectives and how we'll know if we're making a difference is missing. We will be talking to people and gathering views until the **6<sup>th</sup> March 2023** so there's plenty of time for you to let us know your thoughts. Details of how you can get in touch are at the end of this document.

## 2. Foreword from the Chair of the PSB

**Our vision as a Public Service Board is to work together to ensure that our communities thrive and are prosperous in the long term.** The aim of the Well-being Plan is to set out how we are going to achieve this and make a real difference to the lives of the residents of Anglesey and Gwynedd. As public service providers we will work together to achieve a common ambition for the whole region.

The individual organisations will continue to provide services which will deliver their own well-being objectives as well as contribute to the well-being objectives of the Public Services Board. Engaging with communities is core to the success of the plan and the Board commits to providing clear guidance in order to reach its objectives.

We have strong and proud communities with a tradition of helping each other and working together. The role of these communities will be central to delivering the well-being objectives which have been set out in this plan.

The objectives, and steps to deliver them, once finalised, should be linked and support each other due to their cross-cutting nature. All members of the PSB should be able to play their full part in achieving what we expect from the plan.

Since we started looking at what we could do to improve well-being in Anglesey and Gwynedd, the war in Ukraine and the cost of living crisis have made some people’s lives even harder. As we continue to develop the plan, in consultation with the public and partners, we will look at how we can work together to ensure these issues are included in the final plan.

**Aled Jones-Griffiths**  
**Chair of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board**

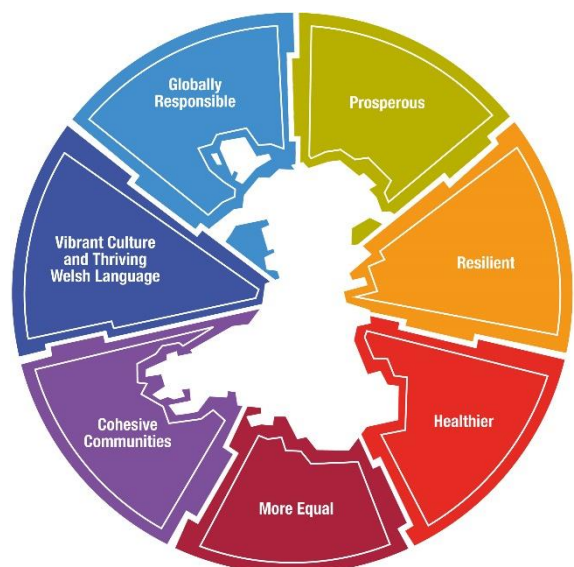
### 3. Background to the Well-being Plan

In 2015, the Welsh Government made a new law in Wales called the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. This followed conversations with many thousands of people across Wales about the “Wales we want”.

This law puts the citizens of Wales in the centre of everything public services do to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing of Wales and has the sustainable development principle at its heart. This means that all public services need to work in a way that improves wellbeing for people today without doing anything that could make things worse for future generations of babies, children, young people, adults and older people, in other words all our families, young and old, and our friends and neighbours.

The Act highlights seven national well-being goals and five ways of working in order to give public bodies a common purpose. It also tries to ensure that we are better at making decisions by placing a duty on organisations to think about the long term, to collaborate and to consider people of all ages when resolving and preventing problems.

Together, the seven well-being goals and the five ways of working have been designed to support public bodies to meet the existing needs of their communities and ensure that the decisions of today do not harm future generations. The seven national well-being goals are:



The Act places a duty on public bodies to work in a sustainable way and to utilise the following five ways of working:

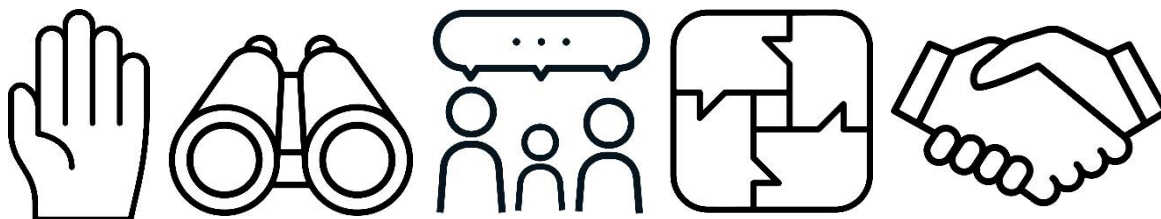
**Prevention**

**Long Term**

**Involvement**

**Integration**

**Collaboration**



In addition to setting expectations that public bodies work this way, the Act has established a Public Services Board for every local authority area in Wales to ensure that public bodies work together to create a better future for the people of Wales. The Anglesey and Gwynedd Public Services Boards have decided to work together as one Board to ensure that public bodies across the area work together to create a better future for the people of Anglesey and Gwynedd.

The Public Services Board must assess the well-being of our area and create a Well-being Plan with the aim of improving the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of our communities.

#### **The Anglesey and Gwynedd Public Service Board membership:**

The Board's five statutory members are:

- Isle of Anglesey County Council
- Natural Resources Wales
- North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
- Cyngor Gwynedd
- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

The invited members of the Board are:

- Public Health Wales
- Grŵp Llandrillo Menai
- Mantell Gwynedd
- Medrwn Môn
- Snowdonia National Park Authority
- Bangor University
- Welsh Government
- North Wales registered social landlords representative
- North Wales Police
- North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
- Wales Probation Service

There is an opportunity to ask other bodies/organisations/ partners to sit on the Anglesey and Gwynedd Public Services Board as specific objectives and actions are identified.

## **4. The local Well-being Assessments**

In May 2022, an Assessment of Local Well-being was published for Anglesey and Gwynedd. The Public Services Board has divided the two counties into 14 smaller areas and research was undertaken in order to understand and learn more about the well-being of those areas. Eight of these areas are in Gwynedd and six are in Anglesey. The information booklets for each area are available on the website. [www.llesiantgwyneddaron.org](http://www.llesiantgwyneddaron.org)



The assessment was just a starting point – an overview of well-being to accompany the area booklets which gave the Public Services Board a better understanding of Anglesey and Gwynedd. Having considered the data and the views of local people, the Board concluded that the main priorities for residents of Anglesey and Gwynedd from the assessment were as follows:

- Respond to poverty and the cost of living
- Improving the health and well-being of children and young people
- Improve mental health and well-being
- Climate change – support communities to reach net zero
- Promote the use of the Welsh Language
- Enable equal experiences and access to nature
- Future workforce planning that meets the needs of the community and the local economy
- Ensure housing for local people
- Influence the financial priorities of public bodies

Please refer to **Appendix 1** for further details on the key messages from the Well-being Assessments.

## 5. OUR PROPOSED WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES:

Using the evidence in the Well-being Assessment, the PSB has identified **three Well-being Objectives**:

- We want to work together to mitigate the effect of **poverty** on the well-being of our communities
- We want to work together to prioritise the well-being and achievement of **our children and young people**.
- We want to work together to support our communities to move towards **Zero Net Carbon**.

In addition, it is important to note that the **Welsh language** will be a golden thread running through the plan. We will promote the use of the language in all aspects of our work and will work with communities to develop services and activities through the medium of Welsh.

For each of these objectives, the tables below give more information about why they've been chosen, what steps we are considering taking to deliver them and how they contribute to each of the Well-being Goals. As explained earlier, these will be amended and refined during the consultation period as a result of more information and people's views.

### **Well-being Objective 1: We want to work together to mitigate the effect of poverty on the well-being of our communities**

#### **Ambition:**

We will develop a detailed understanding of how poverty affects the area and look to ensure that the work happening across public bodies is more effective in mitigating the long-term effects of poverty. We will work together to gain a detailed understanding of the implications of living in poverty in our different areas. We will continue to develop the Well-being Assessments to get a detailed picture of where the lack of access to services is more challenging due to poverty.

#### **What we could do over the course of the five-year plan:**

- We will prioritise tackling hardship and poverty in response to the cost of living crisis.

- We will act as a voice for those impacted by poverty and hardship in Gwynedd and Anglesey knowing what communities and citizens need and the information that partners hold.
- We will collate and share benefits and resources to mitigate the impact of poverty in a coordinated way in order to ensure that it reaches all those that require support.
- We will stimulate and support community groups to help people remain resilient, for example, supporting healthy lifestyles, or providing help with cost of living pressures.
- We will also start to identify steps to safeguard food and energy in the longer-term and protect our natural resources.
- We will enact socially responsible public procurement, benefitting the local supply chain and promoting a circular economy locally.
- We will work within the context of the Wales Transport Strategy, we will try to support those at a socio-economic disadvantage to access education, employment, services and activities.
- We will commit to developing a fair work mindset, place fair work at the heart of policies and plans, create fair work and be exemplars of fair work in Anglesey and Gwynedd demonstrating the value of such an approach for business and the community and promote access to fair work for all.

**How will we know that we are making progress?**

**Links to the 5 Ways of Working:**

**Links to the 7 Wellbeing Goals:**

## **Well-being Objective 2: We want to work together to prioritise the well-being and achievement of our children and young people**

### **Ambition:**

We will plan preventative services and activities together to support families before the need for intensive intervention arises. We will encourage children, young people and their families to improve their health so that they can live healthily and independently within their communities in the long-term. We will work to ensure that our children and young people have positive experiences during their childhood and give priority to supporting families to ensure that every child gets the best start in life. We will also ensure that there is a clear vision among the partners to ensure the best results for children and young people.

### **What we could do over the course of the five-year plan:**

- We will promote and coordinate the Early Years Strategy.
- We will promote strategies to tackle obesity among children.
- We will support the North Wales Vulnerability and Exploitation Board which works to protect the population of north Wales including specific work to protect young people.
- We will support the National Strategy for Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence.
- We will work with partners to ensure that people of all ages, including those who are vulnerable or in our care, are resilient and prepared for employment, further education, or training. This includes looking at Green Skills for the future.
- We will provide greater opportunities for quality volunteering, work experience and apprenticeships.
- We will tie in adverse childhood experience (ACE) trauma informed training when appropriate.

**How will we know that we are making progress?**

**Links to the 5 Ways of Working:**

**Links to the 7 Wellbeing Goals:**

### **Well-being Objective 3: We want to work together to support our communities to move towards Zero Net Carbon**

#### **Ambition:**

We will work together locally to support our communities to reduce carbon emissions and try to mitigate the impact of climate change. The Board considers that protecting the natural environment is integral to achieving its priorities and will be a common theme that runs across all the well-being objectives.

#### **What we could do over the course of the five-year plan:**

- We will seek to deliver decarbonisation activity within our communities.
- We will support our communities to move towards Zero Net Carbon
- We will use our landscape to store carbon and mitigate the effects of climate change.
- We will promote and action the north Wales Active Travel Charter.
- We will promote green health opportunities through social prescribing.
- We will protect and enhance biodiversity and natural habitats, whilst increasing and encouraging equal access for everyone to our natural environment. This includes access to green countryside spaces, and blue coastal spaces.
- We will maximise the benefits that come with our unique natural assets and grow our sustainable tourism offer.
- We will work with and support communities who want to manage and improve their local environment and empower all, including young people, to improve community spaces.

#### **How will we know that we are making progress?**

#### **Links to the 5 Ways of Working:**

#### **Links to the 7 Wellbeing Goals:**

## **6. How we developed the proposed Well-being Objectives:**

Having considered the main messages highlighted in the Well-being Assessments, a series of workshops were held over the summer of 2022 with the members of the Board. With the support of the Wales Co-production Network, the workshops gave members the opportunity to reflect on the previous Well-being Plan while considering the following questions:

### **A. Looking back at the Well-being Plan 2017-22:**

- How did we do against the two objectives/nine themes in the previous plan?
- What has changed and influenced the well-being of our communities in the last 5 years?

### **B. Looking forward to the Well-being Plan 2023-28:**

- Looking at the updated assessments for 2022 what are the key priorities for the PSB?
- Are there priorities where action is already taking place effectively outside the scope of the PSB?
- What can we do to ensure that the PSB adds value together rather than working separately?
- What would ensure that the new Well-being Plan is a success?

As the Board considered the local objectives for the new plan the recommendations of the Future Generations Commissioner were followed including: *'In setting its local objectives a board must also take into account the latest Future Generations Report as prepared by the Commissioner which will provide an assessment of the improvements public bodies should make in order to set and meet well-being objectives in accordance with the sustainable development principle.'*

The Public Services Board decided that the focus should be on those areas where collaboration is needed in order to make a real difference. Having analysed the main messages that emerged in the Well-being Assessment and considered the conclusions of research and other assessments they have prioritised three specific areas in order to realise this vision. In a period of significant reduction in public sector resources, we believe that these are areas where we can work together better to ensure the best results for the residents of Anglesey and Gwynedd.

## **7. What are the next steps?**

There is now an opportunity for you to give your opinion as part of the development of this Well-being Plan. We are eager to receive comments either supporting what is proposed in this document or raising points that we have not yet considered and we will pay attention to these before finalising the new Well-being Plan.

The formal consultation period will end on **06/03/23**. The results will be analysed and considered by the Members of the Public Services Board and after that we will confirm our well-being objectives, the priority areas and the work programme for the next 5 years. It is important to note that the Well-being Plan will be a living document that will change and develop over time.

The final Well-being Plan for Anglesey and Gwynedd will be published in May 2023.

If you would like to receive more information about the Anglesey and Gwynedd Public Services Board, please visit:

[www.llesiantgwyneddamon.org](http://www.llesiantgwyneddamon.org)

[post@llesiantgwyneddamon.org](mailto:post@llesiantgwyneddamon.org)

Phone number: 01766 771000

Please ask for:

Anglesey and Gwynedd Public Service Board Programme Manager

The Council's Business Support Service  
Council Offices  
Shirehall Street  
Caernarfon  
Gwynedd  
LL55 1SH

## **APPENDIX 1 - Main messages from the Well-being Assessment completed in 2022:**

The booklets look at well-being in the context of the four main headings in the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015** - namely Social, Economic, Environmental and Cultural. An additional heading has been added, namely 'Population and Language' as the Board recognises the importance of this specific theme for the area.

### **Population and Language:**

- More over 75s are anticipated in future which means that an ageing population needs to be supported and we must ensure that individuals stay healthy for longer for the benefit of the economy and health and care services.
- Anglesey and Gwynedd are considered strongholds for the Welsh language but there has been a decline in the percentage of speakers over the past decade.
- Our communities are concerned about the impact that migration, tourism, the availability of suitable and affordable housing for young people and families are having on the Welsh language.

### **Environmental:**

- The diverse natural environment of Anglesey and Gwynedd is an important resource. Coastline, lakes and rivers, marshes and forests have a positive impact on social, cultural and economic well-being.
- Climate change is a global challenge that is having an impact on the well-being of our residents. It leads to communities under high flood risk, exceptional weather and landslides and puts our nature and habitats under increasing pressure.
- Protecting nature and biodiversity is important for decarbonisation. In Anglesey and Gwynedd there are diverse habitats and species that store the carbon that contributes to the level of greenhouse gases.
- Agriculture is an important sector in Anglesey and Gwynedd and our farmers need to be supported to develop more sustainable farming to contribute to decarbonisation.
- Maintaining a green future is a priority for the communities of Anglesey and Gwynedd. Residents have highlighted the appetite for eco-friendly areas that maximise our natural resources.

### **Social:**

- There is concern about the level of obesity in 4-5 year olds across the region, with the highest percentage of all North Wales region counties here in our area. Evidence suggests that the percentage is likely to rise as a result of the impact of Covid-19 and lockdown.
- Covid-19 is likely to have a long-term impact on population health. This includes an impact on mental and physical health (for example, Long-covid) and exacerbating a number of existing health inequalities.
- The lack of public transport was highlighted as a huge challenge for rural communities. The frequency of bus services meant that it was difficult for residents to get to facilities and services, and likely to have a worse impact on some groups, for example, disabled people, young people and older people.
- Community spirit is one of the main assets of both counties and this has been highlighted in the willingness of residents to help each other during the Covid-19 period.

- The lack of digital connection is a barrier for the people and businesses in the county. Working and teaching remotely during the Covid-19 period has highlighted the importance of broadband availability.

#### **Economic:**

- Changes in work sectors and work pattern are anticipated into the future. There is a need to ensure accessible opportunities for all in occupations such as science and technology.
- A high percentage of people in Anglesey and Gwynedd work in the skilled trades occupations (which include farmers and agri-workers). Brexit and the reduction in grants and financial support has had an impact on this sector.
- Poverty in all its forms is a concern across both counties. We have one of the highest percentages in Wales of fuel poverty. Response to the draft booklets highlighted concern about poverty, at a time when the cost of living in all its forms is rising.
- Low-wage jobs are a major concern and securing high value jobs is a priority for communities and residents of both counties. As well as its impact on the economy, it also makes it difficult to keep young people in the county, thereby affecting the Welsh language.
- House prices and affordability are a key concern of local communities across both counties and have a negative impact on the social, cultural, linguistic and economic well-being of areas. Another concern highlighted by communities is the second house / holiday homes situation. One indicator is the increase in 'hate crime' reported by the Police.
- Tourism contributes to the economies of Anglesey and Gwynedd and is an important work sector, but also an additional challenge for local services and nature. Covid-19 had a negative impact on the country's accommodation and food sector as a result of the restrictions, which has been more pronounced in tourism-dependent areas.
- There is concern about the state of the local economy of 'the high street' or 'town centre'. This has been highlighted in Bangor, Holyhead and several other towns.
- Compared to the all-Wales figure, a high percentage of year 11 school leavers in our area are NEET (known not to be in education, employment or training).
- Childcare provision is important for the economy of our areas. A lack of sustainable provision is affecting communities in some areas of both counties and there is also concern about the availability of Welsh-medium childcare.

#### **Cultural:**

- The natural environment is a vital resource that contributes to well-being and health as they enable our residents to be active in the open air.
- A lack of activities for children and young people is a concern for the communities of Anglesey and Gwynedd with a perception that this can lead to anti-social behaviour.
- Green spaces are vital to the wellbeing of our residents, but they need to be made available so they can be used by all.
- World Heritage Sites offer an opportunity to build pride in local areas and history (the Slate Landscape and Castles of Edward I), but there is concern of its impact on tourism and the need to deliver benefits to local communities.
- Residents expressed pride that we have a strong, vibrant culture which is reflected in the many societies, eisteddfodau, Young Farmers Clubs, shows and concerts that are held locally.

Link to the website: [www.llesiantgwyneddamon.org](http://www.llesiantgwyneddamon.org)

## Appendix 2: How we'll work in the future?

The Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board operates in line with seven leading principles. Five of these are the national sustainable development principles (**the five ways of working**) and two have been added by the Board locally. These principles will help us to work together, avoid repeating past mistakes and get to grips with some of the challenges we will face in the future.

<b>The Welsh language</b>	<i>The Welsh language will be a golden thread running through the plan. Indeed, it is a theme that cuts across all the Board's work and we will promote the use of the language in all aspects of our work and will work with communities to develop services and activities through the medium of Welsh.</i>
<b>Tackle inequality</b>	<i>We will continue to target local and national resources to tackle inequality and disadvantage in order to close the gap between the most privileged communities and the most deprived communities.</i>
<b>Thinking long term</b>	We will continue to gather data to ensure a better understanding of how communities look now and how they will look in the future as a result of factors such as demographic changes. We will also look at which national and regional changes are on the horizon and try to analyse the effect on our communities. By doing so, we can work together as partners and residents to plan services for the future.
<b>Preventing problems</b>	We will use trends data to identify the problems which will face our communities in the future and will develop and implement plans to prevent them. We will work with communities to enable them to do more to prevent issues from developing, and support programmes that can make a real difference in the long term.
<b>Better collaboration</b>	We will try to remove the barriers which prevent effective collaboration. We will also share information and good practice between Board members and our residents about what is being done to realise objectives and priorities. We will consider the Board's membership regularly and will ensure that the right partners are included in order to achieve our objectives.
<b>Promoting integration</b>	We will work in a way that will contribute to more than one goal where appropriate and in accordance with Welsh Government's national wellbeing objectives. We will try to integrate services if evidence shows that this gets the best results for our communities. We will consider other local and regional strategies and plans that work towards the same or similar goals and work together in order to achieve them.
<b>Involve our communities</b>	Our residents and our communities have an important role to play when planning services for the future and we will ensure that their perspectives and experiences are central to the process of planning the work of the Board. We will adopt the National Participation Standards for all ages and ensure that the Board works within those standards. We will ensure that people can communicate with us in their preferred language and medium.

# Agenda Item 7

<b>Committee</b>	Communities Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date</b>	19 January, 2023
<b>Title</b>	Grass Cutting and Grounds Maintenance
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Berwyn Parry Jones
<b>Author</b>	Steffan Jones, Head of Highways, Municipal and YGC
<b>Purpose</b>	Review of the County roadside maintenance arrangements

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The main purpose of roadside verges is to ensure clear visibility for traffic as well as providing safe places for pedestrians to walk in areas where there are no footpaths. As a result, verges must be managed to protect all road users.
- 1.2 However, verges are also important biodiversity habitats for the benefit of species such as bees and other pollinators, for flowers and wildlife that are rapidly disappearing in the countryside, and as vital wildlife corridors linking habitats together. Consequently, we aim to review our current mowing arrangements and address the above in a realistic and economical manner.
- 1.3 This report is presented before the Communities Scrutiny Committee in order to update the members on progress regarding preparing roadside maintenance policy which will include grass cutting and collection and how this can have a positive effect on biodiversity.

## 2. Background and Current Situation

- 2.1 A report was presented to the Scrutiny Committee in January last year outlining the proposed grass cutting procedure for discussion. Briefly, it was explained that the verges on our highway network are cut twice a year based on time.
- 2.2 It was also explained that we are working towards a policy of cutting and collecting grass where possible and when resources allow. The purpose of this will be to promote the needs of biodiversity and wildlife (although implementing a long-term cut and collect plan can also result in financial savings since some sites will no longer be cut during the spring).
- 2.3 The Department is glad to report that, in partnership with the Environment Department, we have managed to secure funding through the Welsh Government's Local Nature Partnership scheme to carry out a review of our grass cutting procedures in order to find out if we can better control of our current arrangements in order to promote the benefits of biodiversity. The review will run concurrently with projects that the Department of Environment has to invest in some of the Council's public open spaces in order to connect our residents with nature.



### **3. Grass Cutting and Collection Trials**

- 3.1 Historically, the management of road verges in Gwynedd has focused on safety considerations rather than any wider benefits. As a result, our grass verges have possibly been cut too often, at the wrong times with the grass being left in place after cutting. Unfortunately, this type of verge management does not support biodiversity.
- 3.2 It is recognized that leaving grass on land after cutting leads to increased soil fertility which encourages vigorous grasses, nettles etc. to thrive at the expense of native wildflowers. However, collecting grass after cutting leads to soil that is less fertile which consequently produces terrains that are rich in wildflowers and able to support more wildlife.
- 3.3 As part of the review of the Department's grass cutting arrangements, Ecoscope, a specialist company from Conwy, was commissioned to produce a plan for conducting cutting and collection trials on our rural highway network. Their remit included assessing the value of existing flowers and wildlife on different sites, proposing a cut and collect specification for the sites, managing the trials and monitoring the sites over time. The plan they have produced for us follows the principles in the good practice guide 'Managing Grassland Road Verges' by Plantlife, the wild plant conservation charity.
- 3.4 With input from the Department's engineers, they identified eight suitable locations on the A497 and A499 in Dwyfor to hold the trials. As well as being relatively safe, the sites were chosen because they were straight, wide and long and therefore large enough to provide meaningful data that could be used to justify a change in the mowing regime.
- 3.5 The implementation work (cutting and collecting the grass, scarifying the surface and sowing wild flower seeds on each of the sites) was carried out last October by the Kehoe company from Tregarth.
- 3.6 Ecoscope will carry out a detailed assessment of the value of the biodiversity on the sites from April onwards to see if the trials have been successful. If it becomes clear that the trials have been successful, then the data and experiences gained will be a catalyst for the Department to apply for further grant money in order to extend the trials to Arfon and Dwyfor.
- 3.7 It should be noted that the grant money from the Local Nature Partnership has also enabled the Department to buy specialist grass cutting and collecting equipment which will enable us to undertake the operational work from now on.
- 3.8 Road verges that are left uncut during the spring can be perceived as being untidy by the public and road users. As a result, it is vital that we manage public perception of the trials as well as our ambition to extend the cut and collect scheme in the future. To this end, every Local Member and Community Council where the trial sites are located has been informed about the work and it is intended to place signs on each site which include a link to inform the public about the plan. There is also an intention to raise awareness about the scheme through social media etc. as the wild flowers start to bloom in the spring.
- 3.9 More excitingly, it is planned to promote the trials on the Council's stand on the Maes of the Llyn and Eifionydd Eisteddfod. This will coincide with the Environment Department's promotion of their Gwynedd Wildflower Meadows scheme for all primary schools in the Eisteddfod catchment area in order to establish a network of wild flower habitats. All of the trial sites are located on the main roads that lead to the Eisteddfod. As a result, it is hoped that they will flourish by the time the Eisteddfod takes place so that they present a warm, colorful and natural welcome to visitors.

#### **4. Further Considerations**

- 4.1 Concerns were expressed in last January's Scrutiny Committee meeting regarding the possible effects on the health and safety of our road users as a result of verges being left uncut in order to promote biodiversity. However, it should be made clear that health and safety will always take priority and no site will be considered if it has the potential to affect this aspect.
- 4.2 Concerns were also expressed about the potential for some verges within our towns and villages not to be cut as a result of the trials. Nevertheless, it should be confirmed that there is no intention to include urban verges in the trials. However, if we were thinking of including locations within towns and villages in the future, then we would include the Local Member and the relevant community/town council in the discussions before coming to a decision.
- 4.3 It was mentioned in the same meeting about the joint project with the charity Social Farms and Gardens which also involves cutting and collecting arrangements but on small plots of land. However, although the aims of this project are similar to those for road verges, it focuses more on supporting local communities and organizations to protect, manage and increase pollinator-friendly habitats. This project ends this year and the results will be produced by the charity shortly afterwards.

#### **5. Conclusion**

- 5.1 The Department will go out to contract this year for rural road verge grass cutting services. It is recognized that a new mowing policy will not be drawn up until the findings of the cutting and collection trials are available. However, there are provisions included in the contract documents which will allow it to be varied when the new policy has been decided. The new contract will be effective this spring.

# Agenda Item 8

<b>Meeting</b>	Communities Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date</b>	19 January 2023
<b>Title</b>	An Outline of the Waste and Recycling Service review work programme
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Dafydd Meurig, Cabinet Member for the Environment
<b>Author</b>	Dafydd Wyn Williams, Head of Environment Department

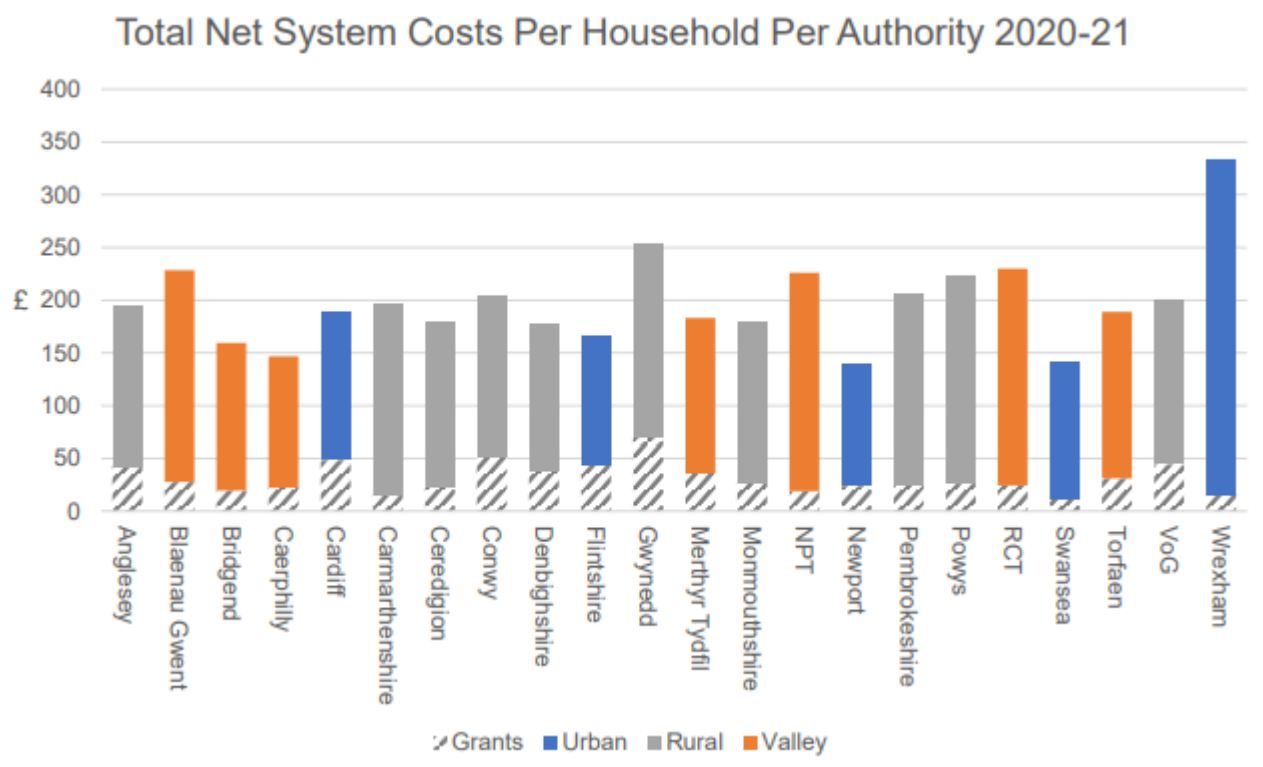
## 1. Purpose of the Report

1. To outline the matters requiring attention in the areas of Waste and Recycling.
2. To present a work programme for reviewing the matters requiring attention in the areas of Waste and Recycling.

## 2. Background and context

- 2.1 As part of changes to the corporate senior management structure, the Cabinet decided that the responsibility for collecting and processing waste and recycling should be transferred from the Highways and Municipal Department to the Environment Department.
- 2.2 Since this decision on 28 June 2022, the Head of Environment Department has been familiarising himself with the work of the waste collection and processing and recycling units. Meetings have been held, and are continuing, with staff across the areas, as well as site visits and getting to understand more about collection arrangements and the processing of materials. The operational responsibility for Waste and Recycling Services has now transferred since October 2022.
- 2.3 There is no doubt that the staff in these services carry out a vital function, and the workforce's efforts are appreciated by households across the county. They are responsible for collecting recycling, food waste and residual waste from 63,466 domestic properties across Gwynedd, and also collect garden waste, nappies and medical waste from some homes. They also provide a commercial waste service to businesses.
- 2.4 It is evident from the period of observation and familiarisation, that these committed members of staff take pride in their work and are keen to ensure high-quality services.
- 2.5 We have seen a clear increase in the county's recycling performance over the years, with recycling levels having more than doubled by around 30% in 2007/8, reaching the Welsh Government's latest target of 64% in 2019/20. This came about after the introduction of more frequent recycling collections for Gwynedd households, reduction in the frequency of residual waste collections, and developing a network of recycling centres in the county. Collections of domestic food waste was introduced, and a specialised provision to treat this waste was developed.
- 2.6 Nevertheless, we acknowledge that the last few years have been incredibly challenging, with the introduction of changes to the collection system in the three areas of the county, and moving to a 5-day a week system. Furthermore, the pandemic has meant that the services have focused on maintaining the collection arrangements, with less focus on the efficiency of the services. The work completed during Covid, as the Council continued to carry out collections, is testament to the efforts of staff to maintain the service for the people of Gwynedd.
- 2.7 But, we must address the costs of maintaining the service. In comparison with other Welsh councils, the report "[Waste Finance Data 2020-21](#)" by the Welsh Local Government Association shows that the net total spend per household on waste services (2020/21) in Gwynedd is amongst the highest in Wales – namely £232.11 (second highest) compared with the median in Wales of £181.37 per household. (Table 1)

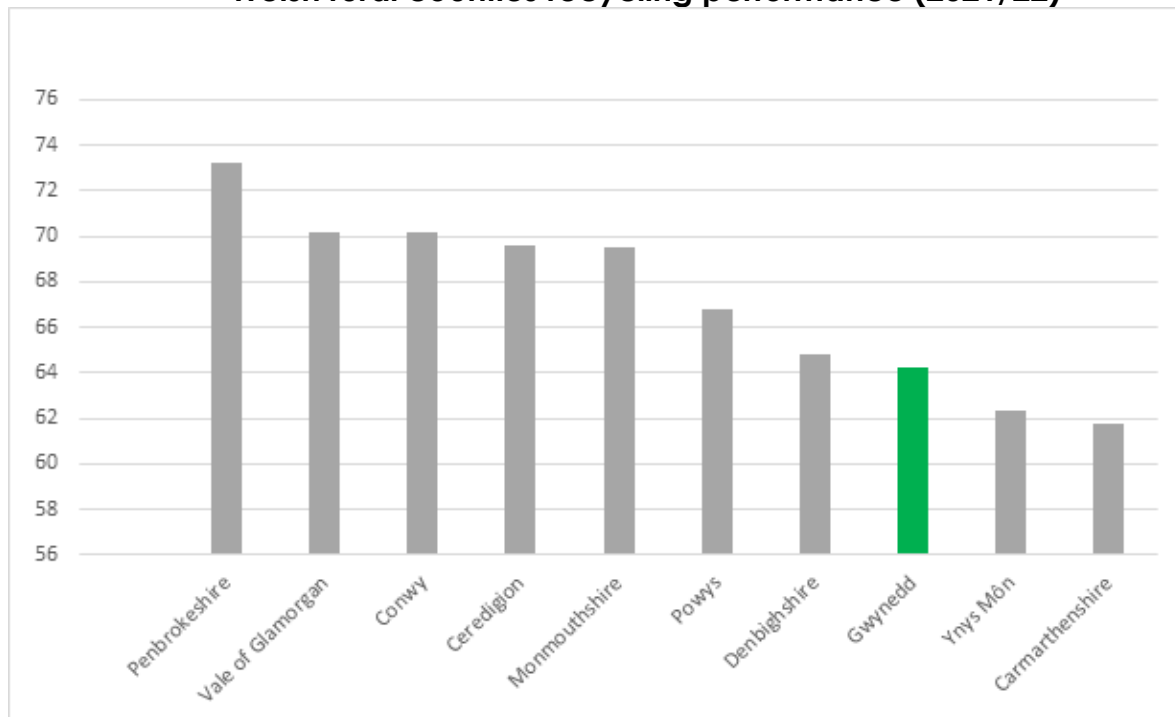
**Table 1**



- 2.8 It is important to recognise that the Highways and Municipal Department had already begun work to review arrangements with a Ffordd Gwynedd exercise. As we continue with these efforts, we are receiving support from waste and recycling experts, WRAP Cymru, and work to examine in detail aspects of the service is proceeding. We outline below the areas where we need to conduct more detailed review work, consider possible options and recommend a way forward.
- 2.9 It must be acknowledged that the field of waste and recycling has faced substantial cuts over the years, which has inevitably affected the services. Several matters are now the responsibility of a significantly lower number of managers than in the past, and work has started to secure additional capacity for managing the fields.
- 2.10 In accordance with the Welsh Government Strategy ['Beyond recycling'](#), all councils in Wales are facing an extremely challenging target of recycling 70% of waste by 2025, as well as a desire to see Wales being a zero-waste nation by 2050. The Government's strategy also sets the desire for councils to implement the principles of the circular economy. In order to achieve this, we must change our mentality regarding materials and reduce our dependency on 'single-use' materials, with emphasis on re-using to keep items out of the waste stream.
- 2.11 The latest figures (2021/22) show that Gwynedd recycles 64.2% of waste collected, compared with 65.5% the previous year. The performance of counties in Wales varies from 73.2% to 58.2%, with an average of 65.2%. Therefore at present, the performance in Gwynedd ranks at 16th amongst the 22 Welsh counties.
- 2.12 Compared with rural counties as interpreted by the Welsh Local Government Association (Table 2), the recycling performance in Gwynedd was 8th out of the 10 councils in 2021/22.

**Table 2**

**Welsh rural counties recycling performance (2021/22)**



2.13 It is therefore clear, based on the current situation, that it will be challenging to reach a recycling target of 70% of the county's waste by 2025. It is timely, with the responsibility for the field having recently transferred, to examine the current arrangements in detail and consider aspects where we need to revise and review in order to reach national recycling levels and ensure that the management of overspend continues.

### **3. Initial observations and further work**

#### **Working arrangements of waste and recycling collectors**

- 3.1 Since 2019, collection arrangements were changed from 6-day, 12.33 hour shifts (one week on, one week off), to 5 days 37 hours – this was without any “task and finish” arrangements. The changes were introduced gradually across the county, in Dwyfor in April 2019, Arfon in October 2019 and then in Meirionnydd in April 2021 (having slipped from the original date of April 2020 because of the pandemic).
- 3.2 As part of savings schemes following the 'Gwynedd Challenge' exercise, a figure of £150,000 has been identified to be realised by changing waste collection working arrangements. There is a very significant risk that it will not be possible to achieve this saving.
- 3.3 There is no doubt that collection work is very physical work, but it is clear that sickness levels have increased in recent years. Since introducing the changes, there have been challenges in completing some routes, and additional resources have been used to complete collections. We saw an increase in staff overtime, and there appear to be high levels of sickness in the workforce.
- 3.4 Although the “task and finish” system ceased when new working arrangements were introduced, this approach was tolerated during Covid in order to avoid workforce crews gathering together. This arrangement has continued, and needs addressing so as to ensure that collection lorries are used to their full potential during the working day.
- 3.5 With the changes introduced in all three areas, we feel it is timely to review these arrangements as they have by now had a chance to embed. This will allow us to weigh-up the success of changing from 12.33 hour shifts to 7.5 hours and consider whether further changes are needed.

### **Addressing overspend**

- 3.6 There have been clear budgetary challenges in the field of waste collection for some years, and you will be aware of the efforts by the Head of Highways and Municipal Department to manage this.
- 3.7 As already noted, we are receiving expert support from WRAP Cymru to identify options that will enable us to address the overspend in this field. This work is continuing, and will link in with the work programme that has been drawn up for the waste and recycling field.
- 3.8 In terms of the financial context, the 1st Quarter Financial Review this year for Waste Collection shows an overspend of £1,332,484 (from a budget of £4,978,660).
- 3.9 It appears that the overspend is linked mainly to high sickness levels amongst the workforce, and the overtime arrangements that are partly associated to ensure that collection routes are completed. The highest levels of sickness absences are in the areas of Arfon and Meirionnydd, but overtime payments are very high in all three areas.
- 3.10 There has been an obvious increase in recent years in sickness absences in the field of waste collection, which obviously affects expenditure.
- 3.11 The number of days lost to sickness have increased over the past few years. However, changes to the shifts system, and increased pay levels for posts means it is difficult to compare the actual situation. There is a clear correlation between sickness levels and higher expenditure, because 'cover' is required every time a work day is lost to sickness in order to ensure the continuation of the service.
- 3.12 Please note as well that the number of domestic properties served has increased – 1,820 additional properties in Gwynedd received a collection in April 2022 compared with the same situation in April 2016. It is fair to note that the service did not receive adequate extra funding to accompany this increase.
- 3.13 The Head of Environment Department is confident that the financial situation can be brought under control over time. We need investment in technology, and to consider the most cost-effective way of collecting waste, and find collection solutions to address this.

### **Arrangements for collection of recycling**

- 3.14 At present, recyclable materials from the county's households are sorted by the residents, using the blue boxes or the 'cartgylchu' trolley. Engagement work carried out as part of the current Ffordd Gwynedd exercise note comments about the cartgylchu breaking, with papers and plastics littering the streets from the recycling boxes – especially in windy conditions. The workforce who were asked also reiterated that the carts can break as they are emptied.
- 3.15 There are financial implications to providing brand-new boxes, and it also affects residents' capability and desire to recycle.
- 3.16 Although the Welsh Government blueprint favours a separate collection procedure, recent work shows that the standard of the recyclables collected in Gwynedd is low and that there is a high level of contamination. There is potential for "cleaner" recyclables to generate more income.
- 3.17 An assessment of the current arrangements will be undertaken in order to consider whether this is the most effective way of collecting items, and whether alternative options could contribute to improving the service and ensuring higher levels of recycling amongst Gwynedd residents.

### **Dealing with complaints**

- 3.18 The current procedure of dealing with enquiries or service requests by the public regarding collections appears to be over-complicated. There is an opportunity to improve the efficiency of this procedure in order to offer a better service to residents.

- 3.19 There has been a tendency for the recycling team to seek information from waste collection team leaders, and then respond to the public, but in reality, their main responsibility is to change residents' behaviours by helping to raise awareness of the importance of recycling. The fact that they are dealing with a number of enquiries about collections means that they cannot prioritise their primary responsibility of promoting services so as to encourage the residents of Gwynedd to take full advantage of the services available.
- 3.20 It appears that there are some unnecessary steps in the current arrangements, and consideration should be given to whether more efficient arrangements could be introduced for dealing with complaints to address the needs of the people of Gwynedd.
- 3.21 The service should consider whether there is room to develop the efforts of highlighting more effectively what the public can do themselves/find out themselves on the corporate website, ApGwynedd app etc.

### **Timely data**

- 3.22 The current procedure of gathering and processing data about recycling/waste levels is fragmented and consideration should be given to updating it. Data about recycling percentages is reported to the Welsh Government on a quarterly basis as part of statutory arrangements for monitoring levels across Wales.
- 3.23 But, capturing more live data would enable the service to operate in a more timely manner. The Council does face the risk of a financial penalty if we as a county fail to reach the Government's statutory targets.
- 3.24 Obtaining data that is useful to us, and that is available more regularly than the current quarterly system would enable us to prioritise efforts to change behaviour in fields/areas requiring improvement. The ability to compare data following an intervention would subsequently assist us to measure success.
- 3.25 We are therefore keen to introduce arrangements that will enable the services to monitor the waste/recycling situation regularly so that we can monitor success in various aspects, and respond or change direction as required.
- 3.26 Attached to this, there is room to improve the use of smart technology to monitor the efficiency of routes and to try to ensure that any collection problems are resolved as promptly as possible.

### **Changing behaviour**

- 3.27 As noted in 3.19, much of the recycling officers' time is spent on dealing with enquiries from the public. But, if we wish to encourage more households in Gwynedd to recycle, we must prioritise the key work of changing behaviours in order to encourage residents to take full advantage of the services that are available.
- 3.28 In the past, more of the recycling officers' time was devoted to planning and undertaking proactive campaigns, and they would engage and communicate with school children, organisations and local groups in Gwynedd.
- 3.29 It seems there is room for improvement in terms of ensuring that households make better use of the food waste collection service. Releasing the recycling team's time will enable them to drive a county-wide campaign to promote the benefits of the weekly food collection system.
- 3.30 This means that officers will be able to engage with households and target specific areas where there is evidence of need. This also highlights the need for a more live data system (see 3.23) which will enable the targeting of specific areas.

### **Communication**

- 3.31 Although there are efforts to participate in national campaigns to encourage recycling, a comprehensive communication plan should be developed to encourage the public to make the most of the Council's recycling services. Again, this is linked to the fact that the team of recycling officers spend much of their time investigating and dealing with enquiries from the public.

- 3.32 A clear communication plan will enable us to update and share information with residents and services – whether that is through promoting the services that are available, or more proactively updating the public about any delays with routes etc.
- 3.33 The current Ffordd Gwynedd exercise has also highlighted that the workforce feels that internal communication could be improved. Strengthening the arrangements for communicating and engaging with the workforce will be a means of ensuring that they feel part of the Council and part of an important team within the Department.

#### **Waste assets**

- 3.34 Much of the machinery on waste treatment sites is reaching a time where it requires replacing. Since many of these machines have seen better days, there are repercussions for the work carried out on the sites when they require maintenance or repairing.
- 3.35 The main waste processing site, Caeryglchu, has been in use for 15 years and more, and we need to consider its suitability for the future.
- 3.36 We must discuss possible options in order to ensure a waste treatment service that will address the future needs of Gwynedd. We should consider what plant is needed, the suitability of current treatment sites, and what would be the level of required investment to ensure that our waste treatment arrangements are fit for the years to come.
- 3.37 As part of the Welsh Government's 'Beyond recycling' strategy (2021), there is a clear directive to introduce waste collection and recycling vehicles that have very low emissions and to invest in the infrastructure to power these with renewable energy. There have been commendable efforts initially to introduce such vehicles, but further work is needed to secure the appropriate charging provision.

#### **Contracts**

- 3.38 The nature of the service means that there are several contracts with external providers in terms of the material being purchased for waste collection, along with arrangements with companies that accept the waste material we collect. Some of these are regional arrangements where the Council is working with other councils from north Wales on joint contracts.
- 3.39 The nature of the market means that prices can vary in terms of the income received for materials that are collected by the Council. Further work needs to be undertaken to ensure there is firm control of contracts with other parties that take our waste and the income received for it.
- 3.40 We will also be reviewing to ensure that all the materials we purchase (for collections and treatment) are fit for purpose and offer value for money.
- 3.41 Scrutinising the arrangements will allow the Department to consider whether there are opportunities to formalise arrangements in order to ensure value for money.

#### **Health and Safety arrangements**

- 3.42 Ensuring that relevant health and safety processes and arrangements are implemented is of key importance in this field. There is room to reinforce training arrangements and ensure that guidelines are easily available and provided regularly to staff.
- 3.43 As already noted, sickness levels are high amongst the collection crews. From all the sickness reports, 54% note that the reasons relate to musculoskeletal problems. It is quite possible that improving training and raising awareness of health and safety issues, as well as improving working arrangements would reduce sickness levels in future.
- 3.44 There appear to be more injuries and sickness amongst the crews that collect recyclables, and a rota system could help to vary the work.



## Waste and Recycling Strategy

- 3.45 With a recycling target of 70% in 2025, we need a robust strategy to get to grips and address this, with scope as well to extend the percentage to the future, including maximising efforts with regard to the circular economy. The Council's previous Waste Strategy was developed back in 2010, which set the path to reach the national target of 64% of the county's waste being recycled by March 2020.
- 3.46 It is timely, therefore, that we review these matters in order to set a clear direction following consideration of the relevant challenges through a holistic approach. This will secure a plan and timetable to drive the task of increasing the county's recycling percentage and reduce the risk of a financial penalty should we fail to reach the government's targets.
- 3.47 As part of the planning for the future, we will need to address the Welsh Government's expectations that any commercial recycling and residual waste is collected separately from October 2023. This necessitates a change to the current procedure and we will need to consider how to address this substantial change in practice, and the fact that there is no certainty of additional funding being available from the Welsh Government to realise the change.

### Arrangements for distributing receptacles

- 3.48 It appears that we need to formalise the way requests for bins and waste and recycling receptacles are managed.
- 3.49 In some circumstances, there appears to be extra wheelie bins being put out for emptying on the routes, with recyclable materials in them. This undermines the recycling and waste collection efforts, and also means additional expenditure on wheelie bins.
- 3.50 We are therefore keen to start creating an inventory of the receptacles that are on our streets, and establish a way of ensuring control of the distribution of the cartgylchu and new wheelie bins to residents.

## 4. Main findings and proposed work programme

- 4.1 Taking the above matters into account, the Department has drawn up a work programme to enable us to review some fields further and propose solutions to ensure that the Waste and Recycling field offers efficient, high-quality and safe services, and that we continue to address the Welsh Government's ambitious recycling targets over the coming years.

### Waste services work programme

- 4.2 Please see attached (Appendix 1) the timetable for the work streams together with details for each individual work stream below.

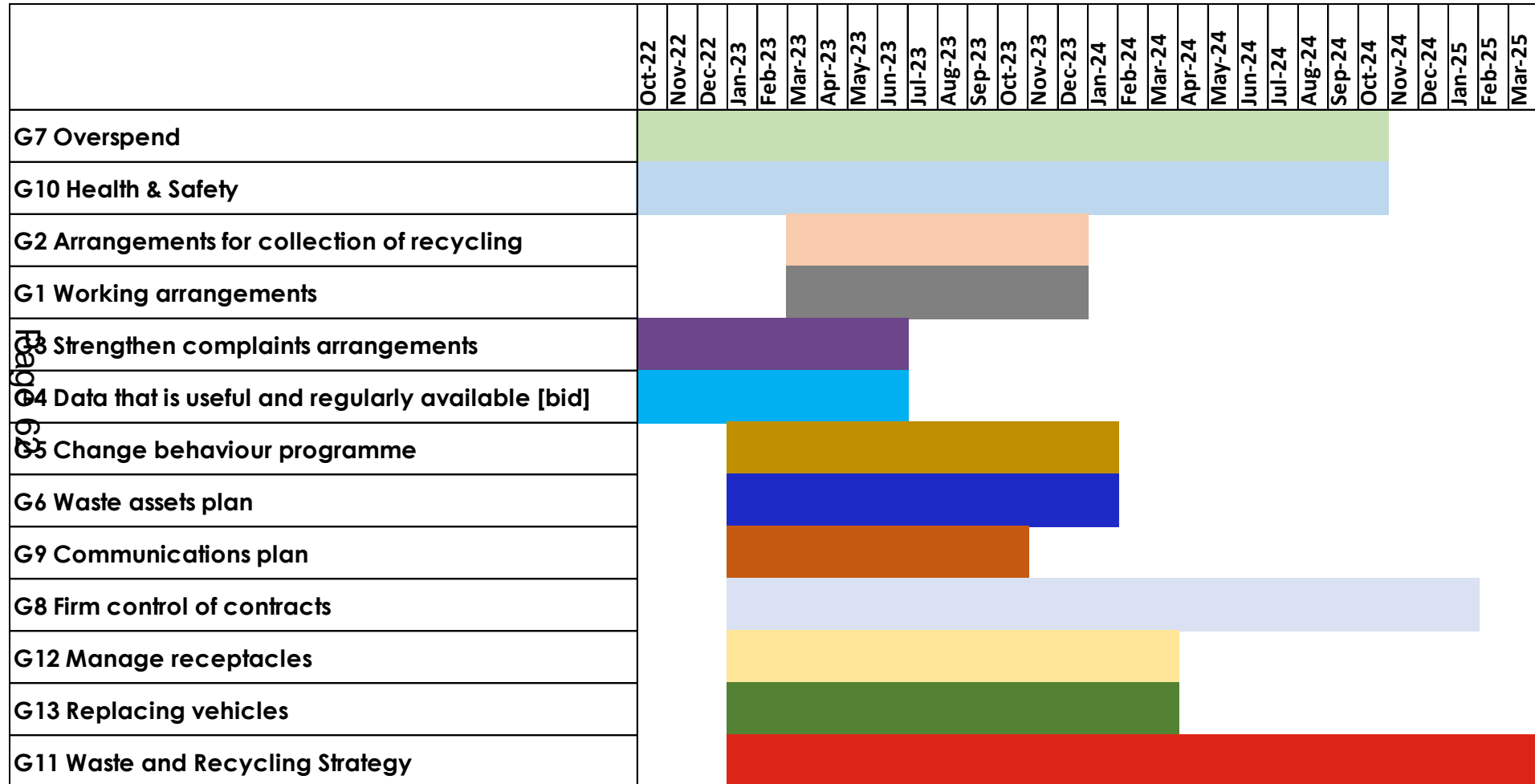
Reference	Activity	Description	Estimated Date/Timescale
G1	Review working arrangements of waste/recycling collectors	Consider the success of changing from the 12.33 hour shift system to 7.5 hours. Consider whether further changes are needed. Assessment of possible options and way forward.	To be completed by December 2023.
G2	Review arrangements for collecting recycling, including expected increase in recycling levels in future	At present, recyclables are sorted by residents using blue boxes or the 'cartgylchu'. Is this the most effective/successful way of collecting? Assessment of possible options and way forward.	To be completed by December 2023.
G3	Review the complaints procedure	Need to consider whether the current arrangements are effective and address Gwynedd residents' needs. Assessment of possible options and way forward.	To be completed by June 2023.

G4	Data that is useful and regularly available	Measuring the recycling percentage is produced once every quarter. This is not enough to monitor success in different aspects and respond to a change in trend swiftly enough. We need to establish modern arrangements that will enable the services to monitor the waste/recycling situation regularly.	To be completed by June 2023.
G5	Change behaviours to reduce the level of residual waste and maximise recycling	Work carried out to change behaviours through education, campaigns and advertising has reduced. If we are to change behaviours we must ensure that we capitalise on every opportunity to ensure the goal of reducing residual waste levels and increasing the recycling percentage. This should be done by using high standard data and evidence.	We need timely data to prioritise campaigns - we intend to resume the practice of engaging with Schools and Groups soon, and for this to be fully operational by January 2024.
G6	Waste assets plan	With the machinery in Caeryglchu having long passed their 'sell by date', we need to consider what type of equipment we should invest in towards the future to ensure quality and efficiency. This is in addition to assessing the future suitability of the Caeryglchu site. Assessment of possible options and way forward.	To be completed by January 2024.
G7	Manage overspend [stemming mainly from workforce sickness and overtime]	Consideration to be given to the substantial annual overspend, and analyse what percentage of this cannot be cut, and what requires better management. Assessment of possible options and way forward.	We hope to see an annual reduction in the overspend levels in the period up to March 2025.
G8	Ensure there is firm control of contracts with other parties that receive our waste	We need to be completely clear that the materials we purchase are fit for purpose and offer value for money. There are also contracts with firms that receive our waste where we receive income. Need to ensure effective and robust arrangements.	Work to commence January 2023 and continue until January 2025.
G9	Communication Plan	Ensure that the services have a clear communication plan for providing updates and sharing information with residents. We also need stronger arrangements for communicating with the workforce to ensure that they feel part of the Council.	To be completed by October 2023.
G10	Health and Safety arrangements	Ensure there are strong and robust arrangements in place to protect the workforce and the public with regard to the collection and treatment of waste, that expectations are completely clear, and that there are regular reminders and reviews to strengthen our care.	To be commenced immediately in terms of changing behaviours, but robust arrangements to certainly be embedded by October 2024.
G11	Establish a firm strategy for Waste and Recycling	With a recycling target of 70% in 2025, we need a firm strategy to get to grips and address this, with scope to also extend the percentage in future.	Work to commence from January 2023, and the strategy to be in place by March 2025.
G12	Review the service's existing arrangements for distributing bins, boxes and bags to residents.	Review the current arrangements and consider ways of managing the demands on the service in order to improve budgetary control.	To be completed by March 2024.

G13	Establish a work programme for replacing vehicles for low-carbon vehicles	Consider options for the future in terms of the use of low-carbon vehicles for collecting waste in future, and create a strategy / work programme.	The type and numbers of vehicles in future will depend on G1 and G2.
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Appendix 1

Timetable – waste and recycling workstreams



# Agenda Item 9

<b>MEETING</b>	COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
<b>DATE</b>	19 January 2023
<b>TITLE</b>	Communities Scrutiny Committee Forward Programme 2022/23
<b>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</b>	Adopt a revised work programme
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Bethan Adams, Scrutiny Advisor

1. At the Committee's meeting on 27 October 2022, items were prioritized for the subsequent meetings and a revised work programme for 2022/23 was adopted.
2. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee attend regular meetings with the relevant Cabinet Members and Heads of Department. The Chair attended a meeting with the Highways and Municipal & YGC Cabinet Member and the Head of Department on 21 December 2022.
3. During the meeting, reference was made to the item scrutinized at the Committee meeting on 27 October 2022, namely 'Local Flood Strategy'. A request was made for the Committee to scrutinise 'Flood Risk Assessment' at the Committee meeting on 9 March 2023, as it would feed into the development of a Local Flood Strategy which is to be in place by October 2023.
4. Scrutinizing the item at the March meeting would enable the Committee to have input and add value in a timely manner.
5. **The Committee is asked to adopt the revised work programme.**

## COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD PROGRAMME 2022/23

<b>28/09/2022</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Report 2021/22 - Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board</li> <li>• Salt Bins and gritting back streets</li> <li>• Developments within the Public Transport Sector</li> </ul>
<b>27/10/2022</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National and local developments to manage the effect of second homes and holiday lets on the ability of local people to gain access to housing in their communities and the Revised Local Development Plan</li> <li>• Rights of Way Improvement Plan</li> <li>• Local Flood Strategy</li> </ul>
<b>19/01/2023</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Update by the Gwynedd and Anglesey Community Safety Partnership</li> <li>• Well-being Plan</li> <li>• Grass Cutting and Land Maintenance</li> <li>• Waste Collection Service (including overspend and realising savings)</li> </ul>
<b>09/03/2023</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governance Structure and Delivery Arrangements of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board</li> <li>• Article 4 Direction Potential Area Options – dwelling use classes</li> <li>• Street Cleanliness</li> <li>• Flood Risk Assessment</li> </ul>

Item to be programmed:

Climate and Nature Emergency Plan

<b>MEETING</b>	COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
<b>DATE</b>	19 January 2023
<b>TITLE</b>	Performance Challenge Meetings
<b>PURPOSE OF THE REPORT</b>	To nominate representatives to attend performance challenge meetings
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Bethan Adams, Scrutiny Advisor

1. Performance challenge meetings are held bi-monthly (except April and August), by area of work of Council departments. Consideration is given to an update on the priority projects within the Council Plan, 'day to day' performance measures and the risk register.
2. Scrutiny committee representatives are invited to attend meetings twice a year.
3. At the Committee's meeting on 6 July 2022, representatives were nominated to attend meetings to challenge the performance of the work areas relevant to the Committee.
4. Since then, a member has withdrawn from representing the committee in environment performance challenge meetings. In addition, Gwynedd Consultancy (YGC) has transferred to be part of the Highways and Municipal Department. As a result, one performance challenge meeting will be held for these work areas. It is therefore necessary to confirm representatives following these changes.
5. The four current representatives were given the opportunity to declare an interest.
6. Following the receipt of responses, see below a recommendation regarding the nomination of representatives:

<b>Areas of work</b>	<b>Representatives</b>
Environment	Cllr. Rhys Tudur Cllr. Llio Elenid Owen
Highways and YGC	Cllr. Stephen Churchman Cllr. Rob Triggs  <i>reserve</i> Cllr. Arwyn Herald Roberts

7. **The Communities Scrutiny Committee is asked to nominate the members noted above to represent the committee.**