

# Complete Agenda

## CABINET



## CYNGOR GWYNEDD

<b>DATE</b>	Tuesday, 14th October, 2025
<b>TIME</b>	1.00 pm
<b>LOCATION</b>	Siambr Hywel Dda and Zoom
<b>CONTACT POINT</b>	Gwen Alaw Roberts cabinet@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

### GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET MEMBERS

Members	
Nia Wyn Jeffreys	Council Leader
Craig ab Iago	Cabinet Member for Environment
Dilwyn Morgan	Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Paul John Rowlinson	Cabinet Member for Housing and Property
Menna Trenholme	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Supporting Families
June Jones	Cabinet Member for Highways, Engineering and Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy
R Medwyn Hughes	Cabinet Member for Economy and Community
Dewi Jones	Cabinet Member for Education
Huw Wyn Jones	Cabinet Member for Finance
Llio Elenid Owen	Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Legal and the Welsh Language

## AGENDA

	Item	Submitted by	Officer	Page
1	APOLOGIES			
2	DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST			
3	URGENT ITEMS			
4	MATTERS ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY			
5	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2025			4 - 10
6	LOCAL TOILETS STRATEGY	Cllr. June Jones	Steffan Jones, Head of Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	11 - 37
7	MODERNISING EDUCATION - YSGOL NEBO	Cllr. Dewi Jones	Gwern Ap Rhisiart, Head of Education	38 - 159
8	MODERNISING EDUCATION - YSGOL BALADEULYN	Cllr. Dewi Jones	Gwern Ap Rhisiart, Head of Education	160 - 276
9	GWYNEDD AND ANGLESEY ALN AND INCLUSION AGREEMENT	Cllr. Dewi Jones	Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education Department	277 - 300
10	ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT: LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2024/25	Cllr. Craig ab lago	Gareth Jones, Assistant Head of Department	301 - 468
11	CLIMATE AND NATURE EMERGENCY PLAN: ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25	Cllr. Craig ab lago	Bethan Richardson, Climate	469 - 509

			Change Programme Manager	
12	DINAS DINLLE CAR PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN	Cllr. R Medwyn Hughes	Llŷr Jones, Assistant Head of Economy and Community	510 - 541

---

## THE CABINET TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

---

### **Present -**

Councillors: Nia Jeffreys, Menna Trenholme, R. Medwyn Hughes, Craig ab Iago, Huw Wyn Jones, June Jones, Dilwyn Morgan, Llio Elenid Owen, Paul Rowlinson and Dewi Jones.

### **Also present -**

Dafydd Gibbard (Chief Executive), Nia Grisdale (Legal Services Manager), Dewi Morgan (Head of Finance), Catrin Thomas (Corporate Director), Bethan Richardson (Climate Change Programme Manager), Esyllt Rhys Jones (Regeneration Programme Manager), Llŷr B Jones (Assistant Head of Economy and Community), Delyth Williams (Equality Adviser), Gwen Roberts (Democracy Services Officer) and Courtney Leigh Jones (Democracy Services Officer).

## **1. APOLOGIES**

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting noting that it was Owain Glyndŵr Day. Council staff and Councillors were thanked for their tireless work over the summer period.

Catrin Thomas was welcomed to the meeting in her new role as the Council's Corporate Director.

No apologies were received.

## **2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

Declarations of personal interest in relation to Item 6 were received by Cllr Paul Rowlinson as he was on the Ynni Ogwen Board, and from Cllr Menna Trenholme as she was a director at Gwyrfaï Gwyrdd. It was noted that these were voluntary roles, therefore were not prejudicial interests and the Councillors did not leave the meeting.

## **3. URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items.

## **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

There were no matters arising from overview and scrutiny.



## **5. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2025 were accepted as a true record.

## **6. LOCAL ENERGY SCHEME**

The report was presented by Cllr Craig ab Iago.

### **DECISION**

The report was accepted.

### **DISCUSSION**

The report was praised, but it was noted that it was unlikely that resources and funding would come from the Welsh Government to implement the Scheme at this stage.

Concern was expressed that the climate change plans were not part of Welsh culture at the moment, despite the importance of meeting the targets set. It was noted that there was uncertainty about the outcome of the Senedd Election in 2026 and how this would affect the focus on environmental issues moving forward.

It was confirmed that the depth of this scheme meant that it could be used regardless of the Election outcome.

The importance of working with other counties in Wales to implement the Scheme was emphasised. Everyone was reminded that this was not just a scheme for Cynghor Gwynedd but a scheme for the whole of Gwynedd.

It was stated that the Scheme formed part of a network of local energy schemes for each county in Wales and would feed into an existing regional scheme. It was added that these schemes would hopefully lead to a Government-led national energy plan.

It was explained that the Scheme sought to look at where and by whom the energy demand was, and how the energy was generated and distributed. It was added that the Technical Report was useful as it included a valuable and trustworthy database, but it was confirmed that this would need to be updated in a few years, as situations changed.

It was recommended that this scheme needed to be reviewed and updated every 3 – 5 years.

Comments arising from the discussion:

- It was mentioned that Ambition North Wales had a number of plans in the pipeline and it was asked whether there were any intentions to discuss with them to try and secure funding to realise plans from the report. It was

explained that there was an intention to ensure discussions at a regional level, including with Ambition North Wales, and that applications for further funding were being submitted to the Welsh Government or relevant organisations to fund the schemes.

- It was stated that over £270 million had been invested in green energy between 2012 and 2025 but that the returns from this were over £400 million. Reiterating the importance of this Scheme, it was added that investment in green energy helped the economy as well as job creation, which in turn ensured that we reached the net zero targets.
- It was noted that these statistics had been highlighted by the Government when talking about a circular economy, despite not investing to deliver such schemes.

## **7. HOLDING A VOTE ON BANGOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS**

The report was presented by Cllr R Medwyn Hughes.

### **DECISION**

The report was accepted.

### **DISCUSSION**

The report was presented stating that the Business Improvement District (BID) in Bangor had submitted a notice to the Council for the renewal of the BID.

It was noted that the notice did not appear to conflict with any Council policy, so with Cabinet's approval, the next step would be for the Council to instruct the returning officer to hold the vote on the dates set out in the report.

It was added that this issue was technical and practical in terms of arrangements.

## **8. ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25, STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN 2020-24**

The report was presented by Cllr Llio Elenid Owen

### **DECISION**

The report was accepted.

### **DISCUSSION**

The report was presented stating that this was the first annual report of the Equality Scheme 2024-2028.

It was explained that the report set out the progress that had been made against the 5 equality objectives set out in the report, which would be a priority for the Council throughout the duration of the Plan.

There was pride in the fact that most of the work earmarked for the period had been completed, and any work outstanding would be carried out this year.

Some of the main points of the report were highlighted:

- It was mentioned that the Council had received a level 2 accreditation of the Disability Confident Scheme and was now working towards level 3.
- It was noted that a Staff Equality Forum had been initiated so that staff could contribute and give views on equality issues within their employment.
- It was highlighted that training was being delivered to staff and elected members on neurodiversity. It was added that the numbers of staff completing the mandatory training were now available to the members, and priority areas for training had been identified so work to organise training in the other equality areas was underway.
- It was disclosed that the Housing and Property Department had been gathering information through the Ardal Ni corporate survey, maximising the number of affordable housing and providing support to increase housing efficiency. It was reiterated that procedures had been streamlined so that it was easier for people to access housing support grant and the social housing system.
- It was noted that actions had been put in place for schools through the analysis of the 'The Cost of Attending School' Charter, looking at the financial and emotional cost for children to attend school.
- A Communications and Engagement Co-ordinator had been appointed to establish effective procedures to obtain the input of children and young people, through school councils and forums, ensuring action was taken on the pupil's voice, regardless of their protected characteristics and needs.

It was explained that several different departments across the Council had been involved in producing the Plan, which had contributed to its success.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- Thanks were given for the report, and pride was expressed to see a focus being placed on engaging with communities and listening to the voices of the county's young people.
- A question was raised about the response stemming from the Staff Equality Forum. It was confirmed that there had been one meeting so far, and that the intention was to build on this.

- The Housing and Property Department's contribution to the plan was mentioned and attention was drawn to the fact that the One Stop Shop was now open. It was noted that this would widen public access to housing services which would ultimately promote equality.
- The importance of continuity in the Council's commitment to equality was emphasised. The excellent work carried out by the autism team was also mentioned. Pride was expressed that Gwynedd was an Age Friendly Authority designated by the World Health Organisation, and that this scheme confirmed the Council's commitment to that designation.
- It was reiterated that it was essential for the Cabinet to always consider equality in its decisions.
- It was highlighted that 18 equality-related complaints were identified in the report, 7 of which were genuine complaints; it was asked how this information was being used to improve services. It was noted that 'access' had been identified as a pattern in these complaints, and it was added that it was already a topic within the Plan and that the problem areas had been identified and were being addressed.
- There was talk of placing an additional focus within the Women in Leadership project on women from ethnic minority backgrounds and those with disabilities, for example. It was confirmed that this matter was already being addressed within Objective 1 of the Plan.

## **9. MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

The report was presented by Cllr Huw Wyn Jones.

### **DECISION**

The report was accepted.

### **DISCUSSION**

It was explained that the Medium-Term Financial Plan was essential in supporting the Council's resilience, by providing a strategic forecast of the financial outlook for a period of 3 years, commencing on 1 April 2026.

It was noted that these estimates were based on the latest available forecasts of the change in income that the Council will receive over the period (through the Government Grant and Council Tax), and the additional expenditure requirements over the same period.

It was stressed that the report was a live document, and that it would change as more information became available.

It was clarified that the Council did not expect to find out what the Government Grant would be for 2026/27 until at least November of this year, but with the prospect that the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Welsh Language intended to increase all Government budget expenditure headings by 2% for 2026/27, the Council could expect an annual increase of around 1.5% in its financial settlement. It was stated that a cumulative funding gap of £40 million was being forecasted over the next three years.

It was mentioned that the Council had received additional funding during this year from the Welsh Government; it was noted that this was welcomed but that receiving this money at the start of the year as part of the settlement would be more beneficial for local authorities.

It was confirmed that the lack of clarity and inconsistent messages from the Welsh Government and Westminster Government made forward planning based on the likely 2026/27 settlement more difficult than usual.

Reference was made to the Welsh Government's threat of a "rollover budget" for 2026/27, which was a continuation of this year's budget including only a small addition towards inflation. It was added that this meant that there would be no remuneration of the other significant costs faced by local authorities. It was warned that this would be a budget cut unless the rate of inflation fell before April 2026.

Grave concern was expressed about the potential funding gap facing the Council, highlighting that the Council had already squeezed the budget and had identified £74 million of cuts and savings over the last 15 years or so.

There were concerns about the direct impact of further cuts on the services delivered to Gwynedd residents and their impact on communities, unless the Council received a fair settlement. These figures were noted to be alarming, underlining the importance of considering the next steps.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- Reference was made to this uncertain situation, noting that there was a considerable difference between the level of inflation and the increase in the settlement. It was noted that having to increase council tax to close this deficit would be a direct consequence of the Welsh Government's failure to increase the settlement in line with inflation.
- It was added that local authorities, through the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA), had been pushing for multi-year settlements, but that the Government's promises of that had not materialised.

## **10. THE CABINET'S FORWARD PROGRAMME**

The report was presented by Cllr Nia Jeffreys.

### **DECISION**

The forward programme was approved.

The meeting began at 1:00 p.m. and ended at 2:00 p.m.

## GWYNEDD COUNCIL – Report to Gwynedd Council's Cabinet

<b>Title of item:</b>	Local Toilets Strategy
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor June Jones
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Steffan Jones, Head of Highways, Engineering and YGC Department
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	14 October, 2025

### 1. Decision Sought:

We are looking for Cabinet to accept and adopt the Local Toilet Strategy.

### 2. The reason why the Cabinet must make the decision:

Part 8 of the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 places a duty on all local authorities in Wales to draw up and publish a local toilet strategy for their area. The Act requires regular reviews to be conducted and subsequent progress reports submitted. The current strategy dates back to 2019, and we have updated it as required. The cabinet is therefore asked to adopt the 2025 Local Toilets Strategy.

### 3. Introduction and Rationale

#### 3.1 Background / Introduction

The Welsh Government agreed to adopt the Public Health (Wales) Bill in May 2017. The Act brings together a range of practical actions for improving and protecting health. Part 8 of the Act particularly sets out toilet provision, and local toilet strategies. From a public facilities perspective, the overall aim of the legislation is to ensure that all local authorities in Wales assess the needs of their communities with regard to toilets and then use a strategic and transparent approach to meet that need in the best possible way.

Local authorities in Wales have a responsibility to:

- Assess the need for toilet provision in their communities;
- Planning to meet those needs;
- Prepare a local toilet strategy; and
- Review the strategy, update and publish any amendments.

Gwynedd Council will therefore in line with these recommendations address the needs of the community and improve the standards of public facilities under the control of the local authority.

### **3.2 The rationale and justification for recommending the decision**

The aim of this strategy is to ensure that the Council continues to meet the needs of the people of Gwynedd despite the fact that the Council's resources are dwindling. The emphasis of this strategy will be to ensure that Gwynedd has adequate provision for the future and that we are able to work closely with our stakeholders to provide alternative delivery models in order to achieve this. The strategy will ensure:

- Provision of clean, safe and well-maintained facilities;
- Maximise the availability of toilets through partnerships;
- Informing and promoting information about toilet provision through websites and other media;
- Ensure public awareness of toilet locations through the use of good reference signs and individual facility information signs;
- Assess the availability and distribution of facilities as required;
- Suitable provision within the available budget.

### **3.3 Public Toilet Provision**

We are responsible for 60 public toilets and it has been possible to keep this high number of toilets open through the Community and Town Council Partnership scheme. The Partnership Scheme works by Community and Town Councils contributing towards the running costs of the toilets.

The financial contribution through the partnership scheme of £261,600 in 2025/26 is essential to meeting the annual or seasonal cost of running the toilet.



### **3.4 Community Toilets**

The Community Toilet Grant Scheme is funded and managed by Gwynedd Council. This Scheme allows members of the public to use toilet facilities at a range of approved local establishments during their opening hours. The facilities are provided free of charge and without any expectation that consumers will purchase goods or services when they are at the premises. All participating properties will need to keep their toilets safe, clean, accessible and with enough supplies. The maximum grant is £500 per year for each setting. The exact amount will depend on the number of hours the toilet is available in a week. To receive the full £500 the toilet must be open for 37.5 hours a week.

We currently have 41 properties across Gwynedd taking part in the scheme. The service provider must display at least one sign provided by Gwynedd Council on their window or door to show that they are a member of the scheme so that the public know they have the right to use the toilets. An application has been made from one further establishment which will receive an audit to see if they are suitable or not.

### **3.5 Improving provision**

The department has been successful in attracting money from the Shared Prosperity Fund – Gwynedd Ni in order to provide improvements to public toilets. A sum of £234,000 has been secured to upgrade the public toilets in Barmouth and Abersoch during 2025/26.

The department received a capital bid of £80,000 to upgrade payment doors in 3 of the 5 toilets in the county where a fee of 20 pence is payable. The machines will enable users to pay in a "contactless" way as well as with cash. The doors have been installed in toilets on the Maes in Pwllheli. The intention is to install the new doors in the Empire toilets in Caernarfon and the Dolgellau toilets.

Work has recently been completed on upgrading toilets in Aberdyfi, Pwllheli and Criccieth following a grant of £140,000 through the Shared Prosperity Fund – Pethau Pwysig.

### **3.6 “Changing Places” facilities**

People with multiple learning disabilities as well as people with other physical impairments often require additional equipment and space so that they can use the toilets comfortably and safely. "Changing Places" toilets aim to meet these needs.

Although Gwynedd Council does not have such provision itself, there are three sites with 'changing places' provision within the county, namely Ffestiniog and Snowdonia Railway Station in Caernarfon, Pontio Centre in Bangor and Corris Craft Centre.

It is noted that it is not a statutory requirement to include 'changing places' toilets in any new scheme. If there are opportunities for such facilities, the Council will consider all opportunities going forward, particularly if a grant is available to develop new facilities. Ideally 'changing places' facilities need to be located within a staffed premises such as libraries, community centres or museums to avoid concerns about vandalism.

### **3.7 Promotion**

The location of Gwynedd's toilets can be found on MapDataCymru which includes the location of all public toilets in Wales. There is also a list of Gwynedd's toilets on the Council's website which indicates their location and whether or not it is a seasonal toilet. There is also a list of community toilets available across Gwynedd on the website stating location, opening hours and what type of facilities are available at the location. The department will look at ways to promote our toilets using the Department's Business Unit, which has expertise in communications and e-development.

### **3.8 Consultation**

As a new strategy will need to be drawn up for the period 2029 onwards and the department will undertake a consultation with the public and stakeholders over the next two years

### **3.9 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

The aim of the Act is to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. In developing this strategy, the Council had to give full consideration to the Act.

The Local Toilets Strategy incorporates the five ways of working that Gwynedd Council is required to follow to ensure that we develop a sustainable strategy:

- Consider the importance of balancing short-term needs which also safeguard the ability to meet long-term needs;
- Operate in an integrated manner;
- Collaborate with others in order to find sustainable solutions;
- Involve people in the decisions that will affect them; and
- Take action to prevent problems from happening or getting worse.

### **3.10 Equality Act 2010**

There is a statutory requirement to prepare and consider the findings of an equality impact assessment when preparing the strategy in accordance with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 as implemented in Wales.

Recently, a ruling was issued by the supreme court that gender, within the Equality Act 2010, means only biological sex. We as a Council expect users to respect this ruling.

That said, we recognise that we do not have suitable provision for transgender and non-binary people in the majority of our toilets. We hope that the Equality and Human Rights Commission's guidance will provide us with further guidance on this.

One option being considered by some organisations in the short term is the use of accessible toilets. That is not possible in Gwynedd's accessible toilets as they can only be opened with a "radar" key which is especially for disabled people.

The recent ruling has been taken into account in the equality assessment for the Local Toilets Strategy 2025. See a copy of the full updated assessment at Appendix 3.

### 3.11 Next steps

The key steps and timeline are set out as follows:

Next Steps	Meal
Local Toilets Strategy review published following Cabinet approval	
Review the charging structure on some toilets in the County by installing new payment doors including card or cash payment options	October, 2025
Review the provision within Council buildings, including libraries etc to ensure maximum use for the public where possible	January, 2026
Continue to inform and update the Community Grant Scheme for local businesses as a way of obtaining additional provision in areas where the greatest need has been identified.	Continuous
Review the current provision of public toilets and monitor the cleaning regime to ensure the most effective and efficient provision	April, 2026
To explore opportunities for grants to further develop and to collaborate with Council departments and partners and others to increase the provision of 'Changing Places' facilities available in Gwynedd within Council buildings	Continuous
Reviewing the Partnership with Community and Town Councils	2025/26
Continue to attract opportunities for grants to upgrade public toilet stock	Continuous
Looking at different options for environmental features and sustainable energy developments	Continuous
The Council will continue to work with the Police, Community Safety and residents, community groups and others to ensure the facilities are as safe as possible	Continuous
Review the Strategy and conduct a consultation	Before 2029

## **4. Views of the statutory officers**

### **4.1 Chief Finance Officer**

The adoption of this Strategy meets statutory requirements on the Council. As can be seen from the previous report, this area is one where there have been several financial challenges in the past and attempts to find alternative ways of funding the service. Finance officers will continue to support and assist the relevant officers as the plans in the strategy develop.

### **4.2 Monitoring Officer**

The need to review a Public Toilets Strategy is a statutory arrangement. The statutory requirements attached to the Strategy's review are appropriately outlined in the report as well as the steps taken to address them.

#### **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Local Toilet Strategy

Appendix 2 – Existing Provision of Public Toilets

Appendix 3 – Equality Assessment



**Gwynedd Council**

**Local Toilet Strategy**

**May 2025**



## **1. Background**

The Welsh Government agreed the adoption of the Public Health (Wales) Bill in May 2017. This Act brings together a range of practical actions for improving and protecting health. Part 8 of the Act introduces provision of toilets and specifically local toilet strategies. In terms of public conveniences, the overall aim of the legislation is to ensure that all local authorities assess the needs of its community in relation to the provision of public conveniences and that it takes a strategic and transparent approach to best meet that need.

The intended effect of Part 8 is not to prevent local authorities from taking decisions which they need to take during the course of their activities, which may include decisions to close a traditional public toilet or building when appropriate to do so. Instead, the intended effect is to improve the planning of provision so that any such decisions are taken within the overall context of meeting their communities' identified needs. A strategic approach will also help to mitigate any negative impacts of changes to provision.

Local authorities in Wales now have the responsibility to:

- Assess the need for toilet provision for their communities;
- Plan to meet those needs;
- Produce a local toilets strategy; and
- Review the strategy, update and publicise revisions.

Gwynedd Council as such in line with these recommendations will set out to address the needs of the community and improving the standards of public conveniences under the local authority's control.

## **2. Introduction**

Our objective in this strategy is to ensure that we continue to meet the needs of the people of Gwynedd despite the fact that the Council's resources are becoming scarcer. The emphasis in this strategy will be to ensure that Gwynedd has adequate provision for the future and we are able to work closely with our stakeholders to provide alternative delivery models in order to achieve this.

This strategy is also being prepared in a period of financial hardship therefore, that context has to be considered. The provision of public conveniences provides infrastructure necessary to facilitate the enjoyment of areas within Gwynedd by residents and visitors. They can make a significant impact upon the comfort of individuals and families who visit public spaces within the area and their perception of Gwynedd as a desirable place to visit.

Access to toilet facilities is important to all part of our population and not just older people. Lack of public toilets is commonly given as a reason that older people become socially isolated and loneliness can set it. However, many people (including younger people, families and people of all ages who are disabled or have a health condition) require access to toilet facilities and a lack of provision can often lead to them also limiting their social contact with others.

Although the Public Health (Wales) Bill focuses on the 'Provision of Toilets', currently a local authority provision of public conveniences is not a statutory duty.

Increasingly the Council faces challenges to maintain standards of toilet provision, maintenance and cleaning due to limited funding and pressure on resources and yet Gwynedd still has the second highest number of council maintained toilets in Wales.

### **3. The aims of this strategy**

The aim of this strategy is to meet the needs of the residents and visitors to Gwynedd by providing:-

- Provision of clean, safe, appropriately maintained facilities;
- Maximise availability of toilets through Council partnership and other provision;
- Publicise and promote toilet provision information through webpages and other media;
- Ensuring public awareness of toilet location, through good direction signage and individual facility information signs;
- Assess the availability and distribution of facilities based upon demand;
- Sustainable provision within the budget available;



This strategy outlines an Action Plan to indicate how Cyngor Gwynedd will work towards meeting the needs of the local population within its current budget for public conveniences.

#### **4. How has this strategy been developed?**

This strategy links into other Council priorities and services and contributes to our vision as a Council to support all the people of Gwynedd to thrive and live full lives in their community, in a county which is one of the best counties to live in.

In developing this strategy, the Council must fully consider the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The aim of the Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It makes local authorities think more about the long term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined-up approach. The Act also puts in place a 'sustainable development principle' which tells organisations how to go about meeting their duty under the Act, this means that Gwynedd Council have to act in a more sustainable way.

The Local Toilet Strategy incorporates the five ways of working which Gwynedd Council must follow in order to ensure we develop a sustainable strategy:

- Consider the importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs;
- Taking an integrated approach;
- Working with others in order to find sustainable solutions;
- Involving people in decisions that will affect them; and
- Acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse.

#### **5. Reviewing the Strategy**

The Act requires constant reviews and progress reports to be submitted.

## **6. Gwynedd Council Provision**

Gwynedd has a mixture of toilet provision. We currently provide 60 traditional public toilets operated by the Council, as well as 41 community toilet facilities. A large part of the county is also part of the Snowdonia National Park which also provides toilet facilities.

Attached in Appendix A is a list of current provision within Gwynedd.

## **7. What is Gwynedd currently doing?**

### **The Town and Community Council Partnership Scheme**

Following the Gwynedd Challenge Engagement Exercise in 2016, the Cabinet revised its decision to achieve cuts by agreeing to implement a proposed Partnership Scheme with Town and Community Councils, in order to keep the majority of the County's existing toilets open for the future.

This scheme was developed as an alternative to the decision taken to close up to 50 toilets as part of the regime of cuts. We consulted with all the Town and Community Councils within Gwynedd to ascertain whether or not there would be sufficient interest in working in partnership in order to keep the toilets open. The Partnership Scheme works by the Town and Community Councils contributing towards the running costs of the toilets on an annual or seasonal basis.

Up to 60 toilets have now been kept open with the assistance of the local Town and Community Councils and others.

### **Working with Others**

Where it has not been possible for the Town and Community Councils to contribute financially in order to keep the facilities open within their areas, the Council has sought to work with others, i.e. third sector partners, private businesses and local community groups in order to keep the provision open within their local areas. There are now several examples of this in operation.

## **Community toilet grant scheme**

The Public Toilets Grant Scheme is funded and managed by Gwynedd Council. This Scheme allows members of the general public to use toilet facilities in a range of approved local establishments during their opening hours. The facilities are made available free of charge and without any expectation that users will purchase goods or services whilst on the premises. Participating premises will be required to keep their toilets safe, clean, accessible and well-stocked. The maximum grant is £500 per location per year. We have currently 41 premises across Gwynedd participating in the scheme.

The service provider must display at least one sign provided by Gwynedd Council on their window(s) or door(s) to show that there are members of the scheme in order to inform the public of their right to use their toilets.

## **Improving Facilities through Grant Funding**

Since 2019, we have managed to attract grants equivalent to over £500k. This money has been used to upgrade 5 of the County's toilets.

## **Changing Places**

Standard accessible toilets do not meet the needs of all people with a disability. People with profound and multiple learning disabilities, as well people with other physical impairments such as spinal injuries, muscular dystrophy and multiple sclerosis often need extra equipment and space to allow them to use the toilets safely and comfortably. These needs are met by Changing Places toilets. There are now 3 sites with 'changing places' provision within the County (Ffestiniog and Eryri Railway Station in Caernarfon, Pontio in Bangor and Corris Craft Centre).

## 9. What will we be doing for the coming period?

It must be recognized that we are facing financial pressure, but the Council commits to the following Action Plan:

### Action Plan 2025 - 2029

Number	Purpose	Target
1	Revise the charging structure on some of the County's toilets by installing new payment doors which will include the option of paying by card or cash.	October, 2025
2	Review the provision of toilets within Council buildings, including libraries etc, to ensure maximising the use for the public where it is possible.	January, 2026
3	Continue to promote and inform the Community Grant Scheme to local businesses, as a way to obtain additional provision in areas where the greatest need has been identified.	Continuous
4	Review existing provision of public toilets and monitor the cleaning regime to ensure the most effective and efficient provision.	April, 2026
5	Engage in seeking further grant opportunities as they arise to develop further and collaborate with Council Departments and partnerships in order, to increase provision of 'Changing Places' facilities available in Gwynedd.	Continuous
6	Review the Partnership with Community and Town Councils.	Continuous
7	Continue to attract opportunities for grants to upgrade the existing public toilets stock.	Continuous
8	Explore enhancement options for environmental and sustainable energy developments.	Financial Year 2025/26

9	The Council will continue to engage with Police, Community Safety and residents, community groups and others to ensure that the facilities are as safe as possible.	Continuous
---	---	------------

**Author:**

Amanda Murray – Municipal Asset Manager, Highways, Engineering and YGC Department

# ATODIAD 2

Tref neu Bentrref / Town or Village	Lleoliad / Location	Agored / Open	Darpariaeth ar gyfer yr anabl / Provision for disabled RADAR	
<b>Ardal ARFON Area</b>				
Bangor	Glanrafon	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	1
Bangor	Tanyfynwent	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	2
Bethesda	Stryd Fawr	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		3
Caernarfon	Allt y Castell	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	4
Caernarfon	Empire	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	5
Caernarfon	Penllyn	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	6
Dinas Dinlle	Marine	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	7
Felinheli	Ffordd y Traeth	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	8
Llanberis	Ger y Llyn	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	9
Llanberis	Maes Padarn	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	10
Llanberis	Y Glyn	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	11
<b>Ardal DWYFOR Area</b>				
Aberdaron	Traeth	Tymhorol / Seasonal	✓	1
Abersoch	Ger y bont	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	2
Abersoch	Golff	Tymhorol / Seasonal	✓	3
Abersoch	Machroes	Tymhorol / Seasonal	✓	4
Beddgelert		Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		5
Borth y Gest	Maes Parcio	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		6
Criccieth	Esplanade	Tymhorol / Seasonal	✓	7
Criccieth	Maes Parcio	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	8
Llanbedrog	Traeth	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		9
Llanystumdwy		Tymhorol / Seasonal		10
Morfa Bychan	Traeth	Tymhorol / Seasonal	✓	11
Morfa Bychan	Gwydryn	Tymhorol / Seasonal		12
Morfa Nefyn	Cae Coch	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		13
Morfa Nefyn	Traeth	Tymhorol / Seasonal		14
Mynytho		Tymhorol / Seasonal	✓	15
Nefyn	Cefn Twr	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	16
Nefyn	Lon Gam	Tymhorol / Seasonal		17

Porthmadog	Y Parc	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	18
Pwllheli	South Beach	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	19
Pwllheli	Stryd Penlan	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	20
Pwllheli	Y Maes	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	21
Trefor	Traeth	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		22
<b>Ardal MEIRIONNYDD Area</b>				
Aberdyfi	Neuadd Dyfi	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		1
Aberdyfi	Y Cei	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	2
Abergynolwyn		Tymhorol / Seasonal		3
Abermaw	Llys Cambrian	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	4
Abermaw	Promenad y Gogledd	Tymhorol / Seasonal	✓	5
Abermaw	Y Cei	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	6
Bala	Plase	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	7
Bala	Y Grin	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	8
Blaenau Ffestiniog	Diffwys	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	9
Bryncrug		Tymhorol / Seasonal		10
Corris Isaf		Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		11
Dinas Mawddwy		Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		12
Dolgellau	Maes Parcio'r Marian	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	13
Ganllwyd		Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		14
Harlech	Bron y Graig	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	15
Harlech	Min y Don	Tymhorol / Seasonal		16
Harlech	Queen's	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		17
Llanbedr		Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		18
Llandanwg		Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	19
Llwyngwril		Tymhorol / Seasonal		20
Maentwrog		Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	21
Pennal		Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		22

Penrhyndeudraeth	Maes Parcio	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	23
Talybont	Pentre	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year		24
Trawsfynydd		Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	25
Tywyn	Maes Adloniant	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	26
Tywyn	Sinema	Agor trwy'r flwyddyn / Open all Year	✓	27
CYFANSWM / TOTAL				60



# Assessing the Impact on the Characteristics of Equality, the Welsh language and Socio-Economic Disadvantage

See the leaflet *How to make an Equality Impact Assessment* for help to complete this form. You are also welcome to contact Delyth Williams, Policy and Equality Officer on ext. 32708 or [DelythGadlysWilliams@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:DelythGadlysWilliams@gwynedd.llyw.cymru), for further assistance.

The Council is required (under the Equality Act 2010) to consider the impact any changes in any policy or procedures (or the creation of a new policy or procedure) will have on people with protected equality characteristics. The Council also has additional general duties to ensure fairness and to foster good relationships. Therefore, a timely Equality Impact Assessment should be made before any decision is taken on any relevant change (i.e. that affects people with protected equality characteristics).

The Council is also required, under the requirements of Welsh Language Standards (Section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011) to consider the impact that a change in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure) will have on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than English. This document therefore ensures that these decisions protect and promote the use of the Welsh language.

From 1st April 2021 the Council has a duty to give due regard to addressing socio-economic disadvantage in strategic decisions.

## I) Details

### I.1 What is the name of the policy/service in question?

Local Toilets Strategy

### I.2 What is the purpose of the policy/service being created or amended? What changes are being considered?

Local Toilets Strategy

The Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 received Royal Assent on 3 July 2017. The Act brings together a range of practical actions for improving and protecting health. Part 8 of the Act sets out toilet provision, and local toilet strategies in particular.

Part 8 aims to improve the way in which the provision of toilets available for public use is planned, by ensuring that all local authorities in Wales assess their community's toilet needs, and then use a strategic and transparent approach to meet that need in the best possible way.

The process of developing the strategy intends to make it possible for us to consider the wider options available in terms of providing toilets for the public, and getting to grips with the current challenges relating to providing facilities within communities, as well as a serious reduction in the service budget.

In developing a Local Toilets Strategy for Gwynedd we have considered the impact on service users, employees and the wider community. It is likely that the strategy will have more of an impact on some protected characteristics than others, however, we trust that we have given consideration to this, and will try to mitigate the negative impact in our aims.

### **1.3 Who is responsible for this assessment?**

Amanda Murray – Municipal Asset Manager, Highways, Engineering and YGC

### **1.4 When did you Commence the assessment? Which version is this?**

November 2018 - Commencement

Version April 2019 – Original assessment

Version May 2025 – Current assessment

## **2) Action**

### **2.1 Who are the stakeholders or partners who will have to work with them to make this assessment?**

Highway and Municipal Department Officers  
The Public  
Groups with protected characteristics  
Community and Town Councils  
Relevant Third Sector Organisations  
Tourism organisations  
Communities Scrutiny Committee  
Analysing and dealing with complaints received

### **2.2 What steps have you taken to engage with people with protected characteristics, about the Welsh language or with communities (either due to location or need) who live with socio-economic disadvantage?**

For updating the strategy in 2025 work has been done to look at the type of complaints received by the public.

This analysis is discussed at the Department's Performance Challenge meetings.

The next full consultation will take place within the next two years in preparation for the publication of the Strategy for the period from 2029 onwards.

## **2.3 What was the result of the engagement?**

The results of the engagement back in 2019 are available.

## **2.4 On the basis of what other evidence are you acting?**

### **Disability**

Charities and organisations which represent older people are of the opinion that cuts to public facilities will have a very damaging impact in terms of them being prevented or being afraid of venturing out of their homes due to the lack of facilities available in the community. Some conditions or impairments could make the impact worse.

According to the Crohn's & Colitis UK charity at least 300,000 people in the UK have Crohn's Disease or Ulcerative Colitis, known as 'Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD).

According to the Royal Society for Public Health's 2019 "Taking the P\*\*\*" report, their research has revealed that 56% of people stop drinking in case a public toilet is not available. This can have a detrimental effect on those with medical conditions such as diabetes or a bladder/bowel condition.

### **Age**

The "Public Toilets in Wales" report by the Older People's Commissioner for Wales (August 2023) states that 61% of people who answered their consultation reported that it was difficult to find a toilet in their area.

In a 2023 Research report by Wales Seniors Forum, 59% of respondents said that they would limit their time or distance outside their home due to the lack of provision. 11% said they might have an accident in public if a toilet wasn't available.

Her evidence suggests that the lack of public facilities is a significant contributing factor to the isolation of older people, with more than half of older people feeling that the lack of local public facilities prevents them from going out as often as they wish.

Age Cymru is currently developing a report looking at local authorities' responsibilities around public toilet provision. We will consider the report's findings when it is published.

## 2.5 Are there any gaps in the evidence that needs to be collected?

There is no Gwynedd specific or lower geographical level information about health conditions such as Crohn's and Colitis, or about trends or visitor demand.

## 3) Identifying the Impact

**3.1 The Council must pay due attention to the impact that any changes will have on people with the characteristics of equality below. What is the impact that the new policy/service or proposed changes will have on people with these characteristics? The impact on socio-economic disadvantage and on the Welsh language also needs to be considered.**

Features	What kind of impact?	In what way? What is the evidence?
<b>Race (including nationality)</b>	None	No effect
<b>Disability</b>	Positive	<p>As part of the Local Toilets Strategy, the Council will:</p> <p>Undertake a review of the cleaning arrangements, opening hours, which are part of the aim to provide 'Provision of clean, safe, appropriately maintained facilities'.</p> <p>This will respond to concerns about hygiene standards and unsuitable opening hours.</p> <p>We will work on maximising the choice of toilet provision and promote under the aim in order to maximise the availability of toilets by working in partnership with an alternative provision.</p> <p>We will advertise the locations and facilities available in the toilets as per our aim to 'Publicise and promote toilet provision information through webpages and other media'.</p> <p>New 'Changing Places' toilets are open at Caernarfon's Welsh Highland Railway Station. The toilets include special equipment such as a Hoist, adequate space in the changing area for the disabled person. For further information about 'Changing Places' Toilets, go to: <a href="http://www.changing-places.org/">http://www.changing-places.org/</a></p>
<b>Sex</b>	None	Something that has happened as the strategy is being written is the supreme court ruling. It states that gender in

		the Equality Act 2010 means only biological sex. Consumers are expected to respect the ruling's finding.
<b>Age</b>	Positive	<p>As part of the Local Toilets Strategy, the Council will:</p> <p>Work on maximising the choice of toilet provision and promote these as per our aim in order to maximise the availability of toilets by working in partnership with an alternative provision.</p> <p>We will advertise the locations and facilities available in the toilets as per our aim to 'Publicise and promote toilet provision information through webpages and other media'.</p> <p>We aim to 'Ensuring public awareness of toilet location, through good direction signage and individual facility information', giving consideration to how we can improve signs and direct people to the toilets and make them easier to find.</p>
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	None	We have not identified any current impact as no major changes will be made to the assets that exist.
<b>Religion or belief (or lack of belief)</b>	Positive	<p>Some religions may be limited when using alternative private facilities in certain establishments (e.g. public houses) - as this may be against their religion or belief. In order to meet this need the Local Toilets Strategy will:</p> <p>Continue to work with Town and Community Councils and groups and organisations to ensure a wide choice of provision and retain as many traditional public toilets open as possible to maximise the availability of toilets by working in partnership with an alternative provision.</p>
<b>Reassignment</b>	Negative	<p>Recently, the supreme court's ruling was issued that gender, within the Equality Act 2010, means only biological sex. We expect consumers to respect that ruling.</p> <p>But we recognise that we do not have suitable provision for transgender and non-binary people in most of our toilets. One option being considered by some organisations in the short term is the use of accessible toilets. That is not possible in our public toilets as they can only be opened with a radar overlay.</p> <p>We hope that the Equality and Human Rights Commission's guidance will provide us with further guidance on this.</p>
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	Positive	Parents and guardians of babies and young children need to be able to use suitable facilities in men and women's

		<p>public facilities when visiting public places and often at short notice.</p> <p>In response to a concern regarding the scarcity of facilities and that their hygiene standards are low, the Council will conduct a review of cleaning arrangements, and undertake an audit of baby changing places for provision of clean, safe, appropriately maintained facilities.</p>
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	None	No effect
<b>The Welsh language</b>	None	No effect
<b>Socio-Economic Disadvantage</b>	Positive	<p>As part of the Local Toilets Strategy, the Council will:</p> <p>working on maximising the choice of toilet provision and promoting them in the objective of 'Maximising the availability of toilets through partnership with the Council and other provision'.</p> <p>We will inform locations and facilities available in the toilets in the objective of 'Informing and promoting information about toilet provision through websites and other media'.</p> <p>The objective of 'Easy to find facilities with good signage and individual facility information signage' will consider how we can improve signs and direct people towards the toilets and make them easier to find.</p>

**3.2 The Council has a duty under the Equalities Act 2010 to contribute positively to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in its activities in the fields of age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, transgender, disability and pregnancy and maternity. The Council must give due attention to the way any change affects these duties.**

<b>General Duties of the Equality Act</b>	<b>Does it have an impact?</b>	<b>In what way? What is the evidence?</b>
<b>Abolishing illegal discrimination, harassment and victimisation</b>	No	No

<b>Promoting equal opportunities</b>	Yes	Due to our aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicise and promote toilet provision information through webpages and other media;</li> <li>Ensuring public awareness of toilet location, through good direction signage and individual facility information signs</li> </ul>
<b>Encouraging good relationships</b>	Yes	The promotional objective is to support and build good relationships while better informing the facilities and their locations and opening hours to enable older people to be more confident of going out.

**3.3 How does your proposal ensure that you work in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards (Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011), to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than English, and that every opportunity is taken to promote the Welsh language (beyond providing services bilingually) and to increase opportunities to use and learn the language in the community?**

The Local Toilet Strategy will have no impact on opportunities for people to use Welsh, and will not treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language. The Strategy will adhere to Welsh language standards in relation to signage, apps, resources, publications etc.

**3.4 What other measures or changes could you include to strengthen or change the policy/practice in order to have a positive impact on people's opportunities to use Welsh, and to reduce or prevent any adverse effects that the policy/practice may have on the Welsh language?**

Nothing further

**3.5 How does the proposal demonstrate that you have given due consideration to the need to tackle inequalities in the cause of socio-economic disadvantage? (Note that this is about closing inequality gaps rather than just improving outcomes for everyone).**

Socio-economic data relating to Gwynedd shows that 31% of households have an income below 60% of the Great Britain median, indicating that they live in poverty.

As part of the Local Toilets strategy, Gwynedd Council will work on maximising the choice of toilet provision and promoting them in the objective of 'Maximising the availability of toilets through partnership with the Council and other provision'. This will ensure more toilets are available to the public without an obligation to purchase products or services, which would have a positive impact on inequality.

**3.6 What other measures or changes could you include to strengthen or change the policy/practice to show that you have given due regard to the need to reduce disproportionate outcomes as a result of socio-economic disadvantage, in accordance with the Socio-Economic Act?**

Nothing further

**4) Analysis of the results**

**4.1 Is the policy therefore likely to have a significant, positive impact on any of the above? What is the reason for this?**

The Local Toilets Strategy is generally intended to have a positive impact on the characteristics of equality set out in part 3.1.

The strategy is intended to seek to improve the provision of toilets available for public use. In developing the strategy, the Council has assessed their community's toilet needs, and used the information to propose 6 objectives in order to try to meet that need in the best possible way within the budget, and where appropriate.

**4.2 Is the policy therefore likely to have a significant, negative impact on any of the above? What is the reason for this?**

No

**4.3 What should be done?**

Choose one of the following:

Continue with the policy/service as it is robust	✓
Modify the policy to remove any barriers	
Suspend and remove the policy as the harmful effects are too great	
Continue the policy because any adverse impact can be justified	
No further action at this time, it is premature to decide, or there is not enough evidence	



**4.4 If you continue with the plan, what steps will you take to reduce or mitigate any negative impacts?**

Not relevant

**4.5 If you do not take further action to eliminate or reduce negative effects, explain why here.**

Not relevant

**5) Monitor**

**5.1 What steps will you take to monitor the impact and effectiveness of the policy or service (action plan)?**

As part of the Strategy the Council will produce and publish an 'interim progress statement' which will monitor the action plan and report on the updated public consultation undertaken within the next two years.

## CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET



**Date of meeting:** 14 October 2025  
**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Dewi Jones  
**Relevant Officer:** Gwern ap Rhisiart – Head of Education  
**Title of item:** Ysgol Nebo – Proposal Paper

### Report for Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet meeting

---

#### 1. THE DECISION SOUGHT

- 1.1 The permission of the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet is sought to hold a period of statutory consultation, in accordance with the requirements of section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, on the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026 and provide a place for learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards.

#### 2 THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION

- 2.1 The reason for seeking permission to hold a statutory consultation on the proposed proposal set out in 1.1 is the need to address the vulnerable position of Ysgol Nebo. Ysgol Nebo's learner numbers have been low for some time. According to September 2025 numbers, only 11 Reception to Year 6 learners attend the school and 1 Nursery learner, with projections indicating that the numbers will remain low with projections of 10 Reception to Year 6 learners and 2 Nursery learners on the register by September 2028.

#### 3 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 At their meeting on 11 February 2025, the Cabinet decided to support the recommendation to start formal discussions with the Governing Body and relevant stakeholders of Ysgol Nebo discussing possible options relating to the future of the school due to low numbers of learners and the concerns about the sustainability of the school.
- 3.2 The purpose of this report is to report back on the outcome of the local discussions, and seek permission to hold a statutory consultation on the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026 and provide a place for learners in the catchment area in Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards.

#### 4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Ysgol Nebo is a community primary school located in the village of Nebo. The school provides education for learners between the ages of 3 and 11 and is a Welsh-medium school, Category 3. Learners are admitted to the school part-time in the September following their third birthday, and as full-time learners in the September following their fourth birthday.

- 4.2 With 11 Reception to Year 6 learners on the school's register, and a capacity of 51, there are 40 surplus places in the school, equivalent to 78% of the school's capacity. The school has capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery class as well, with 1 nursery learner on the roll, there are also 6 surplus places in the nursery.

### **Strategic Context**

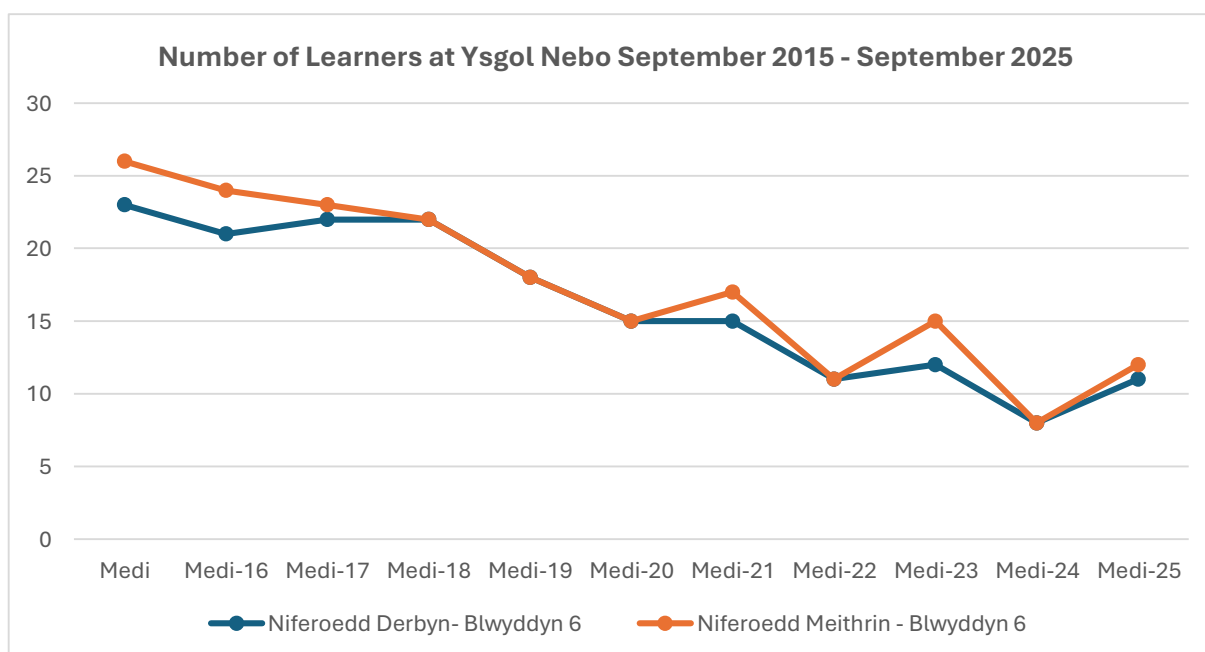
- 4.3 The Council has implemented the "Excellent Primary Education for the Children of Gwynedd" Strategy since it was adopted by the Full Council in April 2009.
- 4.4 At its meeting on 18 December 2018, the Cabinet approved the principles of "Fit for Purpose Education" which is now the basis for realising the Education Department's vision and developing a system to ensure high quality education for the children and young people of Gwynedd for the twenty-first century. These principles work towards rationalising the age range within primary classes and ensuring sufficient non-contact time for headteachers to focus on leadership matters in the primary schools.

### **Presumption against the closure of rural schools**

- 4.5 The School Organisation Code (The Code) includes a special procedure in relation to rural schools, establishing a procedural presumption against closure.
- 4.6 It is stated in the Code *"This does not mean that a rural school will never close, but the case for its closure must be strong, and that all viable alternatives must have been conscientiously considered by the proposer, including federation."*
- 4.7 Ysgol Nebo is designated as a 'rural school' for the purpose of the Code. As a result, particular consideration has been given to the additional procedural requirements in relation to formulating proposals for rural schools in drawing up this proposal paper.

## **5. THE CURRENT SITUATION AT YSGOL NEBO**

- 5.1 As can be seen from the graph below, there has been a significant and consistent reduction in the numbers of learners at Ysgol Nebo. Since September 2015, there has been a 52% reduction in the number of Reception to Year 6 learners at the school, and a 54% reduction in the numbers of Nursery to Year 6 learners at the school.



- 5.2 As a result of the current low numbers, the school is in a vulnerable position and faces many increasing challenges, including:

- **Low numbers of learners** - In January 2025, 10 Reception - Year 6 learners and 0 nursery learners attended Ysgol Nebo. Although the numbers have increased slightly since then, the numbers remain low with 11 Reception - Year 6 learners and 1 nursery learner on the register in September 2025.
- **A high percentage of surplus places** – With 11 Reception to Year 6 learners on the school's register, and a capacity of 51, there are 40 surplus places the school, which is equivalent to 78% of the school's capacity. The school has capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery class as well, so with 1 nursery learner on the roll, there are also 6 surplus places in the nursery.
- **Small class sizes and a broad age range** - There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to Year 6) in the second class. As a result, there is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and up to 3 years in the second class.
- **Number projections** – September 2025 projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next three years.
- **Learners in the catchment area** - September 2025 data shows that only 29% of Ysgol Nebo's catchment area learners choose to attend the school. 71% of learners in the catchment area choose to attend schools outside the catchment area.
- **Ysgol Nebo receives an additional amount to the core financial allocation** – Ysgol Nebo receives an additional amount to the usual allocation via the minimum staffing policy (which guarantees at least a headteacher and a teacher in each school, and a headteacher and an assistant in schools with less than 15 full-time learners). The total additional amount during the 2025-26 financial year (based on September 2024 numbers) was £70,694.
- **Average cost per learner** – The average cost per learner at Ysgol Nebo in 2025-26 is £25,876 compared to the county average of £5,780.

## 6. LOCAL DISCUSSIONS

- 6.1 In the Autumn term 2024, officers from the Department of Education met with the Governing Body of Ysgol Nebo to discuss the vulnerable situation of the school. During the meeting, the intention was noted to seek Cabinet permission to move the discussion forward by holding formal meetings with the Governing Body and the relevant stakeholder to discuss the challenges and options for the future.
- 6.2 In accordance with the Cabinet's decision on 11 February 2025, Ysgol Nebo School Review Panel (SRP) was established. All members of the Governing Body, parents and staff of the school as well as the Local Member were invited to join the panel and participate in the discussion.
- 6.3 On 18 March 2025, the first of three SRP meetings was held where the challenges facing the school were outlined and an initial discussion held to identify options that would respond to these challenges (as detailed in paragraph 5.2 above). Examples of options were put forward at the meeting, and some of the school's stakeholders put forward alternative options for consideration.
- 6.4 The second SRP meeting was held on 12 May 2025. During the meeting a SWOT evaluation was presented in order to identify the strengths, opportunities, weaknesses and threats of all the options. Further comments were received from the stakeholders for consideration, and were added to the evaluation.
- 6.5 Following receiving the input of the SRP members, a third meeting was held on 14 July 2025 in order to note the challenges facing the school, the long list of options agreed to be evaluated and to explain the factors that would be considered when carrying out an evaluation of options on the long list. The intention to carry out impact assessments on the options before reporting back to the Cabinet in October was noted.

## 7. IDENTIFYING OPTIONS

7.1 With input from SRP members during the local meetings, a long list of options was drawn up for consideration regarding the future of the school. These included options submitted by the stakeholders of Ysgol Nebo. These options were:

- No change – continue with the current situation
- Federation with a nearby school
- Federation with a nearby School and adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo
- Close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school
- Ysgol Nebo to develop into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)
- Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs
- Ysgol Nebo to offer a Language Unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area
- Establishing a School on more than one site (multi-site School)

### Other options

7.2 A wide range of options have been identified during the local meetings and we have also given consideration to what the School Organisation Code 011/2018 notes as examples of possible options that could be worth considering when drawing up the proposal for a rural school, and the following examples were considered in addition to the options in section 7 of this report. Those options are seen below with comments added to them:

- Clustering, collaboration with other schools - the option of federating with a nearby school has been included in the options appraisal.
- Using the school as a community centre to maintain and support a range of community services - following consideration of the option to use the school as a community centre, it was concluded that this option would not offer a sustainable solution for the school, as it would not respond to the challenges facing the school (as stated in section 5.2). If this option were to be realised, it is anticipated that the challenges identified in section 5.2 of the report, e.g. low numbers of pupils, small class sizes continue, and as a result the financial challenges facing the school would continue.
- Co-location of local services within the school to offset maintenance costs - this option is further considered in the options appraisal through the following options: (i) Ysgol Nebo offers a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs (ii) Ysgol Nebo offers a Language Unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area.
- Consider establishing schools on more than one site in order to preserve buildings - this option, namely the establishment of a multi-site school, was added to the list of options to be considered following the third local meeting and is therefore considered in the options appraisal.

## 8. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

8.1 In accordance with the strategy *"Excellent Primary Education for Children in Gwynedd"* a number of factors were considered when appraising the options for the situation, namely:

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| • Number of learners and surplus places | • Class sizes and age range |
|   | • Leadership and staffing   |

- The Community
- Financial resources
- The Welsh language
- Geographical factors

8.2 A further comparison of all the options against the strategy's factors can be seen in **Appendix 1** (Options Appraisal Table) and the conclusion of the evaluation of the individual options can be seen below.

### 8.3 No change - continue with the current situation

This option would mean that there would be no change to the current provision in the Ysgol Nebo catchment area.

Having weighed up the school's latest situation against the relevant factors, it is concluded that this option does not address the current challenges facing the school, which are set out in section 5.2, including:

- Numbers of learners and surplus places – The numbers of learners would remain low (11 Reception - Year 6 and 1 Nursery) and significant surplus places (78%) remain at Ysgol Nebo. Number projections suggest that this will continue.
- Small class sizes and a broad age range – There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to Year 6) in the second class. As a result, there is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and up to 3 years in the second class. As no increase in numbers is anticipated, class sizes would remain small with a broad age range.
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Nebo received a significant additional protection allocation (£70,694) and the average cost per learner (£25,876) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As it is not anticipated that the option would affect the numbers of learners at the school, it is anticipated that this financial challenge would continue.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £95,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Nebo building. The option to do nothing would not respond to this challenge.

### 8.4 Federation with a nearby school

The Code states that federation brings particular benefits to rural schools and states that a proposer must therefore demonstrate how federation has been considered as an option. It has been demonstrated that federating can offer advantages to rural schools in certain situations, specifically from the point of view of strengthening leadership and collaboration opportunities.

This model would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved, and a (new) federal governing body would be formed. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

The possibility of federating with nearby schools was considered, specifically Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu.

When considering this model, it must be assessed what any impact would be on how all the schools that would be part of the federation would operate. Noting the challenges facing Ysgol Nebo, it would have to be ensured that such an arrangement would benefit all the children and young people of the federating schools by improving the educational provision.

As Ysgol Nebo's numbers have reached a critical situation with 11 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 1 Nursery learner on the register, it was predicted that there were no clear benefits for other schools from federating with Ysgol Nebo.

There is no clear evidence that forming a federation would lead to an increase in numbers.

Following weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of federating, it was concluded that this option did not respond to the main challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Numbers of learners and surplus places – There is no clear evidence that forming a federation would lead to an increase in numbers. As a result, it is anticipated that federating would mean that the challenge of low learner numbers and significant surplus places (78%) at Ysgol Nebo would continue.
- Small class sizes and a broad age range – There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to Year 6) in the second class. So there is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and up to 3 years in the second class. As it is not anticipated that forming a federation would lead to an increase in numbers, it is anticipated that federating would not respond to the challenge of small classes and a broad age range.
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Nebo received a significant additional protection allocation (£70,694) and the average cost per learner (£25,876) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As it is not anticipated that federating would lead to an increase in the numbers of learners, it is not anticipated that the option would affect the financial allocation of Ysgol Nebo, it is anticipated that this financial challenge would continue.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £95,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Nebo building. As the Ysgol Nebo building would continue, federating would not respond to this challenge.

#### 8.5 Federation with a nearby school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo

The Code states that federation brings particular benefits to rural schools and states that a proposer must therefore demonstrate how federation has been considered as an option. It has been demonstrated that federalisation can offer advantages to rural schools in certain situations, specifically from the point of view of strengthening leadership and collaboration opportunities.

This model would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved, and a (new) federal governing body would be formed. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

The possibility of federating with nearby schools was considered, specifically Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu.

When considering this model, it must be assessed what any impact would be on how all the schools that would be part of the federation would operate. Noting the challenges facing Ysgol Nebo, it would have to be ensured that such an arrangement would benefit all the children and young people of the federating schools by improving the educational provision.

As Ysgol Nebo's numbers have reached a critical situation with 11 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 1 part-time learner (Nursery) on the register, it is anticipated that there would be no clear advantages for other schools from federating with Ysgol Nebo and adding an ALN unit on Ysgol Nebo's site.

There is no clear evidence that forming a federation would lead to an increase in numbers.

In addition to forming a federation, this option would also mean adding a location for a ALN unit. Note that the addition of an ALN unit would not affect Ysgol Nebo's numbers, as the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners at their original school. As the ALN unit would be located within the Ysgol Nebo building, it is anticipated that the option would lead to a reduction in the school's capacity, and as a result, a reduction in the number of surplus places at Ysgol Nebo.

Following weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of federating and locating an ALN unit on the Nebo School site, it was concluded that this option would not adequately respond to the main challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Numbers of learners and surplus places - Although there would be a reduction in the school's capacity and surplus places as a result of locating the ALN unit within the Ysgol Nebo building, as there is no clear evidence that federating would lead to an increase in numbers, it is anticipated that the challenge of low learner numbers at Ysgol Nebo would continue if this option were to be implemented. As the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of an ALN unit on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.
- Small class sizes and a broad age range – There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to Year 6) in the second class. As a result, there is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and up to 3 years in the second class. As it is not anticipated that the option would lead to an increase in numbers, it is anticipated that this option would not respond to the challenge of small classes and a broad age range.
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Nebo has received a significant additional protection allocation (£70,694) and the average cost per learner (£25,876) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As it is not anticipated that this option would lead to an increase in the number of learners, it is not anticipated that this option would affect Ysgol Nebo's financial allocation. It is anticipated that locating an ALN unit on the site may offset some of the maintenance costs of the school building, However, from the perspective of the schools core allocation, if Ysgol Nebo were to form a federation with a nearby school as well as locating an ALN Unit on the site, as it is not anticipated that the option would affect the numbers of the school's learners, it is anticipated that this financial challenge would continue.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £95,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Nebo building. Locating an ALN Unit within the Ysgol Nebo building may partly offset the school's maintenance costs. However, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, this option would not adequately respond to this challenge.

#### 8.6 Close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby School (Ysgol Llanllyfni)

This option would mean closing Ysgol Nebo and offering a place to learners from the catchment area at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

Ysgol Llanllyfni is considered the 'nearby school' as it is the geographically closest school to Ysgol Nebo. The school is located approximately 1.6 miles from the site of Ysgol Llanllyfni.

Ysgol Llanllyfni also offers itself as the obvious option for the alternative school as 43% of primary age children in Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend Ysgol Llanllyfni and there is sufficient capacity there to receive learners from Ysgol Nebo's catchment area.

Following this, it is proposed to extend the catchment area of Ysgol Llanllyfni to include the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo for the future.

The rationale behind recommending this proposal as the preferred option for consultation is further detailed in Section 10. The preferred option.

#### 8.7 Ysgol Nebo to develop into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)

This option would mean that Ysgol Nebo would continue and develop into a specialist location for some individual subjects.



Ysgol Nebo's numbers have reached a critical situation with 11 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 1 part-time learner (Nursery) on the roll. It is not anticipated that this option would lead to an increase in the numbers of Ysgol Nebo learners.

Having weighed up the school's latest situation against the relevant factors, it is concluded that this option does not respond to the main challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Numbers of learners and surplus places - Numbers of learners would remain low (11 Reception - Year 6 and 1 Nursery) and significant surplus places (78%) would remain at Ysgol Nebo. Number projections suggest that this will continue.
- Small class sizes and broad age range – There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to Year 6) in the second class. As a result, there is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and up to 3 years in the second class. As it is not anticipated that the option would lead to an increase in numbers, class sizes would remain small with a broad age range.
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Nebo has received a significant additional care allocation (£70,694) and the average cost per learner (£25,876) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As the option would not affect the numbers of learners at the school, it is anticipated that this financial challenge would continue.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £95,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Nebo building. This option would not respond to this challenge.

#### 8.8 Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs

This option was proposed during the local discussions. Specifically, the Governing Body put forwards the following option:

*"Ysgol Nebo to offer a site as a provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with IDP for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neuro-diversity."*

This option was interpreted as that Ysgol Nebo would continue, but it would also mean adding an area for an ALN unit on the school site in order to offer special education to the children who needed additional support.

As the school building would need to be modified to provide a location for the specialist unit, the school's capacity would likely be reduced and therefore it is anticipated that the option would lead to a reduction in surplus places

However, Ysgol Nebo's numbers have reached a critical situation with 11 (Reception - Year 6) learners and 1 part-time learner (Nursery) on the register. As the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of an ALN unit on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is anticipated that Ysgol Nebo's numbers would remain low, and it is not anticipated that it would respond to the challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 (above).

Following weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of this option for Ysgol Nebo, it is concluded that this option does not adequately respond to the main challenges the school faces, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Numbers of learners and surplus places – Although there would be a reduction in the school's capacity and surplus places as a result of locating the ALN unit within the Ysgol Nebo building, as the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners at their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of an ALN unit on the school site would affect Ysgol Nebo's numbers. As a result, it is predicted that the numbers would remain low.

- Class sizes and age range - There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to Year 6) in the second class. As a result, there is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and up to 3 years in the second class. As it is not anticipated that the option would lead to an increase in numbers, class sizes would remain small with a broad age range.
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Nebo has received a significant additional protection allocation (£70,694) and the average cost per learner (£25,876) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As it is not anticipated that the option would affect the numbers of learners at the school, it is anticipated that this financial challenge would continue.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £95,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Nebo building. This option would not respond to this challenge.

#### 8.9 Ysgol Nebo to offer a Language Unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area

This option would mean that Ysgol Nebo would continue, but it would also mean adding a language immersion unit on the school site to offer an immersion service in Welsh to new speakers.

As the school building would need to be modified to provide a location for the language unit/centre, the school's capacity would likely be reduced and therefore it is anticipated that the option would lead to a reduction in surplus places.

However, Ysgol Nebo's numbers have reached a critical situation with 11 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 1 part-time learner (Nursery) on the register. As the learners of the language unit/centre would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a language centre on the school site would affect the Ysgol Nebo numbers. As a result, it is anticipated that Ysgol Nebo's numbers would remain low, and it is not anticipated that it would respond to the challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 (above).

Following weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of this option for Ysgol Nebo, it is concluded that this option does not adequately respond to the main challenges the school faces, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Numbers of learners and surplus places - Although there would be a reduction in the school's capacity and surplus places as a result of locating the language unit/centre within the Ysgol Nebo building, as the learners of the language unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a language unit on the school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.
- Class sizes and age range – There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to Year 6) in the second class. As a result there is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and up to 3 years in the second class. As it is not anticipated that the option would lead to an increase in numbers, class sizes would remain small with a broad age range.
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Nebo has received a significant additional protection allocation (£70,694) and the average cost per learner (£25,876) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As it is not anticipated that the option would affect the numbers of learners at the school, it is anticipated that this financial challenge would continue.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £95,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Nebo building. This option would not respond to this challenge.

#### 8.10 Establish a multi-site school, continuing with Ysgol Nebo site

This option would mean uniting a number of local schools, by closing the schools and establishing one multi-site school which would include Ysgol Nebo site. The option would enable the possibility of sharing resources, buildings and expertise.

This model would ensure continuity in the presence of a school site in the village of Nebo by establishing a multi-site school, led by a headteacher and one governing body. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved and a (new) governing body would be formed for the multi-site school.

Under this model, there would be staffing implications that can lead to uncertainty and redundancies. The positions of all members of staff in each of the schools that would form part of the multi-site school would come to an end. The new appointments would be made by the shadow governing body of the new multi-site school.

Ysgol Nebo's numbers have reached a critical situation with 11 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 1 part-time learner (nursery) on the roll. It is not anticipated that this option would lead to an increase in the numbers of learners on Ysgol Nebo site.

After weighing up the advantages and disadvantages, it is concluded that this option does not respond to the main challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Numbers of learners and surplus places - It is anticipated that the numbers of learners on Ysgol Nebo site would remain low (11 Reception - Year 6 and 1 Nursery) together with significant surplus places (78%).
- Class sizes and age range – There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to Year 6) in the second class. As a result, there is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and up to 3 years in the second class. As it is not anticipated that the option would lead to an increase in the numbers of learners at Ysgol Nebo site, it is likely that small classes would continue at the Nebo site with a broad age range within the classes.
- Financial resources – Establishing a multi-site school would mean establishing one multi-site school, with one allocation for all the sites. It is anticipated that Ysgol Nebo site would continue to receive an additional amount to the core allocation through the minimum staffing protection policy as the numbers of learners at Ysgol Nebo site would remain low.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £95,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Nebo building. As the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, it is not anticipated that the option would respond to this challenge.

#### 9. **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS - PRESUMPTION AGAINST THE CLOSURE RURAL SCHOOLS**

In addition to the factors that are relevant when developing any proposal, it is also required to carry out specific assessments in relation to a proposed proposal of this type. A number of assessments were carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Code of the options under consideration. The full assessments can be found in **Appendix 2**, and a summary of these assessments can be found in the table below:

Option	Assessment of the likely impact on the quality and standards of education	Assessment of the likely impact on different travel arrangements	Assessment of the likely impact on the community
No change - continue with the current situation	Neutral – No change	Neutral – No change  No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.	Neutral – No change  Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.

<b>Federation with a nearby school</b>	<p>Neutral/Partially positive No impact on the provision at Ysgol Nebo</p> <p>An opportunity to share good practices between the two schools and possibilities of making better use of resources.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>Possibility of community collaboration between the 2 schools.</p> <p>Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p>
<b>Federation with a nearby school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs in Ysgol Nebo</b>	<p>Neutral/Partially positive – No impact on the provision at Ysgol Nebo</p> <p>An opportunity to share good practices between the two schools and possibilities of making better use of resources.</p> <p>An opportunity to develop an additional resource to support learners with ALN. It is anticipated that it would have a positive impact on the criteria of 'Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs'</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learners.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>Possibility of community collaboration between the 2 schools.</p> <p>Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p>
<b>Close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school</b>	<p>Partially Positive</p> <p>The assessment notes that the standard of education provided at Ysgol Llanllyfni corresponds to the standard of education provided at Ysgol Nebo.</p> <p>As there are more learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni, it is anticipated that there will be opportunities to teach children in larger groups, with age-appropriate peers to broaden their experiences. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences from teaching Nebo catchment area learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni.</p>	<p>Negative</p> <p>It would be necessary to provide transport for learners from the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo to Ysgol Llanllyfni, in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy.</p> <p>Additional transport costs are anticipated - estimated cost, approximately £17,000-£30,000 per year.</p> <p>Some learners would travel further to school than they do at the moment.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	<p>Neutral/Partially Negative</p> <p>Lead to the loss of a school and community resource in the village of Nebo. Extensive community use of the Ysgol Nebo building by the community.</p> <p>To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Nebo community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Nebo community is encouraged, where appropriate.</p> <p>It is noted that a large proportion of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools,</p>

			including Ysgol Llanllyfni, and therefore it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Ysgol Nebo community already exists.
<b>Ysgol Nebo developing into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)</b>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>It is anticipated that the standard of education at Ysgol Nebo would continue, but as no similar model exists in primary school in terms of specialist location for some individual subjects, it is not possible to assess its impact against the quality of education, so the impact is neutral.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>There would be wider travel considerations if Ysgol Nebo site was a specialist location for certain subjects.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p>
<b>Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs</b>	<p>Neutral/Partially positive</p> <p>No impact on the provision at Ysgol Nebo</p> <p>An opportunity to develop an additional resource to support learners with ALN. It is anticipated that it would have a positive impact on the criteria of 'Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs'.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the learners of the ALN unit.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	<p>Neutral – No change to the provision at Ysgol Nebo</p> <p>Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p>
<b>Ysgol Nebo to offer a Language Unit/Centre for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area</b>	<p>Neutral - No impact on the provision at Ysgol Nebo</p> <p>An opportunity to develop an additional resource to provide a specific service for latecomers in a Language Centre on the school site.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the learners of the language unit.</p>	<p>Neutral –</p> <p>Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p>

<b>A multi-site school - continuing with Ysgol Nebo site</b>	Neutral / Partially positive – No impact on the provision at Ysgol Nebo	<b>Neutral</b>  The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.	Neutral – No change to the provision at Ysgol Nebo
	An opportunity to share good practices between the school sites and possibilities of making better use of resources.	No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.  Depending on the structure of the new school, there is a possibility that it will be necessary to organise transport between schools.	Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.

## 10. THE PREFERRED OPTION

10.1 Of the options considered, the preferred option for further consultation is the option to close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)

10.2 This option is preferred for the following reasons:

10.3 Numbers of learners and surplus places

10.3.1 In September 2025 there were 11 Reception - Year 6 learners and 1 Nursery aged learner attending Ysgol Nebo. As a result, Ysgol Nebo has 40 (78%) surplus places in the school (Reception - Year 6). When including the school's Nursery capacity and numbers, Ysgol Nebo has 46 (79%) surplus places.

10.3.2 The numbers of learners at the school have decreased significantly in recent years from 23 Reception to Year 6 learners, and 3 Nursery learners in September 2015 to 11 Reception - Year 6 learners and 1 Nursery learner in September 2025, which is a reduction of approximately 54%.

10.3.3 According to the projections created in September 2025, it is anticipated that the numbers will remain low over the next three years. Seen below are the numbers for September 2025 and Ysgol Nebo's number projections for September 2026-28.

	N	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total R-Yr.6
<b>September 2025 numbers</b>	1	1	2	1	1	3	3	0	11
<b>Projections September 2026</b>	2	1	1	2	1	1	3	3	12
<b>Projections September 2027</b>	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	3	11
<b>Projections September 2028</b>	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	10

10.3.4 In September 2025 there were 59 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 13 Nursery age learners attending Ysgol Llanllyfni. According to the September 2025 projections, it is anticipated that there will be 72 Reception to Year 6 learners and 11 Nursery learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni in September 2028.

10.3.5 Ysgol Llanllyfni has a capacity of 103 (Reception - Year 6), which means that Ysgol Llanllyfni has 44 surplus places. When including the school's Nursery capacity and numbers, there are 45 surplus places at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

10.3.6 The Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (2018) states that "excessive numbers of unused places that could be removed mean that resources are tied up unproductively....A significant level of surplus provision is defined as 25% or more of a school's capacity". As a result of the low numbers, there are 78% (40 in number) of surplus places (R-Yr.6) at Ysgol Nebo.

10.3.7 When considering the joint capacity of Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni (which is a capacity of 154 Reception to Year 6 and 175 Nursery - Year 6), it is anticipated that the implementation of the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and transfer the learners of the catchment area to Ysgol Llanllyfni would reduce the total number of places in the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo and the catchment area of Ysgol Llanllyfni from 84 (55%) to 33 (32%) (Reception – Yr.6), and from 91 (52%) to 33 (28%) when considering the numbers and capacity of the Nursery.

#### 10.4 **Class sizes and age range**

As can be seen from the table below, there are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception - Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to Year 6) in the second class. As a result, there is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and up to 3 years in the second class.

	Year								
School	Nursery	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	Average class size
Nebo	1	1	2	1	1	3	3	0	6
Classes	6					6			
Llanllyfni	13	12	10	8	5	6	9	9	18
Classes	13	22		19			18		

As can be seen from the table above there are 4 classes at Ysgol Llanllyfni (September 2025). The average class size at Ysgol Llanllyfni is 18.

As a result, it is anticipated that the transfer of learners to Ysgol Llanllyfni would mean that the children are taught in more appropriately sized classes, and with more children of the same age group.

#### 10.5 **Geographical factors and travel**

10.5.1 It is stated in the "Excellent Primary Education for the Children of Gwynedd" Strategy that efforts should be made to try to limit travel to a maximum of 30 minutes of one-way travel between home and school. If the proposed proposal were to be implemented, it is anticipated that all current learners in the catchment area would be within reasonable reach (less than 30 minutes of travel) to the alternative school, namely Ysgol Llanllyfni.

10.5.2 If the proposed proposal were to be implemented, pupils who live within the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo would be offered transport to Ysgol Llanllyfni in accordance with the County's Schools Transport Policy. It is anticipated that the cost of transport would be approximately £17,000-£30,000 per annum.

## 10.6 Financial Resources

10.6.1 Due to low numbers of learners at Ysgol Nebo, the allocation based on the learners is not sufficient to be able to maintain the school. As a result, Ysgol Nebo receives an additional amount to the core allocation through the minimum staffing protection policy (which guarantees at least a headteacher and a teacher in every school, and a headteacher and an assistant in schools with less than 15 full-time learners). Ysgol Nebo was allocated additional funding of £70,694 this year (2025-26) through the Minimum Staffing Protection Policy.

10.6.2 The allocation of Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni for the year 2025-26, have been based on the numbers of September 2024 and the amounts that the 2 schools receive can be seen below:

School	Basis of allocation (September 2024 Numbers)			Core allocation	Additional financial allocation (Minimum Staffing Protection Policy)	Total	£ per learner
	N	FS	KS2				
Nebo	0	4	4	£136,242	£70,694	£206,936	£25,867
Llanllyfni	11	28	37	£402,831	-	£402,831	£5,768
<b>Total</b>	11	32	41	£539,073	£70,694	£609,767	-

10.6.3 The cost per learner at Ysgol Nebo is £25,867 and the cost per learner at Ysgol Llanllyfni is £5,768 (2025-26 budget, based on September 2024 numbers). The County Average cost per primary learner for the same period is £5,780. This means that the cost per learner at Ysgol Nebo is £20,087 higher than the county average for the same period.

10.6.4 A total of £609,797 was allocated to the two schools in the financial year 2025-26. Ysgol Llanllyfni does not receive an additional amount through the minimum staffing protection policy. The school's current learner numbers attract a sufficient budget to maintain appropriate staffing levels.

10.6.5 In terms of revenue costs, if the proposal is implemented, and if all the learners at Ysgol Nebo transferred to Ysgol Llanllyfni, based on the 2025-26 budget (which is based on September 2024 learner numbers):

- it is anticipated that the proposal would create an annual saving of £146,000, less the estimated costs of additional transport needs (up to £30,000) - a total of approximately £116,000 per year.
- it is predicted that Ysgol Llanllyfni's core allocation budget would increase to £457,000, and the cost per learner would be £5,874.

10.6.6 If the proposal is implemented, and if all the learners of Ysgol Nebo transferred to Ysgol Llanllyfni, based on an estimate of the 2026-27 budget, which is the year of implementation of the proposal (which is based on the projections of learner numbers provided by the head teachers of the schools in September 2024):

- it is anticipated that the proposed proposal would create an annual saving of £143,000, less the costs of additional transport needs (up to £30,000) - a total of approximately £113,000 per year.
- it is predicted that Ysgol Llanllyfni's core allocation budget would increase to £468,000 and the cost per learner would be £5,798.

10.6.7 Any savings in revenue costs will be retained in the Gwynedd Schools area.

10.6.8 Note that there are no capital costs attached to the proposal.



## **10.7 Leadership and Staffing**

- 10.7.1 The current staffing structure of Ysgol Nebo includes a part-time strategic head (equivalent to 0.2 full-time), head teacher in charge 0.8, teacher 0.2, 2 assistants, a lunchtime supervisor and a governors' clerk. The headteacher has a learning commitment equivalent to 4.5 days.
- 10.7.2 At Ysgol Llanllyfni, there is 1 headteacher, 2 full-time teachers, 1 part-time teacher, 3 assistants, a part-time clerical officer, and a part-time lunchtime supervisor. The headteacher has a teaching commitment of 50% of the time (2.5 days) and receives 2.5 non-contact days for managerial and leadership matters.

## **10.8 The Community**

- 10.8.1 The Welsh Government guidelines (School Organisation Code 011/2018) state that a community impact assessment needs to be carried out as part of any proposal to reorganise schools. A community impact assessment was completed on the list of options set out in paragraph 6.3. **See the full report in Appendix 2.**
- 10.8.2 The assessment shows that some negative impact on the community is anticipated if the option to close Ysgol Nebo is implemented. It is recognised that the closure of Ysgol Nebo would lead to the loss of a school in the Nebo community, however the assessment stated that a large proportion of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni, and therefore it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Ysgol Nebo community already exists.
- 10.8.3 Should the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo be realised, every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Llanllyfni. To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Nebo community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Nebo community is encouraged, where appropriate.
- 10.8.4 If the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo is implemented, it will be essential as part of the process to encourage discussions between the alternative school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) and the learners of Ysgol Nebo so that parents and learners can make use of their facilities and any after-school activities.
- 10.8.5 In addition, if the Cabinet were to decide to proceed with the proposed plan to close Ysgol Nebo, options for the post use of the school building would need to be considered, taking into account the community activities currently held at the school.

## **10.9 The Welsh Language**

- 10.9.1 Welsh Government's guidelines (School Organisation Code 011/2018) state that an impact assessment on the Welsh Language needs to be carried out as part of any proposal to reorganise schools. See the full report in Appendix 2.
- 10.9.2 The impact assessment does not anticipate a negative impact on the Welsh language from the proposed proposal, mainly because:
- the January 2025 PLASC statistics show that 54% of Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently at home and 80% of Ysgol Llanllyfni learners
  - the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) would mean that learners in the Nebo catchment area would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school.
  - the learners would be taught in larger classes and with more children of the same age group, it is anticipated that the proposed proposal will strengthen the opportunities for learners to socialise in Welsh with more of their peers.

Based on the above, if the proposed proposal is implemented, it is anticipated that there would be more opportunities for pupils in the Nebo catchment area to use Welsh informally with their peers inside and outside

the classroom, and that the level of vitality of the Welsh language and the informal use of the language would be stronger.

## **10.10 Quality and standards of education**

10.10.1 An assessment of the likely impact on the quality and standards of education was carried out on all the options set out in section 7 (above). **See the full report in Appendix 2.**

10.10.2 According to Estyn's latest reports, Ysgol Llanllyfni offers education of a quality and standard that is equivalent to Ysgol Nebo.

10.10.3 Ysgol Nebo was last inspected by Estyn in 2017, where it was concluded that the school's current performance was 'Good'. Ysgol Llanllyfni was last inspected by Estyn in 2017, where it was concluded that the school's current performance against the 3 criteria is 'Good'.

10.10.4 As there are more learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni, it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to teach children in larger groups, with age-related peers to broaden their experiences if the proposed proposal is implemented. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences from teaching learners in the Nebo catchment area at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

10.10.5 As a result, it is anticipated that the likely impact in terms of quality and standards of education for learners resulting from the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer a place for the learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni would be partially positive.

## **10.11 Condition and suitability of buildings**

10.11.1 The Authority's latest condition assessment stated that the condition of Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni is 'B'.

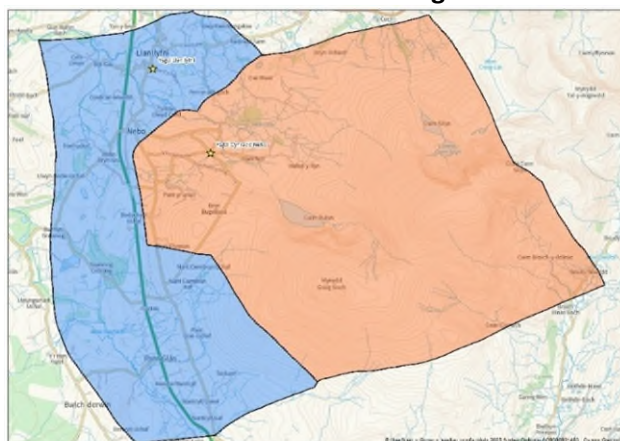
10.11.2 £95,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified in the Ysgol Nebo building.

## **11. IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL**

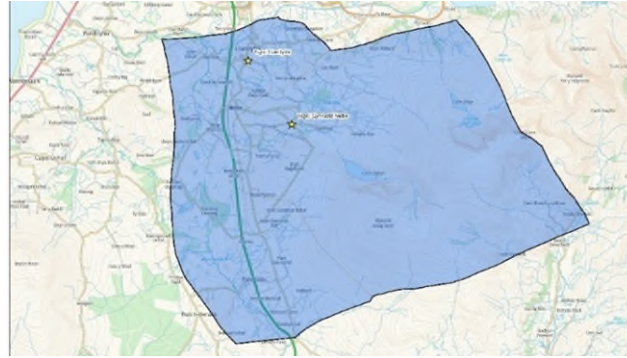
### **11.1 School admissions catchment areas**

11.1.1 Should the proposed proposal be implemented, the catchment area of Ysgol Llanllyfni would be adjusted to include the present catchment area of Ysgol Nebo.

**Map 1: The current catchment areas of Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni**



**Map 2: Ysgol Llanllyfni catchment area if the proposed proposal is implemented**



## 11.2 Transport

11.2.1 Should the proposed proposal be implemented, learners who live within the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo would be offered a place at Ysgol Llanllyfni and would receive transport in accordance with the County's Schools Transport Policy. It is anticipated that the annual cost of transport would be approximately £17,000-£30,000.

## 11.3 Staffing Considerations

11.3.1 Should the proposed proposal be implemented, it is anticipated that there would be staffing implications that could lead to redundancies. Staff and representatives of the Unions will be specifically consulted as part of the statutory consultation period. Cyngor Gwynedd has developed a detailed staffing policy, in conjunction with Trade Unions and headteachers. Any redundancies resulting from this proposal will have to comply that policy. Clear and open communication will play a key role in implementing any proposals.

## 12. **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

### 12.1.1 School Organisation Code 011/2018

12.1.2 Any statutory process will be conducted in accordance with Welsh Government guidelines (School Organisation Code 011/2018).

### 12.1.3 Equality impact assessment

12.1.4 An equality impact assessment was carried out on the proposal. The full assessment can be found in Appendix 2.

12.1.5 The assessment gives specific attention to different equality elements such as race, gender, disability, language, religion or belief and age. The assessment identifies the current situation and shows that policies and arrangements are in place which would ensure that the proposal considers and is compatible with equal rights.

12.1.6 Having weighed up the relevant factors, it is concluded that the proposal is not likely to have a negative impact on equality features. It is noted that measures are already in place to ensure that there will be no illegal discrimination or harassment.

12.1.7 It is anticipated that the implementation of the proposed proposal would reduce the inequality in the case of socio-economic disadvantage by ensuring that the learners have more experiences and access to more services and activities in the alternative school. Learners would receive more equal opportunities as the learners would receive learning experiences based on national learning principles, with a variety of styles

including working in mass groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range together with lessons that are appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

12.1.8 By implementing the proposed proposal, the learners of Ysgol Nebo would have a better learning environment and the learners would benefit from having more age-related peers in a school with more learners, which will ensure suitable educational and extracurricular experiences for them together with access to more extracurricular activities.

12.1.9 The Council would follow normal processes by supporting and monitoring, in order to ensure compliance of each school with the equality features.

12.1.10 Well-being and Future Generations Act

12.1.11 Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, the 7 goals of the well-being act and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it is concluded that the proposed proposal meets the requirements. The full assessment can be found in Appendix 2.

12.1.12 It is acknowledged that, should the Cabinet decide to proceed with the proposed proposal, the proposal would lead to the loss of a school in the Nebo community. However, a large proportion of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni, and therefore it is concluded that a link between the schools and the community of that school already exists. Every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Llanllyfni, should the proposal be implemented. Should the proposal be approved, discussions will be held to discuss the possibility that Ysgol Llanllyfni's community activity includes the community where appropriate.

### **13. NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE**

13.1 Should the Cabinet decide to support the recommendation presented in this report it will be necessary to carry out a period of statutory consultation in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013 and the guidelines of the School Organisation Code 011/2018. It is anticipated that that consultation period would be held before the end of the Autumn term.

13.2 Subsequently, a further report will be submitted to Cabinet to report on the outcomes of the consultation. The Cabinet will then be required to consider the results of the consultation and decide whether or not to issue a Statutory Notice on the proposal. Should a Statutory Notice be published, a period of 28 days will be granted for anyone to submit an objection to the proposal, known as the 'Objection Period'. Following this, a further report will be submitted to the Cabinet for a final decision. That report will include a summary of any objections received together with the Council's responses to them.

---

## **14 Appendices**

**Appendix 1:** Options Appraisal Table

**Appendix 2:** Impact Assessments:

- Assessment of likely Impact on Quality and Standards of Education
- Assessment of likely Impact on travel arrangements
- Assessment of likely impact on the Community
- Welsh Language Impact Assessment
- Wellbeing Assessment
- Equality Assessment

**Appendix 3:** Background pack including presentations and minutes of local meetings.

**Appendix 4:** Comments of the Local Member

---

## **16 VIEWS OF THE STATUTORY OFFICERS**

### **Monitoring Officer:**

*"This report has been the subject of advice from Legal Services. No observations to add in relation to propriety".*

### **Head of Finance:**

*"From a financial point of view, it is clear that Ysgol Nebo's current situation is not sustainable, given that 78% of the school's places are empty. The report shows that an assessment has been carried out of the options available, and I am satisfied with the robustness of the financial estimates therein. I therefore support the decision sought."*

Options Appraisal - Ysgol Nebo

Key:    **Blue - advantages**    **Red - disadvantages**    **Black – comments**

	No change – continue with the current situation	Federate with a nearby school	Federalise with a nearby school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo	Close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school, Ysgol Llanllyfni.	Ysgol Nebo developing into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)	Ysgol Nebo offering a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs	Ysgol Nebo offering a Welsh Language Unit/Centre for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area	A multi-site school continuing with the site of Ysgol Nebo
<b>Number of learners and surplus places</b>	<p>Low numbers continue at Ysgol Nebo (Numbers September 2025: 11 learners in Reception to Year 6 and 1 learner in Nursery).</p> <p>Number of surplus places remain high (40 surplus spaces (78%) Reception – Year 6; 46 surplus spaces (79%) Nursery – Year 6)</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>	<p>Low numbers continue at Ysgol Nebo (Numbers September 2025: 11 learners in Reception to Year 6 and 1 learner in Nursery).</p> <p>Number of surplus places remain high (40 surplus spaces (78%) Reception – Year 6; 46 surplus spaces (79%) Nursery – Year 6)</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p> <p>There is no clear evidence that forming a federation would lead to an increase in numbers.</p>	<p>There is no clear evidence that a federation would lead to an increase in school numbers. It is predicted that low numbers would continue at Ysgol Nebo.</p> <p>As the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a specialist unit on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.</p> <p>(Numbers September 2025: 11 learners in Reception to Year 6 and 1 learner in Nursery).</p> <p>As the building would need to be adapted to provide a location for the specialist unit, the school's capacity would likely be reduced and therefore there would be fewer empty places</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>	<p>Ysgol Llanllyfni's numbers are stable with 59 Reception to Year 6 learners and 12 Nursery learners on the register (September 2025).</p> <p>A lower surplus rate in the catchment area.</p>	<p>Low numbers continue at Ysgol Nebo (Numbers September 2025: 11 learners in Reception to Year 6 and 1 learner in Nursery).</p> <p>Number of surplus places remain high (40 surplus spaces (78%) Reception – Year 6; 46 surplus spaces (79%) Nursery – Year 6)</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>	<p>As the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a specialist unit on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.</p> <p>(Numbers September 2025: 11 learners in Reception to Year 6 and 1 learner in Nursery).</p> <p>As the building would need to be adapted to provide a location for the specialist unit, the school's capacity would likely be reduced and therefore there would be fewer surplus places.</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>	<p>As the building would need to be adapted to provide a location for the Welsh Language Unit/Centre, the school's capacity would likely be reduced and therefore there would be fewer surplus places.</p> <p>As the learners of the Welsh Language Unit/Centre would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a language centre on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>	<p>With only 11 Reception to Year 6 learners, and 1 Nursery age learner attending Ysgol Nebo (September 2025), it is anticipated that the establishment of a multi-site school would not lead to an increase in numbers at Ysgol Nebo site.</p> <p>As no increase in numbers is anticipated, it is anticipated that the large number of surplus places, space for 46 learners (79%), would continue.</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>
<b>Class size and age range</b>	<p>There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to year 6) in the second class.</p> <p>According to projections no increase in numbers is foreseen.</p> <p>Ysgol Nebo's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small. There is an age range of up to 5 years</p>	<p>There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to year 6) in the second class.</p> <p>According to projections no increase in numbers is foreseen.</p> <p>There is no clear evidence that forming a</p>	<p>There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to year 6) in the second class.</p> <p>According to projections no increase in numbers is foreseen.</p> <p>There is no clear evidence that locating an ALN unit on the school site, or forming a federation, would lead to an increase in numbers.</p>	<p>Learners to be taught in classes that are more suitable in size. Ysgol Llanllyfni learners are taught in classes of a more suitable size of between 18 and 22 learners (September 2025).</p> <p>There are 3 classes with mixed ages at Ysgol Llanllyfni, together with a Nursery class.</p>	<p>There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception – Year 3) and 1 Nursery learner in one class. There are 6 learners (Year 4 to year 6) in the second class.</p> <p>According to projections no increase in numbers is foreseen.</p> <p>Ysgol Nebo's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small. There is an age range of up to 5 years in one class</p>	<p>There is no clear evidence that locating an ALN unit on the school site, or forming a federation, would lead to an increase in numbers.</p> <p>Ysgol Nebo's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small. There is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and 3 years in the second class.</p>	<p>As the learners of the Welsh Language Unit/Centre would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a language centre on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.</p> <p>Ysgol Nebo's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small. There is an age range of up to 5 years in one class</p>	<p>As it is not anticipated that this option would lead to an increase in numbers, it is anticipated that class sizes on the Ysgol Nebo site would remain small, with a wide age range.</p>

	in one class and 3 years in the second class.	federation would lead to an increase in numbers. Ysgol Nebo's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small. There is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and 3 years in the second class.	Ysgol Nebo's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small. There is an age range of up to 5 years in one class and 3 years in the second class.		and 3 years in the second class.		and 3 years in the second class.	
Financial Resources	<p>Ysgol Nebo has received a minimum staffing protection allocation amount of £70,694 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant protection allocation will continue.</p> <p>The average cost per learner remains high (£25,876 per learner) - significantly higher than the county average of £5.78.</p>	<p>Ysgol Nebo has received a minimum staffing protection allocation amount of £70,694 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant protection allocation will continue.</p> <p>The average cost per learner remains high (£25,876 per learner) - significantly higher than the county average of £5.78.</p> <p>An opportunity to make savings by sharing resources and employing staff across the federation when appointing in the future.</p>	<p>There would be transport costs associated with locating an ALN Unit at Ysgol Nebo.</p> <p>A significant capital cost is anticipated to adapt the building.</p> <p>An additional financial source (revenue) would be needed to fund the ALN Unit.</p> <p>Nebo School has received a minimum staffing protection allocation amount of £70,694 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>The average cost per learner remains high (£25,876 per learner) - significantly higher than the county average of £5.78.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant conservation allocation will continue. It is not anticipated that locating an ALN unit on the school site or federation would respond to this financial challenge.</p>	<p>Removing a school from the minimum staffing protection safety net and eliminating the need for protection allocation in the alternative school.</p> <p>Cost per learner will be closer to the county average.</p> <p>It is likely to lead to an increase in transport costs for the Authority.</p>	<p>Nebo School has received a minimum staffing protection allocation amount of £70,694 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant protection allocation will continue.</p> <p>The average cost per learner remains high (£25,876 per learner) - significantly higher than the county average of £5.78.</p>	<p>There would be transport costs associated with locating an ALN Unit at Ysgol Nebo.</p> <p>A significant capital cost is anticipated to adapt the building.</p> <p>An additional financial source (revenue) would be needed to fund the ALN Unit.</p> <p>Ysgol Nebo has received a minimum staffing protection allocation amount of £70,694 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>The average cost per learner remains high (£25,876 per learner) - significantly higher than the county average of £5.78.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant conservation allocation will continue. It is not anticipated that locating an ALN unit on the school site or federation would respond to this financial challenge.</p>	<p>There would be transport costs associated with locating a Welsh Language Unit at Ysgol Nebo.</p> <p>A significant capital cost is anticipated to adapt the building.</p> <p>An additional financial source (revenue) would be needed to fund the Welsh Language Unit.</p> <p>Ysgol Nebo has received a minimum staffing protection allocation amount of £70,694 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>The average cost per learner remains high (£25,876 per learner) - significantly higher than the county average of £5.78.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant conservation allocation will continue. It is not anticipated that locating a Welsh Language Unit on the school site or federation would respond to this financial challenge.</p>	<p>Merging schools will mean establishing one multi-site school, with one allocation for all the sites. It is anticipated that the Nebo site would continue to receive an additional amount to the core allocation through the minimum staffing protection policy as the numbers of learners at Ysgol Nebo would continue to be low.</p>
Leadership and Staffing	<p>Current jobs at Ysgol Nebo to continue.</p> <p>The school has received a smaller allocation for 2025/26 as the numbers in September 2024 were below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p> <p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher has to</p>	<p>An opportunity to share good practices between the two schools and possibilities of making better use of resources.</p> <p>The school has received a smaller allocation for 2025/26 as the numbers in September 2024 were below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p>	<p>An opportunity to share good practices between the two schools and possibilities of making better use of resources.</p> <p>The school has received a smaller allocation for 2025/26 as the numbers in September 2024 were below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p>	<p>The staffing structure of Ysgol Llanllyfni ensures teachers in all classes and allows more non-contact time for the Headteacher compared to Ysgol Nebo.</p> <p>It would lead to the dismissal of staff at Ysgol Nebo.</p>	<p>Ysgol Nebo current positions continue.</p> <p>The school has received a smaller allocation for 2025/26 as the numbers in September 2024 were below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p> <p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher</p>	<p>Ysgol Nebo current positions continue.</p> <p>The school has received a smaller allocation for 2025/26 as the numbers in September 2024 were below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p> <p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher</p>	<p>Ysgol Nebo current positions continue.</p> <p>The school has received a smaller allocation for 2025/26 as the numbers in September 2024 were below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p> <p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher</p>	<p>There would be a rationalisation of leadership with this option, but as there would be no effect on the numbers of learners at the sites, the current staffing structure of Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a site head (rather than a head) and an assistant.</p>



	<p>teach the majority of the time. Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p>	<p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher has to teach the majority of the time.</p> <p>Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p>	<p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher has to teach the majority of the time.</p> <p>Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p> <p>Additional responsibility on the headteacher, as he would be responsible for the management of the unit's site.</p>		<p>has to teach the majority of the time.</p> <p>Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p>	<p>has to teach the majority of the time.</p> <p>Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p> <p>Additional responsibility for the headteacher, as the language unit would be on the site.</p>	<p>has to teach the majority of the time.</p> <p>Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p> <p>Additional responsibility for the headteacher, as the language unit would be on the site.</p>	
<b>Geographical Factors</b>	<p>No change.</p> <p>The school is within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>The school is within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area</p>	<p>No change for the learners of Ysgol Nebo</p> <p>The school is within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area</p> <p>Transport would be offered to the learners attending the ALN unit.</p>	<p>Transport will need to be offered to learners in Ysgol Nebo's catchment area</p> <p>Some learners will travel further to school than they would at present.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>The school is within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area</p>	<p>No change for the learners of Ysgol Nebo</p> <p>The school is within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area</p> <p>Transport would be offered to the learners attending the ALN unit.</p>	<p>No change for the learners of Ysgol Nebo</p> <p>The school is within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area</p> <p>Transport would be offered to the learners attending the Welsh Language Unit.</p>	<p>The school is within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area</p> <p>Depending on the structure of the new school there is a possibility that it will be necessary to organise transport between schools.</p>
<b>The Community</b>	<p>Retain the school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p> <p>Majority of learners from Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Nebo.</p>	<p>Possibility of community collaboration between the 2 schools.</p> <p>Retain the school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p> <p>Majority of learners from Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Nebo.</p>	<p>Retain the school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p> <p>Majority of learners from Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Possibility of community collaboration between the 2 schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Nebo.</p>	<p>The village of Nebo losing a school.</p> <p>A wider community where the children and parents can benefit from creating stronger links between 2 neighbouring communities.</p>	<p>Retain the school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p> <p>Majority of learners from Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Nebo.</p>	<p>Retain the school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p> <p>Majority of learners from Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Nebo.</p>	<p>Retain the school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p> <p>Majority of learners from Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Nebo.</p>	<p>Retain the school site and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nebo.</p> <p>A wider community where the children and parents can benefit from creating stronger links between neighbouring communities.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at the Ysgol Nebo site.</p>
<b>The Welsh Language</b>	<p>No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education.</p>	<p>No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education.</p>	<p>No change – both schools are Welsh medium schools.</p>	<p>No change – Ysgol Llanllyfni is a Welsh medium school.</p>	<p>No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education.</p>	<p>No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education.</p>	<p>No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education.</p>	<p>No change - It is anticipated that Welsh-medium education would be offered as is the current situation.</p>
<p><b>Additional comments offered during/following SRP1 and SRP2</b></p> <p>Page 59</p>	<p><b>Strengths/Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything</li> <li>Small classes are an opportunity/strength</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths/Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths/Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything</li> <li>Additional grants to address improvements for learners with ALN</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learners to be taught in larger class sizes</li> <li>Losing the robust inclusive approach that Ysgol Nebo offers to support health and well-being</li> <li>Negative impact on the well-being of the current learners at Ysgol Nebo</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths/Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything</li> <li>Small classes are an opportunity/strength</li> <li>A unique model which is an opportunity to learn in an outdoor environment</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths/Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything</li> <li>Small classes are an opportunity/strength</li> <li>Contribute positively to the mental and emotional well-being of the learners</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths/Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small class sizes</li> <li>Community activities between the school and the community.</li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A wide age range is an opportunity to work with their peers (helping each other)</li> <li>• Community activities between the school and the community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community activities between the school and the community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community activities between the school and the community.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute positively to the mental and emotional well-being of the learners. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential to improve health and well-being</li> <li>• Support the new Curriculum for Wales</li> <li>• Other schools throughout Gwynedd taking advantage of the offer</li> <li>• Potential to develop a facility that is open to the public outside of school hours - would generate income - link with regeneration plans for the local area</li> <li>• Many benefits to outdoor learning including (i) supporting holistic and academic development (ii) increasing levels of physical activity (iii) raising mental wellbeing (promoting inclusion, equality, and better learning.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community activities between the school and the community</li> <li>• Up-skilling of Ysgol Nebo's current staff</li> <li>• Raise pupil health and well-being</li> <li>• Increase educational opportunities for young people fully engage in school</li> <li>• Smaller class sizes facilitate personalised educational attention and progress</li> <li>• Relieve pressure on other schools that are struggling to meet the needs of learners across the county</li> <li>• Relatively lower cost compared to supporting young people in specialist provision</li> <li>• School and community resources remains open</li> <li>• School within reasonable distance of homes of learners in the catchment area of Dyffryn Nantlle. Also quite central to other local catchment areas</li> <li>• Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education in a small school which leads to confident language acquisition.</li> <li>• Reduced incidents of negative behaviours such as bullying, owing to strong family ethos, and presence of teaching staff in social times such as lunchtimes and playtimes</li> <li>• Ties in with strategic planning at council level to meet the needs of learners in the mainstream, as noted in the Education and Economy Scrutiny meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025</li> <li>• Overall financial savings compared to 1:1 support in specialist provision</li> <li>• Effective provision to meet pupils' needs at an early stage reduces future costs and dependency on other services which are ultimately more expensive</li> <li>• Mixed age classes support better social and emotional development</li> </ul>		
--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

						<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No significant expenditure on staff training</li><li>• Exciting opportunity for Cyngor Gwynedd to lead on an innovative wellbeing project which can be rolled out to other areas as example of exemplary practice.</li><li>• Potential to link with research department at Bangor University to recruit a PhD student to undertake a piece of research to highlight the success of the project e.g. Cheme Project measuring social return on investment</li><li>• Potential to roll out as a solution which rejuvenates not just Ysgol Nebo but other small schools across the county but also Wales as a whole</li><li>• Collaborate working with support agencies such as CAMHS and school counsellors to provide therapies – to support young people and parents</li><li>• Effective provision that meets pupil needs reduces the number of families choosing to de-register their children, and has the potential to reduce the trend of increasing numbers on the Elective Home Education register</li><li>• Increase use of a building</li></ul> <p><b>Disadvantages:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transport arrangements</li></ul>		
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

# ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF EDUCATION - YSGOL NEBO (Medi 2025)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Ysgol Nebo is a community school located in the village of Nebo, which is about three miles from Penygroes, and which provides education for learners between the ages of 3-11. There has been a significant reduction in the numbers of learners at Ysgol Nebo over the past few years, from 27 pupils in 2014 to 11 pupils today, which causes uncertainty about the future of the school.

At its meeting on 11 February 2025, Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet gave permission to the Education Department *"Initiate formal discussions with the governing body and other relevant stakeholders of Ysgol Nebo due to concerns about the school's numbers, to enable the formulation of a range of possible options relating to the school's future."*

In accordance with the decision of the Cabinet (11 February 2025), the Nebo School Review Panel (SRP) was established by inviting the Governing Body, parents and staff and the Local Member to join the panel and take part in the discussion. Three SRP meetings were held between March 2025 and July 2025 to discuss a range of options to try to respond to the main challenges facing the school.

In accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code 011/2018, which includes a 'Presumption against the closure of rural schools', an assessment needs to be made on the likely impact on the quality and standards of education on any reasonable option that can resolve the main challenges the school is facing. For the purpose of the Code, Ysgol Nebo is designated as a 'Rural School'.

Cyngor Gwynedd is committed to providing education of the best possible quality which will give the children of the County the experiences, skills and confidence to develop into bilingual, successful and complete citizens.

It remains a high priority to provide the best possible learning experiences - for all learners within the County, ensuring an exciting and broad curriculum, as well as extracurricular activities that stimulate them to learn and understand, which will lead to improving standards.

## 2. SUMMARY

Ysgol Nebo was last inspected by Estyn in 2017 where it was concluded that the school's current performance was 'Good'. Below is a summary of the latest inspection of Ysgol Nebo, the neighbouring schools, or schools that are subject to any of the options under consideration for the future of Ysgol Nebo.

School	Inspection year	Standards	Well-being and attitudes to learning	Teaching and learning experiences	Care, support and guidance	Leadership and management
Nebo	2017	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Baladeulyn	2017	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Brynaerau	2019	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Bro Llifon	2018	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Bro Lleu	2023	New inspection framework				

School	Inspection year	How good are outcomes?	How good is provision?	How good are leadership and management?
Talysarn	2017	Good	Good	Excellent
Llanllyfni	2017	Good	Good	Good

### 3. THE OPTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION

- *Do nothing - continue with the school's current structure.*

Note that although the case for change has been established, the 'Do nothing' model has been included in the assessment for comparison purposes.

- *Federating with a neighbouring school*

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

The possibility of federating with neighbouring schools was considered, specifically Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu.

- *Federating with a neighbouring school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo*

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

The possibility of federating with neighbouring schools was considered, specifically Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu.

In addition to federalisation, this option would also mean adding a location for a ALN unit.

- *Closing Ysgol Nebo and offering the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)*

This option would mean closing Ysgol Nebo and offering a place to learners from the catchment area at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

- *Ysgol Nebo developing into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)*

This option would mean that Ysgol Nebo would continue and develop into a specialist location for some individual subjects.

- *Ysgol Nebo offers a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.*

This option would mean adding an area for an ALN unit on the school site in order to offer special education to the children who would need additional support.

- *Ysgol Nebo offers a language unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area*

This option would mean adding a language immersion unit on the school site in order to offer an immersion service in Welsh to new speakers.

- *Establishing a school on more than one site - Multi-site School*

This option would mean merging a number of local schools, by closing the schools and establishing one multi-site school which would include the Nebo school site. The option would enable the possibility of sharing resources, buildings, and expertise.

This model would ensure continuity in the presence of a school site in the village of Nebo by establishing a multi-site school, led by a headteacher and one governing body.

#### 4. ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON EDUCATION STANDARDS AND QUALITY

*We have used Estyn's latest inspections on the relevant schools as criteria for assessing the different options for the future of education for Ysgol Nebo's catchment area.*

##### **OPTION 1: DO NOTHING - CONTINUE WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION**

This option would mean no change and Ysgol Nebo will continue as it is.

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	No change.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	No change.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	No change.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	No change.	Neutral
Leadership and management	No change.	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	No change.	Neutral
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	No change.	Neutral

## OPTION 2: FEDERATE WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	A negative impact on these criteria is not foreseen through federating with a neighbouring school. The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the indicators of Ysgol Nebo's standards was 'Good'. In addition, it was noted in the main findings of Ysgol Llanllyfni's latest Estyn inspection report that standards are 'Good'. The latest Estyn inspection of Ysgol Bro Lleu stated that 'standards of teaching are sound across the school' As a result, it is concluded that the effect on standards resulting from federating Ysgol Nebo with a neighbouring school such as Ysgol Llanllyfni or Ysgol Bro Lleu would be neutral.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	The result of Ysgol Nebo's latest Estyn inspection for the inspection area 'Well-being and attitudes to learning' was 'Good'. In addition, it was noted in the main findings of Ysgol Llanllyfni's latest Estyn inspection report that 'Well-being and attitudes to learning' is 'Good'. Ysgol Bro Lleu's latest Estyn survey stated that "Pupils praise the positive relationship between themselves and the school staff. As a result, nearly all pupils has firm trust in the school's inclusive ethos." As a result, it is concluded that the effect on well-being and attitudes to learning resulting from federating Ysgol Nebo with a nearby school such as Ysgol Llanllyfni or Ysgol Bro Lleu would be neutral.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	The result of the indicator 'Learning experiences'/'Teaching and learning experiences' for Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni in their last inspections in 2017 was 'Good'. The latest Estyn inspection of Ysgol Bro Lleu stated that the school "provides learning experiences that inspire pupils and this has a positive effect on the pupils' attitudes to learning" As a result, it is anticipated that the implementation of this option would have a neutral effect on learning and teaching experiences.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	The result of the 'Care, support and guidance' indicator for Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni was 'Good' in their last inspections in 2017. Ysgol Bro Lleu's latest Estyn inspection stated that the school "is an inclusive and homely community. Staff promote the importance of good behaviour, courtesy and respect successfully." As a result, it is anticipated that the implementation of this option would have a neutral effect on care, support and guidance.	Neutral
Leadership and management	Ysgol Llanllyfni, like Ysgol Nebo, has been assessed as 'Good' in the latest Estyn inspection. In addition, Ysgol Bro Lleu's most recent Estyn survey stated that the "headteacher's strong, intelligent and effective leadership sets a clear strategic direction for the school" Based on the findings of these surveys, and as the federating model with neighbouring school/schools would offer opportunities to strengthen Ysgol Nebo's leadership position, it is concluded that leadership and management would have a positive or at least neutral effect from implementing the federating option.	Positive/Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	Support is provided to vulnerable groups including children with additional learning needs in accordance with the Authority's policy, and the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs (Wales) Act 2018 in all schools in Gwynedd. As a result, it is predicted that the effect of this option on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	It is anticipated that the impact would be neutral as Ysgol Nebo would continue. In addition, the Estyn inspection result for Ysgol Nebo's 'Standards' was 'Good', as was the result of Ysgol Llanllyfni's inspection. Based on this information, no impact on learners' standards is anticipated from implementing this option.	Neutral

**OPTION 3: FEDERALISE WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL ADDING A SPECIALIST UNIT FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS AT YSGOL NEBO**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	No negative impact is anticipated on this criteria through federating with Ysgol Llanllyfni. The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the indicators of Ysgol Nebo's standards was 'Good'. In addition, it was noted in the main findings of Ysgol Llanllyfni's latest Estyn inspection report that standards are 'Good'. The latest Estyn inspection of Ysgol Bro Lleu stated that 'standards of teaching are sound across the school' As a result, it is concluded that the effect of implementing this option would be neutral.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	The result of Ysgol Nebo's latest Estyn inspection for the inspection area 'Well-being and attitudes to learning' was 'Good'. In addition, it was noted in the main findings of Ysgol Llanllyfni's latest Estyn inspection report that 'Well-being and attitudes to learning' is 'Good'. Ysgol Bro Lleu's latest Estyn survey stated that "Pupils praise the positive relationship between themselves and the school staff. As a result, nearly all pupils has firm trust in the school's inclusive ethos." As a result, it is concluded that the effect on well-being and attitudes to learning from implementing this option would be neutral.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	The result of the indicator 'Learning experiences'/'Teaching and learning experiences' for Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni in their last inspections in 2017 was 'Good'. The latest Estyn inspection of Ysgol Bro Lleu stated that the school "provides learning experiences that inspire pupils and this has a positive effect on the pupils' attitudes to learning" As a result, it is predicted that the implementation of this option would have a neutral effect on learning and teaching experiences.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	The result of the 'Care, support and guidance' indicator for Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni was 'Good' in their last inspections in 2017. Ysgol Bro Lleu's latest Estyn inspection stated that the school "is an inclusive and homely community. Staff promote the importance of good behaviour, courtesy and respect successfully." As a result, it is anticipated that the implementation of this option would have a neutral effect on care, support and guidance.	Neutral
Leadership and management	No change is anticipated, as Ysgol Llanllyfni, like Ysgol Nebo, has been assessed as 'Good' in the latest Estyn inspection. In addition, Ysgol Bro Lleu's most recent Estyn survey stated that the "headteacher's strong, intelligent and effective leadership sets a clear strategic direction for the school" Based on the findings of these surveys, and as the federating model with neighbouring school/schools would offer opportunities to strengthen Ysgol Nebo's leadership position, it is concluded that leadership and management would have a positive or at least neutral effect from implementing this option.	Positive
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	Support is provided to vulnerable groups including children with additional learning needs in accordance with the Authority's policy, and the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs Act (Wales) 2018 in all schools in Gwynedd. It is anticipated that the option would have a positive effect on this criteria as it would extend ALN provision in the area.	Positive
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	It is anticipated that the impact would be neutral as Ysgol Nebo would continue. In addition, the Estyn inspection result for Ysgol Nebo's 'Standards' was 'Good', as was the result of Ysgol Llanllyfni's inspection. Based on this information, no impact on learners' standards is anticipated from implementing this option. In addition, it is anticipated that the option would have a positive effect on this criteria as it would extend the ALN provision in the area.	Neutral

**OPTION 4: CLOSE YSGOL NEBO AND OFFER THE LEARNERS A PLACE IN A NEARBY SCHOOL (YSGOL LLANLLYFNI)**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the Ysgol Nebo standards indicators was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn inspection for Ysgol Llanllyfni was also 'Good'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral effect on this criteria by educating the learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for Wellbeing at Ysgol Nebo and at Ysgol Llanllyfni was 'Good' in their last inspections in 2017. Based on the findings of these inspections, it is concluded that there would be a neutral effect on this criteria by educating the learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	The result of the 'Learning experiences' indicator for Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni in their last inspections in 2017 was 'Good'. However, as there are more learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to teach children in larger groups and with age-related peers to expand on their experiences. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences from teaching learners in the Nebo catchment area at Ysgol Llanllyfni.	Positive
Care, support and guidance	The result of the 'Care, support and guidance' indicator at Ysgol Nebo and Llanllyfni in their last inspection in 2017 was 'Good'. As a result, it is considered that this option would have a neutral effect.	Neutral
Leadership and management	It was noted in the last Estyn report that the leadership and management of Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni were 'Good'. Based on the findings of these inspections, it is concluded that there would be a neutral effect on leadership and management from teaching learners from the Nebo catchment area at Ysgol Llanllyfni.	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	Support is provided to groups vulnerable to disadvantage, including children with additional learning needs, in accordance with the Authority's policy and the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs (Wales) Act 2018 in every school in Gwynedd. When planning staffing (e.g., the role of the ALNCo) and the provision map, the requirements on schools are challenging, and this becomes more apparent when considering the requirements on smaller schools. In larger schools, the conditions for the additional learning needs coordinator are better, and meeting the statutory requirement is easier as a result. In addition, responding to the learners' needs is also easier in larger schools, as they may be able to maintain an intervention group to target specific needs. The provision map is broader in larger schools to respond to the requirement. As a result, since learners would be offered a place in a school with a higher number of learners, it is expected that the impact of this option on this criterion would be positive.	Positive
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	The result of Estyn's inspection for Ysgol Nebo's 'Standards' was 'Good', as was the result of Ysgol Llanllyfni's inspection. Based on the information from these inspections, no impact on learners' standards is anticipated from teaching learners from the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo at Ysgol Llanllyfni. As a result, it is anticipated that the provision in the alternative school would be equivalent to what is currently available to the learners at Ysgol Nebo.	Neutral



**OPTION 5: YSGOL NEBO DEVELOPING INTO A SPECIALIST LOCATION FOR SOME INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS  
(UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES TO CARRY OUT FIELD WORK)**

<b>Impact Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status of the impact and the work</b>
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	As Ysgol Nebo would continue to provide statutory primary education, as it currently does at present, no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	As Ysgol Nebo would continue to provide statutory primary education, as it currently does at present, no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	As Ysgol Nebo would continue to provide statutory primary education, as it currently does at present, no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	As Ysgol Nebo would continue to provide statutory primary education, as it currently does at present, no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Leadership and management	As Ysgol Nebo would continue to provide statutory primary education, as it currently does at present, no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	As Ysgol Nebo would continue to provide statutory primary education, as it currently does at present, no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	As Ysgol Nebo would continue to provide statutory primary education, as it currently does at present, no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral

**OPTION 6: YSGOL NEBO OFFERS A SPECIALIST UNIT FOR SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS, WHERE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION IS CHALLENGING FOR THEM**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	As the specialist unit would operate independently from Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is anticipated from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	As the specialist unit would operate independently from Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is anticipated from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	As the specialist unit would operate independently from Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is anticipated from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	As the specialist unit would operate independently from Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is anticipated from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Leadership and management	As the specialist unit would operate independently from Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is anticipated from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	As the specialist unit would operate independently from Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is anticipated from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral. However, although it is not anticipated that the specialist unit would affect the school, it is anticipated that the new resource could have a positive impact on the provision available to ALN learners in the area.	Positive
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	As the specialist unit would operate independently from Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is foreseen from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral. However, although it is not anticipated that the specialist unit would affect the school, it is anticipated that the new resource could have a positive impact on the provision available to ALN learners in the area.	Positive

**OPTION 7: YSGOL NEBO OFFERS A LANGUAGE UNIT FOR DAFFRYN NANTLLE CATCHMENT AREA**

<b>Impact Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status of the impact and the work</b>
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	As the language unit would operate independently of Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is foreseen by implementing this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	As the language unit would operate independently of Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is foreseen by implementing this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	As the language unit would operate independently of Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is foreseen by implementing this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	As the language unit would operate independently of Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is foreseen by implementing this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Leadership and management	As the language unit would operate independently of Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is foreseen by implementing this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	As the language unit would operate independently of Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is foreseen by implementing this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	As the language unit would operate independently of Ysgol Nebo, no change to the current operation of Ysgol Nebo is foreseen by implementing this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral.	Neutral

## OPTION 8: ESTABLISH A MULTI-SITE SCHOOL

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the Ysgol Nebo standards indicators was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn inspection for other nearby primary schools (Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area primary schools) was 'Good' with Ysgol Brynaerau being 'Excellent'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral effect on this criterion as Estyn's assessment is consistent for most of the schools, with one school (out of 7 in the catchment area) surpassing the rest. The multi-site school model could offer a more effective context for leaders, thereby offering an opportunity to improve the provision in relation to this criterion. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices between the school's sites and possibilities of making better use of resources.	Neutral/Positive
Well-being and attitudes to learning	The result of the latest Estyn survey for the indicators of well-being and attitudes to learning at Ysgol Nebo was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn survey for the neighbouring schools (Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area) was also 'Good' with Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Talysarn being 'Excellent'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral effect on this criterion as Estyn's assessment is consistent for the majority of the schools, with two schools (out of 7 in the catchment area) surpassing the rest. The multi-site school model could offer a more effective context for leaders, thereby offering an opportunity to improve the provision in relation to this criterion. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices between the school sites and possibilities of making better use of resources.	Neutral/Positive
Learning and teaching experiences	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the indicators of Ysgol Nebo's teaching and learning experiences was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn inspection for the neighbouring schools (Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area) was also 'Good' with Ysgol Brynaerau being 'Excellent'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral effect on this criteria as Estyn's assessment is consistent for the majority of the schools, with one school (out of 7 in the catchment area) surpassing the rest. The multi-site school model could offer a more effective context for leaders, thereby offering an opportunity to improve the provision in relation to this criteria. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices between the school's sites and possibilities of making better use of resources.	Neutral/Positive
Care, support and guidance	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the guidance and care support indicators of Ysgol Nebo was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn inspection for neighbouring schools (Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area) was also 'Good' with Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Talysarn being 'Excellent'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral effect on this criteria as Estyn's assessment is consistent for the majority of the schools, with two schools (out of 7 in the catchment area) surpassing the rest. The multi-site school model could offer a more effective context for leaders, thereby offering an opportunity to improve the provision in relation to this criterion. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices between the school's sites and possibilities of making better use of resources.	Neutral/Positive
Leadership and management	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the leadership and management indicators of Ysgol Nebo was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn inspection for neighbouring schools (Dyffryn Nantlle Catchment Area) was also 'Good' with Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Talysarn being 'Excellent'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral effect on this criteria as the Estyn assessment is consistent for the majority of the schools, with two of the schools (out of 7 in the catchment area) surpassing the rest. The multi-site school model could offer a	Neutral/Positive

	more effective context for leaders, thereby offering an opportunity to improve the provision in relation to this criterion. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices between the school's sites and possibilities of making better use of resources.	
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	Support is provided for vulnerable groups including children with additional learning needs in accordance with the Authority's policy, and the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs Act (Wales) 2018 as in all schools in Gwynedd. The multi-site school model could offer a more effective context for leaders, thereby offering an opportunity to improve the provision in relation to this criterion. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices, expertise and experiences between the school's sites and possibilities of making better use of resources.	Neutral/Positive
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	The result of the Estyn inspection for Ysgol Nebo's 'Standards' was 'Good', and the result of the inspections of the neighbouring schools in the Dyffryn Nantlle Catchment Area was either 'Good' or 'Excellent'. Based on the information from these inspections, no impact on learners' standards is anticipated from the implementation of this option. The multi-site school model could offer a more effective context for leaders, thereby offering an opportunity to improve provision in relation to this criterion. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices between the school's sites and possibilities of making better use of resources.	Neutral/Positive

## 4. CONCLUSION

This assessment of the likely impact on the quality and standards of education concludes that introducing the option to close Ysgol Nebo and transfer the learners to Ysgol Llanllyfni would likely have a positive impact, or at least a neutral impact.

In addition, the assessment states that a neutral/partially positive effect is predicted on the quality and standards of education from implementing other options such as federalisation, establishing a multi-site school, locating a language center or specialist unit at Ysgol Nebo. Opportunities are identified to share good practices between the sites of the multi-site school, and schools that would form part of the federation, and possibilities of making better use of resources.

Based on the result of the above assessments and comparing Estyn's reports, it is concluded that the standard of education provided at Ysgol Llanllyfni is equivalent to the standard of education provided at Ysgol Nebo. As there are more learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni, it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to teach children in larger groups, with age-related peers to broaden their experiences. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences from teaching learners in the Nebo catchment area at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

As a result, it is predicted that the likely effect of implementing the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place at Ysgol Llanllyfni would be neutral/partially positive.

# ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS - YSGOL NEBO (SEPTEMBER 2025)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

### 1.1 Cyngor Gwynedd Transport Policy

The 'Excellent Primary Education for the Children of Gwynedd' Strategy aims to limit travel from home to school to a one-way journey that is no longer than 30 minutes.

Cyngor Gwynedd provides free transport for learners who live two or more miles from the school in their catchment area, or the nearest school (not including nursery pupils). Learners who receive primary education are expected (with the exception of learners with additional learning needs or disabilities), to walk up to two miles to meet any modes of transport provided by Cyngor Gwynedd. The transport policy can be seen in the parents' handbook:

[\(Information for parents\)](#)

### 1.2 The context of Ysgol Nebo

Ysgol Nebo is located in the village of Nebo, about three miles from Penygroes, and serves the surrounding villages and area. It provides education for pupils between the ages of 3 and 11 and has a capacity of 58 (N-Year 6) and 11 Reception to Year 6 learners and 1 Nursery learners attend the school.

## 2. ASSESSMENT OF THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF ALL OPTIONS ON TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

---

2.1 The potential impact of each option on travel arrangements is set out below:

- No change - continue with the current situation

This model would mean no change to the existing provision in the Ysgol Nebo catchment area.

**This option would not have any effect on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Nebo learners, as the pupils would continue to be educated at Ysgol Nebo. No learner in the Nebo catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.**

- Federalisation with a nearby school

This model would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or head teachers and one governing body. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved, and a (new) federal governing body would be formed.

The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

**This option would not have any effect on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Nebo learners, as the pupils would continue to be educated at Ysgol Nebo, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.**

- Federalisation with a nearby school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo.

This option would mean federating with a nearby school and adding an ALN area on Ysgol Nebo school site in order to provide special education to the children who will need additional support.

**This option would not have an impact on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Nebo learners, as the pupils would continue to be educated at Ysgol Nebo, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue as they are. No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school. The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learner.**

- Closing Ysgol Nebo and offering the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)

This model would mean closing Ysgol Nebo and offering the pupils a place at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

Ysgol Llanllyfni is located 1.6 miles from Ysgol Nebo. This is the geographically closest school to Ysgol Nebo.

**This model would have an impact on travel arrangements, as the pupils would be educated at Ysgol Llanllyfni. It would be necessary to provide transport for learners from the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo to Ysgol Llanllyfni, in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy. Additional transport costs are anticipated - estimated cost, approximately between £17,000-£30,000 per year. Some learners will travel further to school than they would at the moment. No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school**

- Ysgol Nebo developing into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)

**This option would not have an impact on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Nebo learners, as the pupils would continue to be educated at Ysgol Nebo. No learner in the Nebo catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.**

- Ysgol Nebo offers a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.

This option would mean adding a specialist unit on the school site in order to give special education to the children who will need additional support. There would be no change to the school element.

**This option would not have an impact on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Nebo learners, as the pupils would continue to be educated at Ysgol Nebo. The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learners. No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.**

- Ysgol Nebo to offer a language unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area

This option would mean adding a language unit on the school site in order to offer the children an immersion service in the Welsh language that is needed before joining their chosen school full time. There would be no change to the school element.

**This model would not have any impact on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Nebo learners, as the pupils would continue to be educated at Ysgol Nebo. The learners would continue to be taught at**

**Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. No learner in the Nebo catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school. The local authority would need to provide transport for the learner of the language unit.**

- *Establishing a School on more than one site (Multi-site School)*

This option would mean merging a number of local schools, by closing the schools and establishing one multi-site school which would include the Ysgol Nebo site.

**This option would not have an impact on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Nebo learners, as the learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Nebo. The learners would continue to be taught at the Ysgol Nebo site and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. No learner in the Nebo catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school. Depending on the structure of the new school, there is a possibility that it would be necessary to organise transport between schools.**

## 2.2 Free transport options

In accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy, learners receiving primary education (excluding learners with additional learning needs or disabilities) are expected to walk up to 2 miles to meet any transport provided by Cyngor Gwynedd along the shortest route.

The shortest route available is the one that the Council does not consider particularly dangerous, after assessing the other routes that could be used, and these routes would be assessed in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy.

It is noted that a number of school buses run in the area. None of the primary school buses run between Nebo and Llanllyfni to be able to take advantage of one of these.

## 2.3. Summary of the likely impact on travel arrangements

Below is a summary of the impact on travel arrangements of the options under consideration:

Options	The likely impact on travel arrangements for learners	The likely annual financial impact on travel arrangements for the Authority
No change - Continue with the current situation	Neutral – No change  No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.	£0
Federating with a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)	Neutral  The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.	£0



<p>Federalisation with a nearby school and adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learner.</p>	<p>£0</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the learners of the ALN unit.</p>
<p>Closing Ysgol Nebo and offering the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)</p>	<p>Negative</p> <p>Ysgol Llanllyfni is located 1.6 miles from Ysgol Nebo, the authority would need to provide transport for pupils in the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo who attend Ysgol Llanllyfni and live more than 2 miles from the school, in accordance with the Authority's Transport Policy.</p> <p>Having considered current numbers (September 2025), it is anticipated that an 8-seater bus would need to be organised to transport learners of the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo (they would be eligible for transport in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy) to Ysgol Llanllyfni. It is anticipated that this would be at a cost of up to £17,000.</p> <p>If there was an increase in the numbers of learners in the catchment area in the future, then it may mean that it would be necessary to provide a school bus in order to transport the learners of the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo which would be eligible for transport (in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy). It is anticipated that this would be at a cost of up to £30,000.</p> <p>Some learners will travel further to school than they would at the moment.</p>	<p>£17,000 - £30,000</p>

	No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.	
Ysgol Nebo developing into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	£0
Ysgol Nebo offers a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learners.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school</p>	<p>£0</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the learners of the ALN unit.</p>
Ysgol Nebo offers a language unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the learners of the language unit.</p>	<p>£0</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the learners of the Language unit.</p>
Establishing a School on more than one site	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Nebo site and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Nebo catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>Depending on the structure of the new school, there is a possibility that it would be necessary to organise transport between schools.</p>	£0

### 3. CONCLUSION

---

It is not anticipated that there would be a negative impact on the travel arrangements of Ysgol Nebo learners arising from the implementation of any of the options listed above (section 2), with the exception of the option to close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

If the option of closing Ysgol Nebo and offering education to the pupils at Ysgol Llanllyfni was implemented, then it is anticipated that there would be an impact on travel arrangements for the children. However, it is not anticipated that any learner in the Nebo catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.

When considering the latest numbers data, namely September 2025, it is anticipated that 8 seats transport would need to be arranged in order to transport learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo who would be eligible for transport (in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy) to Ysgol Llanllyfni. These transport costs are estimated to be around £17,000 per year.

If there was an increase in the number of learners in the catchment area in the future, then it may mean that it would be necessary to provide a school bus in order to transport learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo who would be eligible for transport (in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd transport policy). These transport costs are estimated to be around £30,000 per year.

As a result, it is anticipated that the option to close Ysgol Nebo and transfer learners to Ysgol Llanllyfni would lead to additional transport costs for the Authority. These costs are estimated to be around £17,000-£30,000 per year to provide transport if all the learners in the Ysgol Nebo catchment area chose to attend Llanllyfni School.

# ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY – YSGOL NEBO (SEPTEMBER 2025)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

When developing proposals for the organisation of schools, the Authority is required to assess the likely impact on the community, in accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018).

### 1.1 Background

Ysgol Nebo is a community school located in the village of Nebo, which is about three miles from Penygroes, and which provides education for learners between the ages of 3-11. There has been a significant reduction in the numbers of learners at Ysgol Nebo over the past few years. By now, September 2025, only 11 Reception to Year 6 learners and 1 Nursery learner attend the school.

At their meeting on 11 February 2025, the Cabinet supported a recommendation to begin formal discussions with Ysgol Nebo stakeholders to consider options for the future. Between March and July 2025, 3 local meetings were held with Ysgol Nebo's stakeholders where several options were proposed and discussed.

## 2. THE OPTIONS

---

The Authority considered and discussed several options for the future of Ysgol Nebo, including:

- Do nothing - continue with the school's current structure
- Federate with a neighbouring school

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

The possibility of federating with neighbouring schools was considered, specifically Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu.

- *Federating with another school adding a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Nebo.*

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

The possibility of federating with neighbouring schools was considered, specifically Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu.

In addition to federating, this option would also include adding a location for a ALN unit.

- *Closing Ysgol Nebo and offering the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)*

This option would mean that Ysgol Nebo would close, and that learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo would be offered a place at Ysgol Llanllyfni (the alternative school).

- *Ysgol Nebo developing into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)*

This option would mean that Ysgol Nebo would continue and develop into a specialist location for some individual subjects.

- *Ysgol Nebo offers a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.*

This option would mean adding an area for an ALN unit on the school site in order to offer special education to the children who would need additional support.

- *Ysgol Nebo offers a language unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area*

*This option would mean adding a language immersion unit on the school site in order to offer an immersion service in Welsh to new speakers*

- *Establishing a school on more than one site - Multi-site School*

This option would mean merging a number of local schools, by closing the schools and establishing one multi-site school which would include the Ysgol Nebo site. The option would enable the possibility of sharing resources, buildings, and expertise.

This model would ensure continuity in the presence of a school site in the village of Nebo by establishing a multi-site school, led by a headteacher and one governing body.

### 3. SUMMARY OF THE CATCHMENT AREA

---

#### 3.1 The Area

Ysgol Nebo is located in the rural village of Nebo, which is about three miles from Penygroes in Gwynedd within Clynnog Ward. According to the 2021 census, 1,300 people live in Clynnog ward.

#### 3.2 The Economy

There are 55.1% of people aged between 16 and 74 within the Clynnog ward are economically active, and 1.1% of these are unemployed. There are 43.4% of people in the same age group are economically inactive with 3.4% of these ill or disabled for a long period.

The type of industry in which the population is active is varied in the area, with the highest rate (16.5%) working in the health and social work field.

According to data from the 'Index of Multiple Deprivation Wales (2019)' the employment rate of Llanllyfni and Clynnog ward compared to other wards in Wales gives a rank of 1149 out of 1909 wards. Therefore, Llanllyfni and Clynnog ward is within the most deprived 30-50% in Wales.

#### 3.3 Deprivation

Llanllyfni and Chlynnog Ward is ranked within the most deprived 30%-50% in Wales (rank 748 out of 1909 wards).

A number of areas make up this overall index, including income, employment, health, education, access to services, community safety, physical environment, and housing.

It is noted that Llanllyfni and Chlynnog ward is within the 10% most deprived areas in Wales in the 'Housing' field. The indicators in this area are the proportion of people living in overcrowded homes (use of bedrooms), and the proportion of people living in homes without central heating.

In addition, the ward of Llanllyfni and Chlynnog is within the 10% of the most deprived areas in Wales in the area of 'access to services', i.e. deprivation because people are unable to access a variety of services that are considered essential for day-to-day living. The indicators include average public and private travel times to a number of services such as food shops, doctor's surgery, primary and secondary schools, post office, public library, pharmacy, leisure centre and private travel time to a petrol station.

Below is a summary of how the Llanllyfni and Clynnog area is situated in the context of other areas in Wales according to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2019):

Area	Rank in Wales, out of 1909 areas. (1 = most deprived and 1909 = least deprived)	Most deprived % in Wales
Employment	1149	
Income	860	
Health	1267	
Education	1238	
Housing	67	Within the most deprived 10%
Physical environment	1251	
Access to services	100	Within the most deprived 10%
Community safety	922	

### 3.4 The Community

Residents of Nebo and Nasareth make regular use of the 'community room' located at Ysgol Nebo for holding community events and occasions. Here are some of the occasions and social events held in the Ysgol Nebo community room:

- Nebo and Nasareth Area Committee monthly meetings
- Monday Club: Meets every other Monday for a chat and cup of tea.
- Social evenings: Guest speakers from the community and outside.
- First Aid with St John Ambulance: Training on CPR and the use of defibrillators at the School and Nasareth Chapel.
- Gardening Club: Meets often to organise the village's floral displays, garden visits, share plants and seeds. Also organising the maintenance of the community orchard in Parc Nebo with the school children helping to plant the fruit trees.
- Welsh lessons for learners.
- Knitting and Crochet Club; Meets weekly to create poppies, Christmas decorations and seasonal 3D displays about the villages.
- Local walks: Refreshments after local walks, including the annual New Year's Day walk to Llyn Cwm Dulyn.
- Remembrance Sunday ritual.
- Mynydd Craig Goch Race: Using the school building to register runners, and an important part of providing refreshments for the runners.
- Protecting the environment: Organising litter collection sessions and implementing dog fouling prevention..

## 4. YSGOL NEBO AND NEARBY SCHOOLS

### 4.1 The context of the schools according to the Estyn Inspection Reports

As part of Estyn's reports, the schools are placed in context, and their community relations are detailed. This is the context given to Ysgol Nebo, Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu by Estyn inspectors.

#### Ysgol Nebo

*"Ysgol Nebo is about three miles from Penygroes in Gwynedd. Welsh is the main medium and life of the school."*

*Source: Estyn Report, November 2017*

### Ysgol Llanllyfni

*"Ysgol Gynradd Llanllyfni is in a small village on the outskirts of Caernarfon. Around 76% of the pupils come from homes where Welsh is spoken."*

*Source: Estyn Report, March 2017*

### Ysgol Bro Lleu

*"Ysgol Bro Lleu is a happy, friendly and inclusive school that places a strong emphasis on respecting every member of the community. Its vision of giving every pupil the best opportunity permeates all the school's activities. As a result, the pupils' attitudes to their learning are firm and their behaviour is excellent."*

*Source: Estyn Report, April 2023*

## 4.2 Statistical information of the schools

The table below shows the numbers of Ysgol Nebo and the other schools within the catchment area of Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle. This table also shows the school's capacity and number on the roll in September 2025. All schools teach through the medium of Welsh.

School	Full Capacity (N – Bl6)	Number on the register September 2025 (N – Bl6)	Legal Category	Linguistic Category
Baladeulyn	62	8	Community School	Category 3
Talysarn	104	101	Community School	Category 3
Bro Lleu	207	190	Community School	Category 3
Llanllyfni	117	72	Community School	Category 3
Nebo	58	12	Community School	Category 3
Brynaerau	81	59	Community School	Category 3
Bro Llifon	196	149	Community School	Category 3

*Source: September 2025 Census*

## 4.3 Dwelling location information and learners' choice of schools

Each school has a specific catchment area which it serves, and which is important in terms of the Council's access and transport policy. Learners do not have to attend their catchment area school; the choice is up to parents (in accordance with the admission policy).

The latest data (September 2025 data) shows that 71% of children who live in Ysgol Nebo's catchment area attend schools outside the catchment area. The table below indicates the proportion of learners who live in the catchment area and attend the catchment area school, and the proportion of learners in the catchment area who attend schools outside the catchment area.

School	Proportion of catchment area learners who attend the catchment area school	Proportion of catchment area learners who attend non-catchment area schools	Proportion of the school's learners who attend the school from outside the Catchment Area
Bro Lleu	79.4%	20.6%	25%
Brynaerau	81.5%	18.5%	17%
Llanllyfni	53.6%	46.4%	25%
Nebo	28.6%	71.4%	81.8%
Talysarn	83.1%	16.9%	23.8%
Baladeulyn	25%	75%	71.4%
Bro Llifon	85.5%	14.2%	23.1%

*Source: September 2025 Census*

#### 4.4 Summary of the various facilities in the community of Nebo and Llanllyfni (September 2025)

	Nebo	Llanllyfni
Canolfan Gymuned / Neuadd Bentref		
Capel/Eglwys		✓
Trafnidiaeth Gyhoeddus	✓	✓
Siop		
Caffi/Tafarn		
Swyddfa Bost		
Fferyllfa		
Llyfrgell		
Cae Chwarae Plant		
Banc		
Cartref Henoed		
Canolfan Hamdden		
Garej		
Atyniad Twristaidd	✓	
Cylch Ti a Fi + Meithrin		✓

#### Community Centre

There is no community center in the village. The residents of Nebo and Nasareth make regular use of Ysgol Nebo's 'community room' for community occasions and events.

#### 4.5 A summary of activities or groups in which the school is regularly involved:

	Nebo	Llanllyfni
Cylch Meithrin/Ti a Fi		✓
Eisteddfodau (Local/County/National)	✓	✓
Urdd	✓	
Other activities (sports, clubs)		✓



- 4.6 If buildings, rooms, facilities or services are provided by a school on behalf of the community, where would they be provided if the school is closed?

School	Where will facilities be provided if it closes
Nebo	A number of community events are held in the Ysgol Nebo building. If the Cabinet decided to proceed with the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo, options for the post-use of the school building would have to be considered, taking into account the community activities that are currently being held at the school.

#### 4.7 Information about distance and travel time to other schools in the catchment area

The table below indicates the distance and travel time between schools in the area. We see that Ysgol Llanllyfni is the closest to Ysgol Nebo. The journey times below consider the nature of the lanes and the effect this can have on journey times in a rural area.

Ysgol		Nebo
Llanllyfni	Milltir	1.6
	Munudau	5
Bro Lleu	Milltir	2.6
	Munudau	9
Talsarn	Milltir	3.8
	Munudau	11
Baladeulyn	Milltir	5.8
	Munudau	14
Brynaerau	Milltir	5.3
	Munudau	14
Bro Lliffon	Milltir	5.5
	Munudau	11

Source: Google Maps 2025

## 5. ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

In order to assess the community impact of the possible models, it was decided to create criteria in accordance with the recommendations of the community assessment considerations of the School Organisation Code 011/2018.

### **OPTION 1: NO CHANGE – CONTINUE WITH THE CURRENT STRUCTURE**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	There would be no change to the current provision – as a result no impact is anticipated on health and well-being.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As there would be no change to the current provision there wouldn't be any impact on public transport provision. Any transport required by Ysgol Nebo for eligible catchment area learners would continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	There would be no change to the provision so no impact on the current use of the school is anticipated.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	There would be no change to the provision, therefore no impact is anticipated on wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	There would be no change to the provision, therefore no impact is anticipated to how parents choose a school for their children or affect the choice to live in the catchment area.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	There would be no change to what is currently provided so no impact on other local services is anticipated.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	There would be no change to what is currently being provided so no adverse impact on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	There would be no change to what is currently provided so no impact on the local community is anticipated.	Neutral

## OPTION 2: FEDERATING WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	Because federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open there would be no change to the current provision, as a result, no impact on health and well-being is anticipated.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	Because federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact on the provision of public transport is anticipated. Any transport required by Ysgol Nebo for eligible catchment area learners will continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	Because federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no change to the current use of the school is foreseen.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	Because federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open no change is anticipated to impact on wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	Because federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is foreseen on how parents choose a school for their children or affect the choice of living in the catchment area or not. A high proportion of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area (71%).	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	Because federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no change is foreseen to what is currently being provided, so no impact on other local services is foreseen.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	Because federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is foreseen on what is currently being provided, so no adverse effect on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	Because federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no is foreseen to what is currently being provided, as a result no impact on the local community is anticipated. However, opportunities are identified for the community of Nebo and the communities of the schools that would be part of the federation to come together.	Neutral

**OPTION 3: FEDERATING WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL ADDING A SPECIALIST UNIT FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS AT YSGOL NEBO**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and well-being, as Ysgol Nebo School would continue, but as part of a federation with a neighbouring school, with an additional learning needs unit also being located on the site.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	This option is not expected to affect public transport provision as Ysgol Nebo would continue, but as part of a federation with a neighbouring school, with a unit for additional learning needs also located on the site. Any transport required to Ysgol Nebo for eligible catchment area learners will continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As federating would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, there would be no change to the current provision, so no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with provision for an additional learning needs unit also being located on the site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school-aged children to leave the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a special educational needs unit also located on site. A high proportion of catchment area children already attend out-of-catchment schools (71%).	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider community economy, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also being located on the site.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not expected that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also being located on site. However, opportunities are noted for the Nebo community and the Llanllyfni school community to come together.	Neutral

**OPTION 4: CLOSE YSGOL NEBO AND OFFER THE LEARNERS A PLACE IN A NEARBY SCHOOL (YSGOL LLANILFYNI)**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	<p>As the alternative school is located about a mile and a half from Ysgol Nebo, and further from the homes of learners in the catchment area, we do not anticipate that they would be likely to walk to school.</p> <p>It is anticipated that being in a larger school such as Ysgol Llanllyfni would offer more opportunities to play and participate in team sports and therefore contribute positively towards the health and well-being of learners.</p>	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that there will be any impact on public transport provision as any transport to an alternative school as a result of any change will be arranged specifically for learners in the catchment area who are eligible in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	<p>The community makes regular use of the Ysgol Nebo building in order to host community events.</p> <p>If the school were to close, these provisions would have to be considered when discussing the subsequent use of the school building.</p>	Negative
Impact on wider community safety	No impact is anticipated to impact on wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	As a high proportion of children in the catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools it is not anticipated that families and young children would leave the community if the school were to close. In addition, as an alternative school is located 1.6 miles from Ysgol Nebo, it is not anticipated that it would have an impact on families and the school-age gap leaving the community.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	As a high proportion of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area, it cannot be concluded that closing the school would have an impact on other services provided locally.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	As the majority of children in the catchment area attend schools outside the catchment area, it is not anticipated that the closure of Ysgol Nebo would have an impact on the wider economy of the community.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	<p>During the local discussions, the stakeholders noted the importance of the school to the community in the village of Nebo, noting the regular use made of the school building by the community.</p> <p>If Ysgol Nebo were to close, the local school would be further away from homes within the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo, and from a deprivation point of view - it means that one of the indicators of 'access to services' would move further from the residents of the area. As a result, it is anticipated that there would be some negative impact on the local community if the school were to close.</p> <p>However, it should be noted that a high percentage of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area.</p> <p>To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Nebo community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Nebo community is encouraged, where appropriate.</p>	Negative

**OPTION 5: YSGOL NEBO TO DEVELOP INTO A SPECIALIST LOCATION FOR SOME INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS (UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES TO CARRY OUT FIELD WORK)**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, it is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on health and well-being.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, no impact on public transport provision is anticipated if this option were to be implemented. Any transport required to the Ysgol Nebo site for eligible catchment area learners would continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, it is not anticipated that this option would affect this criteria.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school age children to leave the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider economy of the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral

**OPTION 6: YSGOL NEBO OFFERS A SPECIALIST UNIT FOR SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS, WHERE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION IS CHALLENGING**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and well-being as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on the site.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on public transport provision as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on site.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on this criteria as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school-age children to leave the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on site.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider economy of the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on site.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on the site.	Neutral

**OPTION 7: YSGOL NEBO OFFERS A LANGUAGE UNIT FOR DAFFRYN NANTLLE CATCHMENT AREA**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and well-being as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the provision of public transport as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on this criterion as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school-age children to leave the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on site.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider economy of the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral



**OPTION 8: ESTABLISH A SCHOOL ON MORE THAN ONE SITE – A MULTI-SITE SCHOOL**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, it is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on health and well-being.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, no impact on public transport provision is anticipated if this option were to be implemented. Any transport required to the Nebo School site for eligible catchment area learners would continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As the Ysgol Nebo site would continue as part of the multi-site school, it is not anticipated that the implementation of this option would have an impact on other facilities/services provided at the school.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	No impact on wider community safety is anticipated, as education provision would continue on the Ysgol Nebo site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	No impact is foreseen on these criteria, as education provision would continue on the Ysgol Nebo site.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	As the Ysgol Nebo site would continue as part of the multi-site school, no impact on other local services is anticipated.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would affect what is currently provided so no adverse impact on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	As the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, it is anticipated that the general impact on the local community would be neutral if this option were to be implemented.	Neutral

## 6. CONCLUSION

---

This assessment shows that the impact on the community would be neutral if the options listed below are implemented:

- Do nothing - continue with the school's current structure.
- Federating with a neighbouring school
- Federating with a neighbouring school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Nebo School
- Ysgol Nebo developing into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)
- Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs
- Ysgol Nebo to offer a language unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area
- Establishing a school on more than one site – a multi-site school

Although some of the options would involve locating a language unit or ALN provision on the Ysgol Nebo site, and as a result, additional services would be provided on the school site, it is not anticipated that this would have an impact on the community.

The assessment shows that some negative impact on the community is anticipated if the option to close Ysgol Nebo is implemented. It is recognised that the closure of Ysgol Nebo would lead to the loss of a school in the Nebo community, however the assessment stated that a large proportion of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni (43%), and therefore it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Ysgol Nebo community already exists.

If the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo were to be implemented, every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Llanllyfni. To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Nebo community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Nebo community is encouraged, where appropriate.

If the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo were to be implemented, it will be essential as part of the process to encourage discussions between the alternative school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) and the parents of Ysgol Nebo learners so that parents and learners can take advantage of their facilities and any after school activities.

In addition, should the Cabinet decide to proceed with the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo, options for the post-use of the school building would have to be considered, taking into account the community activities that are currently being held at the school.

# LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT – YSGOL NEBO (SEPTEMBER 2025)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

Supporting and developing Gwynedd's children's ability to learn and use their language skills is essentially important to the education strategies of the County.

### 1.1 THE SITUATION IN GWYNEDD

Figures in the 2021 Census indicate that 66% of people over the age of three can speak, read or write in Welsh. The 2021 census also states that 64% speak Welsh which is a decrease since the previous census, when the figure was 65%.

In Gwynedd, as in many other Local Authorities in Wales, there is a considerable variation in the percentage of Welsh speakers across different wards. In wards where Welsh is less commonly spoken, such as Aberdyfi, Tywyn, and central Bangor, between 26% and 44% of the population speak Welsh, while as many as 86% speak Welsh in the most Welsh-speaking areas e.g Hendre and Llanrug.

### 1.2 Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan is the Local Authority's statutory document and accompanies the Welsh Government's priorities for the development of Welsh-medium education (in line with the targets of *Cymraeg 2050*).

There are 7 outcomes that local authorities are expected to implement to achieve the outcomes, namely:

1. More nursery/3 year olds receive Welsh medium education.
2. More reception/5 year olds receive Welsh medium education.
3. More children continue to improve skills from the transfer from one period of education to another.
4. More learners study Welsh as a subject and subjects through the medium of Welsh.
5. Increase opportunities to use Welsh in different contexts.
6. Improve Welsh medium education provision for ALN pupils.
7. Increase the number of staff who can teach in Welsh.

### 1.3 Language Policy

#### **Primary**

The aim of the language policy across all primary schools in the county is the same, which is to develop the ability of all pupils to be proficient in both languages by the end of KS2. Welsh is the official language of assessment at the school at the end of a foundation phase. In Key Stage 2, efforts continue to develop pupils' grasp of Welsh while focusing on enhancing their skills in both languages.

#### **Secondary**

In the secondary, it is expected for all pupils who have reached the required level, Level 3+ at the end of the KS2, to follow Welsh first language in KS3 to ensure appropriate progression and continuity. The hope is that these pupils can study Welsh and English as subjects up to the end of year 11.

The secondary schools build on the foundation established in the primary by ensuring that all pupils continue to develop skills in both English and Welsh. The county does not define secondary schools according to linguistic categories as there is the same expectation in relation to the Language Policy, which is to give all pupils in the county the opportunity to be bilingually proficient.

## 1.4 One million speakers by 2050

*Cymraeg 2050* is the latest Welsh Government strategy for the Welsh language and covers the next three decades. This document sets out specific targets for increasing the numbers that speak the language as well as the Welsh use.

The aims of *Cymraeg 2050* include:

	Aim	Target
1.	Increase the number of Welsh speakers	1 million speakers by 2050
2.	Increase the use of the Welsh language	Daily users of Welsh increasing from 10% to 20%

The *Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh Speakers* document emphasises the importance of increasing the numbers of Welsh speakers but it is also emphasised that increasing the daily use of the Welsh language is just as important.

*‘Moving towards the position where we have a million speakers is one aspect of our vision for a thriving Welsh language. However, a thriving Welsh language is a language that is used. We want the use of Welsh to be a routine part of everyday life, so that speakers at all levels feel confident in its use in formal and informal situations.....The Welsh Language Use Survey 2013–15 (Welsh Government and Welsh Language Commissioner 2015) shows that there is a clear link between fluency and frequency of Welsh language use – 84 per cent of fluent Welsh speakers speak Welsh daily’.*

*Source: Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers (2017)*

## 1.5 Welsh Language Strategy 2022-2032

*The Welsh Language Standards imposed on Cyngor Gwynedd by the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 impose an expectation on the Council to produce a 5 year strategy which will demonstrate how it is intended to promote the Welsh language and facilitate the use of Welsh across the county. Cyngor Gwynedd’s latest strategy for the Welsh language is the Gwynedd Language Strategy 2023-2033. This document sets out specific targets for increasing the numbers speaking the language:*

	How will we increase the number of speakers?	How will we measure at a local level, and during the strategy period?
1.	Provide opportunities for children and young people who are not yet Welsh speakers (e.g newcomers, children who do not receive mainstream education), to learn and become confident Welsh speakers.	The number of children receiving Welsh medium education. The number of children who are supported through the Education Department's immersion regime.
2.	Providing opportunities for adults to become new speakers through the authority’s learners support schemes and partners community provision.	The number of council workers receiving Welsh learning lessons. Provision of community Welsh learning courses.

*The strategy also contains a commitment to increase the use of Welsh in the following areas:*

- Language of the early years
- Language learning
- Working and service language
- The Welsh language

## 2. LINGUISTIC PROFILE OF THE NEBO CATCHMENT AREA

### 2.1 Gwynedd Language Profile Background

64.4% of the county's population aged over three are Welsh speakers — significantly higher than the figure for Wales as a whole, which is 17.8%. In Gwynedd, the ability to speak Welsh is highest in the Hendre ward (86% speak Welsh), and lowest in the Bangor Central area (25.6%).

### 2.2 Wards

#### 2.2.1 Llanllyfni and Clynnog Ward

The catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn, Ysgol Nebo, Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Llanllyfni is within the Llanllyfni and Clynnog ward with the catchment area of Ysgol Bro Llifon within the Groeslon ward, the catchment area of Ysgol Bro Lleu within Penygroes ward and Ysgol Talysarn's catchment area within Talysarn Ward (Office for National Statistics 2021). The linguistic profile of the wards of these schools is summarised in the table below:

	Llanllyfni and Clynnog	Y Groeslon	Penygroes	Talysarn	Gwynedd	Cymru
Welsh identity only	1,407 (64.8%)	1,200 (72.2%)	1,363 (75.6%)	1,206 (62.2%)	69,560 (59.3%)	1,715,975 (55.2%)
No Welsh identity	35.2%	27.8%	24.4%	37.8%	36.3%	36.7%
3+ year old population	2,173 (100%)	1,621 (100%)	1,802 (100%)	1,943 (100%)	114,308 (100%)	3,018,172 (100%)
Can speak Welsh	1,508 (69.4%)	1,247 (77%)	1447 (80.3%)	1,312 (67.5%)	73,560 (64.4%)	538,296 (17.8%)
No Welsh skills	429 (19.7%)	237 (14.6%)	195 (10.8%)	390 (20.1%)	29,977 (26.2%)	2,259,017 (74.8%)
Able to understand only verbal Welsh	121 (5.6%)	98 (6.0%)	66 (3.7%)	133 (6.8%)	8,166 (7.1%)	156,762 (5.2%)
Able to speak Welsh but can't read or write Welsh	108 (5%)	58 (3.6%)	96 (5.3%)	104 (5.4%)	6,142 (5.4%)	68,391 (2.3%)
Able to speak and read Welsh but can't write Welsh	53 (2.4%)	43 (2.7%)	52 (2.9%)	57 (2.9%)	3,170 (2.8%)	33,971 (1.1%)
Able to speak, read and write Welsh	1,327 (61.1%)	1,128 (69.6%)	1,279 (71%)	1,119 (57.6%)	63,256 (55.3%)	429,313 (14.2%)
Able to write Welsh but can't speak or read Welsh	10 (0.5%)	7 (0.4%)	2 (0.1%)	7 (0.4%)	387 (0.3%)	4,970 (0.2%)
Able to read and write Welsh but can't speak Welsh	16 (0.7%)	23 (1.4%)	24 (1.3%)	12 (0.6%)	1004 (0.9%)	17,560 (0.6%)
Another combination of Welsh language skills	20 (0.9%)	18 (1.1%)	20 (1.1%)	32 (1.6%)	993 (0.9%)	6,621 (0.2%)

Source: Census 2021, Office for National Statistics

### 2.3 Ysgol Nebo

The table below shows that most Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently.

Ysgol	Speaks Welsh fluently at home	Speaks Welsh at home but not fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at home but fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at home and not fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at all
Nebo	50%	12.5%	25%	12.5%	0%

Source: Percentage of the number of respondents January 2025

### 2.4 Nearby schools

Linguistic data for the nearby schools can be found below.

Ysgol	Speaks Welsh fluently at home	Speaks Welsh at home but not fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at home but fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at home and not fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at all
Baladeulyn	55%	27%	0%	18%	0%
Brynaerau	63%	8%	2	10%	17%
Llanllyfni	80%	8%	1%	4%	7%
Bro Lleu	73%	3%	2%	6%	16%
Talysarn	37%	16%	4%	19%	24%
Bro Llifon	83%	3%	1%	3%	10%

Source: Percentage of the number of respondents January 2025

### 2.5 After school activities

Here is a summary of what Ysgol Nebo and the other schools in Dyffryn Nantlle's secondary catchment area offer on the school sites.

	Baladeulyn	Talysarn	Bro Lleu	Llanllyfni	Brynaerau	Bro Llifon	Nebo
Playgroups (school holidays)			✓				
Members of the Urdd				✓		✓	✓
Morning/Evening Coffee	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Cylch/Nursery			✓	✓		✓	
Club/After school club/Sports Activity		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

It can be seen in the table above that a number of schools in the area, including Ysgol Nebo offer clubs with the Urdd after school. This means that the pupils could continue to take advantage of these activities as an additional opportunity to use and develop the Welsh language.

## 2.6 Community Activities

There is no community centre/building in Nebo. The residents of Nebo and Nasareth make regular use of the school's 'community room' for community occasions and events. These are some of the occasions and social events that take place in the School's Community Room:

- Nebo and Nasareth Area Committee monthly meetings
- Monday Club: Meets every other Monday for a chat and a cup of tea.
- Social evenings: Guest speakers from the community and outside.
- First Aid with St John Ambulance: CPR training and the use of defibrillators at the School and Capel Nasareth.
- Gardening Club: Meets often to organise the village's floral displays, garden visits, to share plants and seeds. Also organises the maintenance of the community orchard in Parc Nebo with the school children helping to plant the fruit trees.
- Welsh lessons for learners.
- Knitting and Crochet Club; Meets weekly to create poppies, Christmas decorations and 3D seasonal displays about the villages.
- Local walks: Refreshments following local walks, including the annual New Year's Day walk to Llyn Cwm Dulyn.
- Remembrance Sunday ritual
- Mynydd Craig Goch race: Using the building to register runners, and an important part of providing refreshments for the runners.
- Protecting the environment: Organising litter collection sessions and implementing dog fouling prevention.

## 2.7 Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (2022-2032)

Ysgol Nebo and the nearby schools implement the objectives of Cyngor Gwynedd's Strategic Plan for the Welsh Language in Education 2022-2032. This includes:

- That all pupils in the county have appropriate linguistic skills in Welsh and English, and that that expectation is consistent across all the schools.
- That there is suitable provision to enable all pupils to develop proficiently bilingually. In this context, schools are expected to continue to nurture the skills of those pupils who are Welsh speakers, and to introduce the Welsh language to those who are learners.
- That all the county's education institutions reflect and reinforce the Language Policy in their administration, their social life and their pastoral order, as well as in their curricular provision.

The implementation of the proposal would be in line with the objectives of the Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan 2022-32.

## 2.8 Additional Evidence

### **Ysgol Nebo**

Estyn's 2017 report says:

“Welsh is the main medium of the school’s life and work. Approximately 58% of pupils come from Welsh-speaking homes and there are no pupils from ethnic minority backgrounds.”

[Ysgol Nebo Estyn inspection report October 2017](#)

### **Ysgol Llanllyfni**

Estyn's 2017 report says:

“Approximately 76% of pupils come from Welsh-speaking homes. This has declined since the last inspection, when 95% of pupils spoke Welsh at home.”

[Ysgol Llanllyfni Estyn inspection report 2017](#)



### 3. Assessment of the impact on the Welsh language

#### 3.1 The Options

- *Do nothing – continue with the current situation*

Continuing with the current situation would mean that Ysgol Nebo continues in the same way, with the same staffing structure.

Although the case for change has been established, the Do nothing model has been included in the assessment for comparison purposes.

- *Federate with a nearby school*

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a school, or nearby schools, led by a head or heads, and one governing body. These schools would share one governing body, but at the same time retain their legal status as separate entities, their financial allocation, name and school uniform, and continue to have their own Estyn inspection.

It is not anticipated that forming a federation would have an impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with opportunities for the school to strengthen the leadership position, and collaborate.

- *Federalise with a nearby school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo*

This option would mean federalising with a nearby school and adding a ALN unit on the Ysgol Nebo school site in order to offer special education to the children who would need additional support. There will be no change to the school element.

It is not anticipated that forming a federation would have an impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with opportunities for the school to strengthen the leadership position, and collaborate.

- *Closing Ysgol Nebo and offering the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)*

This option would mean closing Ysgol Nebo and offering the pupils a place at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

This option would mean that Ysgol Nebo would close, and that learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo would be offered a place at Ysgol Llanllyfni (the alternative school).

The table on the next page contains an assessment of the impact of closing Ysgol Nebo and teaching the learner at Ysgol Llanllyfni, on the Welsh language compared to the current situation. The table also outlines the additional opportunities for strengthening the Welsh language, and methods of mitigating any negative impact that may arise from the proposal.

- *Ysgol Nebo developing into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)*

Continuing the current situation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would continue in the same way, with the same staffing structure.

It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo would continue.

- *Ysgol Nebo offers a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.*

This option would mean continuing with Ysgol Nebo and adding a specific specialised area for children with additional learning needs on the school site.

It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo would continue.

- *Ysgol Nebo to offer a language unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area*

This option would mean continuing with Ysgol Nebo and locating a language unit on the school site.

It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the Welsh language in the school as there would be no change to the education provision provided by Ysgol Nebo. However, it is likely that it would have a positive effect on the Welsh language of the learners who would attend the language unit.

- *Establishing a School on more than one site*

This option would mean closing local schools, including Ysgol Nebo, and establishing a new school across several sites, including the current site of Ysgol Nebo.

It is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on the Welsh language. Depending on the structure of the multi-site school, there may be opportunities for learners to have access to a wider range of suitable resources, a higher supply in terms of staffing, and they could be part of a larger group of peers.

### 3. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE

#### *Assessment of the impact on the Welsh language – Proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)*

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and work	Have any measures been identified to mitigate any negative impact or to create more positive opportunities	Final impact (following mitigation measures)
<b>School language (formal)</b>	Ysgol Nebo is a Welsh-medium school. As Ysgol Llanllyfni is also a Welsh-medium school, it is concluded that the proposed proposal would not have an impact on the children's language of education.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
<b>School language (informal)</b>	PLASC January 2025 statistics show that 50% of Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently at home and 80% of Ysgol Llanllyfni learners. As the learners would be taught in larger classes with more children of the same age group, the proposal could strengthen the opportunity for learners to socialise in Welsh with their peers. On that basis, if the proposed proposal is realised, it is anticipated that there would be more opportunities for learners in the Nebo catchment area to use Welsh informally with their peers inside and outside the classroom, and that the level of vitality of the Welsh language and the informal use of the language would be stronger.	Positive	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
<b>Access to Welsh medium education</b>	Ysgol Llanllyfni is a Welsh-medium school, like Ysgol Nebo. It is therefore not anticipated that the proposal would affect this criterion.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
<b>Non-statutory provision</b>	Learners would have access to a higher supply in terms of staffing and would be part of a larger group of peers of the same age.	Positive	The local authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanllyfni could discuss methods to ensure that pupils can participate in extracurricular activities.	Positive
<b>Activities before/after school</b>	Ysgol Llanllyfni is a larger school in terms of numbers of learners so the peer groups will be larger. Ysgol Llanllyfni also offers after school clubs and activities which offer opportunities to use Welsh before/after school.	Positive	The Local Authority and Ysgol Llanllyfni Governing Body could consider any additional opportunities for arranging activities after school, ensuring that arrangements are in place to include learners in the Nebo catchment area.	Positive
<b>Use of the Welsh Language in the community</b>	If the proposal to close Nebo School was to be realised, then it is anticipated that some elements of community events will be affected. It is anticipated that there may be some negative impact arising from the realisation of the proposal, as parents/guardians/families will not meet daily in the Nebo community when dropping off/collecting children from school.	Negative	The Local Authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanllyfni can consider methods of promoting the use of the Welsh language by including the Nebo community in the school's community activities.	Neutral

## 5. CONCLUSION

---

Our expectations are that all learners in the County can attain balanced, age-relevant bilingualism so that they can be complete members of the bilingual society they are part of. The proposals for reorganisation will need to take full account of all the linguistic impacts. Maintaining and improving the use of Welsh as an educational and social language among children will be a key consideration when drawing up proposals within the area.

It is not anticipated that any of the options set out in section 3 above would have a negative impact on the Welsh language.

In terms of the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and transfer learners to Ysgol Llanllyfni, it is not anticipated that the proposed proposal would have a negative impact on the Welsh language, mainly because:

- the January 2025 PLASC statistics show that 54% of Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently at home and 80% of Ysgol Llanllyfni learners
- the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) would mean that learners in the Nebo catchment area would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school.
- the learners would be taught in larger classes and with more children of the same age group, it is anticipated that the proposed proposal would strengthen the opportunity for learners to socialise in Welsh with more of their peers.

Based on the above, if the proposed proposal is implemented, it is anticipated that there would be more opportunities for pupils in the Nebo catchment area to use Welsh informally with their peers inside and outside the classroom, and that the level of vitality of the Welsh language and the informal use of the language would be stronger.

# IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE WELL-BEING AND FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT- YSGOL NEBO (SEPTEMBER 2025)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

We as a Council are committed to the principles within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015) to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Gwynedd's communities.

The Council's vision is:

*Our vision as a Council is to support all the people of Gwynedd to flourish and to live a complete life in their community in a county that is one of the best counties to live in.*

The Council has adopted well-being objectives which complement the national well-being goals ensuring that the residents of Gwynedd are:

- Giving our children and young people the best possible start in life
- Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd to earn a decent salary
- Supporting Gwynedd residents to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities
- Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities
- Ensuring that we give our residents every possible opportunity to use the Welsh language in the community
- Protecting the county's natural beauty, and responding positively to the climate change crisis
- Putting the residents of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently

The table below outlines the link between our well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.

	Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive Communities	A vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Globally responsible
<b>TOMORROW'S GWYNEDD</b> Giving our children and young people the best possible start in life							
<b>A PROSPEROUS GWYNEDD</b> Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd to earn a decent salary							
<b>A HOMELY GWYNEDD</b> Supporting Gwynedd residents to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities							
<b>A CARING GWYNEDD</b> Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities							
<b>A WELSH GWYNEDD</b> Ensuring that we give our residents every possible opportunity to use the Welsh language in the community							
<b>A GREEN GWYNEDD</b> Protecting the county's natural beauty, and responding positively to the climate change crisis							
<b>AN EFFICIENT GWYNEDD</b> Putting the residents of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently							

The Education Department has a role to promote the well-being goals of the Act among learners through their activities and projects. The Act places a duty on public bodies in Wales to improve economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being. As part of the duty the Council has published well-being objectives which outline how it will improve in the "Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028"

## 2. HOW DOES THE PROPOSAL MEET GWYNEDD COUNCIL'S WELFARE OBJECTIVES?

### The proposed proposal:

The Cabinet's permission is sought to hold a statutory consultation, in accordance with the requirements of section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, on the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026 and provide a place for learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards.

Objectives	Details:
<b>Giving our children and young people the best possible start in life</b>	The proposal will ensure that children in the area foster experiences by socialising with a wider range of age-related peers and receiving a quality education in a school that can offer a learning environment and experiences to a wider range of learners.
<b>Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd to earn a decent salary</b>	It is anticipated that the implementation of this option would lead to staff redundancies. A detailed staffing policy was developed by Cyngor Gwynedd in collaboration with Trade Unions and head teachers. The policy will form the basis of any change to staff employment resulting from any proposal. Clear and open communication will be central to the successful implementation of any proposals.
<b>Supporting Gwynedd residents to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities</b>	No effect.
<b>Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities</b>	Ensuring that the learners receive a first class education will be at the core of the proposed proposal, ensuring that they will receive an education of the same quality and standard in the alternative school.
<b>Ensuring that we give our residents every possible opportunity to use the Welsh language in the community</b>	Ysgol Nebo's learners live in a Welsh-medium society and are educated in a Welsh-medium school, like the alternative school. It is likely that the proposed proposal will have a positive impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo learners benefit from more opportunities to use the Welsh language with a wider range of peers in the classroom and socially. Ysgol Llanllyfni serve an area that is a stronghold of the Welsh language with a high number of the population able to speak Welsh.
<b>Protecting the county's natural beauty, and responding positively to the climate change crisis</b>	No effect.
<b>Putting the residents of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently</b>	No effect.

### 3. DOES THE PROPOSAL MEET THE WELFARE AIMS OF THE ACT?

Objective	Does the proposal contribute to this goal?	Measures to mitigate negative effects on this goal:
<b>A prosperous Wales</b> An innovative society that uses resources prudently, educated people, that create wealth and work.	<p>The implementation of the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and teach the children in a nearby alternative school would mean that the learners build experiences by socialising with a wider range of peers, age-related and receiving a quality education in a school that can offer a learning environment and experiences to a wider range of learners.</p> <p>Introducing this option could lead to staff losing their jobs.</p>	<p>Should the Cabinet decide to proceed to consult on the proposed proposal, a statutory consultation will be held which would include all stakeholders of the school in question, including staff and union representatives.</p> <p>Cyngor Gwynedd has developed a detailed staffing policy, jointly with Trade Unions and headteachers. Any redundancies as a result of this proposal will have to be in line with that policy. Clear and open communication will play a key role in implementing any proposals.</p>
<b>A resilient Wales</b> A nation that maintains and enhances biodiversity and healthy ecosystems that support resilience and adaptability to change (for example climate change).	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposed proposal would be likely to have an impact on this aim.</p>	<p>No effect</p>
<b>A healthier Wales</b> A society where people's physical and mental well-being is as good as possible, and people understand what affects their health.	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposed proposal would be likely to have an impact on this aim.</p>	<p>No effect</p>
<b>A more equal Wales</b> A society that enables people to achieve their potential regardless of their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances).	<p>The proposed proposal would improve the Authority's ability to <i>"offer education of the highest possible quality which will give the County's children the experiences, skills and confidence and enable them to develop into bilingual, successful citizens and complete"</i> in accordance with the vision of the Excellent Primary Education for Children in Gwynedd Strategy.</p>	<p>The Equality Assessment stated that it is not anticipated that the proposal would have a negative impact on equality. In addition, it was noted that there are solid policies and arrangements in place that would ensure that the proposal considers and is compatible with equal rights. It is noted that measures are already in place to ensure that there will be no illegal discrimination or harassment.</p>
<b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b> Attractive, viable and safe communities that are well connected.	<p>Nebo community is strong and hard-working, and it is recognised that closing the school would have some negative impact on the community.</p>	<p>The assessment of the likely impact on the community states that the proposed proposal may lead to some negative impact on the community. However, it is noted that a number of the learners in Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already choose to attend Ysgol Llanllyfni. It is therefore believed that a link already exists between the school and the wider area.</p> <p>Should the proposed proposal be implemented, there would be an opportunity to build on the links between the community in Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni by holding discussions that would promote the inclusion of the Nebo community in the school's community activity.</p>

<b>Wales and a vibrant culture where the Welsh language flourishes</b> An association that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language and encourages people to participate in the arts, sports and leisure activities.	No impact is anticipated on this goal as the implementation of the proposed proposal would mean that Ysgol Nebo learners would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school.	
<b>Wales responsible at a global level</b> A nation that, as it does anything to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales, considers whether doing such a thing could contribute positively to global well-being.	It is not anticipated that the proposed proposal would be likely to have an impact on this aim.	No effect.

## 4. PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Principles of Sustainable Development	Does the proposal consider the principle?
<b>Long Term</b> Balancing short-term needs with long-term ones and planning for the future.	The pattern of decreasing learner numbers has been consistent for a number of years, with projections showing that Ysgol Nebo learner numbers will continue to be vulnerable over the next few years and therefore shows that the current challenges facing the school will be long-term ones, and therefore the case for change is clear.
<b>Prevent</b> Allocate resources for preventing problems from occurring or getting worse. We will address problems by preventing and intervening early rather than by reacting.	Should the Cabinet decide to take further action, the needs of the learners will be a priority during every stage of any process.
<b>Integration</b> Have a positive impact on people, the economy, the environment, and culture.	The authority decided to start the process of looking at the future of Ysgol Nebo due to a critical situation facing the school.
<b>Cooperation</b> Work with other partners to provide services.	Collaboration with other relevant departments and the alternative school will be an important part of achieving the objectives for the benefit of the school and the children of the catchment area.
<b>Content (Communication and Engagement)</b> Involve the people of Gwynedd in trying to complete our plan and ensure that those people reflect the diversity of the area.	<p>In accordance with the decision of the Cabinet (11 February 2025), the Ysgol Nebo Review Panel (SRP) was established inviting the Governing Body, parents and staff and the Local Member to join the panel and take part in the discussion. Three SRP meetings were held between March 2025 and July 2025 to discuss a range of options to try to respond to the main challenges the school is facing.</p> <p>Should the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet decide to proceed to consult on the proposed proposal then the authority will carry out a statutory consultation with stakeholders such as parents, staff, unions and the wider community. This consultation will also include specific consultation with children and young people.</p>



## 5. CONCLUSION

---

Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, the 7 goals of the well-being act and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it is concluded that the proposal meets the requirements.

It is recognised that, this proposal would lead to the loss of a school in the Nebo community, however many of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend the nearby alternative schools, and therefore there is already a link between the school and the Nebo community. Every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities. Should the proposed proposal be approved, discussions will be held to discuss the possibility that the alternative school community activity includes the Nebo community where appropriate.

The proposed proposal will ensure that the children of the area are educated on a site that is suitable and in a natural Welsh language society, increasing opportunities to socialise and collaborate with others and give them a fair chance to flourish among their peers.

# Assess the Impact on the People of Gwynedd

This document assesses what impact the policy, procedure, plan, etc. will have on the county's population and operates based on a number of legislations.

- **Equality Act 2010.** It places a duty on public organisations to give due attention to the impact of any new policy, procedure or plan, etc. (or as they are adapted) on persons with protected characteristics. We are required to
  - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act.
  - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.
  - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

In Wales, the specific duty notes the need to undertake an impact assessment following specific guidelines to consider the impact that any changes in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on persons with protected equality characteristics. A timely assessment should be made before any decision is taken on any relevant change (i.e. that affects people with protected equality characteristics).

- **Socio-economic Duty.** Wales has implemented this further duty, which is part of the Equality Act 2010, and places a duty to address socio-economic disadvantages in strategic decisions.
- **Welsh Language Standards (Section 44 Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011).** The Council is required to consider the impact that any change in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than English. This document therefore ensures that these decisions safeguard and promote the use made of the Welsh language.
- **Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.** The Council has a duty to put the five ways of working in place and to respond to the seven national well-being goals.
- **Armed Forces Act 2021.** Councils must give due attention to the impact of this proposal on those who serve or who have served in the Armed Forces, as well as their families.

# Ysgol Nebo

**Author:** Gwern ap Rhisiart

**Date:** September 2025

**Version:** 1

## STEP 1 - Main Aims and Objectives of the Policy or Practice

### 1. What kind of document or procedure is being assessed?

- New and revised policies, practices or procedures (which modify service delivery or employment practices)

### 2. What are the overall aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the policy or practice?

The consent of the Council's Cabinet is sought to begin a period of statutory consultation in accordance with the requirements of section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, on the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026 and to provide a place for the pupils at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards.

Ysgol Nebo has been prioritised for a review of the educational provision as the school is facing a number of challenges. Pupil numbers at the school have fallen consistently in recent years and have been fragile for some time. Consequently, it is likely that the school is facing increasing challenges, including:

- **Number of learners** – In the September 2025 census, there were only 11 full-time pupils attending the school, and 1 pupil in the Nursery Class. The school has capacity for 51 learners from Reception to Year 6 (+7 in the Nursery Class).
- **Children are going out of catchment** – The September 2025 data shows that only 29% of Ysgol Nebo catchment area learners choose to attend the school. 71% of the catchment area learners choose to attend schools out of the catchment area.
- **Projected numbers** - Projected numbers suggest that numbers will continue to be fragile for the future: September 2026 = 12; September 2027 = 11; September 2028 = 10
- **High percentage of surplus places** - Based on the figures for September 2025, there were approximately 79% surplus places at the school (a total of 46)
- **Small class sizes** - There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (September 2025) with 5 learners (Reception - Year 3) and 1 nursery learner in one class, and 6 learners (year 4 to year 6) are in the second class.
- **Broad age ranges within classes** - An age range of up to 5 years is in one class and 3 years in the second class.
- **Additional funding to the usual allocation** – Ysgol Nebo receives an additional amount to the usual allocation through the Staffing Minimum Policy (which guarantees at least a headteacher and a teacher in each school, and a headteacher and assistant in schools with less than 15 full -time learners). The total additional amount during the financial year 2025-26 (based on September 2024) was £ 70,694.

- **Cost per learner** - An average cost per learner at Ysgol Nebo in 2025-26 is £ 25,876 compared to the county average of £ 5,780.

### 3. Who are the main consultative groups (stakeholders)?

- Staff, Governors and Parents/Guardians of Ysgol Nebo
- Should the Cabinet support the recommendation to hold a statutory consultation on the proposal, we will consult all consultees noted in the School Organisation Code,
- Education Department and Officers from other Cyngor Gwynedd departments.

## STEP 2 - Engagement Data and Assessing the Impact

### 4. Has any effort been made to comply with the duty to engage in accordance with what is described above and has enough information been gathered to move forward?

Yes

The engagement details. Note any consultation or engagement you have conducted or intend to conduct.

Action	Dates	Information
Ysgol Nebo Review Panel 1	18 March 2025	The Ysgol Nebo School Review Panel (SRP) was established in March 2025 and a series of meetings were held between March and July 2025, with the last of these held on 14 July 2025. The SRP members included the school's headteacher and staff, governors, the Local Member, parents and guardians.  During the meetings, a number of options were considered for primary education in the Ysgol Nebo catchment area to ensure a sustainable provision for the future and respond specifically to the small numbers of learners.
Ysgol Nebo Review Panel 2	12 May 2025	
Ysgol Nebo Review Panel 3	14 July 2025	

**5. What information is available about the impact on each of the following characteristics and subjects?**

	<b>Evidence, Information and Relevant Data</b>	<b>Potential Positive and/or Negative Impact</b>
<b>Race</b>	<p>Gwynedd schools have relevant policies in place to protect individuals from any discrimination based on race, such as Equality, Inclusion and Anti-bullying Policies. The Anti-bullying Policy provided by Cyngor Gwynedd states anti-bullying guidelines and procedures based on factors such as race in the school. Also, it is states in the Equality policy that is implemented by Gwynedd primary schools that schools</p> <p><i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p> <p>Therefore, it is not anticipated that this proposed proposal would have a negative impact on this characteristic.</p>	None
<b>Disability</b>	<p>It is not anticipated that the change would have a negative impact on this characteristic. An accessibility assessment of any relevant alternative schools would be held, and we will ensure that any transport required is suitable for the needs of the individual. The needs of any disabled child would be considered in accordance with the Education Department's Accessibility and Equality policies.</p>	None
<b>Sex</b>	<p>Implementing the proposal would not have an impact on this characteristic. Implementing the proposal will mean that everyone will be treated according to their need, whatever their gender. Every school implements an Equality Policy stating that the school:</p> <p><i>"... is opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledges that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p>	None
<b>Age</b>	<p>Should the proposed proposal be implemented, it is anticipated that the children of Ysgol Nebo would benefit from having more age-related peers in their class as there are more learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni, which will be a way to ensure age-appropriate educational and extra-curricular experiences, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.</p>	Positive

	<p>We believe that learners will receive more age-appropriate experiences at the nearby alternative school since the learners will have learning experiences in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.</p> <p>It is anticipated that implementing the proposed proposal would mean that people of any age would be treated fairly and according to their need. Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni implement an equality policy stating that the schools:</p> <p><i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p>	
<b>Religion and Belief</b>	<p>Ysgol Nebo and the alternative school noted in the proposal (Ysgol Llanllyfni) are community schools.</p> <p>Every school has an Inclusion Policy that would deal with any discriminatory incident that may occur at the school, which is associated with religion or belief.</p> <p>Therefore, it is not anticipated that this proposed proposal would have an impact on this characteristic.</p>	None
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	<p>Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales framework that was published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and is mandatory for all learners aged between 3 and 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role to play in learners' education and it is essential to form and maintain a range of relationships, that are all based on respect and trust on both sides, which is core to relationships and sexuality education. These relationships are crucial to developing emotional well-being, resilience and empathy. An understanding of sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality and fairness empowers the learners to understand themselves, to take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours and to form relationships. We believe that learners will receive more opportunities to develop relationships and learn collaboratively as part of a larger class in an alternative school.</p>	None

	It is not anticipated that the proposed proposal would have an impact on people on the grounds of sexual orientation. Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni, the proposed alternative school, implement an equality policy stating that the school: <i>"... is opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledges that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i>	
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	It is not anticipated that implementing the proposed proposal would have an impact on people on the grounds of gender reassignment. It is stated in the Equality policy that is implemented by Gwynedd primary schools including Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni that the schools <i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i>	None
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	It is not anticipated that the proposed proposal would have an impact on anyone who is married or in a civil partnership, as both schools who are a part of the proposal implement the same policies.	None
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	It is not anticipated that the proposed proposal would have an impact on anyone who is pregnant, whether staff or parents, as both schools which are a part of the proposal implement the same policies.	None
<b>The Welsh Language</b>	<p>The Gwynedd Education Language Policy has the same aim for all of the county's primary schools, and every primary school (except for one) falls into category 3 in accordance with the Welsh Government's Guidance on school categories according to Welsh-medium provision. This means that the learners of Ysgol Nebo will be able to continue to receive their education through the medium of Welsh and bilingually in accordance with the Education Language Policy at Ysgol Llanllyfni.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there would be a negative impact should the proposed proposal be implemented, and it is possible that the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo learners benefit from additional opportunities to use Welsh with a broader range of peers in the classroom and socially. The nearby alternative school, Ysgol Llanllyfni, serves areas which are a stronghold for the Welsh language.</p>	Negative/Positive

	However, should the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo be implemented, it is anticipated that some elements of community events would be affected, and as a result, the use of Welsh in the community. It is anticipated that there may be some negative impact from the implementation of the proposed proposal, as parents/guardians/families will not meet daily in the community when dropping off/collecting children from school.	
<b>Socio-economic Considerations</b>	It is envisaged that the proposed proposal would reduce social disadvantage by ensuring more experiences and diversity of learning, more resources and access to more services and activities.	Positive
<b>Those Who Serve or Who Have Served in the Armed Forces, As Well As Their Families</b>	It is not anticipated that the proposed proposal would have an impact on those who serve or who have served in the armed forces, as well as their families. Children from military or ex-military families will get the same fair play whichever school they attend.	None
<b>Human Rights</b>	It is not anticipated that implementing the proposal would have an impact on human rights.	None
<b>Other</b>	-	-

**6. Are there any data or information gaps, and if so, what are they and how do you intend to address them?**

Should the Cabinet decide to support the recommendation to hold a statutory consultation on the proposed proposal, we will update all assessments after considering the responses to the proposed consultation.

**7. When considering other key decisions that affect these groups, is there an increasing impact (cumulative impact)?**

We are not aware of any proposed policies that would impact on the children and young people of the area.

**8. What does the proposal include to demonstrate you have given due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (to promote equality of opportunity; help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation and foster good relations and wider community cohesion) as covered by the three aims of the General Duty in the Equality Act 2010?**

It is not anticipated that the proposed proposal would have an impact on the school's statutory duty to protect learners from any discrimination, harassment or victimisation.

The aim is to promote equal opportunities and encourage the alternative school to continue to follow equality policies and procedures. Should the proposed proposal be realised, it is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities when placed in Ysgol Llanllyfni since the learners would have learning experiences that are



based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

As a number of the learners living in the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo already attend Ysgol Llanllyfni, therefore a link between the school and the community already exists. Nevertheless, should the proposed proposal be implemented, opportunities for the school to build on its existing links with the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo will be promoted.

Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales framework that was published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and is mandatory for all learners aged between 3 and 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role to play in learners' education and it is essential to form and maintain a range of relationships, that are all based on respect and trust on both sides, which is core to relationships and sexuality education. These relationships are crucial to developing emotional well-being, resilience and empathy. An understanding of sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality and fairness empowers the learners to understand themselves, to take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours and to form relationships. By implementing the proposed proposal, it is anticipated that learners would receive more opportunities to develop relationships and learn collaboratively as part of a larger class.

**9. How does the proposal show that due regard has been given to the need to address inequality due to socio-economic disadvantage? (Note that this relates to closing the inequality gap, rather than just improving outcomes for everyone.)**

It is envisaged that implementing the proposal would reduce socio-economic inequality by ensuring that the learners have more experiences and access to more services and activities in the alternative school. It is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities since the learners would have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposed proposal, the learners of Ysgol Nebo would have a better learning environment at a school with more learners of the same age, and it would ensure that they make the most of their education. It is anticipated that learners would benefit from having more age-related peers at a school with more learners, which will be a way to ensure suitable educational and extra-curricular experiences for them, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.

**10. How does the proposal show implementation in line with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards (Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011), to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than the English language, and to ensure opportunities for people to use the Welsh language? Also, how does the proposal operate in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Welsh Language Strategy to take advantage of every opportunity to promote the Welsh language (beyond providing bilingual services) and increase opportunities to use and learn the language in the community?**

Our expectations are that all of the County's learners have ability-relevant and well-balanced bilingual skills to enable them to be full members of the bilingual society of which they are part. Proposals to change local arrangements would have to take full consideration of all linguistic impacts. Supporting and improving the use of the Welsh language as an educational and social language among learners will be a key consideration when drawing up an option.

The Gwynedd Education Language Policy has the same aim for all of the county's primary schools, and every primary school (except for one) falls into category 3 in accordance with the Welsh Government's Guidance on school categories according to Welsh-medium provision. This means that the learners of Ysgol Nebo will be able to continue to receive their education through the medium of Welsh and bilingually in accordance with the Education Language Policy at Ysgol Llanllyfni, should the proposal be implemented.

It is not anticipated that there would be a negative impact should the proposed proposal be implemented, and it is possible that the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo learners benefit from additional opportunities to use Welsh with a broader range of peers in the classroom and socially.

As can be seen in the table below, a high percentage of learners from both schools speak Welsh at home:

Ysgol	Speaking Welsh fluently at home	Don't speak Welsh at home but fluent	Speak Welsh at home but not fluent	Don't speak Welsh at home and not fluent	Can't speak Welsh at all
Nebo	50%	25%	12.5%	12.5%	0%
Llanllyfni	80%	2%	8%	5%	6%
	Fluent Welsh		A Little Welsh		No Welsh

Should the proposed proposal be implemented, we are confident that Ysgol Llanllyfni would have sufficient capacity for any learners from the Nebo catchment area in the future.

The assessment anticipates some negative impact on the community if the option to close Ysgol Nebo were to be implemented. It is acknowledged that closing Ysgol Nebo would lead to the loss of a school in the Nebo community, however the assessment noted that a large proportion of children living within the school's catchment area already attended other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni, and so it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Nebo Community already exists.

Should the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Nebo be implemented, every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the community and Ysgol Llanllyfni. To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities to ensure that the Nebo community is aware of the activity of the alternative school, and community collaboration is encouraged between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Nebo community, where appropriate. In addition, the Local Authority and Governing Body of Ysgol Llanllyfni can consider methods of promoting the use of the Welsh language by including the Nebo community in the school's community activities.

#### **11. How does this proposal meet the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act by implementing the five ways of working, and respond to the seven national well-being goals, including creating a More Equal Wales?**

Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, the 7 well-being act goals and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it is concluded that the proposal meets the requirements.

It is acknowledged that should the Cabinet decide to proceed with this proposal, it may result in the closure of a school in the community, however a large number of the children living within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni, and therefore there is already a link between the schools and the community of that school. Every effort will be made to mitigate any negative impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Llanllyfni. Should the proposal be approved, discussions will take place to discuss the possibility that Ysgol Llanllyfni community activity includes the community, where appropriate.

The proposed proposal would ensure that the children of the area are educated on a site that is suitable and in a naturally Welsh-speaking society, thus increasing the opportunities to socialise and collaborate with others, and to give them a fair opportunity to thrive among their peers.

## **STEP 3 - Procurement and Partnerships**

**12. Will this policy or practice be carried out wholly or partly by contractors or in partnership with another organisation(s)?**

No

## **STEP 4 - Dealing with Negative or Unlawful Impact and Strengthening the Policy or Practice**

**13. When considering proportionality, does the policy or practice have a significantly positive or negative impact or create unequal outcomes?**

### **Significantly Positive Impact:**

Should the proposed proposal be implemented, it is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities when placed in an alternative school since the learners will have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposed proposal, the learners of Ysgol Nebo would have a better learning environment at a school with more learners of the same age, and it would ensure that they make the most of their education and allow access to more activities that are appropriate for their ability level. The learners would benefit from having more age-related peers at a school with more learners, which will be a way to ensure suitable educational and extra-curricular experiences for them, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.

### **Significant Negative Impact:**

It is recognised that the options proposed may have an impact on organisations within the community and on community cohesion, and it is anticipated that this will need to be mitigated by fostering links between the school and the community.

The school (and its Governing Body) is responsible for implementing its equality policy, and the Authority, through its routine support and monitoring procedures, will ensure compliance.

**14. Explain any intentional negative impact and why it is believed that there is justification for operating in this way (for example, on the grounds of improving equal opportunities or developing good relationships between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not or due to objective justification or positive action)**

No

**15. Will any of the negative impacts identified count as unlawful discrimination but they are unavoidable (e.g. budget cuts)?**

Not applicable.

**Note the reason for stating this and the justification for proceeding**

Not applicable.

**16. What other measures or changes could be included to strengthen or change the policy/practice to demonstrate that due regard has been given to equal opportunity; help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation; and foster good relations and wider community cohesion; as covered by the improvement aim of the General Duty in the Equality Act 2010?**

Should the Cabinet resolve to proceed to consultation on the proposal, we will monitor the response of the consultation to see whether there are any other changes that could potentially be included so as to strengthen or amend the policy.

**17. What measures or other changes could be included to strengthen or change the policy/practice to demonstrate that due regard has been given to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome as a result of socio-economic disadvantage?**

It is envisaged that the proposed proposal would reduce socio-economic disadvantage by ensuring that the learners have more experiences and access to more services and activities in the alternative school. Learners would receive more equal opportunities since the learners would have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposed proposal, the learners of Ysgol Nebo would have a better learning environment at a school with more learners of the same age, and it would ensure that they make the most of their education. The learners would benefit from having more age-related peers at a school with more learners, which will be a way to ensure suitable educational and extra-curricular experiences for them, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.

**18. What other measures or changes could be included to strengthen or change the policy/practice to demonstrate that due regard has been given to the need to increase opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and in treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language as set out in the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and to reduce or prevent any adverse effects that the policy/practice may have on the Welsh language?**

It is anticipated that the proposed proposal would have a positive impact on the Welsh language as learners from Ysgol Nebo would benefit from more opportunities to use the Welsh language with a broader range of peers in the classroom and socially.

Should the school close, the Local Authority and Governing Body of the alternative schools could consider methods to promote use of the Welsh language socially by means of extra-curricular and community activities.

**19. Is there enough information to make a balanced judgement and to proceed?**

Yes

## **STEP 5 - Decision to Proceed**

**20. Given the information gathered in Steps 1–4 above, is it possible to move forward with the policy or practice or not, and if so, on what basis?**  
**Choice of:**

Continue with policy or practice in its current form.

## **STEP 6 - Actions and Arrangements for Monitoring Outcomes and Reviewing Data**

The EqlA process is an ongoing one that doesn't end when the policy/practice and EqlA is agreed and implemented. There is a specific legal duty to monitor the impact of policies/practices on equality on an ongoing basis to identify if the outcomes have changed since you introduced or amended this new policy or practice. If you do not hold relevant data, then you should be taking steps to rectify this in your action plan. To review the EHRC guidance on data collection you can review their [Measurement Framework](#)

**21. What actions noted in Steps 1-5 or any additional data collection work would help to monitor the policy/practice when implemented:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Timetable</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Add to the Service Plan</b>
Statutory consultation on the proposal (depending on the Cabinet's decision)	Autumn Term	42 days	Education Department	No

**22. What arrangements to monitor and review the ongoing impact of this policy or practice will be implemented, including timeframes for when it should be formally reviewed:**

<b>Monitoring and Review Arrangements</b> (including where outcomes will be recorded)	<b>Timeframe and Frequency</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Add to the Service Plan</b>
Should the proposed proposal be realised, we will monitor the impact of the closure of the school and endeavour to assist with any negative impact that may derive from the policy.	Continuous	Education Department	No

## Background Documents

### Ysgol Nebo

Content	
<b>1</b>	<b>Local Meeting 1 – 18 March 2025</b>
	Introduction
	Meeting minutes
<b>2</b>	<b>Local Meeting 2 – 12 May 2025</b>
	<b>Introduction</b>
	Meeting minutes
<b>3</b>	<b>Local Meeting 3 – 14 July 2025</b>
	Introduction
	Meeting minutes
<b>4</b>	<b>Summary of the input following Local Meetings</b>

# PANEL ADOLYGU YSGOL GYNRADD NEBO YSGOL GYNRADD NEBO REVIEW MEETING

**18 Mawrth 2025**  
*18 March 2025*



1

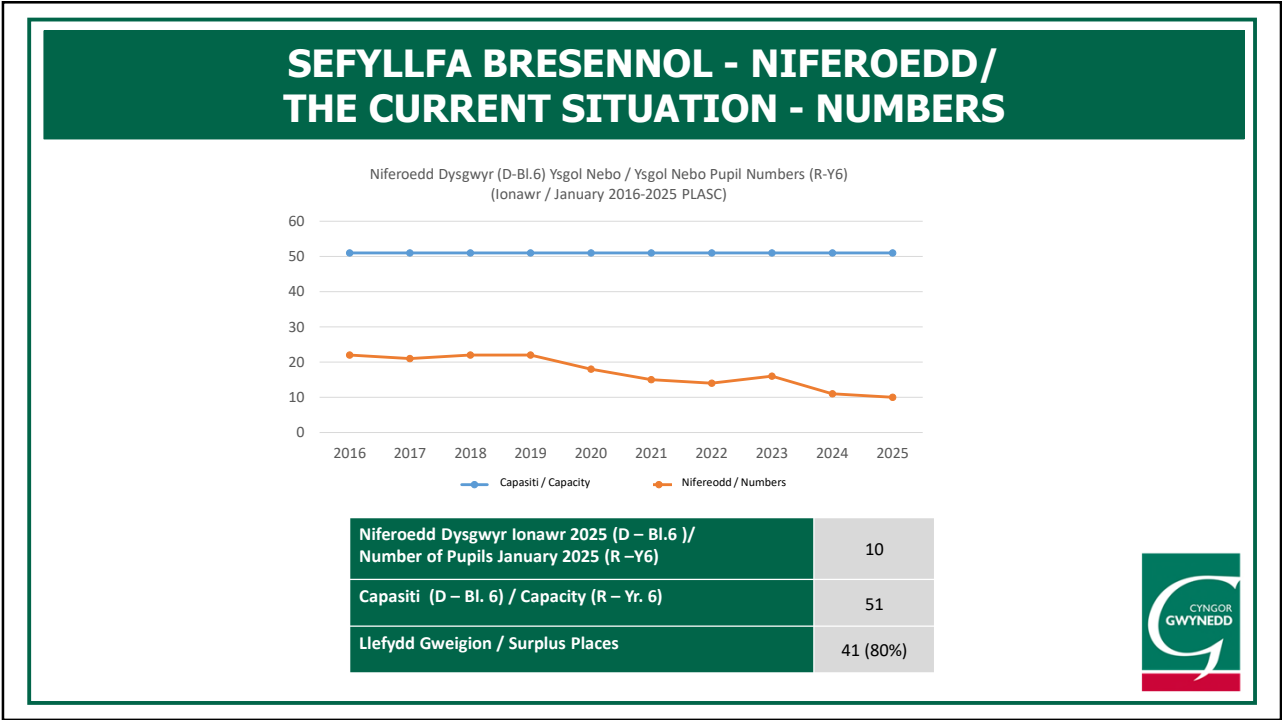
## AGENDA

- |                         |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Croeso               | 1. <i>Welcome</i>               |
| 2. Y Sefyllfa Bresennol | 2. <i>The Current Situation</i> |
| 3. Opsiynau Posib       | 3. <i>Possible Options</i>      |
| 4. Camau Nesaf          | 4. <i>Next Steps</i>            |
| 5. Cloi                 | 5. <i>Close</i>                 |

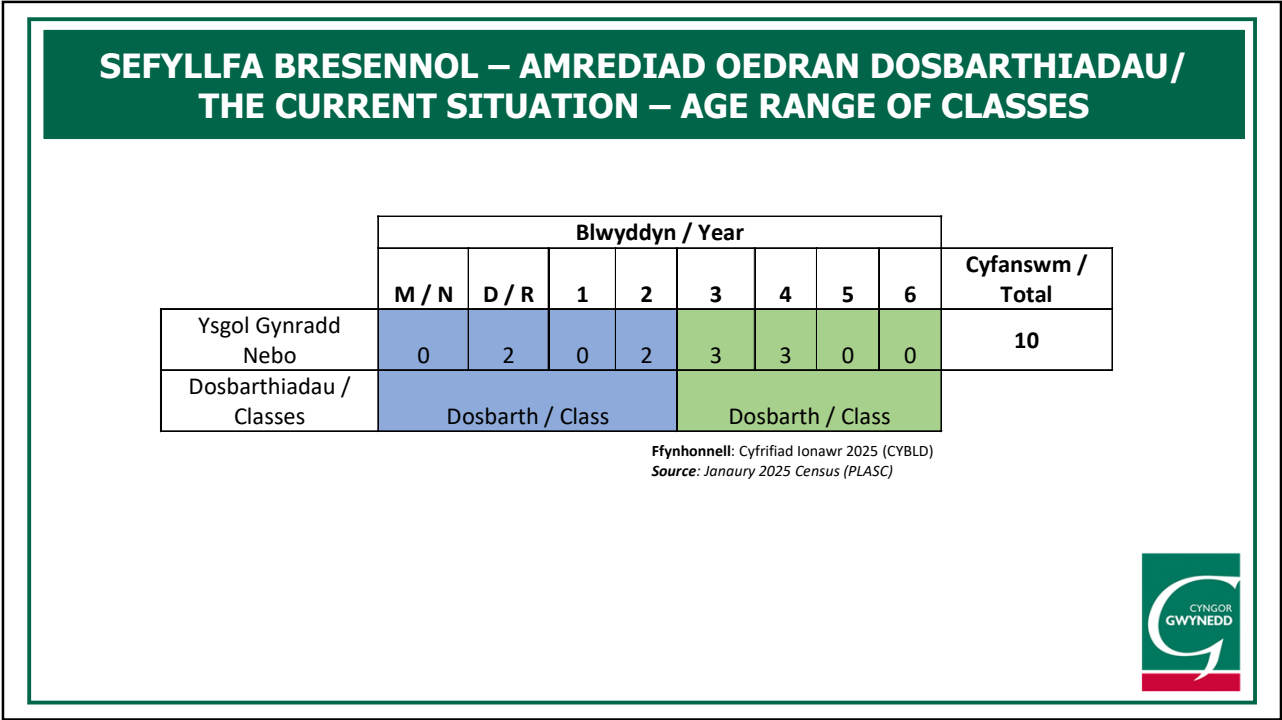


2





3



4

## SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL – RHAGAMCANION/ THE CURRENT SITUATION – PROJECTIONS

	Blwyddyn / Year								Cyfanswm / Total	
	M / N	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	Meithrin / Nursery	Derbyn-BI.6 / Reception – Y6
Ionawr / January 2025	0	2	0	2	3	3	0	0	0	10
Rhagamcanion Medi 2025 Projection for September 2025	2	0	2	0	2	3	3	0	2	10
Rhagamcanion Medi 2026 Projection for September 2026	2	2	0	2	0	2	3	3	2	12
Rhagamcanion Medi 2027 Projection for September 2027	2	2	2	0	2	0	2	3	2	11



5

## SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL – DYSGWYR Y DALGYLCH THE CURRENT SITUATION – CATCHMENT PUPILS

Disgyblion dalgylch Nebo (Ionawr 2025) Nebo catchment pupils (January 2025)									
	Bro Lleu	Brynerau	Llanllyfni	Nebo	Talysarn	Baladeulyn	Bro Lliffon	Arall	Cyfanswm Ysgol (M – BI.6) / School Total (N- Y.6)
Mynychu Ysgol / School Attending (Ionawr / January 2025)									
Bro Lleu				1					
Brynerau				0					
Llanllyfni				3*					
Nebo	0	0	7	2	1	0	0	0	10
Talysarn				0					
Baladeulyn				0					
Bro Lliffon				1					
Arall / Other				1					
Cyfanswm Total				8					

Meddalwedd GIS y Cyngor (System Gwybodaeth Ddaearyddol), yn nodi mai dim ond 8 dysgwr oed cynradd sydd yn byw yn nalgylch Ysgol Nebo (sydd yn cynnwys 1 dysgwr oed Meithrin). Er hyn, dim ond 2 sydd yn dewis mynychu'r ysgol, gyda 5 o'r dysgwyr yn mynychu ysgolion cynradd eraill yn nalgylch Dyffryn Nantlle ac 1 yn mynd all-dalgylch.

The Council's GIS software (Geographical Information System) shows that only 8 primary age learners live in the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo (which includes 1 Nursery age learner). Despite this, only 2 choose to attend the school, with 5 of the learners attending other primary schools in the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area, and 1 going outside the catchment area.



6

## SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL – CYLLIDEB YR YSGOL (2024/25)/ THE CURRENT SITUATION – SCHOOL BUDGET (2024/25)

	Ysgol Nebo	Cyfartaledd Sirol County Average
<b>Dyranïad Craidd 2024-2025</b> Allocation 2024-2025	£148,493	-
<b>Gwarchodaeth Lleiafswm Staffio*</b> Minimum Staffing Protection*	£49,404	-
<b>Cyfanswm Dyranïad</b> Total Allocation	£197,897	-
<b>Cyfartaledd y Disgybl</b> Average per Pupil	£14,857	£5,223

\*\*Mae'r polisi gwarchodaeth yn sicrhau o leiaf pennaeth ac athro/athrawes ym mhob ysgol gyda mwy na 15 disgybl, a pennaeth a chymhorthydd dosbarth mewn ysgolion gyda llai na 15 disgybl.

\*\*The minimum staffing protection policy ensures a minimum of headteacher and teacher at every school which has more than 15 pupils, and a headteacher and a classroom assistant in a school with fewer than 15 pupils.



7

## SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL – STRWYTHUR STAFFIO THE CURRENT SITUATION – STAFF STRUCTURE

Trwy Polisi Gwarchodaeth Cyngor Gwynedd, gwarantir isafswm lefel staffio o bennaeth a chymhorthydd mewn ysgolion sydd â llai na 15 o ddysgwyr. Mae strwythur staffio presennol Ysgol Gynradd Nebo yn cynnwys pennaeth (cyfwerth â llawn amser) a 45 awr o amser cymorthyddion dysgu.

*Through Cyngor Gwynedd Protection Policy, a minimum staffing level of a headteacher and assistant is available in schools with less than 15 learners. The current staffing structure of Ysgol Nebo includes a Headteacher (equivalent to full time) and 45 hours of teaching assistants.*



8

## CRYNHOI PRIF HERIAU'R SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL / SUMMARY OF THE MAIN CHALLENGES OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

1	Nifer disgyblion yr ysgol yr isaf yn y sir <i>The number of pupils at the school is the lowest in the county</i>
2	Rhagamcanion yn parhau yn isel <i>Projections remain low</i>
3	Nifer uchel o lefydd gweigion <i>High number of surplus places</i>
4	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain <i>Small class sizes</i>
5	Amrediad ystod oed eang o fewn dosbarthiadau <i>Broad age range within classes</i>
6	Cost y disgybl ymysg yr uchaf yn y sir a sylweddol uwch na'r cyfartaledd sirol <i>Cost per pupil amongst the highest in the county and significantly higher than the county average</i>
7	Ysgol yn derbyn swm ychwanegol o £49,404 (Med 2024) trwy'r gwarchodaeth staffio <i>School receives an additional £49,404 (September 2024) through the minimum staffing protection</i>



9

## YSTYRIAETHAU CONSIDERATIONS

Wrth lunio a chymharu opsiynau, byddwn yn rhoi ystyriaeth i sawl ffactor, gan gynnwys:  
*In formulating and comparing options, we will consider several factors, including:*

1	Maint dosbarthiadau / <i>Class sizes</i>
2	Niferoedd disgyblion / <i>Pupil numbers</i>
3	Arweinyddiaeth a Staffio / <i>Leadership and Staffing</i>
4	Y Gymuned / <i>The Community</i>
5	Adnoddau ariannol / <i>Financial resources</i>
6	Yr iaith Gymraeg / <i>The Welsh language</i>
7	Ansawdd addysg / <i>Quality of education</i>
8	Cyflwr ac addasrwydd adeiladau / <i>Condition and suitability of the building</i>
9	Daearyddol a teithio / <i>Geographical and travel</i>



10

## OPSIYNAU POSIB / POSSIBLE OPTIONS

1	Status Quo – Parhau hefo’r sefyllfa bresennol. <i>Status Quo – Continue with the current situation.</i>
2	Ffedereiddio gydag ysgol gyfagos/arall. <i>Federation with neighboring / other school.</i>
3	Cau Ysgol Gynradd Nebo a chynnig lle i’r disgyblion mewn ysgol amgen. <i>Close Ysgol Gynradd Nebo and offer pupils a place at an alternative school.</i>



11

## CAMAU NESAF/ NEXT STEPS

Camau Nesaf / <i>Next Steps</i>	Dyddiad / <i>Date</i>
Dyddiad cau ar gyfer derbyn unrhyw opsiynau / sylwadau pellach <i>Closing date for receiving any further options / comments</i>	01/04/2025
Cyfarfod Panel Adolygu 2 <i>Review Panel Meeting 2</i>	Ebrill 2025 / <i>April 2025</i>



12

# REVIEW PANEL YSGOL GYNRADD NEBO

Addysg

<b>Meeting:</b>	Review Panel Ysgol Nebo	<b>Date/Time/Location:</b> 18 March 2025, 18:00, Ysgol Nebo
<b>Present:</b>	<p><u>Elected Members:</u> Cllr. Dewi Jones (Education Cabinet Member).</p> <p><u>Education Department:</u> Gwern ap Rhisiart (Head of Education), Rhian Eifiona Hughes (Modernising Education Officer), Hana Llyn Roberts (Education Project Officer).</p> <p><u>Ysgol Nebo Staff and Governors:</u> 8 Member</p> <p><u>Parents / Guardians:</u> 3 Member</p>	
<b>Apologies:</b>		

Item No	Item / Subject	Actions	By
6	Next Steps	Stakeholders to share options with the Headteacher of Ysgol Nebo and she can share them with Modernising Education by Tuesday, April 1.	01/04/25

Minutes of Meeting		
	Item / Subject	Record / Actions
1	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education, welcomed everyone to the meeting.</li> <li>The purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the situation at Ysgol Nebo, considering and discussing possible options in an effort to respond to the challenges the school is facing.</li> </ul>
2	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We went through the presentation which highlights the current situation by addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>learner numbers</li> <li>age range of classes</li> <li>projections</li> <li>number of learners living within the catchment area</li> <li>the school's budget</li> <li>staffing structure</li> <li>challenges of the current situation</li> <li>considerations and possible options going forward</li> </ul> </li> <li>There were 10 learners attending Ysgol Nebo in January (PLASC January 2025). With a capacity of 51, the school has a large number of surplus places—space for 41 learners, 80% surplus places. The School Organisation Code states that if there are more than 10% surplus places in an area generally, local authorities have a duty to review the provision.</li> <li>It was noted that only 8 primary-aged learners live within Ysgol Nebo's catchment area. However, only 2 choose to attend the school, with 5 attending other primary schools within the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment and 1 attending a school outside the catchment (Slide 6 of the presentation).</li> <li>The average cost per pupil at Ysgol Nebo is £14,857, which is significantly higher than the county average of £5,223.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The current staffing structure at Ysgol Nebo includes a headteacher (equivalent to full-time) and 45 hours of teaching assistant time. Ysgol Nebo receives an additional amount of £49,404 through staffing protection.</li> </ul>
3	Possible Options	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1) Status Quo</b> – Continue with the current situation.</li> <li><b>2) Federation with a nearby/another school.</b> Ysgol Nebo is defined as a rural school in the School Organisation Code, so the option of federating with a nearby school must be explored.</li> <li><b>3) Close Ysgol Gynradd Nebo and offer places to the pupils at an alternative school.</b></li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>As part of the next steps in considering possible options going forward, an impact assessment will be prepared for the options in order to examine aspects such as transport, equality, wellbeing, quality of education, language, and community.</b></li> </ul>
4	Next Steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The next step is to receive comments/options from Ysgol Nebo stakeholders. The deadline for receiving options is Tuesday, April 1st.</li> <li>It was agreed that everyone would send comments/options to the Headteacher of Ysgol Nebo, and then the school would pass them on to Rhian Hughes, Modernising Education Officer.</li> <li>A second Review Panel Meeting will be held in April/May to go through all the options.</li> </ul>
5	Questions/ Comments	<p>An opportunity was given for everyone to ask questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a) Would the authority consider keeping the school open for children who are unhappy in a larger school due to subtle bullying as a result of some of their needs? Children can feel more comfortable in a small school.</b> <i>GapRh noted that every school has a policy to deal with bullying, and every school should be able to address bullying issues and ensure fairness for every child. However, it was acknowledged that tackling bullying can be more challenging in larger schools. It was suggested that this could be an option for stakeholders to propose, and the Authority could evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of the option.</i></li> <li><b>b) The area has a lot to offer in terms of health and wellbeing. A special location for doing work outdoors with nature and cross-curricular activities. Weekly nature walks around the village. There is no similar location for doing this elsewhere. The school's qualities make the place very special.</b></li> <li><b>c) It is necessary to ask why parents are sending their children out of the catchment area.</b> <i>GapRh noted that the Admissions Policy allows parents to send their children to any school. The result of this is that some schools gain pupils while others lose them. Nursery schools also play a big part where learners make connections and want to go to the same school as their friends. Birth rates are low in Gwynedd, which is a major challenge for the Education Department.</i></li> <li><b>d) The lack of affordable housing in the area has affected the number of people living in the catchment. The Council did not allow housing development in Nebo. Does this still exist, and would the Council consider building affordable housing in Nebo?</b></li> </ol>

Councillor Dewi Jones (Cabinet Member for Education) noted that he acknowledges building affordable housing in the area could lead to attracting more families, and ultimately increase the number of pupils attending the school. He noted that he would raise the matter with the Housing Department. Due to the housing formula, a large number of houses would need to be built in Nebo to increase the school numbers; it would require building 15 houses to gain 1 child at the school.

**e) What would happen if Ysgol Nebo closes and nearby schools are full?**

*If option number 3 is implemented, places in the nearby schools would need to be considered, prioritising learners who live within the catchment area.*

**f) What would happen if the school closes and the child does not want to go to any other school and refuses to attend?**

*GapRh noted that it is the parents' duty to ensure that children attend school, no matter how difficult this can be. Attendance Officer and a Wellbeing Officer are available to provide advice and support. If you strongly feel that an alternative school is not an option, then home education for your child is also an option.*

**g) What would happen to the staff if the school closes?**

*It was noted that if option 3 is implemented, the Council would be available to provide support to the staff who would be affected, and Human Resources would be available to advise each individual.*

**h) If option 3 is chosen, that is closing Ysgol Nebo, what is the timeline?**

- *The full process can take approximately eighteen months.*
- *Once all options have been evaluated, these will be presented to the Cabinet, and depending on the outcome, permission will be sought to hold a consultation, where people will have the opportunity to express their views.*
- *If a consultation period is held, a report on the consultation outcome will need to be presented back to the Cabinet, who will decide whether to proceed to publish a statutory notice and hold an objection period on the proposal or not. If the Cabinet decides to proceed with publishing a statutory notice on the proposal, following the objection period, the Cabinet will consider any objections received before making a final decision.*
- *Therefore, it is a lengthy process with many steps to ensure that we follow the School Organisation Code when reviewing a school.*

**i) A member of the Governing Body noted the importance of the school to the village and how much of a loss closing the school would be to the community. It would be difficult for the community to run the building due to maintenance costs. There would be nothing in the village if the school closed. A number of activities that bridge generations are held at the school:**

- **Senior Citizens' Club (over 50s) meeting every fortnight**
- **Welsh lessons**
- **Sewing club**
- **Cawl a Chan**
- **Orchard in the park**

*It was noted that the post-use policy allows the community the first option where it is possible to turn the building into a community resource if there is interest from the community. An impact assessment on the Community will also be created for each option.*



		<p><b>j) Would it be possible to keep the school under the care of the Education Department by redefining it as an Outdoor Centre for all the children in the County?</b></p> <p><i>GapRh noted that if the school were to close, it is unlikely that the Education Department would be able to fund this, but it could be an option for the community to realise, in line with the post-use policy. It was noted that the village of Abersoch is in the process of turning an old school building into a multipurpose community centre, with a café and business units.</i></p> <p><b>k) Would the community/children be able to send comments/offer options?</b></p> <p><i>It was noted that if the Cabinet decides to proceed with a statutory consultation, there would be an opportunity during the consultation period to hold a specific session with the children, and their comments would be included in the report just like everyone else's comments.</i></p>
6	Close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next step is to share alternative options with Modernising Education by <b>Tuesday, April 1st.</b></li> <li>• A second Review Panel meeting will be held in April/May to discuss all the options.</li> </ul>

# PANEL ADOLYGU YSGOL GYNRADD NEBO YSGOL GYNRADD NEBO REVIEW MEETING

**12 MAI 2025**  
*12 MAY 2025*



1

## AGENDA

- |                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Croeso              | 1. <i>Welcome</i>                    |
| 2. Crynhoi Prif Heriau | 2. <i>Summary of Main Challenges</i> |
| 3. Opsiynau Posib      | 3. <i>Possible Options</i>           |
| 4. Dadansoddiad SWOT   | 4. <i>SWOT Analysis</i>              |
| 5. Camau Nesaf         | 5. <i>Next Steps</i>                 |



2

## CRYNHOI PRIF HERIAU'R SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL / SUMMARY OF THE MAIN CHALLENGES OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

1	Nifer disgyblion yr ysgol yr isaf yn y sir <i>The number of pupils at the school is the lowest in the county</i>
2	Rhagamcanion yn parhau yn isel <i>Projections remain low</i>
3	Nifer uchel o lefydd gweigion <i>High number of surplus places</i>
4	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain <i>Small class sizes</i>
5	Amrediad ystod oed eang o fewn dosbarthiadau <i>Broad age range within classes</i>
6	Cost y disgybl ymysg yr uchaf yn y sir a sylweddol uwch na'r cyfartaledd sirol <i>Cost per pupil amongst the highest in the county and significantly higher than the county average</i>
7	Ysgol yn derbyn swm ychwanegol o £49,404 (Medi 2024) trwy'r gwarchodaeth staffio <i>School receives an additional £49,404 (September 2024) through the minimum staffing protection</i>



3

## RHESTR O OPSIYNAU / LIST OF OPTIONS

1	Parhau gyda'r sefyllfa bresennol / <i>Continue with the current situation.</i>
2	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol gyfagos / <i>Federate with a neighboring school.</i>
3	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol gyfagos gan ychwanegu uned arbenigol ar gyfer plant gyda anghenion dysgu ychwanegol yn Ysgol Nebo, lle mae addysg prif lif yn heriol iddynt / <i>Federation with neighboring school while adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo, where mainstream education is challenging for them.</i>
4	Cau Ysgol Nebo a chynnig lle i'r dysgwyr mewn ysgol cyfagos / <i>Close Ysgol Nebo and offer places to the learners in a neighboring school.</i>
5	Ysgol Nebo yn datblygu yn leoliad arbenigol ar gyfer rhai pynciau unigol (cyfleon unigryw i gyflawni gwaith maes) / <i>Ysgol Nebo to be developed as a specialist location for certain individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork).</i>
6	Ysgol Nebo yn cynnig uned arbenigol ar gyfer cefnogi plant sydd gyda anghenion dysgu ychwanegol, lle mae addysg prif lif yn heriol iddynt / <i>Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit to support children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.</i>
7	Ysgol Nebo yn cynnig Uned Iaith ar gyfer dalgylch Dyffryn Nantlle / <i>Establish a Language Unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area at Ysgol Nebo.</i>

4

## OPSIYNAU / OPTIONS

- Rydym wedi ymchwilio i'r 7 opsiwn yma.
- Mae pob opsiwn wedi ei ddadansoddi ar ffurf 'SWOT Analysis'.
- We have researched these 7 options.*
- Each option has been analysed by means of a 'SWOT Analysis'*

*\*Sylwer bod y sylwadau a rannwyd yn ystod y cyfarfod wedi'u hychwanegu mewn coch o dan bob opsiwn.*

*\*Please note that the comments shared during the meeting have been added in red under each options.*



5

### 1. Parhau gyda'r sefyllfa bresennol

CRYFDERAU	GWENDIDAU
Cadw ysgol ac adnodd cymunedol yn Nebo.	Niferoedd dysgwyr yn parhau yn isel.
Ysgol o fewn pellter rhesymol i gartref dysgwyr y dalgylch.	Cost y disgybl yn parhau'n uchel.
Dysgwyr yn derbyn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg Categori 3.	Amrediad oedran eang o fewn dosbarthiadau.
Swyddi staff yr ysgol yn parhau (yn ddibynnol ar y dyraniad).	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain.
<i>Cymhareb staff i ddysgwyr yn gweithio'n dda yn Ysgol Nebo.</i>	Niferoedd dysgwyr ddim yn ddigon i ganiatáu amser digyswllt i'r Pennaeth.
<i>Ymagwedd gynhwysol gadarn yn Ysgol Nebo.</i>	Canran uchel o lefydd gweigion yn yr ysgol yn parhau.
<i>Iechyd a lles dysgwyr Ysgol Nebo yn ganolog i bopeth.</i>	
CYFLEON	BYGYTHIADAU
<i>Dosbarthiadau bychain</i>	Rhagamcanion niferoedd yn parhau yn isel.
<i>Ystod oedran eang yn gyfle i weithio gyda'u cyfoedion (helpu eu gilydd).</i>	Posiblirwydd o ddiffyg yn y gyllideb.
<i>Gweithgareddau cymunedol rhwng yr ysgol â'r gymuned.</i>	Costau cynnal a chadw'r adeilad yn parhau.
	Canran uchel o blant dalgylch Nebo yn mynychu ysgolion all dalgylch.
	Ansicrwydd yn parhau ynglŷn â chynnaladwyedd hir dymor yr ysgol.

6

## 1. Continue with the current situation

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
School and community resource to remain in Nebo.	Number of learners remain low.
School within reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.	Cost per learner remains high.
Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	Wide age range within classes.
School staff positions will continue (subject to the allocation).	Small classes.
Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo.	Numbers of learners not enough to allow non-teaching time for the Headteacher.
A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo.	A high percentage of surplus places at the school remains.
The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything.	
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Small classes.	Projected learner numbers remain low.
Wide age range is an opportunity to work with their peers (help each other).	Possibility of a budget deficit.
Community activities between the school and the community.	Building maintenance costs continue.
	A high percentage of children from the Nebo catchment area attend schools outside the catchment area.
	Uncertainty continues regarding the long-term sustainability of the school.

7

## 2. Ffedereiddio gyda ysgol gyfagos

CRYFDERAU	GWENDIDAU
Cadw ysgol ac adnodd cymunedol yn Nebo.	Amrediad oedran eang o fewn dosbarthiadau
Ysgol o fewn pellter rhesymol i gartref dysgwyr y dalgylch.	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain.
Dysgwyr yn derbyn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg Categori 3.	Niferoedd dysgwyr yn parhau yn isel.
Cymhareb staff i ddysgwr yn gweithio'n dda yn Ysgol Nebo.	Niferoedd ddim yn ddigon i ganiatáu amser digyswllt i'r Pennaeth.
Ymagwedd gynhwysol gadarn yn Ysgol Nebo.	Llefydd gweigion yn parhau. Dim yn debygol o arwain at gynnydd yn nifer dysgwyr Ysgol Nebo.
Iechyd a lles dysgwyr Ysgol Nebo yn ganolog i bopeth.	Cost y dysgwr yn parhau yn uchel.
CYFLEON	BYGYTHIADAU
Un Corff Llywodraethol.	Posiblirwydd o ddiffyg yn y gyllideb.
Rhannu adnoddau ac arbenigeddau.	Costau cynnal a chadw'r adeiladau yn parhau.
Ysgolion yn cefnogi eu gilydd.	Rhagamcanion niferoedd yn parhau yn isel.
Gall model ffurfiol roi strwythur pendant.	Canran uchel o blant dalgylch Nebo yn mynychu ysgolion all dalgylch.
Gweithgareddau cymunedol rhwng yr ysgol â'r gymuned.	Ffederasiwn yn fodel sydd yn ddibynol ar barodrwydd ysgolion eraill i ymuno â' trefniant i gyd-weithio.

8

## 2. Federation with neighboring school

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
School and community resource to remain in Nebo.	Wide age range within classes.
School within reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.	Small classes.
Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	Numbers of learners remain low.
Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo.	Numbers of learners not enough to allow non-teaching time for the Headteacher.
A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo.	High percentage of surplus places in the school. Not likely to lead to an increase in the number of learners at Ysgol Nebo.
The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything.	Cost per pupil remains high.
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
One Governing Body.	Possibility of a budget deficit.
Sharing resources and expertise.	Building maintenance costs continue.
Schools supporting each other.	Projected learner numbers remain low.
A formal model can provide a clear structure.	A high percentage of children from the Nebo catchment area attend schools outside the catchment area.
Community activities between the school and the community.	Federation is a model which is dependent on the willingness of other schools to join an arrangement to work together.

9

## 3. Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol gyfagos gan ychwanegu uned arbenigol ar gyfer plant gyda anghenion dysgu ychwanegol yn Ysgol Nebo, lle mae addysg prif lif yn heriol iddynt.

CRYFDERAU	GWENDIDAU
Cadw ysgol ac adnodd cymunedol yn Nebo.	Amrediad oedran eang o fewn dosbarthiadau
Ysgol o fewn pellter rhesymol i gartref dysgwyr y dalgylch.	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain.
Dysgwyr yn derbyn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg Categori 3.	Niferoedd dysgwyr yn parhau yn isel, gan nad yw ffederaleiddio na lleoli uned ADY ar safle ysgol yn arferol yn denu dysgwyr ychwanegol i'r ysgol.
Cymhareb staff i ddysgwr yn gweithio'n dda yn Ysgol Nebo.	Niferoedd ddim yn ddigon i ganiatáu amser digyswllt i'r Pennaeth.
Ymagwedd gynhwysol gadarn yn Ysgol Nebo.	Llefydd gweigion yn parhau. Dim yn debygol o arwain at gynydd yn nifer dysgwyr Ysgol Nebo.
Iechyd a lles dysgwyr Ysgol Nebo yn ganolog i bopeth.	Cost y dysgwr yn parhau yn uchel.
CYFLEON	BYGYTHIADAU
Un Corff Llywodraethol.	Gwasanaeth ADY a Chynhwysiad yn gweithio efo ysgolion i sicrhau bod disgyblion gydag anawsterau penodol yn cael eu cynnwys yn y cwricwlwm, gan sicrhau ethos gynhwysol ysgol gyfan, gyda disgyblion ag ADY yn cael eu cefnogi i gymryd rhan lawn yng nghymuned yr ysgol.
Rhannu adnoddau ac arbenigeddau.	Posiblirwydd o ddiffyg yn y gyllideb.
Ysgolion yn cefnogi eu gilydd.	Costau cynnal a chadw'r adeiladau yn parhau.
Gall model ffurfiol roi strwythur pendant.	Rhagamcanion niferoedd yn parhau yn isel.
Gwell defnydd o'r adeilad drwy leoli uned ADY ar y safle.	Canran uchel o blant dalgylch Nebo yn mynychu ysgolion all dalgylch.
Grantiau ychwanegol i gyfarch gwelliannau ar gyfer dysgwyr gyda ADY.	Ffederasiwn yn fodel sydd yn ddibynnol ar barodrwydd ysgolion eraill i ymuno â trefniant i gyd-weithio.
Gweithgareddau cymunedol rhwng yr ysgol â'r gymuned.	

10

### 3. Federation with neighboring school while adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo, where mainstream education is challenging for them.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
School and community resource to remain in Nebo.	Wide age range within classes.
School within reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.	Small classes.
Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	Numbers of learners remain low, as federating or locating an ALN unit on a school site does not normally attract additional learners to the school.
Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo.	Numbers of learners not enough to allow non-teaching time for the Headteacher.
A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo.	High percentage of surplus places in the school. Not likely to lead to an increase in the number of learners at Ysgol Nebo.
The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything.	Cost per pupil remains high.
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
One Governing Body.	The ALN and Inclusion Service works with schools to ensure that learners with specific needs are included in the curriculum, ensuring the inclusive ethos of the whole school, with learners with ALN being supported to participate fully in the school community.
Sharing resources and expertise.	Possibility of a budget deficit.
Schools supporting each other.	Building maintenance costs continue.
A formal model can provide a clear structure.	Projected learner numbers remain low.
Increased use of building by locating a ALN unit on the site.	A high percentage of children from the Nebo catchment area attend schools outside the catchment area.
Additional grants to address improvements for learners with ALN.	Federation is a model which is dependent on the willingness of other schools to join an arrangement to work together.
Community activities between the school and the community.	

11

### 4. Cau Ysgol Gynradd Nebo a chynnig lle i'r disgyblion mewn ysgol gyfagos.

CRYFDERAU	GWENDIDAU
Dysgwyr i gael eu haddysgu mewn dosbarthiadau o faint mwy hyfwrdd / addas.	Colli presenoldeb ysgol yn Nebo.
Lleihad yng nghanran y llefydd gweigion.	Pellter teithio pellach o gartref dysgwyr dalgylch Nebo.
Llawer o blant dalgylch Nebo eisoes yn mynychu ysgolion cyfagos.	Costau cludiant i gludo dysgwyr i ysgol amgen.
Lleihad yng nghost y disgybl.	Dysgwyr i gael eu haddysgu mewn dosbarthiadau o faint mwy.
Gwarchodaeth lleiafswm staffio yn lleihau.	Colli'r ymagwedd gynhwysol gadarn mae Ysgol Nebo yn gynnig i gefnogi iechyd a lles.
Ni fyddai rhaid i ddysgwyr deithio pellter afresymol i ysgol gyfagos.	Effaith negyddol ar les y dysgwyr presennol sydd yn Ysgol Nebo.
Ysgolion cyfagos yn cynnig addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg Categori 3.	
Ansawdd addysg holl ysgolion cyfagos o leiaf gystal â Ysgol Nebo (Arolygon Estyn)	
CYFLEON	BYGYTHIADAU
Cyfle i ddysgwyr gymysgu yn ddyddiol gyda mwy o ddysgwyr o'r un oedran.	Diswyddo Staff.
Cymuned ehangach ble gall y plant a'r rhieni elwa ar greu cysylltiadau cryfach rhwng cymunedau.	Posiblirwydd o golli adnodd cymunedol yn y pentref.
Arbed ar gostau cynnal a chadw adeilad.	

12

#### 4. Close Ysgol Gynradd Nebo and offer pupils a place at a neighboring school.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
Learners to be taught in classes of a more viable / suitable size.	Loss of school presence in Nebo.
A reduction in the percentage of surplus places.	Greater travelling distance from the homes of learners living in the Nebo catchment area.
Many children from the Nebo catchment area already attends nearby schools.	Transport costs to transport learners to an alternative school.
Reduction in the cost per pupil.	Learners to be taught in larger class sizes.
Minimum staffing protection reduced.	Losing the robust inclusive approach that Ysgol Nebo offers to support health and well-being.
Learners would not have to travel an unreasonable distance to a neighboring school.	A negative impact on the well-being of the current learners at Ysgol Nebo.
Nearby schools offering Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	
The quality of education at all neighboring schools is at least as good as Ysgol Nebo (Estyn Reports).	
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Opportunity for learners to mix daily with other learners of the same age.	Staff Redundancy.
A wider community where children and parents can benefit from stronger connections between communities.	Possibility of losing a community resource in the village.
Savings on building maintenance costs.	

13

#### 5. Ysgol Nebo yn datblygu yn leoliad arbenigol ar gyfer rhai pynciau unigol (cyfleon unigryw i gyflawni gwaith maes)

CRYFDERAU	GWENDIDAU
Cadw presenoldeb safle ysgol ac adnodd cymunedol yn Nebo.	Niferoedd dysgwyr yn parhau yn isel.
Dysgwyr yn derbyn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg Categori 3.	Cost y disgybl yn uchel.
Cymhareb staff i ddysgwyr yn gweithio'n dda yn Ysgol Nebo.	Amrediad oedran eang o fewn dosbarthiadau.
Ymagwedd gynhwysol gadarn yn Ysgol Nebo.	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain.
Iechyd a lles dysgwyr Ysgol Nebo yn ganolog i bopeth.	Niferoedd dysgwyr ddim yn ddigon i ganiatáu amser digyswllt i'r Pennaeth.
	Canran uchel o lefydd gweigion yn yr ysgol.
CYFLEON	BYGYTHIADAU
Dosbarthiadau bychain	Costau cynnal a chadw'r adeilad yn parhau.
Model unigryw sydd yn gyfle i ddysgu mewn amgylchedd awyr agored.	Canran uchel o blant dalgylch Nebo yn debygol o barhau i fynychu ysgolion all dalgylch.
Cyfrannu'n gadarnhaol at les meddyliol ac emosiynol y dysgwyr.	Yn ddibynol ar yr union fodel, posib y byddai angen gweithredu proses i gau'r ysgol bresennol ac ail agor fel ysgol arbenigol. Gallai hynny arwain at ddiswyddiadau staff.

14



### 5. Ysgol Nebo to be developed as a specialist location for certain individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork).

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
School site and community resource to remain in Nebo.	Learner numbers remain low.
Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	Cost per learner remains high.
Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo.	Wide age range within classes.
A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo.	Small classes.
The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything.	Numbers of learners not enough to allow non-teaching time for the Headteacher.
	High percentage of surplus places in the school.
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Small classes.	Building maintenance costs continue.
A unique model that offers an opportunity to learn in an outdoor environment.	A high percentage of children from the Nebo catchment area are likely to continue attending schools outside the catchment area.
Contribute positively to the mental and emotional well-being of the learners.	Depending on the exact model, it may be necessary to implement a process to close the current school and reopen as a specialist school. That could lead to staff redundancies.

15

### 6. Ysgol Nebo yn cynnig uned arbenigol ar gyfer cefnogi plant sydd gyda anghenion dysgu ychwanegol, lle mae addysg prif lif yn heriol iddynt.

CRYFDERAU	GWENDIDAU
Cadw ysgol ac adnodd cymunedol yn Nebo.	Niferoedd dysgwyr yn parhau yn isel, gan nad yw lleoli uned ADY ar safle ysgol yn arferol yn denu dysgwyr ychwanegol i'r ysgol.
Ysgol o fewn pellter rhesymol i gartref dysgwyr y dalgylch.	Cost y dysgwr yn parhau yn uchel.
Dysgwyr yn derbyn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg Categori 3.	Amrediad oedran eang o fewn dosbarthiadau.
Cymhareb staff i ddysgwyr yn gweithio'n dda yn Ysgol Nebo.	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain.
Ymagwedd gynhwysol gadarn yn Ysgol Nebo.	Niferoedd dysgwyr ddim yn ddigon i ganiatáu amser digyswllt i'r Pennaeth.
Iechyd a lles dysgwyr Ysgol Nebo yn ganolog i bopeth.	Costau cludiant uwch i gludo dysgwyr i'r Uned ADY.
CYFLEON	BYGYTHIADAU
Gwell defnydd o'r adeilad drwy leoli uned ADY ar y safle.	Gwasanaeth ADY a Chynhwysiad yn gweithio efo ysgolion i sicrhau bod disgyblion gydag anawsterau penodol yn cael eu cynnwys yn y cwricwlwm, gan sicrhau ethos gynhwysol ysgol gyfan, gyda disgyblion ag ADY yn cael eu cefnogi i gymryd rhan lawn yng nghymuned yr ysgol.
Dosbarthiadau bychain.	Diffyg cyllideb cyfalaf i wneud addasiadau i'r safle.
Cyfrannu'n gadarnhaol at les meddyliol ac emosiynol y dysgwyr.	Costau cynnal a chadw'r adeilad yn parhau.
Gweithgareddau cymunedol rhwng yr ysgol â'r gymuned.	Angen hyfforddiant / recriwtio staff arbenigol.
Uwch-sgilio staff presennol Ysgol Nebo.	Canolfannau arbenigol eisoes wedi'u sefydlu ar gyfer plant gyda anghenion dwys
	Aberthu gofod dysgu ar gyfer yr Uned ADY ar y safle.
	Canran uchel o blant dalgylch Nebo yn debygol o barhau i fynychu ysgolion all dalgylch.

16

## 6. Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit to support children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
School and community resource to remain in Nebo.	Learner numbers remain low, as locating an ALN unit on a school site does not usually attract additional learners to the school.
School within reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.	Cost per learner remains high.
Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	Wide age range within classes.
Staff to learner ratio working well at Ysgol Nebo.	Small classes.
A robust inclusive approach at Ysgol Nebo.	Numbers of learners not enough to allow non-teaching time for the Headteacher.
The health and well-being of Ysgol Nebo learners is central to everything.	Higher transport costs to transport learners to the ALN Unit.
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Increased use of building.	The ALN and Inclusion Service works with schools to ensure that learners with specific needs are included in the curriculum, ensuring the inclusive ethos of the whole school, with learners with ALN being supported to participate fully in the school community.
Small classes.	Lack of capital funding to adapt / modify the site.
Contribute positively to the mental and emotional well-being of the learners.	Building maintenance costs continue.
Community activities between the school and the community.	It would be necessary to recruit specialist staff.
Upskilling the current staff of Ysgol Nebo.	Specialist centres have already been established.
	Sacrifice learning space for the ALN Unit on site.
	A high percentage of children from the Nebo catchment area are likely to continue attending schools outside the catchment area.

17

## 7. Ysgol Nebo yn cynnig Uned Iaith ar gyfer dalgylch Dyffryn Nantlle

CRYFDERAU	GWENDIDAU
Cadw ysgol ac adnodd cymunedol yn Nebo.	Niferoedd dysgwyr yn parhau yn isel, gan nad yw lleoli uned iaith ar safle ysgol yn arferol yn denu dysgwyr ychwanegol i'r ysgol.
Ysgol o fewn pellter rhesymol i gartref dysgwyr y dalgylch.	Cost y dysgwr yn parhau yn uchel.
Dysgwyr yn derbyn addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg Categori 3.	Amrediad oedran eang o fewn dosbarthiadau.
Maint dosbarthiadau bychain.	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain.
	Niferoedd dysgwyr ddim yn ddigon i ganiatáu amser digyswllt i'r Pennaeth.
	Costau cludiant uwch i gludo dysgwyr i'r Uned Iaith.
CYFLEON	BYGYTHIADAU
Uned iaith penodol i ddalgylch Dyffryn Nantlle.	Dim arian cyfalaf i ddatblygu Ysgol Nebo. Buddsoddiad o dros £2 miliwn (Grant Llywodraeth Cymru) wedi galluogi Cyngor Gwynedd wireddu'r weledigaeth newydd ar gyfer Cyfundrefn Addysg Drochi yng Ngwynedd tuag at 2032 a thu hwnt (Cabinet Gorffennaf 2021).
Gwell defnydd o'r adeilad.	Canolfannau iaith Uwchradd a Chynradd yn gwasanaethu ym mhob ardal yng Ngwynedd (Arfon, Dwyfor a Meirionnydd).
Gweithgareddau cymunedol rhwng yr ysgol â'r gymuned.	Costau i addasu'r safle a chostau rhedeg ychwanegol i'r Gyfundrefn Drochi i gynnal Uned Iaith.
	Costau cynnal a chadw'r adeilad yn parhau
	Aberthu gofod dysgu ar gyfer yr Uned Iaith.
	Canran uchel o blant dalgylch Nebo yn debygol o barhau i fynychu ysgolion all dalgylch.

18

## 7. Ysgol Nebo offers a Language Unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
School and community resource to remain in Nebo.	Learner numbers remain low, as locating an ALN unit on a school site does not usually attract additional learners to the school.
School is within a reasonable distance of the homes of the learners living in the catchment area.	Cost per learner remains high.
Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	Wide age range within classes.
Dosbarthiadau bychain.	Small classes.
	Numbers of learners not enough to allow non-teaching time for the Headteacher.
	Higher transport costs to transport learners to the language Unit.
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Specific Language Unit for Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area.	No capital funding to develop Ysgol Nebo. An investment of over £2 million (Welsh Government Grant) has enabled Cyngor Gwynedd to fulfil the new vision for an Immersion Education System in Gwynedd towards 2032 and beyond (Cabinet July 2021).
Increased use of building.	Secondary and Primary language centres serving all areas in Gwynedd (Arfon, Dwyfor and Meirionnydd).
Community activities between the school and the community.	Costs to adapt the site and additional running costs for the Welsh Language Immersion Education System to maintain a Language Unit.
	Building maintenance costs continue.
	Sacrifice learning space for the Language Unit on site.
	A high percentage of children from the Nebo catchment area are likely to continue attending schools outside the catchment area.

19

## CAMAU NESAF/ NEXT STEPS

Camau Nesaf / <i>Next Steps</i>	Dyddiad / <i>Date</i>
Dyddiad cau ar gyfer derbyn unrhyw gywiriadau / sylwadau <i>Closing date for receiving any corrections / comments</i>	23/05/2025
Cyfarfod Panel Adolygu 3 / <i>Review Panel Meeting 3</i>	Gorffennaf 2025 / <i>July 2025</i>
Adrodd yn ôl i Gabinet ar ganlyniad y trafodaethau / <i>Report back to Cabinet on the outcome of the discussions</i>	Medi 2025 / <i>September 2025</i>



20

# REVIEW PANEL YSGOL GYNRADD NEBO

Addysg

<b>Meeting:</b>	Review Panel Ysgol Nebo	<b>Date/Time/Location:</b> 12 May 2025, 18:00, Ysgol Nebo
<b>Present:</b>	<p><u>Elected Members:</u> Cllr. Dewi Jones (Education Cabinet Member).</p> <p><u>Education Department:</u> Gwern ap Rhisiart (Head of Education), Rhian Eifiona Hughes (Modernising Education Officer), Hana Llyn Roberts (Education Project Officer).</p> <p><u>Ysgol Nebo Staff and Governors:</u> 10 Member</p> <p><u>Parents / Guardians:</u> 2 Member</p> <p><u>Nebo and Nasareth Committee:</u> 1 Member</p>	

## Minutes of Meeting

	Item / Subject	Record / Actions
1	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education, welcomed everyone to the meeting.</li> </ul>
2	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We went through the presentation which highlights the current situation and addressed the main challenges which are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school has the lowest number of pupils in the county.</li> <li>Projections remain low</li> <li>A high number of surplus places</li> <li>Small class sizes</li> <li>A wide-age range within classes</li> <li>The cost per pupil among the highest in the county and significantly higher than the county average</li> <li>School receives an additional sum of £49,404 (September 2024) through the staffing protection.</li> </ul> </li> <li>GapRh noted that there has been no change to the challenges since the last meeting and the projections remain low.</li> <li>He explained that the Authority has a duty in accordance with the School Organisation Code to review the provision if there is a high percentage of surplus places.</li> </ul>
3	Possible Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was noted that 7 options came to our attention. 3 options have been offered by the Education Department and an additional 4 has been presented by you as stakeholders.</li> <li>It was noted that the Education Department carried out a SWOT analysis on the 7 options in relation to the challenges the school faces. Stakeholders were asked to let the Department of Education know if something is factually incorrect and it was explained that the meeting tonight was an opportunity to receive stakeholder input.</li> </ul> <p><b>Option 1: Status Quo-</b> Continue with the current situation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We went through the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the option.</li> <li>One parent noted the lack of flexible arrangements for children in schools and identified it as a weakness that the Council does not have a policy permitting flexi-</li> </ul>

		<p>schooling regarding the number of days children educated at home attend school. The parent suggested that if such a policy were introduced, school numbers would increase.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GapRh recognises the challenge and understands that a percentage of parents want to homeschool part-time. If we change the policy this would have an impact on all schools not just Ysgol Nebo.</li> <li>• GapRh agrees to look at the flexible arrangement element and report back.</li> <li>• One parent noted that some parents choose to take their children outside the catchment area because there is no Cylch Meithrin or after-school club available. GapRh acknowledged that maintaining a Cylch Meithrin would be challenging given the low number of children in the catchment area—only 8 primary-aged pupils currently live within the Nebo catchment.</li> <li>• A comment was made that the Council is not promoting small class sizes as a positive feature. It was felt that small classes were being portrayed as a weakness, when in fact they should be recognised as a strength in the SWOT analysis. It was noted that research has shown school ethos and pupil wellbeing tend to be stronger in smaller schools. Reference was also made to private schools, where class sizes typically do not exceed 15 pupils, raising the question of why larger class sizes (e.g., 30 pupils) are considered more desirable.</li> <li>• GapRh acknowledged the point, agreeing that classes of 30 can be challenging, but noted that Ysgol Nebo is dealing with class sizes with single figures.</li> <li>• A further comment questioned why a wide age range in classes is seen as a weakness, when it can also be considered a strength.</li> <li>• It was agreed that both small class sizes and a wide age range should be added to the SWOT analysis as strengths identified by stakeholders</li> </ul> <p><b>Option 2: Federation with a nearby school.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was explained that federation is a formal process in which two schools come together under the leadership of a single headteacher. While federation with a nearby school could offer certain advantages—such as maintaining a community resource and removing the need for transport to an alternative school—it was noted that many of the current challenges would likely remain.</li> <li>• It was added that federation is a model that depends on the willingness of other schools to enter into such an arrangement and collaborate.</li> <li>• It was noted that discussions with neighbouring schools will take place as part of the process.</li> </ul> <p><b>Option 3: Federation with neighboring school while adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo, where mainstream education is challenging for them.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GapRh went through the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.</li> <li>• GapRh noted that there is a growing demand for ALN (Additional Learning Needs) support, and this is currently being reviewed. He explained that the Education Department's ALN and Inclusion Strategy focuses on inclusive education within mainstream schools, rather than moving pupils to external provisions.</li> <li>• The Local Member mentioned the possibility of accessing grants to improve ALN provision. GapRh confirmed that ALN grants are available to all schools. However, if</li> </ul>
--	--	--

		<p>Ysgol Nebo were to be transformed into a dedicated ALN unit, it would require significant investment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A comment was made that small schools often provide better inclusion due to the increased level of individual support. It was also noted that the demand for ALN support is rising.</li> <li>• Stakeholders highlighted that while the option focuses on ALN, it should also consider the needs of children who experience anxiety or difficulties coping in larger school environments—even if they do not meet the criteria for ALN. Early intervention in these cases could lead to long-term savings.</li> <li>• GapRh agreed and confirmed that these considerations can be included under the ALN-focused option.</li> <li>• A further comment emphasised the need to expand on the strengths regarding community impact. GapRh responded that these aspects will be addressed in the Community Impact Assessment, which will be presented to the Cabinet.</li> <li>• The Headteacher noted that several pupils from outside the catchment area choose to attend Ysgol Nebo.</li> <li>• A question was raised about how catchment areas are determined, and whether it would be possible to expand Nebo's catchment area.</li> <li>• GapRh explained that catchment areas are historic and long-established, and expanding Nebo's catchment area would reduce the catchment areas of neighbouring schools. He also noted that under the Access Policy, parents are currently free to choose which school their children attend.</li> </ul> <p><b>Option 4: Close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GapRh went through the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.</li> <li>• The Authority acknowledged that this option would result in the loss of a community resource. However, it was noted that the Council has a Post-use Policy, which ensures that the community is given the first opportunity to take over and make use of the building.</li> <li>• A comment was raised expressing concern over the potential negative impact on learners' well-being if this option were implemented. It was emphasised that children's welfare should be identified as a weakness under this option in the SWOT analysis.</li> <li>• Concern was expressed by parents that if Ysgol Nebo and a neighbouring school were to close, there would be no other small school option within the catchment area. It was noted that Ysgol Nebo is a valuable resource for children experiencing severe anxiety who are unable to cope in a larger school setting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Option 5: Ysgol Nebo to be developed as a specialist location for certain individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that this option was raised at the last meeting. We went through the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that arise from the option.</li> <li>• It was explained that if this option were to be implemented, we would have to implement a process to close the current school, and re-open as a specialist school as the provision is changing, and that could lead to staff redundancies.</li> </ul> <p><b>Option 6: Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit to support children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.</b></p>
--	--	--

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that this option had been raised at the previous meeting.</li> <li>• GapRh presented an overview of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats related to this option.</li> <li>• One stakeholder pointed out that, similar to Option 3, this option not only addresses ALN but also provides a setting for children experiencing anxiety and those unable to cope in a larger school environment—even if they do not fall under the formal ALN category.</li> <li>• It was noted that this option presents a unique opportunity for the Council to pilot an alternative model of provision in Nebo—something innovative and different from current practice.</li> <li>• A strength was identified in the potential to upskill current staff rather than having to recruit new staff.</li> <li>• It was noted that the school’s current capacity figure does not fairly reflect the situation on the ground. GapRh acknowledged this point and expressed willingness to review the school’s admission number and capacity. However, he noted that this does not alter the current challenges facing the school.</li> </ul> <p><b>Option 7: Establish a Language Unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area at Ysgol Nebo.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that this option had been highlighted at the previous meeting.</li> <li>• It was explained that adapting the school to include a Language Unit could bring certain benefits—for example, retaining the building as a community resource and establishing a dedicated language unit within Dyffryn Nantlle. However, it was also noted that all existing challenges would remain, and significant investment would be required to adapt the school and create appropriate facilities.</li> <li>• It was further explained that investment has already been made to implement the Immersion Education System in Gwynedd, and as a result, there is currently no additional demand for new language centres in the county.</li> </ul>
4	<b>General Comments on the SWOT Analysis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One individual expressed concern that there appeared to be more strengths listed under Option 4, which led her to question whether the process was pre-assuming the process.</li> <li>• It was emphasised that the purpose of the session was to gather input from stakeholders on the various options, and that the Council is being fully transparent about the challenges facing the school.</li> <li>• It was confirmed that no option is currently being favoured, and that a more detailed evaluation will be undertaken for all options before any decisions are made.</li> </ul>
5	<b>Next Steps</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders were asked to submit any corrections or comments by 23 May. If additional time is needed, the Headteacher is welcome to contact the Modernising Education Team to make arrangements.</li> <li>• It was noted that the presentation will be circulated and to include the input received during tonight’s meeting.</li> <li>• Reference was made to a third meeting, where an evaluation of the 7 options will be presented before the summer holidays (July).</li> <li>• It was noted that there is an intention to report back to the Cabinet in September, with a recommendation following the completion of all relevant assessments. It was explained that, should the Cabinet decide to proceed with a formal proposal, there would be a public consultation period, during which the community would have the opportunity to provide feedback.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Headteacher shared that staff have expressed concern about their employment situation. It was proposed to arrange a follow-up session with the school to discuss any concerns, and that Human Resources could be present, if deemed appropriate at this stage.</li> </ul>
--	--	--



# YSGOL NEBO

**14 Gorffennaf 2025**  
**14 July 2025**



Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
 Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money

1

## AGENDA

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1. Croeso</b>                             | <b>1. Welcome</b>                              |
| <b>2. Trafodaethau blaenorol</b>             | <b>2. Previous discussions</b>                 |
| <b>3. Gwerthusiad Opsiynau</b>               | <b>3. Options Appraisal</b>                    |
| <b>4. Camau Nesaf ac Amserlen Amlinellol</b> | <b>4. Next Steps and the Outline Timetable</b> |
| <b>5. Cloi</b>                               | <b>5. Close</b>                                |



Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
 Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money

2

## TRAFODAETHAU BLAENOROL / PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS

Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money



3

## PRIF HERIAU'R SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL / MAIN CHALLENGES OF THE PRESENT SITUATION

1	Nifer disgyblion yr ysgol yr isaf yn y sir <i>The number of pupils at the school is the lowest in the county</i>
2	Rhagamcanion yn parhau yn isel <i>Projections remain low</i>
3	Nifer uchel o lefydd gweigion <i>High number of surplus places</i>
4	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain <i>Small class sizes</i>
5	Amrediad ystod oedran eang o fewn dosbarthiadau <i>Broad age range within classes</i>
6	Cost y disgybl ymysg yr uchaf yn y sir a sylweddol uwch na'r cyfartaledd sirol <i>Cost per pupil amongst the highest in the county and significantly higher than the county average</i>
7	Ysgol yn derbyn swm ychwanegol o £49,404 (Medi 2024) trwy'r gwarchodaeth staffio <i>School receives an additional £49,404 (September 2024) through the minimum staffing protection</i>

4

## RHESTR HIR OPSIYNAU / LONG LIST OF OPTIONS

Yn sgîl y mewnbwn a dderbyniwyd yn ystod, ac yn dilyn y cyfarfod cyntaf, cynhyrchwyd rhestr o opsiynau i'w hystyried. Er bod yr achos dros newid wedi ei sefydlu, mae'r opsiwn 'Gwneud Dim' wedi ei gynnwys at ddiben cymharu.

*As a result of the input received during, and following the first meeting, a list of options was produced for consideration. Although the case for change has been established, the 'Do Nothing' option is included for comparison purposes.*

1	Dim newid - parhau gyda'r sefyllfa bresennol	1	No change – continue with the current situation
2	Ffederaleiddio gydag ysgol gyfagos	2	Federation with a neighboring school
3	Ffederaleiddio gydag ysgol gyfagos gan ychwanegu uned arbenigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol yn Ysgol Nebo	3	Federation with a neighboring school while adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo
4	Cau Ysgol Nebo a chynnig lle i'r dysgwyr mewn ysgol gyfagos	4	Close Ysgol Nebo and offer places to the learners in a neighboring school.
5	Ysgol Nebo yn datblygu yn leoliad arbenigol ar gyfer rhai pynciau unigol (cyfleon unigryw i gyflawni gwaith maes)	5	Ysgol Nebo to be developed as a specialist location for certain individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork).
6	Ysgol Nebo yn cynnig uned arbenigol ar gyfer cefnogi plant sydd gyda anghenion dysgu ychwanegol, lle mae addysg prif lif yn heriol iddynt	6	Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit to support children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.
7	Ysgol Nebo yn cynnig Uned Iaith ar gyfer dalgylch Dyffryn Nantlle	7	Establish a Language Unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area at Ysgol Nebo.

5

## GWERTHUSIAD OPSIYNAU / OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money



6

## OPSIYNAU I'W GWERTHUSO / OPTIONS TO APPRAISE

1	Dim newid - parhau gyda'r sefyllfa bresennol
2	Ffederaleiddio gydag ysgol gyfagos
3	Ffederaleiddio gydag ysgol gyfagos gan ychwanegu uned arbenigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol yn Ysgol Nebo
4	Cau Ysgol Nebo a chynnig lle i'r dysgwyr mewn ysgol cyfagos
5	Ysgol Nebo yn datblygu yn leoliad arbenigol ar gyfer rhai pynciau unigol (cyfleon unigryw i gyflawni gwaith maes)
6	Ysgol Nebo yn cynnig uned arbenigol ar gyfer cefnogi plant sydd gyda anghenion dysgu ychwanegol, lle mae addysg prif lif yn heriol iddynt
7	Ysgol Nebo yn cynnig Uned Iaith ar gyfer dalgylch Dyffryn Nantlle

1	No change – continue with the current situation
2	Federation with a nearby school
3	Federation with neighboring school while adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo
4	Close Ysgol Nebo and offer places to the learners in a neighboring school.
5	Ysgol Nebo to be developed as a specialist location for certain individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork).
6	Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit to support children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.
7	Establish a Language Unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area at Ysgol Nebo.

7

## YSTYRIAETHAU / CONSIDERATIONS

Wrth gymharu opsiynau, byddwn yn rhoi ystyriaeth i sawl ffactor, gan gynnwys:  
*In comparing options, we will consider several factors, including:*

1	Niferoedd dysgwyr a llefydd gweigion/ <i>Pupil numbers and surplus places</i>
2	Maint dosbarthiadau ac amrediad oedran/ <i>Class sizes and age range</i>
3	Adnoddau ariannol / <i>Financial resources</i>
4	Arweinyddiaeth a Staffio / <i>Leadership and Staffing</i>
5	Ffactorau daearyddol a teithio / <i>Geographical and travel factors</i>
6	Y Gymuned / <i>The Community</i>
7	Yr iaith Gymraeg / <i>The Welsh language</i>
8	Ansawdd addysg / <i>Quality of education</i>
9	Cyflwr ac addasrwydd adeiladau / <i>Condition and suitability of the buildings</i>



8

## ESIAMPL GWERTHUSIAD OPSIYNAU / OPTIONS APPRAISAL EXAMPLE

[illegible]

Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money



## CAMAU NESAF / NEXT STEPS

Camau / <i>Steps</i>	Amserlen Amlinellol / <i>Outline Timetable</i>
Cwblhau gwerthusiad opsiynau <i>Complete the options appraisal</i>	Gorffennaf – Awst 2025 <i>July – August 2025</i>
Cynnal Asesiadau Effaith (e.e leithyddol, Cymunedol, Cydraddoldeb + Asesiad yn erbyn y Ddeddf Llesiant) ar opsiynau rhestr fer <i>Undertake Impact Assessments (e.g. Language, Community, Equality + Assessment against the Wellbeing Act) on the short list of options</i>	Awst - Medi 2025 <i>August - September 2025</i>
Cyfarfod Cabinet Cyngor Gwynedd <i>Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet Meeting</i>	14 Hydref 2025 <i>14 October 2025</i>

Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money

# YSGOL NEBO REVIEW PANEL

Addysg

<b>Meeting:</b>	Ysgol Nebo Review Panel	<b>Date/Time/Location:</b> 14 July 2025, 18:00, Ysgol Nebo
<b>Present:</b>	<u>Education Department Officers:</u> Gwern ap Rhisiart (Head of Education Department), Gwenno Haf Jones (Senior Modernising Education Officer), Hana Llyn Roberts (Education Project Officer). <u>Staff, Governors and Parents/Guardians of Ysgol Nebo:</u> 9	

	Item/Subject	Minutes
1	<b>Welcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education welcomed everyone to the meeting.</li> </ul>
2	<b>Previous discussions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was noted that the purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on the process, explain what the next steps were and give stakeholders the opportunity to ask questions.</li> <li>GapRh went through the main challenges of the current situation that had already been presented in the previous meetings;               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of school pupils at the lowest in the county</li> <li>Projections remained low</li> <li>High number of surplus places</li> <li>Small class sizes</li> <li>Broad age ranges within classes</li> <li>Cost per learner among the highest in the county and substantially higher than the county average</li> <li>The school received an additional amount of £49,404 (September 2024) via the staffing protection policy</li> </ol> </li> <li>It was recognised that some may consider that some of the main challenges that had been identified above could also be seen as strengths.</li> </ul>
3	<b>Options Appraisal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was explained that the Education Department would proceed to carry out an options appraisal, measuring each of the options against the considerations. The 7 options were addressed;               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change - continue with the current situation</li> <li>Federalisation with a nearby school</li> <li>Federalisation with a nearby school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo</li> <li>Close Ysgol Nebo and offer a place for the learners in a nearby school</li> <li>Ysgol Nebo developed as a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out field work)</li> <li>Ysgol Nebo offering a specialist unit to support children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is a challenge for them</li> <li>Ysgol Nebo offering a Language Unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area</li> </ol> </li> <li>It was explained that several factors would be taken into account when formulating the options appraisal, including;               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupil numbers and surplus places</li> <li>Class sizes and age ranges</li> <li>Financial resources</li> <li>Leadership and Staffing</li> <li>Geographical factors and transport</li> <li>The community</li> <li>The Welsh language</li> <li>Quality of education</li> <li>Condition and suitability of buildings</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was added that we would consider the content of the SWOT assessment and comments received during the local discussions when formulating the options appraisal.</li> <li>• Following the appraisal of options, it was explained that we would short-list the long-list and then carry out impact assessments on the short-list.</li> <li>• An example from a previous project showing how the appraisal would look was presented, with options listed along the top and considerations down on the left side.</li> </ul>
4	<b>Next Steps and Outline Timetable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that the next steps were for Education Department officers to complete an options appraisal and conduct impact assessments. This would enable us to reach a decision on the short-list, and on the preferred option that would best respond to the considerations.</li> <li>• It was added that the Education Department would then submit a report to the Cabinet on 14 October. It was noted that the Education Department would share the contents of the report with school representatives before the report went public. There would also be a request for comments from the local member.</li> <li>• It was noted that the Cabinet will decide on the way forward, and it could involve a consultation period on a preferred option, depending on their decision. It was explained that if there was a decision to consult, then that period would be a 6-week period, and there would be an opportunity for anyone to submit comments. It was explained that any statutory process would be conducted in accordance with the School Organisation Code.</li> </ul>
5	<b>Questions and Observations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the stakeholders asked whether the Council was the proposer, noting that it did not seem appropriate that the officers were short-listing, and questioned whether it should be the responsibility of the Cabinet to short-list. It was challenged whether this was in line with the requirements of the Schools Organisation Code.</li> <li>• It was noted that the Governors had worked hard on the options and that it would be unfair to disregard them.</li> <li>• GapRh noted that we would weigh up every option and carry out further work on them. It was emphasised that Cabinet members would be able to see all the options considered. The draft report will be shared with school representatives before reporting to the Cabinet, but the report would not be finalised until it would be submitted to the Cabinet; it is possible that the report will be revised before the final version is published.</li> <li>• It was asked whether the Cabinet would be open to the public to attend on the day. It was noted that Cabinet meetings were open to the public to attend but there were clear rules in terms of contributing. It was noted that the public were welcome to attend but there was no opportunity for the public to speak during the meeting. It was noted that there would be an opportunity for the Local Member to speak on behalf of local stakeholders. It was explained that the Cabinet meeting would also be broadcast live on-line.</li> <li>• One observation was raised regarding options not meeting the requirements of the Schools Organisation Code. It was highlighted, in the code, when referring to rural schools, that it noted <i>"Among the options to be considered rather than closing a school could be whether there is room for the school to be better integrated into a wider process within the local authority for asset management and community planning. This could include, for example, creating effective links with local strategies to regenerate communities."</i> It was felt that this had not been included in the list of options and that it had been missed as an option to consider.</li> <li>• GapRh noted that he accepted the observation, and we would ensure that all aspects of the School Organisation Code will be addressed as the Education Department prepared the report/documentation for the Cabinet. We would also examine community aspects in the preparation of the report and impact assessments.</li> <li>• The accuracy and basis of the figure noted as the County average Cost per pupil (£5,233) was challenged, and the need for the data to be transparent was emphasised. It was also felt that it was unfair to compare a small school with the rest of the County, smaller schools could not compete, it would look less favourable. It was noted that all the data needed to be shared.</li> <li>• GapRh noted that we would verify the accuracy of figures when moving forward.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was confirmed that integrated hours were not included in the cost per learner figures and that figures were calculated by the Education Department's accountants.</li> <li>• In response to a question about what would happen to the school building if the school were to close, it was noted that the Council had an after-use policy for such cases, which allowed the first proposal to go to the community. In cases where schools closed, if there was no community interest in the school building, then the building would be transferred to the Council.</li> <li>• Should the school building be transferred to the community, it was asked whether it would be possible for the community to maintain this educational provision with the Council's support. Should there be a decision to close the school, GapRh noted that it would not be anticipated that the Council would fund the provision.</li> <li>• It was asked who owned the school building. GapRh noted that he would make enquiries with the estates department to find out who owned the building.</li> <li>• An observation was made regarding the community use. It was highlighted that the School Organisation Code stated, "<i>whether the possibility of making fuller use of the existing buildings as a community or educational resource could be explored; (Local authorities should consider whether it would be feasible and economical to co-locate local services within the school to counter the school's maintenance costs);</i>" It was asked whether this should be considered at this point? GapRh noted that we would address all aspects of the Code when preparing the report to the Cabinet.</li> <li>• It was questioned how the specialist unit could be funded and whether grants were available. GapRh noted that capital grants were available, but a revenue budget was challenging to sustain.</li> <li>• Another member of the panel noted that it was not necessarily additional provision and, therefore, no additional cost to the Council if the provision was already there.</li> <li>• Another comment made was the need for a unit for children who did not necessarily have special needs, but found it difficult to attend a larger school. By undertaking school visits, there was clearly a concern to include children who did not necessarily have intense needs. An excellent opportunity to think creatively and save a rural school.</li> <li>• GapRh noted that he recognised the need, but also recognised that parents needed children to integrate with local communities; resources and funding are also a factor.</li> <li>• Another observation made was that the reduced number of pupils was not necessarily the result of reduced birth rates but due to more parents choosing to home-school; and that there is a need to consider a flexi-schooling policy.</li> </ul>
<b>Conclusion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GapRh noted that he welcomed all observations raised this evening and that this was an engagement session. Should the Cabinet resolve to proceed to consultation on any option, there would be an opportunity to offer further observations at that time. It was noted that we would proceed to consider the enquiries raised this evening and get back to you with responses as soon as possible.</li> </ul>



## **Input following Ysgol Nebo Panel Review Meetings**

Following the local meetings, below is a summary of the comments received:

### **PAY Nebo meeting 1 – 18 March 2025**

Six letters were received from Ysgol Nebo stakeholders following the first local meeting. Here is a summary of the main comments made in the correspondence:

- Several letters indicated support for Ysgol Nebo and opposed the option to close the school, stating the negative impact closing the school would have on the community.
- It was stated that Ysgol Nebo is a community hub.
- The importance of Ysgol Nebo and the advantages of small rural schools, such as small class sizes.
- An option was offered to develop Ysgol Nebo as a school for alternative education provision to support children who experience challenges in larger schools.
- The Cabinet is asked to invest in rural schools such as Ysgol Nebo and develop it into a unique site that would cater for emotional, behavioural or academic difficulties.
- Options were offered for consideration. It was noted that these options were included in the options evaluation.
- Concerns were raised about the effect of closing Ysgol Nebo on the Welsh language in Nebo and Nasareth.

### **PAY Nebo meeting 2 – 12 May 2025**

Two letters were received from Ysgol Nebo stakeholders following the second local meeting. Here is a summary of the main comments made in the correspondence:

- Identify further comments and case studies to be considered in relation to the option "Ysgol Nebo to offer the site as provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with IDP for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity".
- Identify support for the option offered by the Governing Body together with the option to develop Nebo as a specialist center e.g. for fieldwork

\*NOTE: When preparing these comments, I have not received Appendix 2 which contains the impact assessments.

**OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED PROPOSAL TO CLOSE YSGOL NEBO ON 31 DECEMBER 2026 AND TRANSFER PUPILS TO LLANLLIFNI SCHOOL FROM 1 JANUARY 2027 ONWARDS.**

I would like to thank the Education Department for their work in preparing the document and the support Ysgol Nebo has received over the years.

As the Local Member I wish to present my comments on the Ysgol Nebo Cabinet Report and that I am against the preferred recommendation to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026 and transfer learners to Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards. The case for closure does not meet the "*procedural presumption against the closure of rural schools*" (section 4.5-4.7) in the Organisation Code 011/2018. The report, as it stands, does not prove that all other practical options have been "conscientiously" considered, nor does it show a full and up-to-date impact assessment.

Disappointingly, the Education Department is not in favour of the same option preferred by the Governing Body - namely:

**"Ysgol Nebo to offer a site as provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with IDP for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neuro-diversity."**

**Corrections**

In 10.7 the report states that there is a strategic Headteacher 0.2 and a full time Headteacher. Instead, the correct arrangement is a strategic Headteacher 0.2, a Headteacher in care 0.8 and a teacher 0.2.

The document states that Ysgol Nebo has 1 class. Nebo School actually has 2 classes.

**Recognition**

We recognise that the school is currently in a vulnerable position with low numbers. Unfortunately, this is a wider pattern across the County's primary and secondary schools. However, it is important to note that a high percentage of pupils who attend Nebo School are out-of-catchment pupils. The reasons for this need to be understood before deciding to close. In addition to this, the number of pupils at the school has increased by 50% since the last year.

**Projections**

There is no clear methodological explanation as to how the population forecasts were calculated. Without a transparent demographic model, the conclusion "*numbers will remain low*" is not strong enough. For example, consideration should be given to Cyngor Gwynedd's Housing Action Plan (700 social housing by 2029), where the village of Nebo could benefit directly and lead to an increase in school numbers.

## **Finance**

Although closing a school appears to be a saving for the Council, the document does not include the costs of redundancies, restructuring, transition, or possible reductions in grant revenue.

The reference to maintenance costs is also misleading, as this work is 'necessary' the work would take place regardless of the decision. In addition, there is no supporting evidence to justify the figure of £95,000. For these reasons the £95,000 figure should be omitted.

## **Impact on the Community and the Welsh language**

Closing Ysgol Nebo would have a significant negative impact on the community, as there is a very close relationship between the school and the community. The school is an asset to the Welsh language and local culture, losing it will mean a permanent loss to the village.

## **Home Education (EHE)**

269 children receive their education at home in the County - an increase of 134 since September last year. A very worrying figure. A number of parents have indicated that a larger school would not be suitable for their children; local evidence shows that some learners have flourished after moving to Nebo, thanks to smaller classes and individual care - an invaluable asset.

## **Small Classes**

A number of studies in Britain support the benefits of smaller classes, especially for younger children and those from disadvantaged backgrounds. Ysgol Nebo's experience supports this through an improvement in well-being and progress for some learners.

## **Unexplored Alternatives**

In accordance with the "procedural presumption against closing rural schools" (Organisational Code 011/2018), it must be proven that all options have been conscientiously considered. We believe that this has not happened sufficiently. Although option 8.8 refers to what was presented by the Governing Body, the body did not intend to include a ALN unit. Instead, the intention is to offer a school that would provide an opportunity for vulnerable pupils to remain in the mainstream and possibly avoid a further increase in children receiving their education at home.

We wish that an option presented by the Governing Body of Ysgol Nebo is fully considered.

**"Ysgol Nebo to offer a site as provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with IDP for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neuro-diversity."**

## **Conclusion**

There is an opportunity for Cyngor Gwynedd to act innovatively by supporting Ysgol Nebo as a pilot and model site, taking advantage of the options the Governing Body has offered. This would show national guidance on how to strengthen rural schools and provide a positive choice rather than closing a valuable school.

With numbers of pupils choosing to teach at home increasing at an alarming rate in the County, it is necessary to examine why some have chosen Ysgol Nebo before turning to home teaching.

Therefore, we ask the Cabinet to postpone the statutory consultation on the closure, and support a pilot scheme to test an innovative model that would offer a site as a provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with UDP for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neuro-diversity.

We often see this Council leading the way in Wales and beyond. This is another opportunity for Cyngor Gwynedd to lead on how to ensure a sustainable future for rural schools, support the Welsh language, and attract families back from home education.

Diolch

Councilor Dafydd Davies

**Local Member**

**Clynnog Ward**

## CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET



**Date of meeting:** 14 October 2025  
**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Dewi Jones  
**Liaison Officer:** Gwern ap Rhisiart – Head of Education  
**Item Title:** Ysgol Baladeulyn - proposal

### Report for Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet meeting

---

#### 1. THE DECISION SOUGHT

- 1.1 The permission of the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet is sought to hold a period of statutory consultation, in accordance with the requirements of section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, on the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn on 31 December 2026 and provide a place for learners at Ysgol Talysarn from 1 January 2027 onwards.

#### 2 REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION

- 2.1 The reason for seeking permission to hold a statutory consultation on the proposed proposal set out in 1.1 is the need to address the vulnerable position of Ysgol Baladeulyn. The number of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn has been low for some time. According to September 2025 numbers, only 7 full-time learners attend the school with a further 2 in the nursery, with projections indicating that numbers will remain low with estimates of only 8 full-time learners on the register by September 2028.

#### 3 INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 At their meeting on 11 February 2025, the Cabinet decided to support the recommendation to initiate formal discussions with the Governing Body and relevant stakeholders of Ysgol Baladeulyn to discuss possible options relating to the future of the school due to low numbers of learners and concerns about the sustainability of the school.
- 3.2 The purpose of this report is to report back on the outcome of local discussions, and to seek consent to hold a statutory consultation on the proposed closure of Ysgol Baladeulyn on 31 December 2026 and to provide places for catchment-area pupils at Ysgol Talysarn from 1 January 2027 onwards.

#### 4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Ysgol Baladeulyn is a community primary school located in the village of Nantlle in the Nantlle Valley. The school provides education for learners aged 3 to 11 and is a Category 3 Welsh medium school.

Learners are admitted to the school on a part-time basis in the September following their third birthday, and as full-time learners in the September following their fourth birthday.

- 4.2 With 6 learners (Reception to Year 6) on the school register, and a capacity of 55, there are 49 surplus places in the school, which equates to 89% of the school's capacity. The school also has capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery class, with 2 nursery learners on the roll, there are also 5 surplus places in the Nursery.

### **Strategic Context**

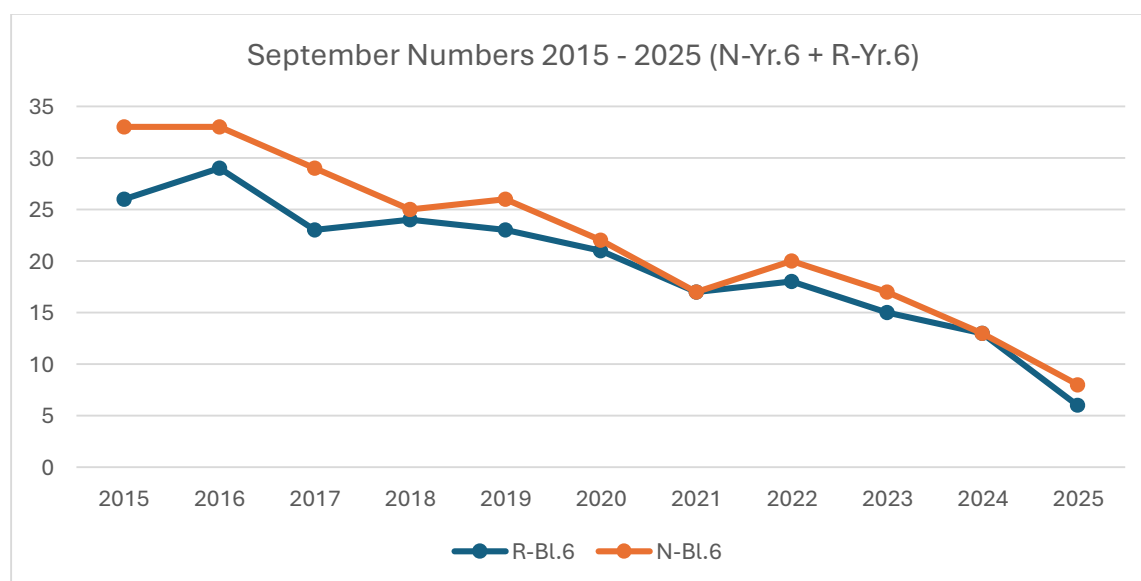
- 4.3 The Council has implemented the "Excellent Primary Education for Children in Gwynedd" Strategy since its adoption by the Full Council in April 2009.
- 4.4 At its meeting on 18 December 2018, the Cabinet endorsed the principles of "Fit for Purpose Education" which now form the basis for realising the Education Department's vision and developing the system to ensure high quality education for the children and young people of Gwynedd for the twenty first century. These principles work towards rationalising age range within primary classes and ensuring adequate non-contact time for headteachers to focus on leadership matters in primary schools.

### **Presumption against closure of rural schools**

- 4.5 The School Organisation Code (the Code) contains a special procedure in relation to rural schools, establishing a procedural presumption against closure.
- 4.6 It is noted in the Code *"This does not mean that a rural school will never close, but the case for closure must be strong, and all viable alternatives to closure must have been conscientiously considered by the proposer, including federation."*
- 4.7 Ysgol Baladeulyn is designated as a 'rural school' for the purpose of the Code. As a result, particular consideration has been given to the additional procedural requirements in relation to formulating proposals for rural schools in drawing up this proposal paper.

## **5. THE CURRENT SITUATION AT YSGOL BALADEULYN**

- 5.1 As can be seen from the graph below, there has been a substantial and sustained drop in the number of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn. In 2017, 23 Reception to Year 6 learners and 6 Nursery learners attended school, but as of now, the numbers have dropped to 6 full time learners (Reception to Year 6) and 2 Nursery, which equates to a drop of 72% in the number of learners.



5.2 As a result of the current low numbers, the school is in a vulnerable position and facing increasing challenges, including:

- **Low numbers of learners** – In January 2025 there were 13 full-time learners and 0 nursery learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn. Numbers have dropped further since then with 7 full-time learners and 2 nursery learners on the register in September 2025.
- **High percentage of surplus places** – Based on September 2025 figures, there are around 89% of surplus places at the school (49 in number). The school also has capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery class, with 2 nursery learners on the roll, there are also 5 surplus places in the Nursery.
- **Small class sizes and a broad age range** – There are 2 classes that meet in the morning, one with two nursery children and one Year 1, and the other with the rest of the learners from reception to year 6. In the afternoon there are 2 classes for learners from reception to year 6. One class is for 2 Year 1 learners and the other for 4 learners from years 2 to 6.
- **Number projections** – September 2025 projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next three years.
- **Learners in the catchment area** – Data from September 2025 shows that only 25% of catchment area learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn choose to attend the school. 75% of learners in the catchment area choose to attend out-of-catchment schools.
- **Ysgol Baladeulyn receives an additional amount to the core financial allocation** – Ysgol Baladeulyn receives an additional sum to the usual allocation via the minimum staffing policy (which guarantees at least a head teacher and a teacher in each school, and a head teacher and an assistant in schools with fewer than 15 full-time learners). The total additional amount during the financial year 2025-26 (based on September 2024 numbers) was £56,781.
- **Average cost per pupil** – The average cost per pupil at Ysgol Baladeulyn in 2025-26 is £14,953 compared to the county average of £5,780.

## 6. LOCAL DISCUSSIONS

- 6.1 During the Autumn term 2024, officers from the Education Department met with the Governing Body of Ysgol Baladeulyn in order to discuss the school's vulnerable position. During the meeting, it was noted that the intention was to seek Cabinet approval to move the discussion forward by holding formal meetings with the Governing Body and the relevant stakeholders to discuss the challenges and options for the future.
- 6.2 In accordance with the Cabinet's decision of 11 February 2025, the Baladeulyn School Review Panel (SRP) was established. All members of the Governing Body, parents and staff of the school as well as the Local Member were invited to join the panel and participate in the discussion.
- 6.3 On 17 March 2025, the first of three SRP meetings took place when the challenges facing the school were outlined and an initial discussion held to identify options which would respond to these challenges (as detailed in paragraph 5.2 above). Examples of options were suggested at the meeting, and following the meeting some school stakeholders suggested other alternatives for consideration. These are set out in **Appendix 1**.
- 6.4 The second SRP meeting took place on 19 May 2025. During the meeting a SWOT evaluation was submitted to identify the strengths, opportunities, weaknesses and threats of all the options. Comments on the evaluation were received during the meeting and the evaluation was amended to include them.
- 6.5 Following input from SRP members, a third meeting was held on 7 July 2025 to note the challenges facing the school, the long list of options it had been agreed to evaluate and to explain the factors that would be taken into consideration when undertaking an evaluation of the options on the long list. The intention was noted to carry out impact assessments on the options before reporting back to the Cabinet in October.

## 7. IDENTIFYING OPTIONS

7.1 With input from SRP members during the local meetings, a long list of options was drawn up for consideration regarding the future of the school. These included options submitted by the stakeholders of Ysgol Baladeulyn. These options were:

- No change – continue with the current situation
- Federation with a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)
- To close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer learners a place at a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)
- To change the status of Ysgol Baladeulyn to be a Christian school
- Merging local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn
- To add a specialist area for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn
- Federation with another school and to add a specialist area for children with additional learning needs in Ysgol Baladeulyn
- To include a language unit at the Ysgol Baladeulyn site

Section 40(5) of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 provides:

*“No change may be made to a maintained school which alters the religious character of the school or causes a school to acquire or lose its religious character.”*

As a result, one option proposed by the school’s stakeholders, namely the option to change the status of Ysgol Baladeulyn to be a Christian school, was disregarded.

### Other Options

7.2 A wide range of options were identified during the local meetings and we have also considered what the School Organisation Code 011/2018 notes as examples of possible options that could be worth considering when formulating the proposal for a rural school, and the following examples were considered in addition to the options in section 7 of this report. Those options are shown below with comments added to them:

- Clustering, collaborating with other schools - the option of federation with a nearby school was included in the options appraisal.
- Using the school as a community centre to hold and support a range of community services – following consideration of the option to use the school as a community centre, it was concluded that this option would not offer a sustainable solution for the school, as it would not address the challenges facing the school (as noted in section 5.2) If this option were realised, it is anticipated that the challenges noted in section 5.2 of the report, e.g. low numbers of pupils, small class sizes and as a result the financial challenges facing the school would continue.
- Co-locating local services within the school to offset maintenance costs - the option of *adding a specialist area for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn* and the option to *include a language unit at the Ysgol Baladeulyn site* were suggested during the local discussions and are considered in the options appraisal.
- To consider establishing schools on more than one site in order to retain buildings – this option was suggested during the local discussions (*merging local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn*) and was considered in the options appraisal.

## 8. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

8.1 In accordance with the “Excellent Primary Education for Children in Gwynedd” strategy a number of factors were considered when appraising the options for the situation, namely:

- The number of learners and surplus places
- Class sizes and age range
- Leadership and staffing



- Quality of education
- The Community
- Financial resources
- The Welsh language
- Geographical and travel factors
- Condition and suitability of buildings

8.2 A further comparison of all options against the strategy factors can be found in **Appendix 1** (Options Appraisal Table) and the conclusion of the evaluation of individual options can be seen below.

### 8.3 No change - continue with the current situation

This option would mean that there would be no change to the existing provision in the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn.

Having weighed up the school's latest position against the relevant factors, it is concluded that this option does not address the current challenges listed below:

- Learner numbers and surplus places – Learner numbers are low (6 R-Yr.6 and 2 Nursery) and there are substantial surplus places (89% R-Yr 6 and 87% N-Yr6)) at Ysgol Baladeulyn and number projections suggest that this will continue.
- Class sizes and age range – 2 classes meet in the morning; one with two nursery children and one year 1, and the other with the rest of the reception – year 6 learners. In the afternoon there are 2 classes for reception – year 6 learners. There is one class for 2 year 1 learners and the other for 4 year 2 – 6 learners.
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Baladeulyn receives a substantial additional protection allocation (£56,781) and the average cost per learner per head (£14,953) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780)
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £125,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Baladeulyn building. This option would not adequately respond to this challenge.

### 8.4 Federation with a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)

The Code notes that federation brings particular benefits to rural schools and states that a proposer must therefore demonstrate how federation has been considered as an option. It has been demonstrated that federation can offer advantages to rural schools in some situations, particularly in terms of strengthening leadership and opportunities for collaboration.

This option would mean establishing a formal collaboration arrangement, between 3 schools, as Ysgol Talysarn has already federated with Ysgol Brynaerau.

This model would ensure continuity as regards the presence of the school in the village of Nantlle by means of a collaboration arrangement with nearby schools, led by a head teacher or head teachers and one governing body. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved and a (new) federal governing body would be formed. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

In considering this model, it must be assessed what any impact would be on the operation of the schools forming part of the federation. Noting the challenges facing Ysgol Baladeulyn, it would have to be ensured that such an arrangement could offer benefits to all the children and young people of the federating schools by improving educational provision.

As Ysgol Baladeulyn's numbers have reached a critical situation with 6 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 2 Nursery learner on the register, it was predicted that there were no clear benefits for other schools from federating with Ysgol Baladeulyn.

There is no clear evidence that forming a federation would lead to an increase in numbers.

After weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of federation, it was concluded that this option did not respond to the main challenges faced by the school; as noted in section 5.2 above, including:

- Learner numbers and surplus places – There is no clear evidence that forming a federation would lead to an increase in numbers. As a result, it is anticipated that federating would mean that the challenge of low learner numbers (6 R-Yr.6 and 2 Nursery) and significant surplus places (89% R-Yr6 and 87% N-Yr 6) at Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue.

- Small class sizes and broad age range – 2 classes meet in the morning; one with two nursery children and one year 1, and the other with the rest of the reception – year 6 learners. In the afternoon there are 2 classes for reception – year 6 learners. There is one class for 2 year 1 learners and the other for 4 year 2 – 6 learners. As it is not anticipated that forming a federation would lead to an increase in numbers, it is anticipated that federating would not respond to the challenge of small classes and a broad age range.
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Baladeulyn receives a substantial additional protection allocation (£56,781) and the average cost per learner per head (£14,953) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As it is not anticipated that federating would lead to an increase in the numbers of learners, it is not anticipated that the option would affect the financial allocation of Ysgol Baladeulyn.
- Condition and suitability of buildings – The maintenance costs of Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue (£125,000 already identified). As the Ysgol Baladeulyn building would continue, federating would not respond to this challenge.

#### 8.5 To close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer learners a place at a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)

This model would mean closing Ysgol Baladeulyn and offering catchment-area learners a place at Ysgol Talysarn.

Ysgol Talysarn is considered the 'nearby school' as it is the nearest geographical school to Ysgol Baladeulyn. The school is located approximately 2.5 miles from the site of Ysgol Baladeulyn.

Ysgol Talysarn also offers itself as the obvious alternative as 63% of primary age children in the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn already attend Ysgol Talysarn and there is sufficient capacity there to accommodate learners from the Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area.

Following this, it is proposed to extend the catchment area of Ysgol Talysarn to include the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn for the future.

The rationale behind recommending this proposal is further detailed as the preferred option for consultation in Section 10. The preferred option.

#### 8.6 Merging local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would involve merging a number of local schools by closing the schools and establishing a single multi-site school that would include the Ysgol Baladeulyn site.

The option would enable the possibility of sharing resources, buildings and expertise.

This model would ensure continuity in the presence of a school site in the village of Nantlle by establishing a multi-site school, led by a headteacher and one governing body. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved and a (new) governing body would be formed for the multi-site school.

Under this model, there would be staffing implications that can lead to uncertainty and redundancies. The positions of all members of staff in each of the schools that would form part of the multi-site school would come to an end. The new appointments would be made by the shadow governing body of the new multi-site school.

Ysgol Baladeulyn's numbers have reached a critical situation with 6 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 2 part-time learner (nursery) on the roll. It is not anticipated that this option would lead to an increase in the numbers of learners on Ysgol Baladeulyn site.

After weighing up the advantages and disadvantages, it is concluded that this option does not address the challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Learner numbers and surplus places – It is anticipated that the numbers of learners on Ysgol Baladeulyn site would remain low (8 Reception - Year 6 and 2 Nursery) together with significant surplus places (89% D-Yr 6 and 87% N-Yr 6).
- Small class sizes and broad age range – 2 classes meet in the morning; one with two nursery children and one year 1, and the other with the rest of the reception – year 6 learners. In the afternoon there are 2 classes for reception – year 6 learners. There is one class for 2 year 1 learners and the other for 4 year 2 – 6 learners. As it is not anticipated that the

option would lead to an increase in the numbers of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn site, it is likely that small classes would continue at the Baladeulyn site with a broad age range within the classes.

- Financial resources – Establishing a multi-site school would mean establishing one multi-site school, with one allocation for all the sites. It is anticipated that Ysgol Baladeulyn site would continue to receive an additional amount to the core allocation through the minimum staffing protection policy as the numbers of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn site would remain low.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £125,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Baladeulyn building. This option would not respond to this challenge.

#### 8.7 To add a specialist area for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, but it would also mean adding an area for an ALN unit on the school site in order to offer special education to the children who would need additional support.

As the school building would need to be modified to provide a location for the specialist unit, the school's capacity would likely be reduced and therefore it is anticipated that the option would lead to a reduction in surplus places

However, Ysgol Baladeulyn's numbers have reached a critical situation with 6 (Reception - Year 6) learners and 2 part-time learner (Nursery) on the register. As the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of an ALN unit on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is anticipated that Ysgol Baladeulyn's numbers would remain low, and it is not anticipated that it would respond to the challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 (above).

After weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of this option for Ysgol Baladeulyn, it is concluded that this option does not adequately respond to the main challenges the school faces, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Learner numbers and surplus places – Although there would be a reduction in the school's capacity and surplus places as a result of locating the ALN unit within the Ysgol Baladeulyn's building, as the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners at their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of an ALN unit on the school site would affect Ysgol Baladeulyn's numbers. As a result, it is predicted that the numbers would remain low.
- Small class sizes and broad age range – 2 classes meet in the morning; one with two nursery children and one year 1, and the other with the rest of the reception – year 6 learners. In the afternoon there are 2 classes for reception – year 6 learners. There is one class for 2 year 1 learners and the other for 4 year 2 – 6 learners. Locating an ALN Unit on the site of Ysgol Baladeulyn would mean that there would be more children on the site, but the Unit would operate separately from the rest of Ysgol Baladeulyn and therefore there would be no effect on the size of classes and the age range at Ysgol Baladeulyn..
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Baladeulyn receives a substantial additional protection allocation (£56,781) and the average cost per learner per head (£14,953) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As it is not anticipated that the option would affect the numbers of learners at the school, it is anticipated that this financial challenge would continue.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £125,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Baladeulyn building – this would continue.

#### 8.8 Federation with another school and to add a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

The Code states that federalisation brings special advantages to rural schools and states that a proponent must therefore show how federalisation has been considered as an option. It has been shown that federalisation can offer advantages to rural schools in certain situations, specifically from the point of view of strengthening leadership and collaboration opportunities.

This model would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nantlle through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved and a (new) federal governing body would be formed. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

The possibility of federalising with a nearby school was considered, specifically Ysgol Talysarn. As a result, this option would mean establishing a formal collaboration arrangement, between 3 schools, as Ysgol Talysarn has already federated with Ysgol Brynaerau.

When considering this model, it must be assessed what any impact would be on how the schools that became part of the federation would operate. Noting the challenges facing Ysgol Baladeulyn, it would have to be ensured that such an arrangement would be able to offer benefits to all the children and young people of the federating schools by improving the educational provision.

As Ysgol Baladeulyn's numbers have reached a critical situation with 6 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 2 part-time learners (Nursery) on the register, it is anticipated that there would be no clear advantages for other schools from federalising with Ysgol Baladeulyn and adding a specialist area on the site of Ysgol Baladeulyn.

There is no clear evidence that federalisation would lead to an increase in numbers.

In addition to federalisation, this option would also mean adding a location for a specialist area for learners with additional learning needs. Note that the addition of a specialist area would not affect Ysgol Baladeulyn's numbers, as learners in the ALN area would continue to register as learners in their original school. As the ALN area would be located within the Ysgol Baladeulyn building, it is anticipated that the option would lead to a reduction in the school's capacity, and as a result, a reduction in the number of surplus places at Ysgol Baladeulyn.

Following weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of federating and locating a ALN specialist area on Ysgol Baladeulyn site, it was concluded that this option would not adequately respond to the main challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Numbers of learners and surplus places - Although there would be a reduction in the school's capacity and empty places as a result of locating the ALN unit within the Ysgol Baladeulyn building, as there is no clear evidence that federalisation would lead to an increase in numbers, it is anticipated that the challenge of low numbers of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue if this option were to be implemented. As the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of an ALN unit on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.
- Small class sizes and broad age range – 2 classes meet in the morning; one with two nursery children and one year 1, and the other with the rest of the Reception - Year 6 learners. In the afternoon there are 2 classes for Reception - Year 6 learners. One class is for 2 year 1 learners and the other for 4 years 2 - 6 learners. It is not anticipated that federalisation would change this. As it is not anticipated that the option would lead to an increase in numbers, it is anticipated that this option would not respond to the challenge of small classes and a broad age range.
- Financial resources - In 2025-26 Ysgol Baladeulyn receives a significant additional care allocation (£56,781) and the average cost per learner (£14,953) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As it is not anticipated that the option would affect the numbers of the School's learners, it is anticipated that this financial challenge would continue.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £125,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Baladeulyn building. This option would not respond to this challenge.

#### **8.9 To include a language unit at the Ysgol Baladeulyn site**

This option would mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, but it would also mean adding a language immersion unit on the school site to offer an immersion service in Welsh to new speakers.

As the school building would need to be modified to provide a location for the language unit/centre, the school's capacity would likely be reduced and therefore it is anticipated that the option would lead to a reduction in surplus places.

However, Ysgol Baladeulyn's numbers have reached a critical situation with 8 learners (Reception - Year 6) and 2 part-time learner (Nursery) on the register. As the learners of the language unit/centre would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a language centre on the school site would affect the Ysgol Baladeulyn numbers. As a result, it is anticipated that Ysgol Baladeulyn numbers would remain low, and it is not anticipated that it would respond to the challenges the school is facing, as stated in section 5.2 (above).

Following weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of this option for Ysgol Baladeulyn, it is concluded that this option does not adequately respond to the main challenges the school faces, as stated in section 5.2 above, including:

- Learner numbers and surplus places – Although there would be a reduction in the school's capacity and surplus places as a result of locating the language unit/centre within the Ysgol Baladeulyn building, as the learners of the language unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a language unit on the school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.
- Class sizes and age range – 2 classes meet in the morning; one with two nursery children and one year 1, and the other with the rest of the reception – year 6 learners. In the afternoon there are 2 classes for reception – year 6 learners. There is one class for 2 year 1 learners and the other for 4 year 2 – 6 learners. As it is not anticipated that the option would lead to an increase in numbers, class sizes would remain small with a broad age range.
- Financial resources – In 2025-26 Ysgol Baladeulyn received a substantial additional protection allocation (£56,781) and the average cost per learner per head (£14,953) is significantly higher than the county average (£5,780). As it is not anticipated that the option would affect the numbers of learners at the school, it is anticipated that this financial challenge would continue.
- Condition and suitability of buildings - £125,000 worth of necessary repair and maintenance work has been identified for Ysgol Baladeulyn building. This option would not respond to this challenge.

#### 4. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS – PRESUMPTION AGAINST CLOSURE OF RURAL SCHOOLS

As well as the factors relevant to the development of any proposal, specific assessments are also required in relation to a proposal of this kind. A number of assessments of the options under consideration were carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Code. The full assessments can be found in **Appendix 2**, and a summary of these assessments can be seen in the table below:

Option	Assessment of likely impact on quality and standards of education	Assessment of likely impact on various travel arrangements	Assessment of likely impact on the community
<b>No change – continue with the current situation</b>	Neutral – No change	Neutral – No change  No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.	Neutral – No change  Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nantlle.
<b>Federation with a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)</b>	Neutral/Partially positive No impact on the provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn  An opportunity to share good practices between the two schools and possibilities of making better use of resources.	Neutral  The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Baladeulyn and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.  No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.	Neutral  Possibility of community collaboration between the 2 schools.  Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nantlle.
<b>Federation with another school and to add a specialist area for children with additional learning needs in Ysgol Baladeulyn</b>	Neutral/Partially positive – No impact on the provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn  An opportunity to share good practices between the two schools and	Neutral  The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Baladeulyn and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.  No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area will need to	Neutral  Possibility of community collaboration between the 2 schools.  Keeping a school and its potential to be a community

	<p>possibilities of making better use of resources.</p> <p>An opportunity to develop an additional resource to support learners with ALN. It is anticipated that it would have a positive impact on the criteria of 'Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs'</p>	<p>travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learners.</p>	<p>resource in the village of Baladeulyn.</p>
<p><b>To close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer learners a place at a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)</b></p>	<p>Partially Positive</p> <p>The assessment notes that the standard of education provided at Ysgol Talysarn corresponds to the standard of education provided at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p> <p>As there are more learners at Ysgol Talysarn, it is anticipated that there will be opportunities to teach children in larger groups, with age-appropriate peers to broaden their experiences. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences from teaching Baladeulyn catchment area learners at Ysgol Talysarn</p>	<p>Negative</p> <p>It would be necessary to provide transport for learners from the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn to Ysgol Talysarn, in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy.</p> <p>Additional transport costs are anticipated - estimated cost, approximately £17,000-£30,000 per year.</p> <p>Some learners would travel further to school than they do at the moment.</p> <p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	<p>Neutral/Partially Negative</p> <p>Lead to the loss of a school and community resource in the village of Nantlle.</p> <p>To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Baladeulyn community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Talysarn and the Nantlle community is encouraged, where appropriate.</p> <p>It is noted that a large proportion of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Talysarn, and therefore it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Talysarn and the Ysgol Baladeulyn community already exists</p>
<p><b>To add a specialist area for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn</b></p>	<p>Neutral/Partially positive</p> <p>No impact on the provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn</p> <p>An opportunity to develop an additional resource to support learners with ALN. It is anticipated that it would have a positive impact on the criteria of 'Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs'.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Baladeulyn and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the learners of the ALN unit.</p> <p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	<p>Neutral – No change to the provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn</p> <p>Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nantlle.</p>

<b>To include a language unit at the Ysgol Baladeulyn site</b>	<p>Neutral - No impact on the provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn</p> <p>An opportunity to develop an additional resource to provide a specific service for latecomers in a Language Centre on the school site.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Baladeulyn and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the learners of the language unit.</p>	<p>Neutral –</p> <p>Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nantlle.</p>
<b>Merging local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn</b>	<p>Neutral / Partially positive – No impact on the provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn</p> <p>An opportunity to share good practices between the school sites and possibilities of making better use of resources.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Baladeulyn and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>Depending on the structure of the new school, there is a possibility that it will be necessary to organise transport between schools.</p>	<p>Neutral – No change to the provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn</p> <p>Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nantlle.</p>

## 10. THE PREFERRED OPTION

10.1 Of the options considered, the preferred option for further consultation is the option to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer learners a place at a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)

10.2 This option is preferred for the following reasons:

### 10.3 Number of learners and surplus places

10.3.1 In September 2025 there were 6 Reception – Year 6 learners and 2 Nursery learners attending Ysgol Baladeulyn. As a result, Ysgol Baladeulyn has 49 (89%) surplus places in the school (Reception – Year 6). The school also has capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery class, with 2 nursery learners on the roll, there are also 5 surplus places in the Nursery.

10.3.2 Learner numbers at the school have dropped significantly in recent years from 23 Reception to Year 6 learners in 2017 to 6 in September 2025, a decrease of over 74%.

10.3.3 According to the projections created in September 2025, it is anticipated that numbers will remain low over the next three years. Seen below are the numbers for September 2025 and Ysgol Baladeulyn's number projections for 2026-28.

	N	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total R-Yr.6
<b>September 2025 numbers</b>	2	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	6
<b>Projections September 2026</b>	1	2	0	2	1	0	2	1	8
<b>Projections September 2027</b>	1	1	2	0	2	1	0	2	8
<b>Projections September 2028</b>	1	1	1	2	0	2	1	0	7

10.3.3 In September 2025 there were 84 learners (Reception – Year 6) and 17 Nursery learners attending Ysgol Talysarn. According to the September 2025 projections, it is anticipated that there will be 85 Reception to Year 6 learners and 11 Nursery learners at Ysgol Talysarn in September 2025.

10.3.4 Ysgol Talysarn has a capacity of 91 (Reception – Yr. 6), which means that Ysgol Talysarn has 8% surplus places. Including the school's Nursery capacity and numbers, there are 7 surplus places at Ysgol Talysarn.

10.3.5 The Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (2018) states that "excessive numbers of unused places that could be removed mean that resources are tied up unproductively....A significant level of surplus provision is defined as 25% or more of a school's capacity". As a result of the low numbers, there are 89% surplus places (49 in a number) (R-Yr 6) at Ysgol Baladeulyn.

10.3.6 When considering the capacity of Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn jointly (namely capacity of 146 R-Yr-6 and 166 N-Yr.6), it is anticipated that implementing the proposed proposal to close of Ysgol Baladeulyn and transferring learners in the catchment area to Ysgol Talysarn would reduce the total number of surplus places in the Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment-area and Ysgol Talysarn catchment area from 56 (38%) i 1 (1%) (Reception – Yr.6) and from 52 (31%) to 0 (Nursery – Yr.6)

#### 10.4 Class sizes and age range

As can be seen from the table below 2 classes meet in the morning; one with two nursery children and one year 1, and the other with the rest of the reception – year 6 learners. In the afternoon there are 2 classes for reception – year 6 learners. There is one class for 2 year 1 learners and the other for 4 year 2 – 6 learners. Average class sizes (reception – year 6) in Ysgol Baladeulyn is 3 learners.

The table shows that there are 5 classes (reception – year 6) in Ysgol Talysarn (September 2025). The average class sizes for Ysgol Talysarn are 21 learners.

	Year								
School	Nursery	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	Average class sizes
Baladeulyn	2	0	2	1	0	2	1	0	3
a.m.	Class - 3			Class - 5					
p.m.			Class - 2	Class - 4					
Talysarn	17	11	10	11	15	15	11	11	21
	17	Class - 16		Class - 16	Class - 30		Class - 22		

As a result, it is foreseen that transferring learners to Ysgol Talysarn would mean the children being educated in classes of a more viable size, and with more children from the same age group.

#### 10.5 Geographical and travel factors

10.5.1 It is noted in the Strategy "Excellent Primary Education for Children in Gwynedd" that efforts should be made to try to limit travel to a maximum of 30 minutes travel one-way between home and school. In implementing the proposal,



it is foreseen that all the school's existing learners would be within reasonable reach (less than 30 minutes travel) of the alternative school, Ysgol Talysarn.

10.5.2 Following assessment of the distance between Ysgol Talysarn and Ysgol Baladeulyn and the safety of walking and cycling routes to the alternative school, it is concluded that, as the distance is over 2 miles and the routes are unsuitable for primary age children to walk or cycle, transport would be offered to learners from the Baladeulyn catchment area to Ysgol Talysarn, in accordance with the County's School Transport Policy. It is foreseen that the cost of transport would be around £17,000-£30,000 per annum.

## 10.6 Financial Resources

10.6.1 Due to low numbers of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn, the learner-based allocation is not sufficient to support the school. As a result, Ysgol Baladeulyn receives an additional sum to the normal allocation through the minimum staffing protection policy (which guarantees at least a head teacher and a teacher in each school, and a head teacher and an assistant in schools with fewer than 15 learners). Additional funding of £56,781 was allocated to Ysgol Baladeulyn this year (2025-26) through the Minimum Staffing Protection Policy.

10.6.2 The allocations for Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn for the year 2025-26, are based on the September 2024 numbers and the amounts received by the 2 schools can be seen below:

School	Basis of allocation (Numbers Sept 2024)			Core allocation	Additional funding allocation (protection)	Total	£ per learner
	N	FP	KS2				
Baladeulyn	0	3	10	£37,610	£56,781	£194,391	£14,953
Talysarn	10	36	50	£521,659	£0	£521,659	£5,771
Total	10	39	60	£659,269	£56,781	£716,050	

10.6.3 The average cost per learner at Ysgol Baladeulyn is £14,953 and it is £5,771 at Ysgol Talysarn. The County average cost per learner 2025-26 is £5,780. This means that the cost per learner at Ysgol Baladeulyn is £9,182 higher than the county average for the same period.

10.6.4. A total of £716,050 is allocated to both schools in the financial year 2025-26. Ysgol Talysarn does not receive an additional sum through the minimum staffing protection policy. Existing learner numbers at the school attract an adequate budget to maintain appropriate staffing levels.

10.6.5 In terms of revenue costs, if the proposal is implemented, and if all the learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn transferred to Ysgol Talysarn, based on the 2025-26 budget (which is based on September 2024 learner numbers):

- it is anticipated that the proposal would create an annual saving of £129,191, less the estimated costs of additional transport needs (up to £30,000) - a total of approximately £99,191 per year.
- it is predicted that Ysgol Talysarn's core allocation budget would increase to £604,522, and the cost per learner would be £5,846.

10.6.6 If the proposal is implemented, and if all the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn transferred to Ysgol Talysarn, based on an estimate of the 2026-27 budget, which is the year of implementation of the proposal (which is based on the projections of learner numbers provided by the head teachers of the schools in September 2024):

- it is anticipated that the proposed proposal would create an annual saving of £144,338, less the costs of additional transport needs (up to £30,000) - a total of approximately £114,338 per year.
- it is predicted that Ysgol Talysarn's core allocation budget would increase to £576,294 and the cost per learner would be £5,966.

10.6.7 Any savings in revenue costs will be retained in the Gwynedd Schools area.

10.6.8 Note that there are no capital costs associated with the proposal.

## **10.7 Leadership and Staffing**

- 10.7.1 The current staffing structure at Ysgol Baladeulyn includes a Head in full-time charge who spends 80% of his time teaching, plus 2 learning assistants.
- 10.7.2 At Ysgol Talysarn there is a Head Teacher who spends 100% of her time leading the federation of Ysgol Talysarn (3 days) and Ysgol Brynaerau (2 days). There is also a full-time deputy, two full time teachers and one 0.8 teacher (4 days), 7 assistants, plus a clerical officer.

## **10.8 The Community**

- 10.8.1 Welsh Government guidance (School Organisation Code 011/2018) states that a community impact assessment is required as part of any proposal to reorganise schools. A community impact assessment has been completed on the list of options set out in paragraph 6.3. See the full report at Appendix 2.
- 10.8.2 The assessment shows that some negative impact on the community is anticipated if the option to close Ysgol Baladeulyn is implemented. It is recognised that the closure of Ysgol Baladeulyn would lead to the loss of a school in the Nantlle community, however the assessment stated that a large proportion of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools (75%), including Ysgol Talysarn (63%), and therefore it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Talysarn and the Ysgol Baladeulyn community already exists.
- 10.8.3 Although there is no community use of the Ysgol Baladeulyn building, the school is involved with its community and uses community facilities on an occasional basis.
- 10.8.4 Should the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn be realised, every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Talysarn. To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Baladeulyn community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Talysarn and the Baladeulyn community is encouraged, where appropriate.
- 10.8.5 Should the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn be realised, it will be essential as part of the process to encourage discussions between the alternative school and the parents of learners from Ysgol Baladeulyn so that parents and learners can take advantage of their facilities and after school activities.

## **10.9 The Welsh Language**

- 10.9.1 Welsh Government guidance (School Organisation Code 011/2018) states that a Welsh language impact assessment is required as part of any proposal to reorganise schools. See the full report at **Appendix 2**.
- 10.9.2 The impact assessment on the Welsh language stated that it is anticipated that the proposed proposal would have a partial impact on certain elements in the context of the Welsh language, mainly:
- the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn) would mean that learners in the Baladeulyn catchment area would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school.
  - the proposal would mean that learners would have access to a higher supply in terms of staffing and they would be part of a larger group of peers of the same age, the proposal could strengthen the opportunities for learners within the class.
  - that the proposal would mean that Baladeulyn learners would be less likely to use the Welsh language in informal Welsh contexts informally with their peers outside of school hours.
  - That the proposal would mean that fewer parents would likely meet daily in the community of Baladeulyn when delivering and dropping off children.

On the basis of the above, if the proposal is implemented, it is anticipated that there would be no impact on the use of Welsh by learners in the Baladeulyn catchment area in a formal context at school. Nevertheless, it is anticipated that there would be less use of the Welsh language in informal contexts outside of school hours.

## 10.10 Quality and standards of education

- 10.10.1 An assessment was conducted of the likely impact on quality and standards of education on all the options. See the full report at Appendix 2.
- 10.10.2 According to Estyn's latest reports, Ysgol Talysarn offers education of a quality and standard that is equivalent, at least, to Ysgol Baladeulyn.
- 10.10.3 Ysgol Baladeulyn was last inspected by Estyn in 2017, where it was concluded that the school's current performance was Good. Ysgol Talysarn was last inspected by Estyn in 2017, where it was concluded that the school's current performance against the outcome questions and the provision is Good, and the leadership and management is Excellent.
- 10.10.4 As there are more learners at Ysgol Talysarn, it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to teach children in larger groups, with age-related peers to broaden their experiences if the proposal is implemented. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences from teaching learners in the Baladeulyn catchment area at Ysgol Talysarn.
- 10.10.5 As a result, it is anticipated that the likely impact in terms of the quality and standards of education for learners would be partially positive resulting from the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer the learners a place at Ysgol Talysarn.

## 10.11 Condition and suitability of buildings

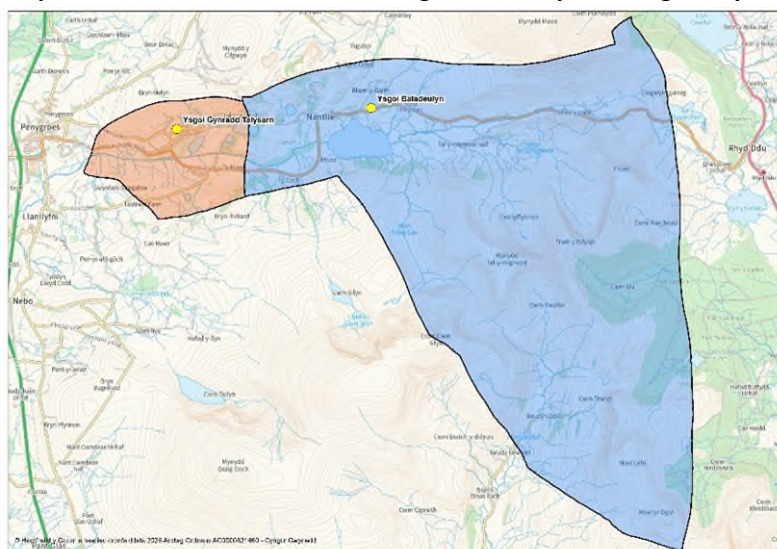
- 10.11.1 The Authority's latest condition assessment notes that the condition of the buildings at Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn is B.
- 10.11.2 £125,000 worth of work has been identified to improve the condition and suitability of Ysgol Baladeulyn.

## 11. IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL

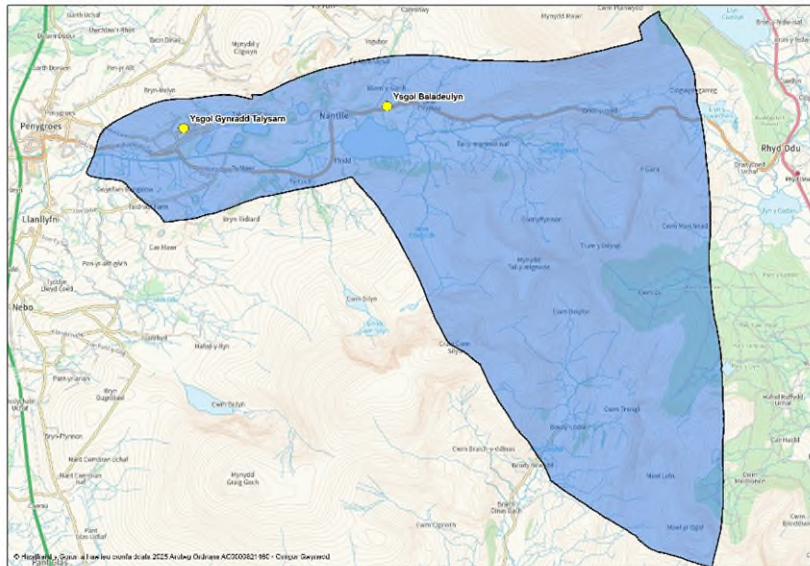
### 11.1 School admission catchment areas

- 11.1.1 Should the proposed proposal be implemented, the catchment area of Ysgol Talysarn would be adjusted to include the present catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn.

**Map 1: Present catchment areas of Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn**



**Map 2: Catchment area of Ysgol Talysarn should the proposal be implemented**



## Transport

- 11.1.2 Should the proposal be implemented pupils living within the existing catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn would be offered a place at Ysgol Talysarn and receive transport in accordance with the County's School Transport Policy. The annual cost of transport is anticipated to be around £17,000- £30,000.

## 11.2 Staffing Considerations

- 11.2.1 Should the proposal be implemented, it is foreseen that there would be staffing implications which could lead to redundancies. Staff and Union representatives will be specifically consulted as part of the statutory consultation period. Cyngor Gwynedd has developed a detailed staffing policy, in conjunction with Trade Unions and head teachers. Any redundancies resulting from this proposal will have to be in line with that policy. Clear and open communication will play a central role in implementing any proposals.

## 12. **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

### 12.1.1 School Organisation Code 011/2018

- 12.1.2 Any statutory process will be conducted in accordance with Welsh Government guidance (School Organisation Code 011/2018).

### 12.1.3 Equality impact assessment

- 12.1.4 An equality impact assessment was carried out on the proposed proposal. The full report can be seen at Appendix 2.
- 12.1.5 The assessment pays particular attention to different equality strands such as race, gender, disability, language, religion or belief and age. The assessment sets out the current position and demonstrates that policies and procedures are in place that would ensure the proposal takes account of equal rights and accords with them.
- 12.1.6 Having weighed up the relevant factors, it is concluded that the proposal is not likely to have a negative impact on equality features. It is noted that measures are already in place to ensure that there will be no illegal discrimination or harassment.
- 12.1.7 It is anticipated that the implementation of the proposed proposal would reduce the inequality in the case of socio-economic disadvantage by ensuring that the learners have more experiences and access to more services and activities in the alternative school. Learners would receive more equal opportunities as the learners would receive learning experiences based on national learning principles, with a variety of styles including working in mass groups, smaller

groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range together with lessons that are appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

- 12.1.8 By implementing the proposed proposal, the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn would have a better learning environment and the learners would benefit from having more age-related peers in a school with more learners, which will ensure suitable educational and extracurricular experiences for them together with access to more extracurricular activities.
- 12.1.9 The Council would follow normal processes by supporting and monitoring, in order to ensure compliance of each school with the equality features.

#### 12.1.10 Well-being and Future Generations Act

12.1.11 Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, consideration was given to the 7 aims of the well-being act and the well-being objectives of the Council and it is concluded that the proposal meets the requirements.

12.1.12 It is acknowledged that should the Cabinet decide to proceed with this proposal, it may result in the loss of a school in the community of Nantlle, however a significant number of the children living within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Talysarn, and therefore there is already a link between the schools and the community of that school. Every effort will be made to mitigate any negative impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Talysarn. Should the proposal be approved, discussions will take place to discuss the possibility of Talysarn's community activity involving the community where appropriate.

### 13. NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

- 13.1 Should Cabinet decide to support the recommendation presented in this report a period of statutory consultation will need to take place in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code guidance 011/2018. It is foreseen that the consultation period would take place before the end of the Autumn term.
- 13.2 Subsequently, a further report will be submitted to Cabinet in order to report back on the outcomes of the consultation. The Cabinet will then be required to consider the results of the consultation, and decide whether or not to issue a Statutory Notice on the proposal. Should a Statutory Notice be issued, a period of 28 days will be granted for anyone to submit an objection to the proposal, known as the 'Objection Period'. Following this, a further report will be submitted to Cabinet for a final decision. That report will include a summary of any objections received together with the Council's responses to them.

---

## 14 Appendices

**Appendix 1:** Options Appraisal Table

**Appendix 2:** Impact Assessments:

- Assessment of likely Impact on Quality and Standards of Education
- Assessment of likely Impact on travel arrangements
- Assessment of likely impact on the community
- Welsh Language Impact Assessment
- Wellbeing Assessment
- Equality Assessment

**Appendix 3:** Background pack including submissions and minutes of local meetings.

---

## 16 Views Statutory officers

**Monitoring Officer:**

*"This report has been the subject of advice from Legal Services. No observations to add in relation to propriety".*

## Head of Finance:

*"From a financial point of view, it is clear that Ysgol Baladeulyn's current situation is not sustainable, given that 89% of places in the school are empty. The report shows that an assessment has been carried out of the options available, and I am satisfied with the robustness of the financial estimates contained therein. I therefore support the decision sought."*

## 17 Local Member's Comments

*"It is a great disappointment to read the decision of the education department on the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn on 31 December 2026."*

*The Nantlle community will be very sad to hear this recommendation. In my opinion, there will be a negative impact on the community, and closing Ysgol Baladeulyn would be a heavy blow to the village of Nantlle. The school is at the heart of the village and is involved with its community and occasionally uses the village's facilities. If this proposed proposal were to be realised, Welsh medium families would not want to come and live in the village to raise their children, and I assume immigrants will buy the houses and make the village a foreign place."*

*25 schools have closed in Gwynedd since 2009 which is very damaging to our communities. That it has an impact on the children, parents, the community and the Welsh language. This will have a negative impact on the residents of Nantlle especially for those who have lived in the village all their lives and remember the great education they received at Ysgol Baladeulyn with many going on to have great careers."*

*Officials from the Education Department met with the Governing Body of Ysgol Baladeulyn to discuss the fragile situation of the school over the past year and I would like to thank them for taking the time to come and see us at the school. Also, thanks to Dewi Jones, a member of the Cabinet for Education for being there to answer questions and also that there is another side to the phone why there is demand. What was clear in the discussions with the parents of the children who attend the school was that they were grateful to have their children sent to a small school because of the excellent one-on-one education the children were receiving. And also, that the teachers had more time with the individuals who had additional learning needs."*

*I am clear in my mind that it is possible to keep Ysgol Baladeulyn open through the option of Federating with the Ysgol Talysarn adding a specialist area for children with special learning needs ALN at Ysgol Baladeulyn. The School Organisation Code states that federating brings special benefits to rural schools by working together and strengthening leadership and collaboration opportunities. This model would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nantlle through a collaborative arrangement with the Ysgol Talysarn under the leadership of a headteacher and one body of governors."*

*There will be a possibility of community collaboration between Ysgol Talysarn and Ysgol Baladeulyn and keeping the school open as a community resource in Nantlle. An opportunity to share good practices between the two schools and possibilities of making better use of resources and costing less to the Council. Also, an opportunity to develop an additional resource to support ALN learners here in Dyffryn Nantlle. It is anticipated that it would have a positive effect on the children who need support with ALN and on the parents who may have to travel to Caernarfon to get this service."*

*By choosing this option, another rural school will not have to be closed here in Gwynedd and reassures the parents and children who attend Baladeulyn school and the school's doors will remain open through a new format and keep Nantlle a village where families can raise their children in a Welsh society with confidence about the future of the school and the language."*

## Options Appraisal – Ysgol Baladeulyn

Key: **Blue - advantages** **Red - disadvantages** **Black – comments**

	No change – continue with the current situation	Federate with a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)	Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer the learners a place in a nearby school, Ysgol Talysarn.	Merge local schools to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn	Add a specialist area for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn	Federate with another school adding a specialist area for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn	Including a Language Unit/Centre on the site of Ysgol Baladeulyn
<b>Number of learners and surplus places</b>	<p>Low numbers continue at Ysgol Baladeulyn (Numbers September 2025: 6 Reception learners to Year 6 and 2 Nursery learners).</p> <p>The number of surplus places remains high (49 empty places (89%) Admission to Year 6; 54 empty places (87%) Nursery – Year 6)</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>	<p>Low numbers continue at Ysgol Baladeulyn (Numbers September 2025: 6 Reception learners to Year 6 and 2 Nursery learners).</p> <p>The number of surplus places remains high (49 empty places (89%) Admission to Year 6; 54 empty places (87%) Nursery – Year 6)</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p> <p>There is no clear evidence that federalisation would lead to an increase in numbers.</p>	<p>Ysgol Talysarn's numbers are stable with 84 Reception to Year 6 learners and 17 Nursery learners on the roll (September 2025).</p> <p>A lower surplus rate in the catchment area</p>	<p>With only 6 Reception to Year 6 learners, and 2 Nursery learners attending Ysgol Baladeulyn (September 2025), it is anticipated that merging with local schools would not lead to an increase in numbers on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site.</p> <p>The number of surplus places remains high (49 empty places (89%) Admission to Year 6; 54 surplus spaces (87%) Nursery – Year 6)</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>	<p>As the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a specialist area on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.</p> <p>(Numbers September 2025: 6 Reception to Year 6 learners and 2 Nursery learners).</p> <p>As the building would need to be modified to provide a location for a specialist unit, the school's capacity would likely be reduced and therefore there would be fewer surplus spaces.</p>	<p>There is no clear evidence that a federation would lead to an increase in school numbers. It is predicted that low numbers would continue at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p> <p>As the learners of the ALN unit would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a specialist area on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.</p> <p>(Numbers September 2025: 6 Reception to Year 6 learners and 2 Nursery learners).</p> <p>As the building would need to be modified to provide a location for a specialist unit, the school's capacity would likely be reduced and therefore there would be fewer surplus spaces.</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>	<p>As the building would need to be modified in order to offer a suitable location for the Language Center on the school site, the school's capacity would likely decrease and therefore there would be fewer empty places.</p> <p>As the learners of the language center would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a language center on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.</p> <p>The school's projections suggest that numbers will remain low over the next few years.</p>



<b>Class size and age range</b>	<p>There are 2 classes at Ysgol Baladeulyn (September 2025) with 3 learners (Admission to Year 2) and 2 morning learners only (Nursery) in one class. There are 3 learners (Year 3 to Year 6) in the second class.</p> <p>According to projections no increase in numbers is foreseen.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's classes are therefore likely to remain small with an age range of up to 4 years in each class.</p>	<p>There are 2 classes at Ysgol Baladeulyn (September 2025) with 3 learners (Admission to Year 2) and 2 morning learners only (Nursery) in one class. There are 3 learners (Year 3 to Year 6) in the second class.</p> <p>According to projections no increase in numbers is foreseen.</p> <p>There is no clear evidence that federalisation would lead to an increase in numbers. Ysgol Baladeulyn's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small with an age range of up to 4 years in each class.</p>	<p>Learners to be taught in more suitable class sizes. Ysgol Talysarn learners are taught in classes of a more suitable size of between 25 and 36 (September 2025).</p> <p>There are 3 classes with mixed ages at Ysgol Talysarn.</p>	<p>As it is not anticipated that this option would lead to an increase in numbers, it is anticipated that class sizes on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site would remain small, with a wide age range.</p>	<p>There is no clear evidence that locating an ALN unit on the school site would lead to an increase in numbers. It is therefore anticipated that the school's learner numbers would remain low.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small with an age range of up to 4 years in each class.</p>	<p>There are 2 classes at Ysgol Baladeulyn (September 2025) with 3 learners (Admission to Year 2) and 2 morning learners only (Nursery) in one class. There are 3 learners (Year 3 to Year 6) in the second class.</p> <p>According to projections no increase in numbers is foreseen.</p> <p>There is no clear evidence that locating an ALN unit on the school site, or federalisation, would lead to an increase in numbers.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small with an age range of up to 4 years in each class</p>	<p>As the learners of the language center would continue to register as learners in their original school, it is not anticipated that the inclusion of a language unit on a school site would affect the numbers. As a result, it is predicted that numbers would remain low.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's class sizes are therefore likely to remain small with an age range of up to 4 years in each class.</p>
<b>Financial Resources</b>	<p>Ysgol Baladeulyn has received a minimum staffing protection allocation of £56,781 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant protection allocation will continue.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's learner average remains high (£14,953 per learner) significantly higher than the county average of £5,780.</p>	<p>Ysgol Baladeulyn has received a minimum staffing protection allocation of £56,781 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant protection allocation will continue.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's learner average remains high (£14,953 per learner) significantly higher than the county average of £5,780.</p>	<p>Removing a school from the minimum staffing protection net and no need for protection allocation in the alternative school.</p> <p>Cost per learner will be closer to the county average.</p> <p>It is likely to lead to an increase in transport costs for the Authority.</p>	<p>Merging schools will mean establishing one multi-site school, with one allocation for all the sites. It is anticipated that the Baladeulyn site would continue to receive an additional amount to the core allocation through the minimum staffing protection policy as the numbers of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners would continue to be low.</p>	<p>There would be transport costs associated with locating an ALN Unit at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p> <p>A significant capital cost is anticipated to adapt the building.</p> <p>An additional financial source (revenue) would be needed to fund the ALN Unit.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn has received a minimum staffing protection allocation of £56,781 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant</p>	<p>There would be transport costs associated with locating an ALN Unit at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p> <p>A significant capital cost is anticipated to adapt the building.</p> <p>An additional financial source (revenue) would be needed to fund the ALN Unit.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn has received a minimum staffing protection allocation of £56,781 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's learner average remains high (£14,953</p>	<p>There would be transport costs associated with locating a Language Unit at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p> <p>A significant capital cost is anticipated to adapt the building.</p> <p>An additional financial source (revenue) would be needed to finance the Language Unit.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn has received a minimum staffing protection allocation of £56,781 in 2025-26 from the Authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's learner average remains high (£14,953</p>



		An opportunity to make savings by sharing resources and employing staff across the federation when appointing in the future.			conservation allocation will continue. It is not anticipated that locating an ALN unit on the school site would respond to this financial challenge.	per learner) significantly higher than the county average of £5,780.  Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant protection allocation will continue. It is not anticipated that locating an ALN unit on the school site or federalization would respond to this financial challenge.	per learner) significantly higher than the county average of £5,780.  Forecast numbers suggest that the need for a significant protection allocation will continue. It is not anticipated that locating a Language Unit on the school site would respond to this financial challenge.
<b>Leadership and Staffing</b>	<p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's current positions continue.</p> <p>The school has received a smaller allocation for 2025/26 as September 2024 numbers are below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p> <p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher has to teach the majority of the time.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that this will continue.</p>	<p>An opportunity to share good practices between the two schools and possibilities of making better use of resources.</p> <p>The school has received a reduced allocation for 2025/26 as September 2024 numbers are below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p> <p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher has to teach the majority of the time.</p> <p>Forecast numbers suggest that this will continue.</p>	<p>Ysgol Talysarn's staffing structure ensures teachers in all classes and allows non-contact time for the Headteacher.</p> <p>Ysgol Baladeulyn staff will need to be made redundant.</p>	<p>There would be a rationalisation of leadership in this option, but as there will be no effect on the numbers of learners at the sites, the current staffing structure of Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with a site headteacher rather than a headteacher and an assistant.</p>	<p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's current positions continue.</p> <p>The school has received a reduced allocation for 2025/26 as September 2024 numbers are below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p> <p>Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p> <p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher has to teach the majority of the time.</p> <p>Additional responsibility on the headteacher, as they would be responsible for the management of the unit's site.</p>	<p>An opportunity to share good practices between the two schools and possibilities of making better use of resources.</p> <p>The school has received a reduced allocation for 2025/26 as September 2024 numbers are below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p> <p>The Headteacher has to teach most of the time.</p> <p>Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p> <p>Additional responsibility on the headteacher, as they would be responsible for the management of the unit's site.</p>	<p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's current positions continue.</p> <p>The school has received a reduced allocation for 2025/26 as September 2024 numbers are below 15 full-time learners. The allocation is to ensure the ability to employ a headteacher and an assistant.</p> <p>Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p> <p>Due to the school's staffing structure, the Headteacher has to teach the majority of the time.</p> <p>Additional responsibility on the headteacher, as they would be responsible for the management of the unit's site.</p>
<b>Geographical Factors</b>	<p>No change.</p> <p>The school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.</p>	<p>Dim newid.</p> <p>The school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.</p>	<p>It will be necessary to offer transport to Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area learners.</p> <p>Some learners will travel further to the school than they are present.</p>	<p>The school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.</p> <p>Depending on the structure of the new school there is a</p>	<p>No change for the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p> <p>The school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.</p>	<p>No change for the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn</p> <p>The school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.</p>	<p>No change for the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn</p> <p>The school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.</p>

			Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area learner won't need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.	possibility that it will be necessary to organise transport between schools.	It will be necessary to arrange transportation for the learners of the ALN Unit.	It will be necessary to arrange transportation for the learners of the ALN Unit.	It will be necessary to arrange transportation for the learners of the Language Unit.
<b>The Community</b>	<p>Keeping a school and its potential to be a community resource in Nantlle.</p> <p>A majority of learners from Ysgol Baladeulyn's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p>	<p>Possibility of community collaboration between the 2 schools.</p> <p>Keeping the school as a community resource in the village of Nantlle.</p> <p>A majority of learners from Ysgol Baladeulyn's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>There is no community use of the school outside of school hours.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p>	<p>The village of Nantlle losing a school.</p> <p>A wider community where the children and parents can benefit from creating stronger links between 2 neighboring communities.</p>	<p>Retain a school site and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nantlle.</p> <p>A wider community where the children and parents can benefit from creating stronger links between the Dyffryn Nantlle community.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p>	<p>Retain a school site and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nantlle.</p> <p>A majority of learners from Ysgol Baladeulyn's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p>	<p>Retain a school site and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nantlle.</p> <p>A majority of learners from Ysgol Baladeulyn's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Possibility of community collaboration between the 2 schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p>	<p>Retain a school site and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Nantlle</p> <p>A majority of learners from Ysgol Baladeulyn's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn.</p>
<b>The Welsh Language</b>	No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education	No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education	No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education	No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education	No change - Learners continue to receive Welsh medium education	No change – both schools are Welsh medium schools.	No change - Baladeulyn School learners continue to receive Welsh-medium education
<b>Additional comments offered during/following SRP1 and SRP2</b>	<p><b>Strengths / Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The health and well-being of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners continues to be good.</li> <li>Small classes mean more attention to individual learners.</li> <li>Wide age range in the classes offering an opportunity to</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths / Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The health and well-being of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners continues to be good.</li> <li>Small classes mean more attention to individual learners.</li> <li>Wide age range in the classes offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages.</li> <li>Contribute positively to the learner's mental</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learners to taught in larger sized classes</li> <li>Losing the robust inclusive approach that is currently offered to support health and well-being.</li> <li>Possible negative impact on the wellbeing of current learners.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths / Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The health and well-being of Baladeulyn School learners continues to be good.</li> <li>Small classes mean more attention to individual learners.</li> <li>A wide age range in the classes offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages.</li> <li>An opportunity to stabilise learner numbers, increase</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths / Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The health and well-being of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners continues to be good</li> <li>Small classes at Ysgol Baladeulyn mean more attention to individual learners</li> <li>Wide age range in the classes offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages</li> <li>Contribute positively to the mental and</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths/ Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The health and well-being of Baladeulyn School learners continues to be good.</li> <li>Small classes mean more attention to individual learners.</li> <li>Wide age range in the classes offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages.</li> <li>Contribute positively to the learner's mental and emotional well-being.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Strengths / Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The health and well-being of Baladeulyn School learners continues to be good.</li> <li>Small classes mean more attention to individual learners.</li> <li>Wide age range in the classes offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages.</li> </ul>

	work with children of different ages.	and emotional well-being.		<p>funding, and reduce operating costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ysgol Baladeulyn continues to provide a high quality Welsh medium education for all students.</li> <li>• Create a combined organisation that can operate more efficiently - combining the schools' resources, such as staff, facilities and teaching materials, maintaining the focus on the medium of Welsh.</li> <li>• Allowing the consolidation of administrative functions, such as leadership roles, finance, HR and IT services, reducing overhead costs.</li> <li>• The combined school would benefit from economies of scale.</li> <li>• An opportunity to share resources such as staff, educational materials, sports facilities and extracurricular programmes.</li> <li>• An opportunity for Ysgol Baladeulyn to expand its curriculum and extracurricular activities.</li> <li>• An opportunity to develop specialist programs and support for students with additional learning needs, ensuring that all children are included in the educational experience.</li> </ul>	<p>emotional well-being of the learners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Match the growing recognition of the importance of inclusive education and support for children with diverse learning needs</li> <li>• Families will no longer need to travel long distances for specialist support, as they will have access to a local, Welsh language solution for their children's special educational needs.</li> <li>• Allow children with ALN to receive individual education</li> <li>• Help to foster a sense of inclusion, and ensure that children with ALN are integrated into the wider school community</li> <li>• Ensure that children with ALN have access to education in their first language, preserving their cultural heritage.</li> </ul>		
--	---------------------------------------	---------------------------	--	--	---	--	--

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An opportunity to attract more budget from the Welsh Government and the Local Authority - it can lead to a more stable income and allow the school to plan better for future needs.</li><li>• An opportunity to help reduce duplication of services, e.g. it could lead to a single leadership team and reduce the number of non-teaching staff, leading to a reduction in the cost of the learner.</li><li>• Opportunity for shared services e.g. Transport and maintenance being more cost effective as a result of their centralisation.</li><li>• Opportunity to access additional funding from various educational and cultural grants, including those focused on safeguarding the Welsh language, additional learning needs, and rural education.</li><li>• Lead to a more efficient allocation of teaching staff, staff progression and opportunities for training in specialist areas such as ALN, developing the Welsh language, and technology.</li><li>• An opportunity to offer a stronger and</li></ul>			
--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--

				<div>more varied education, with a wider range of extracurricular activities, support services and specialist programmes.</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Help foster a greater sense of community.</li><li>• Ability to better support children with ALN.</li></ul>			
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

# ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON THE QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF EDUCATION - YSGOL BALADEULYN (September 2025)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Ysgol Baladeulyn is a community school located in the village of Nantlle in the Nantlle Valley and provides education for children aged 3-11. The number of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn have declined significantly over the past years, from 33 learners in 2016 to 6 Reception - Year 6 learners and 2 Nursery learners today, which raises uncertainty about the future of the school.

At its meeting on 11 February 2025, Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet gave permission to the Education Department *"Initiate formal discussions with the governing body and other relevant stakeholders of Ysgol Baladeulyn due to concerns about the school's numbers, to enable the formulation of a range of possible options relating to the school's future."*

In accordance with the decision of the Cabinet (11 February 2025), the Baladeulyn School Review Panel (SRP) was established by inviting the Governing Body, parents and staff and the Local Member to join the panel and take part in the discussion. Three SRP meetings were held between March 2025 and July 2025 to discuss a range of options to try to respond to the main challenges facing the school.

In accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code 011/2018, which includes a 'Presumption against the closure of rural schools', an assessment needs to be made of the likely impact on the quality and standards of education on any reasonable option that may resolve the main challenges the school is facing. For the purpose of the Code, Ysgol Baladeulyn is designated as a 'Rural School'.

Cyngor Gwynedd is committed to providing education of the best possible quality which will give the children of the County the experiences, skills and confidence to develop into bilingual, successful and complete citizens.

It remains a high priority to provide the best possible learning experiences - for all learners within the County, ensuring an exciting and broad curriculum, as well as extracurricular activities that stimulate them to learn and understand, which will lead to improving standards.

## 2. SUMMARY

Ysgol Baladeulyn was last inspected by Estyn in 2017 where it was concluded that the school's current performance was 'Good'.

Below is a summary of the last inspection of Ysgol Baladeulyn, the neighbouring schools, or schools that are subject to any of the options under consideration for the future of Ysgol Baladeulyn.

School	Year of the inspection	Standards	Well-being and attitudes to learning	Teaching and learning experiences	Care, support and guidance	Leadership and management
Baladeulyn	2017	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Nebo	2017	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Brynaerau	2019	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Bro Llifon	2018	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Bro Lleu	2023	New inspection framework				

School	Year of inspection	How good are the outcomes?	How good is the provision?	How good is the leadership and management?
Talysarn	2017	Good	Good	Excellent
Llanllyfni	2017	Good	Good	Good

### 3. THE OPTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION

- *Do nothing – continue with the school's current structure.*

Note that although the case for change has been established, the Do Nothing model has been included in the assessment for comparison purposes.

- Federalisation with a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)

This option would mean establishing a formal collaboration arrangement, between 3 schools, as Ysgol Talysarn is already federated with Ysgol Brynaerau. These schools would share one governing body, but at the same time retain their legal status as separate entities, their financial allocation, name and school uniform, and continue to have their own Estyn inspection.

- Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)

This option means that Ysgol Baladeulyn would close, and that learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn would be offered a place at Ysgol Talysarn (the alternative school).

- Merge local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would mean merging a number of local schools by closing the schools and establishing a multi-site school that would include the Ysgol Baladeulyn site. The option would allow the possibility of sharing resources, buildings, and expertise.

This model would ensure the continued presence of a school site in the village of Nantlle through the establishment of a multi-site school, under the leadership of a headteacher and a single governing body.

- Add a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would mean continuing with Ysgol Baladeulyn adding a specific specialised area for children with additional learning needs on the school site.

- Federation with another school adding a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would mean establishing a formal collaboration arrangement between 3 schools, since Ysgol Talysarn has already federated with Ysgol Brynaerau. These schools would share a single governing body, but at the same time maintain their legal status as separate entities, their budget allocation, name and school uniform, and continue to have their own Estyn inspection.

This option would mean continuing with Baladeulyn School and adding a specific specialist area for children with additional learning needs on the school site by federating it with another school.

- Include a language unit at Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would mean continuing with Ysgol Baladeulyn and adding a language unit on the school site.

#### 4. ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT ON EDUCATION STANDARDS AND QUALITY

*We have used Estyn's latest inspections on the relevant schools as criteria for assessing the different options for the future of education for Ysgol Baladeulyn's catchment area.*

##### **OPTION 1: DO NOTHING - CONTINUE WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION**

This option would mean no change and Ysgol Baladeulyn will continue as it is.

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	No change.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	No change.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	No change.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	No change.	Neutral
Leadership and management	No change.	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	No change.	Neutral
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	No change.	Neutral



## OPTION 2: FEDERATE WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL (YSGOL TALYSARN)

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	No negative impact is anticipated on these criteria through federating with Ysgol Talysarn. The result of the latest Estyn inspection for Ysgol Baladeulyn's indicators of standards was 'Good'. In addition, it was noted in the main findings of Ysgol Talysarn's latest Estyn inspection report that standards are 'Good'. As a result, it is concluded that the effect on standards of the federation of Ysgol Talysarn with Ysgol Baladeulyn would be Neutral.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	The result of Ysgol Baladeulyn's latest Estyn inspection for the inspection area 'Well-being and attitudes to learning' was 'Good'. Ysgol Talysarn's last Estyn inspection report stated an 'Excellent' result opposite the 'Wellbeing' heading stating that 'almost all pupils feel safe and appreciate that they receive high quality support from adults in the school'. Based on the findings of these inspections, and as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue as a separate entity under this model, it is concluded that there is a predicted neutral effect on this area from the federating of Ysgol Baladeulyn with Ysgol Talysarn.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	The result of the indicator 'Learning experiences'/'Teaching and learning experiences' for Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn in their last inspection in 2017 was 'Good'. As a result, it is anticipated that the implementation of this option would have a Neutral effect on learning and teaching experiences.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	The result of the 'Care, support and guidance' indicator at Ysgol Baladeulyn in their last inspection in 2017 was 'Good', while the result for Ysgol Talysarn was 'Excellent'. Based on the findings of these inspection, and as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue as a separate entity under this model, it is concluded that there is a predicted neutral effect on this area of federating with a neighbouring school.	Neutral
Leadership and management	It was noted in Ysgol Baladeulyn's last Estyn report that the leadership at the school was 'Good' while the leadership at Ysgol Talysarn was judged to be 'Excellent'. Based on the findings of these inspection, and as the federating model with a neighbouring school would offer opportunities to strengthen Ysgol Baladeulyn's leadership position, it is concluded that leadership and management would have a positive or at least neutral effect from implementing the federating option.	Positive/Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	Support is provided to vulnerable groups including children with additional learning needs in accordance with the Authority's policy, and the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs (Wales) Act 2018 in all schools in Gwynedd. As a result, it is predicted that the effect of this option on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	It is anticipated that the impact would be Neutral as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue. In addition, the result of Estyn's inspection for Ysgol Baladeulyn's 'Standards' was 'Good', as was the result of Ysgol Talysarn's inspection. Based on information here, no impact on learners' standards is anticipated from implementing this option.	Neutral

**OPTION 3: CLOSE YSGOL BALADEULYN AND OFFER THE STUDENTS A PLACE IN A NEARBY SCHOOL (YSGOL TALYSARN)**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the Ysgol Baladeulyn standards indicators was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn inspection for Ysgol Talysarn was also 'Good'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a Neutral effect on this criterion by teaching the learners at Ysgol Talysarn.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for Wellbeing at Ysgol Baladeulyn was 'Good' and Ysgol Talysarn was 'Excellent'. Based on the findings of these inspections, it is concluded that there would be a Positive impact on this area by teaching the learners at Ysgol Talysarn.	Positive
Learning and teaching experiences	The result of the 'Learning experiences' indicator for Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn in their last inspection in 2017 was 'Good'. However, as there are more learners at Ysgol Talysarn it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to teach children in larger groups and with age-related peers to expand on their experiences. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences from teaching learners in the Baladeulyn catchment area at Ysgol Talysarn.	Positive
Care, support and guidance	The result of the 'Care, support and guidance' indicator at Ysgol Baladeulyn was 'Good', while Ysgol Talysarn's result was 'Excellent'. As a result, it is considered that the option would have a Positive effect.	Positive
Leadership and management	It was noted in the last Estyn report that the leadership and management of Ysgol Baladeulyn was 'Good', while Ysgol Talysarn's result was 'Excellent'. Based on the findings of these inspections, it is concluded that leadership and management would have a positive effect on teaching learners in the Baladeulyn catchment area at Ysgol Talysarn.	Positive
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	Support is provided to vulnerable groups including children with additional learning needs in accordance with the Authority's policy, and the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs (Wales) Act 2018 in all schools in Gwynedd. When planning staffing (e.g., the role of the ALNCO) and the provision map, the demand on schools is challenging, and this becomes more apparent when considering the demand on smaller schools. In larger schools, the conditions for the additional needs coordinator are better, and meeting the statutory requirement is therefore easier. In addition, responding to learner needs is also easier in larger schools since they may be able to run an intervention group to target specific needs. The provision map is broader in larger schools to meet the demand. As a result, since learners would be offered a place in a school with a higher number of pupils, the impact of this option on this test is expected to be positive.	Positive
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	The result of the Estyn inspection for Ysgol Baladeulyn's 'Standards' was 'Good', as was the result of Ysgol Talysarn's inspection. Based on the information from these inspection, no impact on learners' standards is anticipated from teaching learners from the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn at Ysgol Talysarn. As a result, it is anticipated that the provision in the alternative school would correspond to what is currently available to learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn, at the very least.	Neutral

#### OPTION 4: MERGE LOCAL SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN YSGOL BALADEULYN

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	The latest Estyn inspection result for the standards indicators at Ysgol Baladeulyn School was 'Good', while the latest Estyn inspection result for other nearby primary schools (primary schools in the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment) was also 'Good', with Ysgol Brynaerau rated as 'Outstanding'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral impact on these criteria since the Estyn assessment is consistent for most of the schools, with one school (out of 7 in the catchment) exceeding the others. The multi-site school model could offer a more effective context for leaders and, consequently, provide an opportunity to improve provision in relation to these criteria. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices between the school sites and possibilities to make better use of resources.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the well-being indicators and attitudes towards learning at Ysgol Baladeulyn was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn inspection for the neighbouring schools (Dyffryn Nantlle catchment) was also 'Good', with Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Talysarn rated as 'Excellent'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral impact on these criteria since the Estyn assessment is consistent for the majority of the schools, with two schools (out of seven in the catchment) surpassing the rest. The multi-site school model could provide a more effective context for leaders and thereby offer an opportunity to improve provision in relation to this criterion. Opportunities are foreseen to share good practices between the school's sites and possibilities to make better use of resources.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the teaching and learning profile indicators at Ysgol Baladeulyn was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn survey for nearby schools (Dyffryn Nantlle catchment) was also 'Good', with Ysgol Brynaerau rated as 'Excellent'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral impact on these criteria since the Estyn assessment is consistent for the majority of schools, with one school (out of 7 in the catchment) exceeding the rest. The multi-site school model could provide a more effective context for leaders and, thereby, offer opportunities to improve provision in relation to these criteria. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices between school sites and possibilities to make better use of resources.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for leadership and care support indicators at Ysgol Baladeulyn was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn inspection for neighbouring schools (Dyffryn Nantlle catchment) was also 'Good', with Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Talysarn rated as 'Outstanding'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral impact on these criteria as the Estyn assessment is consistent for the majority of schools, with two schools (out of seven in the catchment) excelling above the rest. The multi-level school model could provide a more effective context for leaders and thereby offer the opportunity to improve provision regarding these criteria. Opportunities are forecast to share good practices between the school levels and possibilities to make better use of resources.	Neutral
Leadership and management	The result of the latest Estyn inspection for the leadership and management indicators at Ysgol Baladeulyn was 'Good', while the result of the latest Estyn inspections for neighbouring schools (Dyffryn Nantlle Catchment) was also 'Good' with Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Talysarn being 'Excellent'. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a neutral impact on these criteria since the Estyn assessment is consistent for the majority of the schools, with one school (out of	Neutral

	seven in the cluster) being below the majority and two exceeding the rest, more or less the same for each school. The multi-site school model could offer a more effective context for leaders and, in doing so, provide an opportunity to improve provision in relation to these criteria. Opportunities are anticipated to share good practices between the school sites and possibilities to make better use of resources.	
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	Support is provided to vulnerable groups including children with additional learning needs in accordance with the Authority's policy, and the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs (Wales) Act 2018 as in all schools in Gwynedd.	Neutral
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	The result of the Estyn inspection for Ysgol Baladeulyn's 'Standards' was 'Good', and the result of the inspections of the other primary schools in the Dyffryn Nantlle Catchment Area was either 'Good' or 'Excellent'. Based on the information from these inspections, no impact on learners' standards is anticipated from the implementation of this option.	Neutral

## OPTION 5: ADDING A SPECIALISED AREA FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AT BALADEULYN SCHOOL

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	As the additional learning needs unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	As the additional learning needs unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	As the additional learning needs unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	As the additional learning needs unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Leadership and management	As the additional learning needs unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	As the additional learning needs unit would operate in independent from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change to operation is foreseen current Baladeulyn School from implementing this option. As a result, it is anticipated that the impact on this criterion would be neutral. However, although it is not anticipated that the specialist unit would affect the school, it is anticipated that the new resource could have a positive impact on the provision available to learners with ALN in the area.	Positive
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	As the additional learning needs unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral. However, although it is not anticipated that the ALN unit would affect the school, it is anticipated that the new resource could have a positive impact on the provision available for ALN learners in the area.	Positive

**OPTION 6: FEDERALISATION WITH ANOTHER SCHOOL ADDING A SPECIALIZED AREA FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AT BALADEULYN SCHOOL**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	No negative impact is foreseen on these criteria through federalisation with Ysgol Talysarn. The result of the latest Estyn inspection for Ysgol Baladeulyn's indicators of standards was 'Good'. In addition, it was noted in the main findings of Ysgol Talysarn's latest Estyn inspection report that standards are 'Good'. As a result, it is concluded that the effect on standards of the federation of Ysgol Talysarn with Ysgol Baladeulyn would be Neutral.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	The result of Ysgol Baladeulyn's latest Estyn inspection for the inspection area 'Well-being and attitudes to learning' was 'Good'. Ysgol Talysarn's last Estyn inspection report stated an 'Excellent' result opposite the 'Wellbeing' heading stating that 'almost all pupils feel safe and appreciate that they receive high quality support from adults in the school'. Based on the findings of these inspections, it is concluded that there is a predicted Neutral effect on this area from the federation of Ysgol Baladeulyn with Ysgol Talysarn.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	'Good' was the result of the 'Learning experiences'/'Teaching and learning experiences' indicator for Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn in their last inspections in 2017. As a result, it is anticipated that the implementation of this option would have a Neutral effect on learning and teaching experiences.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	The result of the 'Care, support and guidance' indicator at Ysgol Baladeulyn in their last inspection in 2017 was 'Good', while the result for Ysgol Talysarn was 'Excellent'. As a result, it is anticipated that the option could have a positive or at least Neutral effect on care guidance and support.	Positive/Neutral
Leadership and management	It was noted in Ysgol Baladeulyn's last Estyn report that the leadership at the school was 'Good' while the leadership at Ysgol Talysarn was judged to be 'Excellent'. Based on the findings of these surveys, and since the federalisation model with neighbouring school/schools would offer opportunities to strengthen Ysgol Baladeulyn's leadership position, it is concluded that leadership and management would have a positive or at least neutral effect from implementing this option.	Positive
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	Support is provided to vulnerable groups including children with additional learning needs in accordance with the Authority's policy, and the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs Act (Wales) 2018 in all schools in Gwynedd. As a result, it is predicted that the effect of this option on this criterion would be Neutral.	Positive
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	It is anticipated that the impact would be Neutral as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue. In addition, the result of Estyn's inspection for Ysgol Baladeulyn's 'Standards' was 'Good', as was the result of Ysgol Talysarn's inspection. Based on information here, no impact on learners' standards is anticipated from implementing this option.	Neutral

**OPTION 7: INCLUDE A LANGUAGE UNIT AT THE BALADEULYN SCHOOL SITE**

<b>Impact Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status of the impact and the work</b>
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	As the language unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	As the language unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	As the language unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	As the language unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Leadership and management	As the language unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	As the language unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral
Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	As the language unit would operate independently from Ysgol Baladeulyn, no change is foreseen to the current operation of Ysgol Baladeulyn from the implementation of this option. As a result, it is predicted that the impact on this criterion would be Neutral.	Neutral

## 4. CONCLUSION

This assessment of the likely impact on the quality and standards of education shows that introducing the option to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and transfer the learners to Ysgol Talysarn would likely have a positive impact, or at least a neutral impact.

In addition, the assessment states that a neutral/partially positive effect is anticipated on the quality and standards of education from the implementation of other options such as federalisation, the merger of local schools and the establishment of a specialist unit on the site of Ysgol Baladeulyn. Note opportunities to share good practices between the sites of the multi-site school, and schools that would be part of the federation, and possibilities of making better use of resources.

Based on the result of the above assessments and comparing Estyn's reports, it is concluded that the standard of education provided at Ysgol Talysarn corresponds (at least) to the standard of education provided at Ysgol Baladeulyn. As there are more learners at Ysgol Talysarn, it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to teach children in larger groups, with age-related peers to broaden their experiences. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences from teaching learners in the Baladeulyn catchment area at Ysgol Talysarn.

As a result, it is anticipated that the likely effect of implementing the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer the learners a place at Ysgol Talysarn would be neutral/partially positive.



# ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL IMPACT ON TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS - YSGOL BALADEULYN (SEPTEMBER 2025)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

### 1.1 Cyngor Gwynedd Transport Policy

The 'Excellent Primary Education for the Children of Gwynedd' Strategy aims to limit travel from home to school to a one-way journey that is no longer than 30 minutes.

Cyngor Gwynedd provides free transport for learners who live two or more miles from the school in their catchment area, or the nearest school (not including nursery pupils). Learners who receive primary education are expected (with the exception of learners with additional learning needs or disabilities), to walk up to two miles to meet any modes of transport provided by Cyngor Gwynedd. The transport policy can be seen in the parents' handbook:

(<https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/cy/Trigolion/Dogfennau-trigolion/Ysgolion-a-dysgu---dogfennau/Gwybodaeth-i-Rieni.pdf>)

### 1.2 The context of Ysgol Baladeulyn

Ysgol Baladeulyn is located near the village of Talysarn and Penygroes on the outskirts of Caernarfon. It provides education for pupils aged 3 to 11 and has a capacity of 55 (R-Yr6) and 7 Nursery.

## 2. ASSESSMENT OF THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF ALL OPTIONS ON TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

---

2.1 The potential impact of each option on travel arrangements is set out below:

- No change - continue with the current situation

This model would mean no change to the existing provision in the Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area.

**This option would not have any effect on current travel arrangements, as the pupils would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn. No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.**

- Federalisation with a nearby school

This model would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nantlle through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved, and a (new) federal governing body would be formed.

The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

**This option would not have any impact on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners, as the learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. No learner in the Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.**

- Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer a place for the learners in a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)

This model would see the closure of Ysgol Baladeulyn and the provision of a place for pupils at Ysgol Talysarn.

Ysgol Talysarn is located 2.5 miles from Ysgol Baladeulyn. This is the closest geographical school to Ysgol Baladeulyn.

**This option would have an impact on the travel arrangements of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners, by the learners would be educated at Ysgol Talysarn. Transport would need to be provided to learners from the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn to Ysgol Talysarn, in accordance with the Cyn-gor Gwynedd's transport policy. Additional transport costs are anticipated (estimated cost) between £17,000 up to £30,000 the year. Some learners will travel further to school than they would at the moment. Us any learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.**

- Merge local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would involve merging a number of local schools as one school across a number of sites including the Ysgol Baladeulyn site.

**This option would not have an impact on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners, as the learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn. The learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school. Depending on the structure of the new school, there is a possibility that it will be necessary to organise transport between schools.**

- Add a specialist space for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would mean adding an ALN area on the school site to provide special education for the children who would require additional support. There would be no change to the school element.

**This option would not have any effect on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners, as the learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learner. No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school. The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learner.**

- Federalisation with another school adding a specialist space for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option will mean federalizing with a nearby school and adding an ALN area on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site in order to provide special education for the children who will need additional support.

This option would mean adding an ALN area on the school site in order to provide special education for the children who will need additional support, also federalise Ysgol Baladeulyn with a nearby school.

This option would not have any effect on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners, as the learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school. The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learner.

- Inclusion of a language unit at the Ysgol Baladeulyn site

This option would involve adding a language unit on the school site to offer a Welsh immersion service for those children requiring this before joining their chosen schools on a full-time basis. There would be no change to the school element.

This model would not have any effect on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners, as the learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way. No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school. The authority would need to provide transport for the learner of the language unit.

## 2.2. Free transport options

In line with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy, learners who receive primary education (with the exception of learners with additional learning needs or disabilities), are expected to walk up to two miles to meet any modes of transport provided by Cyngor Gwynedd along the shortest route.

The shortest route available is the route that the Council does not deem to be particularly dangerous, after assessing the other routes available, and these routes would be assessed in line with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy.

It is noted that several school buses operate in the area. None of the primary school buses running between Baladeulyn and Talysarn are able to take advantage of one of these.

## 2.3. Summary of potential impact on travel arrangements

The following is a summary of the impact of the options under consideration on travel arrangements:

Options	The potential impact on travel arrangements for learners	The potential annual financial impact on travel arrangements for the Authority
No change - Continue with the current situation	Neutral – No change  No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.	£0
Federalisation with a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)	Neutral	£0

	<p>The learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	
Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer a place for the learners in a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)	<p>Negative</p> <p>Ysgol Talysarn is located 2.5 miles from Ysgol Baladeulyn. The authority would need to provide transport for learners in the current catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn who attend Ysgol Talysarn and live more than 2 miles from the school, in accordance with the Authority's Transport Policy.</p> <p>Having considered current numbers (September 2025), it is anticipated that an 8-seater bus would need to be organised to transport learners from the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn (they would be eligible for transport in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy) to Ysgol Talysarn. It is anticipated that this would be at a cost of up to £17,000.</p> <p>If there was an increase in the numbers of learners in the catchment area in the future, then it may mean that it would be necessary to provide a school bus in order to transport the learning of the current catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn which would be eligible for transport (in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy). It is anticipated that this would be at a cost of up to £30,000.</p> <p>Some learners will travel further to school than they would at the moment.</p> <p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	£17,000 - £30,000
Merge local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p>	£0

	<p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>Depending on the structure of the new school, there is a possibility that it will be necessary to organise transport between schools.</p>	
Add a specialist area for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learner.</p> <p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	<p>£0</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for learners of the ALN unit.</p>
Federated with another school adding a specialist space for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the ALN unit learner.</p>	<p>£0</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for learners of the ALN unit.</p>
Inclusion of a Language Unit at the Ysgol Baladeulyn site	<p>Neutral</p> <p>The learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Baladeulyn, and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for the learner of the language unit.</p>	<p>£0</p> <p>The authority would need to provide transport for learners of the ALN unit.</p>

### 3. CONCLUSION

---

It is not anticipated that there would be an impact on the travel arrangements of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners resulting from the implementation of any of the options listed in the table above (part 2), with the exception of the option to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer the learners a place at Ysgol Talysarn.

If the option of closing Ysgol Baladeulyn and offering education to the learners at Ysgol Talysarn were to be realised, then it is anticipated that there would be an impact on travel arrangements for the children. However, it is not anticipated that any learner in the Baladeulyn catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.

When considering the latest data numbers, namely September 2025, it is anticipated that an 8-seater bus would need to be organised in order to transport learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn who would be eligible for transport (in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy) to Ysgol Talysarn. These transport costs are estimated to be around £17,000 per year.

If there was an increase in the number of learners in the catchment area in the future, then it may mean that it would be necessary to provide a school bus in order to transport Ysgol Baladeulyn's current catchment area learners who would be eligible for transport (in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy). These transport costs are estimated to be around £30,000 per year.

As a result, it is anticipated that the option to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and transfer learners to Ysgol Talysarn would lead to additional transport costs for the Authority. These costs are estimated to be around £17,000-£30,000 per year to provide transport if all the learners in Ysgol Baladeulyn's catchment area chose to attend Ysgol Talysarn.

# IMPACT ASSESSMENT ON THE COMMUNITY – YSGOL BALADEULYN (SEPTEMBER 2025)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

When developing proposals for the organisation of schools, the Authority is required to conduct an assessment of the likely impact on the community, in accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018).

### 1.1 Background

Ysgol Baladeulyn is located near the village of Talysarn on the outskirts of Penygroes and serves the village and the surrounding area. Ysgol Baladeulyn's situation has come to the attention of the Department of Education according to the September 2024 Census, as one of the schools with the smallest number of learners in Gwynedd. There has been a significant reduction in the numbers of learners at Baladeulyn School over the past 10 years, from 33 pupils in 2015 down to 6 full time learners by September 2025, which leads to uncertainty about the school's future.

At their meeting on 11 February 2025, the Cabinet supported a recommendation to start formal discussions with Ysgol Baladeulyn stakeholders in order to consider options for the future.

Between March and July 2025, 3 local meetings were held with Ysgol Baladeulyn's stakeholders where a number of options were proposed and discussed.

## 2. THE OPTIONS

---

The Authority considered and discussed a number of options for the future of Ysgol Baladeulyn, including:

- *Do nothing - continue with the school's current structure*
- *Federating with a neighbouring school (Ysgol Talysarn)*

This option would mean establishing a formal collaboration arrangement, between 3 schools, as Ysgol Talysarn has already federated with Ysgol Brynaerau. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved, and a (new) federal governing body would be formed. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

- *Closing Ysgol Baladeulyn and offering the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)*

This option meant that Ysgol Baladeulyn would close, and that learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn would be offered a place at Ysgol Talysarn (the alternative school).

- *Merge local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn*

This option would mean merging a number of local schools, by closing the schools and establishing one multi-site school which would include the Ysgol Baladeulyn site. The option would enable the possibility of sharing resources, buildings and expertise.

This model would ensure continuity in the presence of a school site in the village of Nantlle by establishing a multi-site school, under the leadership of a headteacher and one governing body.

- *Add a specialist area for children with special needs at Baladeulyn School*

This option would mean adding an area for an ALN unit on the school site in order to offer special education to the children who would need additional support.

- *Federating with another school adding a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn*

This option would mean establishing a formal collaboration arrangement, between 3 schools, as Ysgol Talysarn has already federated with Ysgol Brynaearu. This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nantlle through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. The governing bodies of the individual schools would be dissolved, and a (new) federal governing body would be formed. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

In addition to federalisation, this option would also mean adding a location for a ALN Unit.

- *Include a language unit at Ysgol Baladeulyn*

This option would mean adding a Language Immersion Unit on the school site in order to offer an immersion service in the Welsh language for new speakers.

### 3. SUMMARY OF THE CATCHMENT AREA

---

#### 3.1 The Area

Ysgol Baladeulyn is located in the rural village of Nantlle near the village of Talysarn and Penygroes in Gwynedd and within the ward of Llanllyfni. According to the 2021 census, there are 1,957 people living in Llanllyfni ward.

#### 3.2 The Economy

55.5% of people aged between 16 and 74 within the Llanllyfni ward are economically active, and 3.7% of these are unemployed. 43.2% of people in the same age group are economically inactive with 5.9% of these ill or disabled for a long period.

The type of industry in which the population is active is varied in the area, with the highest rate (19.9%) working in the health and social work field.

According to data from the 'Index of Multiple Deprivation Wales (2019)' the employment rate of Llanllyfni and Clynnog ward compared to other wards in Wales gives a rank of 1149 out of 1909 wards. Therefore, Llanllyfni and Chlynnog ward is within the most deprived 30-50% in Wales.

#### 3.3 Deprivation

Llanllyfni and Chlynnog Ward is ranked within the most deprived 30%-50% in Wales (rank 748 out of 1909 wards).

A number of areas make up this overall index, including income, employment, health, education, access to services, community safety, physical environment, and housing.

It is noted that Llanllyfni and Chlynnog ward is within the 10% most deprived areas in Wales in the 'Housing' field. The indicators in this area are the proportion of people living in overcrowded homes (use of bedrooms), and the proportion of people living in homes without central heating.

In addition, the ward of Llanllyfni and Chlynnog is within the 10% of the most deprived areas in Wales in the area of 'access to services', i.e. deprivation because people are unable to access a variety of services that are considered essential for day-to-day living. The indicators include average public and private travel times to a number of services such as food shops, doctor's surgery, primary and secondary schools, post office, public library, pharmacy, leisure centre and private travel time to a petrol station.

Below is a summary of how the Llanllyfni and Clynnog area is situated in the context of other areas in Wales according to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2019):

Area	Rank in Wales, out of 1909 areas. (1 = most deprived and 1909 = least deprived)	Most deprived % in Wales
Employment	1149	



Income	860	
Health	1267	
Education	1238	
Housing	67	Within the most deprived 10%
Physical environment	1251	
Access to services	100	Within the most deprived 10%
Community safety	922	

### 3.4 The Community

A number of activities are held in the Nantlle area, including;

- Tal y Mignedd Race
- Gŵyl Dewi
- Trigonos Plas Baladeulyn
- Llys Llywelyn
- Christmas Service

## 4. YSGOL BALADEULYN

### 4.1 The context of the schools according to the Estyn Inspection Reports

As part of Estyn's reports, the schools are placed in context, and their community relations are detailed. This is the context given to Ysgol Baladeulyn by Estyn inspectors.

#### Ysgol Baladeulyn

*"Ysgol Gynradd Baladeulyn is situated in the village of Nantlle near the foot of Snowdon, about three miles from Pen-y-groes in Gwynedd."*

Source: Estyn Report, November 2017

### 4.2 Statistical information of the schools

The table below shows the numbers of Ysgol Baladeulyn and the other schools within the catchment area of Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle. This table also shows the school's capacity and number on the roll in January 2025. All schools teach through the medium of Welsh.

School	Full Capacity (N – BI6)	Number on the register January 2025 (N – BI6)	Legal Category	Linguistic Category
Baladeulyn	62	8	Community School	Category 3
Talysarn	104	101	Community School	Category 3
Bro Lleu	207	190	Community School	Category 3
Llanllyfni	117	72	Community School	Category 3

<b>Nebo</b>	58	12	Community School	Category 3
<b>Brynaerau</b>	81	59	Community School	Category 3
<b>Bro Llifon</b>	196	149	Community School	Category 3

*Source: Census September 2025*

#### 4.3 Dwelling location information and learners' choice of schools

Each school has a specific catchment area which it serves, and which is important in terms of the Council's access and transport policy. Learners do not have to attend their catchment area school; the choice is up to parents (in accordance with the admission policy).

The latest data (September 2025 data) shows that 63% of children who live in Ysgol Baladeulyn's catchment area attend schools outside the catchment area. The table below indicates the proportion of learners who live in the catchment area and attend the catchment area school, and the proportion of learners in the catchment area who attend schools outside the catchment area.

<b>School</b>	<b>Proportion of catchment area learners who attend the catchment area school</b>	<b>Proportion of catchment area learners who attend non-catchment area schools</b>	<b>Proportion of the school's learners who attend the school from outside the Catchment Area</b>
Bro Lleu	79.4%	20.6%	25%
Brynaerau	81.5%	18.5%	17%
Llanllyfni	53.6%	46.4%	25%
Nebo	28.6%	71.4%	81.8%
Talysarn	83.1%	16.9%	23.8%
Baladeulyn	25%	75%	71.4%
Bro Llifon	85.8%	14.2%	23.1%

*Source: September 2025 Census*

#### 4.4 Summary of the various facilities in the community of Baladeulyn and Talysarn (October 2025)

	<b>Baladeulyn</b>	<b>Talysarn</b>
<b>Community Centre / Village Hall</b>	✓	✓
<b>Chapel/Church</b>	✓	
<b>Public Transport</b>	✓	✓
<b>Shop</b>		
<b>Cafe/Pub</b>		
<b>Post Office</b>		
<b>Pharmacy</b>		
<b>Library</b>		
<b>Children's Playground</b>	✓	✓
<b>Bank</b>		
<b>Old People's Home</b>		
<b>Leisure Centre</b>		
<b>Garage</b>	✓	
<b>Tourist Attraction</b>	✓	
<b>Cylch Ti a Fi + Meithrin</b>		✓

## Community Centre

Llys Llywelyn Centre is located in the village of Nantlle which is 0.5 miles from Baladeulyn school and hosts a number of community activities including:

- Summer Fair
- Christmas Fair
- Concerts
- Coffee Morning
- Market

### 4.5 Summary of the schools' use outside the school's core hours:

	Baladeulyn	Talysarn
Playgroups (School Holidays)		✓
Aelwyd yr Urdd		
Dramas		
Voluntary Groups		
Morning/Evening Coffee	✓	✓
Community Auction		
Community Library		
Choir Practice		
Cymraeg for Adults		
Town/Community Council Meeting		
Cylch/Ysgol Feithrin		✓
Club/Sports Activity		✓
After School Club		
Local Interest Club		

### 4.6 A summary of activities or groups in which the school is regularly involved:

	Baladeulyn	Talysarn
Cylch Meithrin/Ti a Fi		✓
Eisteddfodau (Local/County/National)		
Sections of the Urdd		
Other activities (sports, clubs)		✓

### 4.7 If buildings, rooms, facilities or services are provided by a school on behalf of the community, where would they be provided if the school is closed?

School	Where will facilities be provided if it closes
Baladeulyn	According to the Headteacher at the beginning of 2025, no community use was being made of the school and the Llys Llywelyn Center is available for carrying out activities in the area as well as Trigonos Plas Baladeulyn.

## 4.8 Information about distance and travel time to other schools in the catchment area

The table below indicates the distance and travel time between schools in the area. We see that Ysgol Talysarn is the closest to Ysgol Baladeulyn. The journey times below take into account the nature of the lanes and the effect this can have on journey times in a rural area.

School		Baladeulyn
Talysarn	Miles	2.5
	Minutes	5
Bro Lleu	Miles	3.3
	Minutes	6
Llanllyfni	Miles	4.3
	Minutes	10
Nebo	Miles	5.8
	Minutes	14
Brynaerau	Miles	6.1
	Minutes	15
Bro Llifon	Miles	6.3
	Minutes	13

Source: Google Maps 2025

## 5. ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

In order to assess the community impact of the possible models, it was decided to create criteria in accordance with the recommendations of the community assessment considerations of the School Organization Code 011/2018.

Positive	Neutral	Negative
----------	---------	----------

### OPTION 1: NO CHANGE – CONTINUE WITH THE CURRENT STRUCTURE

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	There will be no change to the current provision so no change to the impact on health and well-being is anticipated.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As there is no change to the current provision there will be no impact on public transport provision. Any transport required by Ysgol Baladeulyn for eligible catchment area learners will continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	There will be no change to the provision so no change to the current use of the school is anticipated.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	There will be no change to the provision, therefore no change is anticipated to impact on wider community safety.	Neutral

Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	There will be no change to the provision, therefore no change is anticipated to how parents choose a school for their children or affect the choice to live in the catchment area.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	There would be no change to what is currently provided so no impact on other local services is anticipated.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	There would be no change to what is currently being provided so no adverse impact on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	There would be no change to what is currently provided so no impact on the local community is anticipated.	Neutral

## **OPTION 2: FEDERATING WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL (TALYSARN)**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	Because federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open there would be no change to the current provision so no change to the impact on health and well-being is anticipated.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	Because federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open, no impact on the provision of public transport is anticipated. Any transport required by Ysgol Baladeulyn for eligible catchment area learners will continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	Because federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open, no change to the current use of the school is foreseen.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	Because federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open no change is anticipated to impact on wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	Because federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open, no change is foreseen to how parents choose a school for their children or affect the choice of living in the catchment area or not. A high proportion of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area (75%).	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	Because federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open, no change is foreseen to what is currently being provided, so no impact on other local services is foreseen.	Neutral

Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	Because federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open, no change is foreseen to what is currently being provided, so no adverse effect on the wider economy of the community is foreseen.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	Because federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open, no change is foreseen to what is currently being provided so no impact on the local community is foreseen. However, opportunities are identified for the community of Baladeulyn and the communities of the schools that would be part of the federation to come together.	Neutral

**OPSIWN 3: CAU YSGOL BALADEULYN A CHYNNIG LLE I'R DYSGWYR MEWN YSGOL GYFAGOS (TALYSARN)**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	As the alternative school is located approximately 2.5 miles from Ysgol Baladeulyn, and further from the homes of the catchment area learners, it is not anticipated that they would be likely to walk to school.  It is anticipated that being in a larger school such as Ysgol Talysarn would offer more opportunities to play and participate in team sports and therefore contribute positively towards the health and well-being of learners.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that there will be any impact on public transport provision as any transport to an alternative school as a result of any change will be arranged specifically for learners in the catchment area who are eligible in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	The impact assessment shows that there is no community use of Ysgol Baladeulyn. As a result, a Negative effect on this criterion is not predicted if the school were to close.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	No impact on wider community safety is anticipated.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	A high proportion of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area (75%) and 63% of primary age children in Ysgol Baladeulyn's catchment area already attend Ysgol Talysarn, therefore it is not anticipated that families and young children would leave the community if the school were to close. In addition, as an alternative school is located 2.5 miles from Ysgol Baladeulyn, it is not anticipated that it would have an impact on families and the school age gap leaving the community.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	Numerous events are held at Llys Llywelyn Centre. As the Centre is independent from the school it is not anticipated that the closure of the school would have a significant direct impact on community use of the Llys Llywelyn Centre.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	As the majority of children in the catchment area attend schools outside the catchment area, it is not anticipated that closing Ysgol Baladeulyn would have an impact on the wider economy of the community.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	As a high percentage of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area (75%), we cannot positively state that closing the school would have a negative or positive effect on the local community.  However, if the proposal is implemented the local school would be further away from homes within the current catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn, and from a deprivation point of view - it means that one of the indicators	Negative

	<p>of 'access to services' is moving away from the residents of the area. As a result, it is anticipated that there will be some Negative impact on the local community if the school were to close.</p> <p>To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Nantlle community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Talysarn and the Nantlle community is encouraged, where appropriate.</p>	
--	--	--

#### **OPSIWN 4: UNO YSGOLION LLEOL ER MWYN CEFNOGI A CHYNNAL YSGOL BALADEULYN**

<b>Impact Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status of the impact and the work</b>
Impact on Health and well-being	As the provision on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site would continue, it is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on health and well-being.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As the provision on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site would continue, no impact on public transport provision is anticipated if this option were to be implemented. Any transport that would be required to the Ysgol Baladeulyn site for eligible catchment area learners would continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As the Ysgol Baladeulyn site would continue as part of the multi-site school, it is not anticipated that the implementation of this option would have an impact on other facilities/services provided at the school.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	No change is anticipated to impact on wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	No change is foreseen to the school's current provision. A high proportion of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area (75%).	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	As the Ysgol Baladeulyn site would continue as part of the multi-site school, no change is foreseen to what is currently being provided. As a result, no impact on other local services is anticipated.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would affect what is currently provided so no adverse impact on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	As the Ysgol Baladeulyn site would continue, it is anticipated that the general impact on the local community would be Neutral if this option were to be implemented.	Neutral

**OPTION 5: ADD A SPECIALISED AREA FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN YSGOL BALADEULYN**

<b>Impact Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status of the impact and the work</b>
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and well-being as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the provision of public transport as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	It is anticipated that this option would have a positive impact on the other facilities/services provided at the school, as it would mean that an additional learning needs unit is also located on the site, but it is not anticipated that this will affect the community.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	As federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open there would be no change to the current provision so no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	Because federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open, no change is foreseen to how parents choose a school for their children or affect the choice of living in the catchment area or not. A high proportion of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area (75%).	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on site.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider economy of the community, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral



**OPTION 6: FEDERATING WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL BY ADDING A SPECIALIST AREA FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AT BALADEULYN SCHOOL**

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and well-being as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, but as part of a federation with a neighbouring school, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	Any transport required to Ysgol Baladeulyn will be for learners the applicable catchment area continues in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As federation will mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn remains open there would be no change to the current provision so no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with the provision of an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school-aged children to leave the community, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on site.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider economy of the community, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site. However, opportunities are identified for the Baladeulyn community and the Talysarn school community to come together.	Neutral

# **OPTION 7: CONTENT OF A LANGUAGE UNIT ON THE BALADEULYN SCHOOL SITE**

<b>Impact Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status of the impact and the work</b>
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and well-being as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with the provision of a Language Unit also located on the site.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the provision of public transport as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on these criteria as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with a Language Unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with the provision of a Language Unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school-age children to leave the community, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with the provision of a Language Unit also located on site.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider economy of the community, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with the provision of a Language Unit also located on the site.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with the provision of a Language Unit also located on the site.	Neutral

## 6. CONCLUSION

---

This assessment shows that the impact on the community would be Neutral if the options listed below are implemented:

- Do nothing - continue with the school's current structure.
- Federating with a neighbouring school (Ysgol Talysarn)
- Merging local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn
- Add a specialist area for children with special needs at Baladeulyn School
- Federalisation with another school adding a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn
- Include a language unit at Ysgol Baladeulyn

Although some of the options would involve locating a Language Unit or ALN provision on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site, and as a result, additional services would be provided on the school site, it is not anticipated that this would have an impact on the community.

The assessment shows that some negative impact on the community is anticipated if the option to close Ysgol Baladeulyn is implemented. It is recognized that closing Ysgol Baladeulyn would lead to the loss of a school in the Nantlle community, however the assessment stated that a large proportion of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Talysarn (63%), and therefore it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Talysarn and the Ysgol Baladeulyn community already exists.

Although there is no community use of Ysgol Baladeulyn's building, the school is involved with its community and uses it the community's facilities occasionally.

Should the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn be realized, every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Talysarn. To mitigate the impact on the identified community opportunities to ensure that the Baladeulyn community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration is encouraged between Ysgol Talysarn and the community of Baladeulyn, where appropriate.

If the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn were to materialize, it will be essential as part of the process to encourage discussions between the alternative school (Ysgol Talysarn) and the parents of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners so that parents and learners can take advantage of their facilities and any after school activities.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

---

Supporting and developing the ability of Gwynedd children to learn and use their language skills is key to the County's education strategies.

### 1.1 The Situation in Gwynedd

Figures in the 2021 Census indicate that 66% of people over the age of three can speak, read or write in Welsh. The 2021 Census also states that 64% speak Welsh which is a decrease since the previous census, when the figure was 65%.

In Gwynedd, as in many other Local Authorities in Wales, there is a considerable difference in the percentage of Welsh speakers within different wards. At one extreme, in wards such as Aberdyfi, Tywyn and Canol Bangor between 26% and 44% of the population speak Welsh, while as much as 86% speak Welsh in the most Welsh areas e.g. Hendre and Llanrug.

### 1.2 Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)

The Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan is a statutory document of the Local Authority and aligns with the Welsh Government's priorities for developing Welsh-medium education (in line with the *Cymraeg 2050* targets). There are 7 outcomes that Local Authorities are expected to implement in order to realise the outcomes, namely:

1. More nursery children/three-year-olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh.
2. More reception class children/five-year-olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh.
3. More children continue to improve their Welsh-language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another.
4. More learners study Welsh as a subject and subjects through the medium of Welsh.
5. Increase opportunities to use Welsh in different contexts.
6. Improve the provision of Welsh-medium education for ALN pupils.

Increase the number staff who are able to teach in Welsh.

### 1.3 Language Policy

#### **Primary**

The aim of the Language Policy is the same across all primary schools in the County, which is to develop the ability of all pupils to be proficient in both languages by the end of KS2. Welsh is the official language of assessment at the school at the end of the Foundation Phase. In KS2, pupils' grasp of the Welsh language continues to be developed, paying attention to developing their skills in both languages.

#### **Secondary**

In the secondary, all pupils who have reached the necessary level, which is level 3+ at the end of KS2, are expected to follow Welsh as a First Language in KS3 in order to ensure appropriate progression and continuity. It is hoped that these pupils can study Welsh and English as subjects until the end of year 11.

The secondary schools build on the foundation laid in the primary by ensuring that all pupils continue to develop skills in Welsh and English. The County does not define secondary schools according to linguistic categories as there is the same expectation in relation to the Language Policy, which is to give all pupils in the County the opportunity to be proficient bilingually.

### 1.4 A million speakers by 2050

*Cymraeg 2050* is the Welsh Government's latest strategy for the Welsh language and covers the next three decades. This document sets out specific targets for increasing the numbers who speak the language together with the use of Welsh.

The aims of *Cymraeg 2050* include:

	<b>Aim</b>	<b>Target</b>
1.	Increase the number of Welsh speakers	1 Million speakers by 2050
2.	Increase the use of the Welsh language	Daily users of the Welsh language increasing from 10% to 20%

The strategic document *Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers* emphasizes the importance of increasing the numbers who speak Welsh but it is also emphasized that increasing the daily use of the Welsh language is equally important.

*Moving towards the position where we have a million speakers is one aspect of our vision for a thriving Welsh language. However, a thriving Welsh language is a language that is used. We want the use of Welsh to be a routine part of everyday life, so that speakers at all levels feel confident in its use in formal and informal situations..... The Welsh Language Use Survey 2013–15 (Welsh Government and Welsh Language Commissioner 2015) shows that there is a clear link between fluency and frequency of Welsh language use – 84 per cent of fluent Welsh speakers speak Welsh daily.*

*Source: Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers (2017)*

### 1.5 Gwynedd Language Strategy 2023-2033

*The Welsh Language Standards imposed on Cyngor Gwynedd by the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 place an expectation on the Council to draw up a 5-year strategy that will show how it intends to promote the Welsh language and to facilitate the use of the Welsh language across the county. The Gwynedd Language Strategy 2023-2033 is Cyngor Gwynedd's latest strategy for the Welsh language. This document sets out specific targets for increasing the numbers who speak the language:*

	<b>How will we increase the number of speakers?</b>	<b>How will we measure on a local level, and during the period of the strategy?</b>
1.	Provide opportunities for children and young people who are not yet Welsh speakers (e.g., newcomers, children who do not receive mainstream education), to learn and become confident Welsh speakers.	Number of children receiving Welsh-medium education. Number of children receiving support through the Education Department's immersion system.
2.	Provide opportunities for adults to become new speakers via the Council's learner support schemes and community provision of partners.	Number of Council employees who receive Welsh learning lessons. Provision of community Welsh learning courses.

*There is also a commitment in the Strategy to increase the use of the Welsh language in the following areas:*

- *The language of the early years*
- *Language of Learning*
- *Working and Service Language*
- *The Welsh language*

## 2. YSGOL BALADEULYN'S CATCHMENT AREA LANGUAGE PROFILE

### 2.1 Background of Gwynedd's Language Profile

64.4% of the County's population who are over the age of three are Welsh speakers - significantly higher than the figure for Wales as a whole of 17.8%. In Gwynedd, the ability to speak Welsh is highest in Hendre ward (86% speak Welsh), and lowest in the Canol Bangor area (25.6%).

### 2.2 Wards

#### 2.2.1 Llanllyfni and Clynnog, Y Groeslon, Penygroes and Talysarn Wards

The catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn, Ysgol Nebo, Ysgol Brynaerau and Ysgol Llanllyfni are within the ward of Llanllyfni and Clynnog, with the catchment area of Ysgol Bro Llifon within the ward of Y Groeslon, with the catchment area of Ysgol Bro Lleu within the ward of Penygroes and the catchment area of Ysgol Talysarn within the ward of Talysarn (Office for National Statistics, 2021). The linguistic profile of the wards of these schools is summarised in the table below:

	<b>Llanllyfni and Clynnog</b>	<b>Y Groeslon</b>	<b>Penygroes</b>	<b>Talysarn</b>	<b>Gwynedd</b>	<b>Cymru</b>
Welsh identity only	1,407 (64.8%)	1,200 (72.2%)	1,363 (75.6%)	1,206 (62.2%)	69,560 (59.3%)	1,715,975 (55.2%)
No Welsh identity	35.2%	27.8%	24.4%	37.8%	36.3%	36.7%
Population 3+ years old	2,173 (100%)	1,621 (100%)	1,802 (100%)	1,943 (100%)	114,308 (100%)	3,018,172 (100%)
Able to speak Welsh	1,508 (69.4%)	1,247 (77%)	1447 (80.3%)	1,312 (67.5%)	73,560 (64.4%)	538,296 (17.8%)
No Welsh skills	429 (19.7%)	237 (14.6%)	195 (10.8%)	390 (20.1%)	29,977 (26.2%)	2,259,017 (74.8%)
Able to understand oral Welsh only	121 (5.6%)	98 (6.0%)	66 (3.7%)	133 (6.8%)	8,166 (7.1%)	156,762 (5.2%)
Able to speak Welsh but unable to read or write Welsh	108 (5%)	58 (3.6%)	96 (5.3%)	104 (5.4%)	6,142 (5.4%)	68,391 (2.3%)
Able to speak and read Welsh but not able to write Welsh	53 (2.4%)	43 (2.7%)	52 (2.9%)	57 (2.9%)	3,170 (2.8%)	33,971 (1.1%)
Able to speak, read and write Welsh	1,327 (61.1%)	1,128 (69.6%)	1,279 (71%)	1,119 (57.6%)	63,256 (55.3%)	429,313 (14.2%)
Able to write Welsh but unable to speak or read Welsh	10 (0.5%)	7 (0.4%)	2 (0.1%)	7 (0.4%)	387 (0.3%)	4,970 (0.2%)
Able to read and write Welsh but not able to speak Welsh	16 (0.7%)	23 (1.4%)	24 (1.3%)	12 (0.6%)	1004 (0.9%)	17,560 (0.6%)
Another combination of Welsh skills	20 (0.9%)	18 (1.1%)	20 (1.1%)	32 (1.6%)	993 (0.9%)	6,621 (0.2%)

Source: Census 2021, Office for National Statistics

### 2.3 Ysgol Baladeulyn

The table below shows that the majority of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners speak Welsh fluently.

School	Speak Welsh fluently at home	Speak Welsh at home but not fluently	No Welsh speaking at home but fluent	No Welsh speaking at home and not fluent	No Welsh speaking at all
Baladeulyn	55%	27%	0%	18%	0%

Source: Percentage of January 2025 respondents

## 2.4 Nearby schools

Linguistic data for the nearby schools can be seen below.

School	Speak Welsh fluently at home	Speak Welsh at home but not fluently	No Welsh speaking at home but fluent	No Welsh speaking at home and not fluent	No Welsh speaking at all
Brynaerau	63%	8%	2%	10%	17%
Llanllyfni	80%	8%	1%	4%	7%
Nebo	50%	12.5%	25%	12.5%	0%
Bro Lleu	73%	3%	2%	6%	16%
Talysarn	37%	16%	4%	19%	24%
Bro Llifon	83%	3%	1%	3%	10%

Source: Percentage of number of January 2025 respondents

## 2.5 Activities after school

This is a summary of what Ysgol Baladeulyn and the other schools in the Dyffryn Nantlle secondary catchment area offer on school sites.

	Baladeulyn	Talysarn	Bro Lleu	Llanllyfni	Brynaerau	Bro Llifon	Nebo
Playgroups (School Holidays)			✓				
Members of the Urdd				✓		✓	✓
Morning/Evening Coffee	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Cylch/Ysgol Feithrin			✓	✓		✓	
Club/After school club/Sports Activity		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

It can be seen in the table above that only activities such as Morning/Evening Coffee are held at Ysgol Baladeulyn, which is significantly less than the after school provision in the other schools in the catchment area. This means that there are less opportunities for Baladeulyn learners to take advantage of after school activities to use and develop the Welsh language.

## 2.6 Community Activities

Canolfan Llys Llywelyn is located approximately 0.5 miles away from Ysgol Baladeulyn and hosts a number of activities. This is an outline of the community elements that the School is regularly involved with;

- Summer Fair
- Christmas Fair
- Concerts
- Coffee Morning
- Market



## 2.7 Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032

Ysgol Baladeulyn and the nearby schools implement the objectives of Cyngor Gwynedd's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032. This includes:

- That all pupils in the county have appropriate linguistic skills in Welsh and English, and that that expectation is consistent across all schools.
- That there is suitable provision to enable all pupils to develop proficiently bilingually. In this context, schools are expected to continue to nurture the skills of those pupils who are Welsh speakers, and introduce the Welsh language to those who are learners.
- That all the county's education institutions reflect and reinforce the Language Policy in their administration, their social life and their pastoral order, as well as in their curricular provision.

The implementation of the proposal would be in line with the objectives of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-32.

## 2.8 Additional Evidence

### Ysgol Baladeulyn

The Estyn report in 2017 says:

*“Welsh is the main medium of the school’s life and work ... Approximately three-quarters of pupils speak Welsh at home ... There is a very strong Welsh ethos at the school, and provision encourages pupils to make full use of the Welsh language in all aspects of school life. Pupils show pride towards the language and an obvious appreciation of the culture and history of the local area.”*

[Ysgol Baladeulyn Estyn inspection report November 2017](#)

### Ysgol Talysarn

Mae adroddiad Estyn 2017 yn nodi:

*“Welsh is the school’s everyday language and the main medium of teaching and learning. English is taught formally in key stage 2. Approximately 50% of pupils come from Welsh-speaking homes... Approximately half the pupils come from non-Welsh speaking homes; however, their spoken Welsh skills develop at a very early stage.”*

[Ysgol Talysarn Estyn Inspection Report January 2017](#)

### 3. Assessment of the impact on the Welsh language

#### 3.1 The Options

- Do nothing - continue with the school's current structure.

Keeping the current system would mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn continues in the same way, with the same staffing structure.

Note that although the case for change has been established, the Do nothing model has been included in the assessment for comparison purposes.

- Federating with a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nantlle through a collaboration arrangement with a school, or schools nearby, led by a head or heads and one governing body. This option would mean establishing a formal collaboration arrangement, between 3 schools, as Ysgol Talysarn has already federated with Ysgol Brynaerau. These schools would share one governing body, but at the same time keep their legal status as separate entities, their financial allocation, name and school uniform, and continue to have their own Estyn inspection.

It is not anticipated that federalisation would have an impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with opportunities to strengthen the leadership position, and work together for the school.

- Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)

This option would mean closing Ysgol Baladeulyn, and offering a place for learners at Ysgol Talysarn.

This option would mean that Ysgol Baladeulyn would close, and that the learners of the current Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area would be offered a place in Ysgol Talysarn (the alternative school).

The table on the next page contains an assessment of the impact of closing Ysgol Baladeulyn and teaching the learner at Ysgol Talysarn, on the Welsh language compared to the current situation. The table also outlines the additional opportunities for strengthening the Welsh language, and methods of mitigating any negative impact that may arise from the proposed proposal.

- Merge local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would mean closing local schools, including Ysgol Baladeulyn, creating a new school across a number of sites, including the existing site of Ysgol Baladeulyn.

It is not anticipated that this option would have a negative effect on the Welsh language. Depending on the structure of the multi-site school, there may be opportunities for learners to access a wider range of suitable resources, higher supply in terms of staffing, and they could be part of a larger group of peers.

- Add a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would mean continuing with Ysgol Baladeulyn adding a specific specialized area for children with additional learning needs on the school site.

It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the Welsh language in the school as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue.

- Federating with another school adding a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

This option would mean continuing with Ysgol Baladeulyn and adding a specific specialist area for children with additional learning needs on the school site by federating with another school.

It is anticipated that federalisation would have an impact on the Welsh language in the school as Ysgol Baladeulyn would continue, with opportunities to strengthen the leadership, and work together for the school.

- Include a language unit in Ysgol Baladeulyn site

This option would mean continuing with Ysgol Baladeulyn and adding a language unit on the school site.

It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the Welsh language in the school as there would be no change to the education provision provided by Ysgol Baladeulyn. However, it is likely that there will be a positive impact on the Welsh language of the children who will attend the language Unit.

## 4. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE

Assessment of the impact on the Welsh language - Proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn)

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work	Have any measures been identified to mitigate any negative impact or to create more positive opportunities	Final impact (following mitigation methods)
<b>School language (formal)</b>	Ysgol Baladeulyn is a Welsh-medium school. As Ysgol Talysarn is also a Welsh-medium school, it is concluded that the proposed proposal would not have an impact on the children's language of education.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
<b>School language (informal)</b>	January 2025's PLASC statistics show that 55% of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners speak Welsh fluently at home and 37% of Ysgol Talysarn learners. Learners would have access to a higher supply in terms of staffing and would be part of a larger group of peers of the same age, the proposal could strengthen the opportunities for learners within the classroom. However, it is anticipated that the proposal may negatively affect the social use of Baladeulyn learners of the Welsh language as fewer learners at Ysgol Talysarn are fluent in Welsh.	Neutral	The Local Authority and Governing Body of Ysgol Talysarn could discuss methods to encourage and foster pupil's opportunities and confidence to use Welsh in informal contexts.	Irrelevant
<b>Access to Welsh medium education</b>	Ysgol Talysarn is a Welsh-medium school, like Ysgol Baladeulyn. It is therefore not anticipated that the proposal would affect this criterion.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
<b>Non-statutory provision</b>	Learners would have access to a higher supply in terms of staffing and would be part of a larger group of peers of the same age.	Positive	The local authority and Ysgol Talysarn's Governing Body could discuss methods to ensure that pupils can participate in extracurricular activities.	Positive
<b>Activities before/after school</b>	Ysgol Talysarn is a larger school in terms of numbers of learners so the peer groups will be larger. Ysgol Talysarn also offers clubs and activities after school which offer opportunities to use Welsh before/after school.	Positive	The Local Authority and Ysgol Talysarn Governing Body could consider any additional opportunities for holding activities after school, ensuring that arrangements are in place to include learners in the Baladeulyn catchment area.	Positive
<b>Use of the Welsh Language in</b>	If the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn was to be realised, then it is anticipated that some elements of community events will be affected. It is anticipated that there may be some negative impact resulting from the realisation of the proposal,	Negative	The Local Authority and Ysgol Talysarn Governing Body can consider methods of promoting the use of the Welsh language	Neutral

the community	as parents/guardians/families will not meet daily in the Baladeulyn community when dropping off/collecting children from school.		by including the Nantlle community in the school's community activities.	
---------------	--	--	--	--

## 5. CONCLUSION

---

Our expectations are that all learners in the County have a balanced, age-relevant bilingualism so they can be complete members of the bilingual society they are part of. The proposals for reorganisation will need to take full account of all the linguistic effects. Maintaining and improving the use of Welsh as an educational and social language among children will be a key consideration when drawing up proposals within the area.

It is not anticipated that any of the options set out in section 3 above would have a negative impact on the Welsh language.

From the perspective of the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and transfer learners to Ysgol Talysarn, the proposed proposal would have a partial impact on some elements in the context of the Welsh language, mainly:

- that the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer the learners a place at a nearby school (Ysgol Talysarn) would mean that the Baladeulyn learners would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school.
- That the proposed proposal would mean that learners would have access to a higher supply in terms of staffing and would be part of a larger group of peers of the same age, the proposal could strengthen the opportunities for learners within the class.
- that the proposed proposal would mean that Baladeulyn learners would be less likely to use the Welsh in informal contexts with their peers beyond school hours.
- That the proposed proposal would mean that fewer parents would likely meet daily in Baladeulyn's community while dropping off and picking up children.

Based on the above, if the proposed proposal is implemented, it is anticipated that the use of the Welsh language by learners in the Baladeulyn catchment area would not be effected in the formal school context. There would be a positive impact on the use of Welsh beyond school hours due to access to clubs and after school activities. However, it is anticipated that there would be less use of the Welsh language in informal contexts at school.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

As a Council, we are committed to the principles within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of communities in Gwynedd.

The Council's vision:

*Our vision as a Council is to support all the people of Gwynedd to thrive and live full lives in their community, in a county which is one of the best counties to live in.*

The Council has adopted well-being objectives which reiterate the national well-being goals, to ensure the following for the residents of Gwynedd:

- Giving our children and young people the best possible start in life
- Strengthening the economy and supporting the residents of Gwynedd to earn a worthy wage
- Supporting the people of Gwynedd to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities
- Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities
- Ensuring that we give every possible opportunity for our residents to use the Welsh language in the community
- Protecting the natural beauty of the county, and responding positively to the climate change crisis
- Putting the people of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently.

The table below outlines the link between our well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.

	Llewyrchus	Cydnorth	Iachach	Cyfartal	Cymunedau Cydlynus	Diwylliant bywiog lle mae'r iaith Gymraeg yn fyynnu	Yn gyfrifol ar lefel fyd-eang
<b>GWYNEDD YFORY</b> Rhoi'r cychwyn gorau posib mewn bywyd i'n plant a'n pobl ifanc							
<b>GWYNEDD LEWYRCHUS</b> Cryfhau'r economi a chefnogi trigolion Gwynedd i ennill cyflogau teilwng							
<b>GWYNEDD GLYD</b> Cefnogi pobl Gwynedd i fyw mewn cartrefi addas a fforddiadwy yn eu cymunedau							
<b>GWYNEDD OFALGAR</b> Cefnogi trigolion Gwynedd i fyw bywydau llawn a diogel yn ein cymunedau							
<b>GWYNEDD GYMRAEG</b> Sicrhau ein bod yn rhoi pob cyfle posib i'n trigolion ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg yn y gymuned.							
<b>GWYNEDD WERDD</b> Gwarchod harddwch naturiol y sir, ac ymateb yn gadarnhaol i'r argyfwng newid hinsawdd							
<b>GWYNEDD EFFEITHLON</b> Rhoi trigolion Gwynedd yn gyntaf gan eu trin yn deg a sicrhau fod y Cyngor yn perfformio'n effeithiol ac effeithlon							

The Education Department has a role to promote the Act's well-being aims amongst learners through its activities and projects. The Act places a duty on public bodies in Wales to improve economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being. As part of the duty, the Council has published well-being objectives that outline the way it will improve well-being in the "Gwynedd Plan 2018-23".

## 2. HOW DOES THE PROPOSAL MEET CYNGOR GWYNEDD'S WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES?

Objectives	
<b>Giving our children and young people the best possible start in life</b>	The proposal will ensure that children in the area gain experiences by socialising with a wider range of age-relevant peers, receive high quality education in a school that is able to offer a learning environment and experiences to a wider range of learners.
<b>Strengthening the economy and supporting the residents of Gwynedd to earn a worthy wage</b>	It is anticipated that implementing this option would lead to staff redundancies. Cyngor Gwynedd, in conjunction with Trade Unions and headteachers have developed a detailed staffing policy. The policy will form the basis for any change in staff employment deriving from any proposal. Clear and open communication will be a core part of the successful implementation of any proposals.
<b>Supporting the people of Gwynedd to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities</b>	No impact.
<b>Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities</b>	Ensuring that the learners receive education of the highest quality will be integral to the proposal, to ensure that they receive an education of the same standard and quality in the alternative school.
<b>Ensuring that we give every possible opportunity for our residents to use the Welsh language in the community</b>	<p>Ysgol Baladeulyn's learners live in a Welsh-speaking society and are taught in a Welsh-medium school, like the alternative school.</p> <p>It is likely that the proposed proposal would have a positive impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Baladeulyn learners benefit from more opportunities to use the Welsh language with a wider range of peers in the classroom and socially. However, it is anticipated that the proposal could have a negative impact on Baladeulyn learners' social use of the Welsh language as fewer learners at Ysgol Talysarn are fluent in Welsh.</p> <p>Ysgol Talysarn serves an area that is a stronghold of the Welsh language with just over 2/3 of the population able to speak Welsh.</p>
<b>Protecting the natural beauty of the county, and responding positively to the climate change crisis</b>	No impact.
<b>Putting the people of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently</b>	No impact.



### 3. DOES THE PROPOSAL MEET THE WELL-BEING GOALS OF THE ACT?

Aim	Does the proposal contribute to this goal?	Negative impact mitigating measures for this goal:
<b>A prosperous Wales</b> An innovative society which uses resources proportionately, a well-educated population which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities.	<p>The proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and educate the children in Ysgol Talysarn would mean that the learners foster experiences by socialising with a broader range of age-relevant peers and receive a quality education at a school which can offer a learning environment and experiences to a broader range of learners.</p> <p>Implementing the proposed option could lead to staff losing their jobs.</p>	<p>Should the Cabinet resolve to proceed to consultation on the proposal, a statutory consultation would be held that would include all the school's stakeholders, including staff and union representatives.</p> <p>Cyngor Gwynedd has developed a detailed staffing policy, jointly with Trade Unions and headteachers. Any redundancies resulting from this proposal will have to comply with that policy. Clear and open communication will play a core part in the implementation of any proposals.</p>
<b>A resilient Wales</b> A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse environment with healthy ecosystems that support resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposal is likely to impact this aim.</p>	<p>No impact</p>
<b>A healthier Wales</b> A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposal is likely to impact this aim.</p>	<p>No impact</p>

<p><b>A more equal Wales</b> A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances).</p>	<p>It is anticipated that the proposal will improve the Authority's ability to <i>“provide education of the best possible quality that will provide the county’s children with the experiences, skills and confidence to develop into bilingual, successful and well-rounded citizens”</i> in accordance with the 'Excellent Primary Education for the Children of Gwynedd' strategy .</p>	<p>The Equality Assessment notes that it is not anticipated that the proposal is likely to have a negative impact on equality. Additionally, it is noted that there are robust policies and procedures in place that will ensure that the proposal considers and aligns with equal opportunities. It is noted that measures are already in place to ensure that there will be no illegal discrimination or harassment.</p>
<p><b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b> Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.</p>	<p>The community of Nantlle is strong and vibrant and it is acknowledged that the closure of Ysgol Baladeulyn could have some negative impact on the community.</p>	<p>Following an assessment of the likely impact on the community, it has been concluded that the proposal could lead to some negative impact on the community. In acknowledging the negative impact that closing the school could have on the community of Nantlle, it is noted that 62.5% of learners in the Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area already choose to attend Ysgol Talysarn. Therefore, it is considered that a link already exists between the school and the wider area. Should the proposal be implemented, there will be an opportunity to build upon these links between the community in Nantlle and Ysgol Talysarn by holding discussions that will promote including the Nantlle community in the school's community activity.</p>
<p><b>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language</b> A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that there will be an impact on this aim as implementing the proposal would mean that pupils at Ysgol Baladeulyn continue to receive their education in a Welsh medium school.</p>	<p>Following an assessment of the likely impact on the Welsh language, it was concluded that the proposed proposal could lead to some positive and negative impact on the Welsh language. Recognising the effects that closing the school could have on the Welsh language, if the proposed proposal were to be implemented, it is believed that there is an opportunity to build on the work of the Siarter Iaith in order to promote the social use of the Welsh language among all learners.</p>

<p><b>A globally responsible Wales</b></p> <p>A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.</p>	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposal is likely to impact this aim.</p>	<p>No impact</p>
---	--	------------------

## 4. PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Principles of Sustainable Development	Does the proposal consider the principle?
<b>Long Term</b> Balance short term needs with long term ones and plan for the future.	The pattern of declining pupil numbers has been consistent since 2016, with projections showing that the numbers of learners in Ysgol Baladeulyn will reduce further over the coming years, which demonstrates that the current challenges facing the school are long-term and clearly shows that the case for change is clear.
<b>Prevention</b> Allocate resources to prevent problems from occurring or getting worse. We will address problems by prevention and early intervention rather than being responsive.	Should the Cabinet decide to take further steps, the learners' needs will be the priority during all steps of any process.
<b>Integration</b> Have a positive effect on people, the economy, the environment and culture.	The authority decided to begin the process of examining the future of Ysgol Baladeulyn due to the urgent situation facing the school.
<b>Collaboration</b> Work with other partners to provide services.	Collaboration with other relevant departments and the alternative school will be an important part of achieving the objectives for the benefit of the school and the catchment's children.
<b>Involvement (Communication and Engagement)</b> Involve the people of Gwynedd when seeking to realise our plan and ensure that those people reflect the diversity of the area.	<p>In accordance with the Cabinet's decision (11 February 2025), the Ysgol Baladeulyn Review Panel (SRP) was established, and the Governing Body, parents and staff and Local Member were invited to join the panel and participate in the discussion. Three SRP meetings were held between March 2025 and July 2025 to discuss a range of options to seek to respond to the main challenges faced by the school.</p> <p>Should the Cabinet resolve to proceed to consultation on the proposal, a statutory consultation would be held that would include all the school's stakeholders, such as parents, staff, unions and the wider community. This consultation would also include a specific consultation with children and young people.</p>

## 5. CONCLUSION

---

Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, the Council's 7 well-being act goals and well-being objectives, and it is concluded that the proposal meets the requirements.

It is acknowledged that should the Cabinet decide to proceed with this proposal, it may result in the closure of a school in the community of Nantlle, however a large number of the children living within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Talysarn, and therefore there is already a link between the schools and the community of that school. Every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Talysarn. Should the proposal be approved, discussions will take place to discuss the possibility that Ysgol Talysarn community activity includes the community, where appropriate.

The proposal will ensure that the children of the area are educated on a site that is suitable and in a naturally Welsh-speaking society, thus increasing the opportunities to socialise and collaborate with others, and to give them a fair opportunity to thrive among their peers.

# Assess the Impact on the People of Gwynedd

This document assesses what impact the policy, procedure, plan, etc. will have on the county's population and operates based on a number of legislations.

- **Equality Act 2010.** It places a duty on public organisations to give due attention to the impact of any new policy, procedure or plan, etc. (or as they are adapted) on persons with protected characteristics. We are required to
  - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act.
  - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.
  - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

In Wales, the specific duty notes the need to undertake an impact assessment following specific guidelines to consider the impact that any changes in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on persons with protected equality characteristics. A timely assessment should be made before any decision is taken on any relevant change (i.e. that affects people with protected equality characteristics).

- **Socio-economic Duty.** Wales has implemented this further duty, which is part of the Equality Act 2010, and places a duty to address socio-economic disadvantages in strategic decisions.
- **Welsh Language Standards (Section 44 Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011).** The Council is required to consider the impact that any change in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than English. This document therefore ensures that these decisions safeguard and promote the use made of the Welsh language.
- **Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.** The Council has a duty to put the five ways of working in place and to respond to the seven national well-being goals.
- **Armed Forces Act 2021.** Councils must give due attention to the impact of this proposal on those who serve or who have served in the Armed Forces, as well as their families.

## **Ysgol Baladeulyn**

**Author:** Gwern ap Rhisiart

**Date:** September 2025

**Version:** 1

### **STEP 1 - Main Aims and Objectives of the Policy or Practice**

#### **1. What kind of document or procedure is being assessed?**

- New and revised policies, practices or procedures (which modify service delivery or employment practices)

#### **2. What are the overall aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the policy or practice?**

The consent of the Council's Cabinet is sought to begin a period of statutory consultation in accordance with the requirements of section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, on the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn on 31 December 2026 and to provide a place for the pupils at Ysgol Talysarn from 1 January 2027 onwards.

Ysgol Baladeulyn has been prioritised for a review of the educational provision as the school is facing a number of challenges. Pupil numbers at the school have fallen consistently in recent years and have been fragile for some time. Consequently, it is likely that the school is facing increasing challenges, including:

- **Numbers of learners** - In the September 2025 census, only 6 full-time pupils were attending the school with 2 children in the Nursery Class. The school has a capacity for 55 learners Admission to Year 6 (+7 in the Nursery Class).

- **Learners in the catchment area** - September 2025 data shows that only 25% of Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area learners choose to attend the school. 75% of learners in the catchment area choose to attend schools outside the catchment area.
  - **Projections of numbers** – Projections of numbers (including the Nursery Class) recommend that the numbers will remain fragile into the future: September 2026=8; September 2027 = 8; September 2028= 7
  - **High percentage of empty places** – Based on September 2025 figures, there are approximately 89% empty places (42 in number).
  - **Small class sizes** – There are 2 classes at Ysgol Baladeulyn (September 2025) with one class meeting in the morning with 3 learners (including 2 nursery), and the second class with 3 learners from Reception to Year 6.
  - **Wide age range within classes** – There is an age range of 3 years in one class and 7 years in the second class.
- Additional funding to the allocation** - Ysgol Baladeulyn receives an additional amount to the normal allocation through the minimum staffing policy (which guarantees at least a headteacher and a teacher in every school, and a headteacher and an assistant in schools with less than 15 full-time learners). The total additional amount during the 2025-26 financial year (based on September 2024 numbers) was £56,781 Cost per learner – The average cost per learner at Baladeulyn School in 2025-26 is £14,953 compared to the county average of £5,780.

### 3. Who are the main consultative groups (stakeholders)?

- Staff, Governors and Parents/Guardians of Ysgol Baladeulyn
- Should the Cabinet support the recommendation to hold a statutory consultation on the proposal, we will consult all consultees noted in the School Organisation Code,
- the Education Department and Officers from other Cyngor Gwynedd departments.

## STEP 2 - Engagement Data and Assessing the Impact

4. Has any effort been made to comply with the duty to engage in accordance with what is described above and has enough information been gathered to move forward?

Yes

The engagement details. Note any consultation or engagement you have conducted or intend to conduct.

Action	Dates	Information
Ysgol Baladeulyn Review Panel I	17 March 2025	The Ysgol Baladeulyn School Review Panel (SRP) was established in March 2025 and a series of meetings



<b>Ysgol Baladeulyn Review Panel 2</b>	<b>19 May 2025</b>	<p>were held between March and July 2025, with the last of these held on 7 July 2025. The SRP membership included the school's headteacher and staff, governors, the Local Member, parents and guardians.</p> <p>During the meetings, a number of options were considered for primary education in the Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area to ensure a sustainable provision for the future and respond specifically to the small numbers of learners.</p>
<b>Ysgol Baladeulyn Review Panel 3</b>	<b>7 July 2025</b>	

**5. What information is available about the impact on each of the following characteristics and subjects?**

	<b>Evidence, Information and Relevant Data</b>	<b>Potential Positive and/or Negative Impact</b>
<b>Race</b>	<p>Gwynedd schools have relevant policies in place to protect individuals from any discrimination based on race, such as Equality, Inclusion and Anti-bullying Policies. The Anti-bullying Policy provided by Cyngor Gwynedd states anti-bullying guidelines and procedures based on factors such as race in the school. Also, it is states in the Equality policy that is implemented by Gwynedd primary schools that schools</p> <p><i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p> <p>Therefore, it is not anticipated that this proposal would have a negative impact on this characteristic.</p>	None
<b>Disability</b>	<p>It is not anticipated that the change would have a negative impact on this characteristic. An accessibility assessment of any relevant alternative schools would be held, and we will ensure that any transport required is suitable for the needs of the individual. The needs of any disabled child would be considered in accordance with the Education Department's Accessibility and Equality policies.</p>	None

<b>Sex</b>	<p>Implementing the proposal would not have an impact on this characteristic. Implementing the proposal will mean that everyone will be treated according to their need, whatever their gender. Every school implements an Equality Policy stating that the school:</p> <p><i>"... is opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledges that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p>	None
<b>Age</b>	<p>Should the proposal be implemented, it is anticipated that the children of Ysgol Baladeulyn would benefit from having more age-related peers in their class as there are more learners at Ysgol Talysarn, which will be a way to ensure age-appropriate educational and extra-curricular experiences, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.</p> <p>We believe that learners will receive more age-appropriate experiences at the nearby alternative school since the learners will have learning experiences in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.</p> <p>It is anticipated that implementing the proposal would mean that people of any age would be treated fairly and according to their need. Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn implement an equality policy stating that the schools:</p> <p><i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p>	Positive
<b>Religion and Belief</b>	<p>Ysgol Baladeulyn and the alternative school noted in the proposal (Ysgol Talysarn) are community schools.</p> <p>Every school has an Inclusion Policy that would deal with any discriminatory incident that may occur at the school, which is associated with religion or belief.</p> <p>Therefore, it is not anticipated that this proposal would have an impact on this characteristic.</p>	None

<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	<p>Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales framework that was published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and is mandatory for all learners aged between 3 and 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role to play in learners' education and it is essential to form and maintain a range of relationships, that are all based on respect and trust on both sides, which is core to relationships and sexuality education. These relationships are crucial to developing emotional well-being, resilience and empathy. An understanding of sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality and fairness empowers the learners to understand themselves, to take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours and to form relationships. We believe that learners will receive more opportunities to develop relationships and learn collaboratively as part of a larger class in an alternative school.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on people on the grounds of sexual orientation. Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn, the proposed alternative school, implement an equality policy stating that the school:  <i>"... is opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledges that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p>	None
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	<p>It is not anticipated that implementing the proposal would have an impact on people on the grounds of gender reassignment. It is stated in the Equality policy that is implemented by Gwynedd primary schools including Ysgol Baladeulyn and Ysgol Talysarn that the schools  <i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p>	None
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	<p>It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on anyone who is married or in a civil partnership, as both schools who are a part of the proposal implement the same policies.</p>	None

<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on anyone who is pregnant, whether staff or parents, as both schools which are a part of the proposal implement the same policies.	None
<b>The Welsh Language</b>	<p>The Gwynedd Education Language Policy has the same aim for all of the county's primary schools, and every primary school (except for one) falls into category 3 in accordance with the Welsh Government's Guidance on school categories according to Welsh-medium provision. This means that the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn will be able to continue to receive their education through the medium of Welsh and bilingually in accordance with the Education Language Policy at Ysgol Talysarn.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there would be a negative impact should the proposal be implemented, and it is possible that the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Baladeulyn learners benefit from additional opportunities to use Welsh with a broader range of peers in the classroom and socially. The nearby alternative school, Ysgol Talysarn, serves areas which are a stronghold for the Welsh language.</p> <p>However, should the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn be implemented, it is anticipated that some elements of community events would be affected, and as a result, the use of Welsh in the community. It is anticipated that there may be some negative impact from the implementation of the proposal, as parents/guardians/families will not meet daily in the community when dropping-off/collecting children from school.</p>	Negative/Positive
<b>Socio-economic Considerations</b>	It is envisaged that the proposal would reduce social disadvantage by ensuring more experiences and diversity of learning, more resources and access to more services and activities.	Positive
<b>Those Who Serve or Who Have Served in the Armed Forces, As Well As Their Families</b>	It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on those who serve or who have served in the armed forces, as well as their families. Children from military or ex-military families will get the same fair play whichever school they attend.	None
<b>Human Rights</b>	It is not anticipated that implementing the proposal would have an impact on human rights.	None
<b>Other</b>	-	-

**6. Are there any data or information gaps, and if so, what are they and how do you intend to address them?**

If the Cabinet decides to support the recommendation to hold a statutory consultation on the proposal, we will update all assessments after considering the responses to the proposed consultation.

**7. When considering other key decisions that affect these groups, is there an increasing impact (cumulative impact)?**

We are not aware of any proposed policies that would impact on the children and young people of the area.

**8. What does the proposal include to demonstrate you have given due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (to promote equality of opportunity; help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation and foster good relations and wider community cohesion) as covered by the three aims of the General Duty in the Equality Act 2010?**

It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on the school's statutory duty to protect learners from any discrimination, harassment or victimisation.

The aim is to promote equal opportunities and encourage the alternative school to continue to follow equality policies and procedures. Should the proposal be realised, it is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities when placed in Ysgol Talysarn since the learners would have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

As a high proportion of the learners living in the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn already attend Ysgol Talysarn, a link between the school and community of Nantlle already exists. Nevertheless, should the proposal be implemented, opportunities for the school to build on its existing links with the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn will be promoted.

Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales framework that was published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and is mandatory for all learners aged between 3 and 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role to play in learners' education and it is essential to form and maintain a range of relationships, that are all based on respect and trust on both sides, which is core to relationships and sexuality education. These relationships are crucial to developing emotional well-being, resilience and empathy. An understanding of sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality and fairness empowers the learners to understand themselves, to take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours and to form relationships. By implementing the proposal, it is anticipated that learners would receive more opportunities to develop relationships and learn collaboratively as part of a larger class.

**9. How does the proposal show that due regard has been given to the need to address inequality due to socio-economic disadvantage? (Note that this relates to closing the inequality gap, rather than just improving outcomes for everyone.)**

It is envisaged that implementing the proposal would reduce socio-economic inequality by ensuring that the learners have more experiences and access to more services and activities in the alternative school. It is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities since the learners would have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposal, the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn would have a better learning environment at a school with more learners of the same age, and it would ensure that they make the most of their education. It is anticipated that learners would benefit from having more age-related peers at a school with more learners, which will be a way to ensure suitable educational and extra-curricular experiences for them, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.

**10. How does the proposal show implementation in line with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards (Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011), to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than the English language, and to ensure opportunities for people to use the Welsh language? Also, how does the proposal operate in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Welsh Language Strategy to take advantage of every opportunity to promote the Welsh language (beyond providing bilingual services) and increase opportunities to use and learn the language in the community?**

Our expectations are that all of the County's learners have ability-relevant and well-balanced bilingual skills to enable them to be full members of the bilingual society of which they are part. Proposals to change local arrangements would have to take full consideration of all linguistic impacts. Supporting and improving the use of the Welsh language as an educational and social language among learners will be a key consideration when drawing up an option.

The Gwynedd Education Language Policy has the same aim for all of the county's primary schools, and every primary school (except for one) falls into category 3 in accordance with the Welsh Government's Guidance on school categories according to Welsh-medium provision. This means that the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn will be able to continue to receive their education through the medium of Welsh and bilingually in accordance with the Education Language Policy at Ysgol Talysarn, should the proposal be implemented.

It is not anticipated that there would be a negative impact should the proposal be implemented, and it is possible that the proposal could have a positive impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Baladeulyn learners benefit from additional opportunities to use Welsh with a broader range of peers in the classroom and socially.

As can be seen in the table below, a high percentage of learners from both schools speak Welsh at home:

Ysgol	Speaking Welsh fluently at home	Don't speak Welsh at home but fluent	Speak Welsh at home but not fluent	Don't speak Welsh at home and not fluent	Can't speak Welsh at all
Baladeulyn	55%	0%	27%	18%	0%
Talysarn	39%	3%	16%	18%	24%
	Fluent Welsh		A Little Welsh		No Welsh

The assessment shows that some negative impact on the community is anticipated if the option to close Ysgol Baladeulyn is implemented. It is recognized that closing Ysgol Baladeulyn would lead to the loss of a school in the Nantlle community, however the assessment stated that a large proportion of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Talysarn, and therefore it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Talysarn and the Ysgol Baladeulyn community already exists.

Should the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn come true, every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Talysarn. To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Nantlle community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Baladeulyn and the Nantlle community is encouraged, where appropriate. In addition, the Local Authority and Ysgol Talysarn Governing Body can consider methods of promoting the use of the Welsh language by including the Nantlle community in the school's community activities.

### **11. How does this proposal meet the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act by implementing the five ways of working, and respond to the seven national well-being goals, including creating a More Equal Wales?**

Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, the seven well-being act goals and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it is concluded that the proposal meets the requirements.

It is acknowledged that should the Cabinet decide to proceed with this proposal, it may result in the closure of a school in the community of Nantlle, however a large number of the children living within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Talysarn, and therefore there is already a link between the schools and the community of that school. Every effort will be made to mitigate any negative impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Talysarn. Should the proposal be approved, discussions will take place to discuss the possibility that Ysgol Talysarn community activity includes the community, where appropriate.

The proposal will ensure that the children of the area are educated on a site that is suitable and in a naturally Welsh-speaking society, thus increasing the opportunities to socialise and collaborate with others, and to give them a fair opportunity to thrive among their peers.

## **STEP 3 - Procurement and Partnerships**

**12. Will this policy or practice be carried out wholly or partly by contractors or in partnership with another organisation(s)?**

No

## **STEP 4 - Dealing with Negative or Unlawful Impact and Strengthening the Policy or Practice**

**13. When considering proportionality, does the policy or practice have a significantly positive or negative impact or create unequal outcomes?**

### **Significantly Positive Impact:**

Should the proposal be implemented, it is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities when placed in an alternative school since the learners will have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposal, the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn would have a better learning environment at a school with more learners of the same age, and it would ensure that they make the most of their education and allow access to more activities that are appropriate for their ability level. The learners would benefit from having more age-related peers at a school with more learners, which will be a way to ensure suitable educational and extra-curricular experiences for them, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.

### **Significant Negative Impact:**

It is recognised that the options proposed may have an impact on an organisation within the community and on community cohesion, and the need is anticipated to mitigate this by fostering links between the school and the community.

The school (and its Governing Body) is responsible for implementing its equality policy, and the Authority, through its routine support and monitoring procedures, will ensure compliance.

**14. Explain any intentional negative impact and why it is believed that there is justification for operating in this way (for example, on the grounds of improving equal opportunities or developing good relationships between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not or due to objective justification or positive action)**

No



**15. Will any of the negative impacts identified count as unlawful discrimination albeit they are unavoidable (e.g. budget cuts)?**

Not applicable.

**Note the reason for stating this and the justification for proceeding**

Not applicable.

**16. What other measures or changes could be included to strengthen or change the policy/practice to demonstrate that due regard has been given to equal opportunity; help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation; and foster good relations and wider community cohesion; as covered by the improvement aim of the General Duty in the Equality Act 2010?**

Should the Cabinet resolve to proceed to consultation on the proposal, we will monitor the response of the consultation to see whether there are any other changes that could potentially be included so as to strengthen or amend the policy.

**17. What measures or other changes could be included to strengthen or change the policy/practice to demonstrate that due regard has been given to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome as a result of socio-economic disadvantage?**

It is envisaged that the proposal would reduce socio-economic disadvantage by ensuring that the learners have more experiences and access to more services and activities in the alternative school. Learners would receive more equal opportunities since the learners would have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposal, the learners of Ysgol Baladeulyn would have a better learning environment at a school with more learners of the same age, and it would ensure that they make the most of their education. The learners would benefit from having more age-related peers at a school with more learners, which will be a way to ensure suitable educational and extra-curricular experiences for them, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.

**18. What other measures or changes could be included to strengthen or change the policy/practice to demonstrate that due regard has been given to the need to increase opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and in treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language as set out in the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and to reduce or prevent any adverse effects that the policy/practice may have on the Welsh language?**

It is anticipated that the proposal would have a positive impact on the Welsh language as learners from Ysgol Baladeulyn would benefit from more opportunities to use the Welsh language with a broader range of peers in the classroom and socially.

Should the school close, the Local Authority and Governing Body of the alternative schools could consider methods to promote use of the Welsh language socially by means of extra-curricular and community activities.

**19. Is there enough information to make a balanced judgement and to proceed?**

Yes

## **STEP 5 - Decision to Proceed**

**20. Given the information gathered in Steps 1–4 above, is it possible to move forward with the policy or practice or not, and if so, on what basis?**

**Choice of:**

Continue with policy or practice in its current form

## **STEP 6 - Actions and Arrangements for Monitoring Outcomes and Reviewing Data**

The EqlA process is an ongoing one that doesn't end when the policy/practice and EqlA is agreed and implemented. There is a specific legal duty to monitor the impact of policies/practices on equality on an ongoing basis to identify if the outcomes have changed since you introduced or amended this new policy or practice. If you do not hold relevant data, then you should be taking steps to rectify this in your action plan. To review the EHRC guidance on data collection you can review their [Measurement Framework](#)

**21. What actions noted in Steps 1-5 or any additional data collection work would help to monitor the policy/practice when implemented:**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Timetable</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Add to the Service Plan</b>
Statutory consultation on the proposal (depending on the Cabinet's decision)	Autumn Term	42 days	Education Department	No

**22. What arrangements to monitor and review the ongoing impact of this policy or practice will be implemented, including timeframes for when it should be formally reviewed:**

<b>Monitoring and Review Arrangements</b> (including where outcomes will be recorded)	<b>Timeframe and Frequency</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Add to the Service Plan</b>
Should the proposal be realised, we will monitor the impact of the closure of the school and endeavour to assist with any negative impact that may derive from the policy.	Continuous	Education Department	No

## Background Package

### Ysgol Baladeulyn

Content	
<b>1</b>	<b>Local Meeting 1 – 17 March 2025</b>
	Presentation
	Meeting Minutes
<b>2</b>	<b>Local Meeting 2 – 19 May 2025</b>
	Presentation
	Meeting Minutes
<b>3</b>	<b>Local Meeting 3 – 7 July 2025</b>
	Presentation
	Meeting Minutes
<b>4</b>	<b>Summary of the input following Local Meetings</b>

# PANEL ADOLYGU YSGOL BALADEULYN

## YSGOL BALADEULYN REVIEW PANEL

**17 Mawrth 2025**

*17 March 2025*



Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money

1

## AGENDA

**1. Croeso**

**2. Sefyllfa Bresennol**

**3. Ystyriaethau**

**4. Opsiynau Posib**

**5. Camau Nesaf**

**6. Cloi**

*1. Welcome*

*2. Current Situation*

*3. Considerations*

*4. Possible Options*

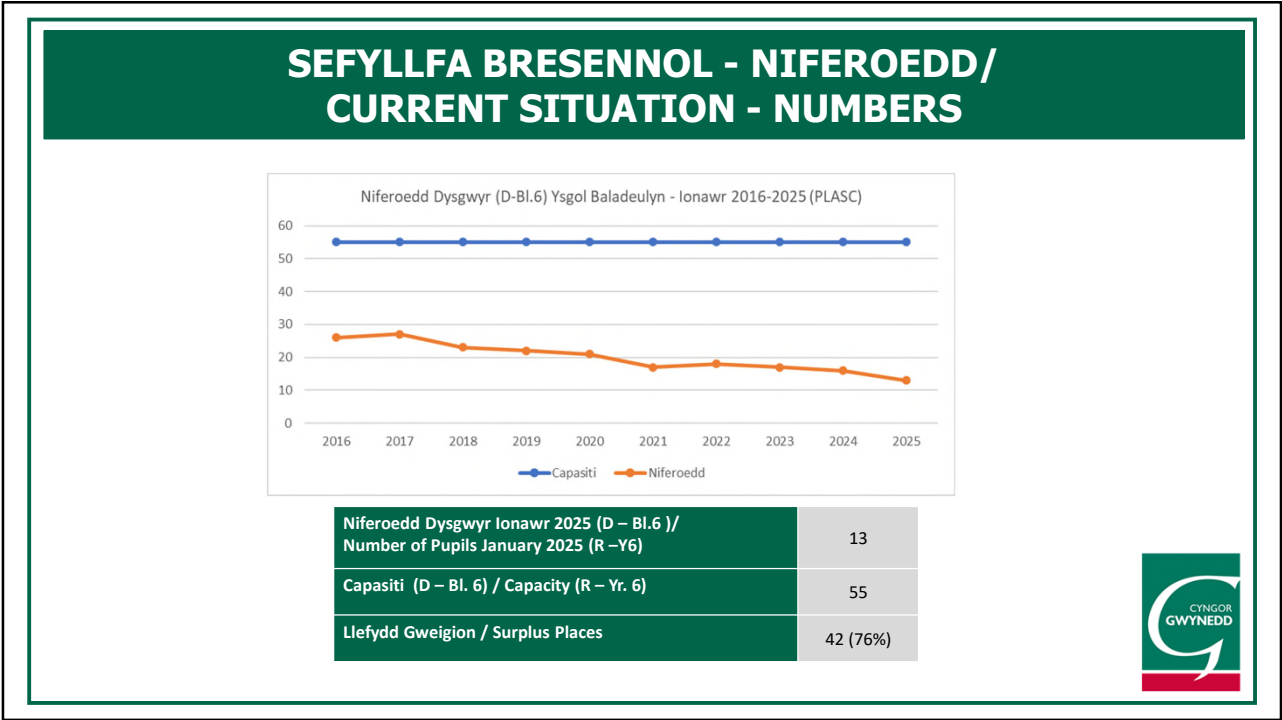
*5. Next Steps*

*6. Close*

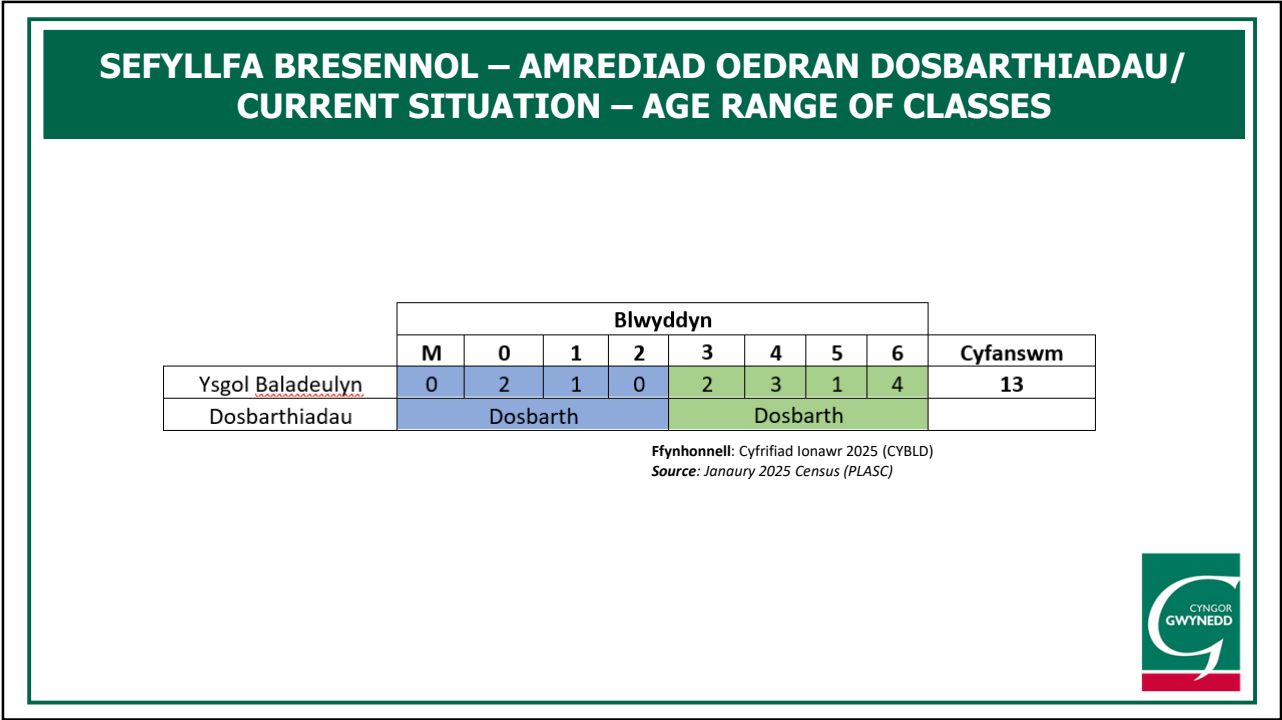


Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money

2



3



4

## SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL – RHAGAMCANION/ CURRENT SITUATION – PROJECTIONS

	Blwyddyn								Cyfanswm	
	M	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	Meithrin	Derbyn-BI.6
Ionawr 2025	0	2	1	0	2	3	1	4	0	13
Rhagamcanion Medi 2025	2	0	2	1	0	2	3	1	2	9
Rhagamcanion Medi 2026	1	2	0	2	1	0	2	3	1	10
Rhagamcanion Medi 2027	1	1	2	0	2	1	0	2	1	8



5

## SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL – DYSGWYR Y DALGYLCH CURRENT SITUATION – CATCHMENT PUPILS

		Byw yn Dalgylch (Medi 2024)							Arall	Cyfanswm Ysgol (M-BI.6)
		Bro Lleu 2089	Brynaerau 2017	Llanllyfni 2070	Nebo 2081	Talysarn 2108	Baladeulyn 2078	Bro Llifon 2229		
Mynychu Ysgol (Medi 2024)	Bro Lleu						1			
	Brynaerau						0			
	Llanllyfni						0			
	Nebo						0			
	Talysarn						7			
	Baladeulyn	2	3	0	0	4	4	0	0	13
	Bro Llifon						1			
Cyfanswm							14			

Meddalwedd GIS y Cyngor (System Gwybodaeth Ddaearyddol), yn nodi mai dim ond 14 dysgwr oed cynradd sydd yn byw yn nalgylch Ysgol Baladeulyn. Er hyn, dim ond 4 sydd yn dewis mynychu'r ysgol, gyda 9 o'r dysgwyr yn mynychu ysgolion cynradd eraill yn nalgylch Dyffryn Nantlle, ac 1 yn teithio'n all-dalgylch.

The Council's GIS software (Geographical Information System) shows that only 14 primary age learners live in the catchment area of Ysgol Baladeulyn. Despite this, only 4 choose to attend the school, with 9 of the learners attending other primary schools in the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area, and 1 travelling outside the catchment area.



6

## SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL – CYLLIDEB YR YSGOL (2024/25)/ CURRENT SITUATION – SCHOOL BUDGET (2024/25)

	Ysgol Baladeulyn	Cyfartaledd Sirol County Average
<b>Dyraniad Craidd 2024-2025</b> Allocation 2024-2025	£175,744	-
<b>Gwarchodaeth Lleiafswm Staffio*</b> Minimum Staffing Protection*	£77,659	-
<b>Cyfanswm Dyraniad</b> Total Allocation	£237,914	-
<b>Cyfartaledd y Disgybl</b> Average per Pupil	£14,982	£5,223

\*\*Mae'r polisi gwarchodaeth yn sicrhau o leiaf pennaeth ac athro/athrawes ym mhob ysgol gyda mwy na 15 disgybl, a pennaeth a chymhorthydd dosbarth mewn ysgolion gyda llai na 15 disgybl.

\*\*The minimum staffing protection policy ensures a minimum of headteacher and teacher at every school which has more than 15 pupils, and a headteacher and a classroom assistant in a school with fewer than 15 pupils.



7

## SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL – STRWYTHUR STAFFIO CURRENT SITUATION – STAFF STRUCTURE

Mae strwythur staffio presennol Ysgol Baladeulyn yn cynnwys pennaeth llawn amser, 2 athro rhan amser (3 diwrnod yr un) a chyfwerth â 55 awr o gymorthyddion dysgu.

Trwy Polisi Gwarchodaeth Cyngor Gwynedd, gwarantir isafswm lefel staffio o bennaeth a chymhorthydd mewn ysgolion sydd â llai na 15 o ddysgwyr llawn amser. Gan fod llai na 15 o ddysgwyr llawn amser ar y gofrestr ym Medi 2024, bydd hyn yn cael effaith sylweddol ar gyllideb yr ysgol o Ebrill 2025 ymlaen. Fel mae'r sefyllfa ar hyn o bryd, mae'n bosib bydd yr ysgol angen lleihau lefelau staffio'r ysgol erbyn Medi 2025 gyda gwarchodaeth lleiafswm staff yn caniatáu cyllid ar gyfer pennaeth a chymhorthydd dysgu yn unig o Ebrill 2025.

*The current staffing structure of Ysgol Baladeulyn includes a full-time headteacher, 2 part-time teachers (3 days each) and the equivalent of 55 hours of teaching assistants.*

*Through the Cyngor Gwynedd Protection Policy, a minimum staffing level of a headteacher and assistant is available in schools with less than 15 full-time learners. As there was less than 15 full-time learners on the register in September 2024, this will have a significant impact on the school's budget from April 2025 onwards. As things stand, the school may need to reduce the school's staffing levels by September 2025 with the minimum teaching staff protection allowing financing for only a headteacher and a teaching assistant from April 2025.*

8



## CRYNHOI PRIF HERIAU'R SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL / SUMMARY OF THE MAIN CHALLENGES OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

1	Nifer disgyblion yr ysgol yr ail-isaf yn y sir <i>The number of pupils at the school is the second lowest in the county</i>
2	Rhagamcanion yn parhau yn isel <i>Projections remain low</i>
3	Nifer uchel o lefydd gweigion <i>High number of surplus places</i>
4	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain iawn <i>Very small class sizes</i>
5	Amrediad ystod oed eang o fewn dosbarthiadau <i>Broad age range within classes</i>
6	Cost y disgybl ymysg yr uchaf yn y sir a sylweddol uwch na'r cyfartaledd sirol <i>Cost per pupil amongst the highest in the county and significantly higher than the county average</i>
7	Ysgol yn derbyn swm ychwanegol o £77,659 (Medi 2024) trwy'r gwarchodaeth staffio <i>School receives an additional £77,659 (September 2024) through the minimum staffing protection</i>



9

## YSTYRIAETHAU CONSIDERATIONS

Wrth lunio a chymharu opsiynau, byddwn yn rhoi ystyriaeth i sawl ffactor, gan gynnwys:  
*In formulating and comparing options, we will consider several factors, including:*

1	Maint dosbarthiadau / <i>Class sizes</i>
2	Niferoedd disgyblion / <i>Pupil numbers</i>
3	Arweinyddiaeth a Staffio / <i>Leadership and Staffing</i>
4	Y Gymuned / <i>The Community</i>
5	Adnoddau ariannol / <i>Financial resources</i>
6	Yr iaith Gymraeg / <i>The Welsh language</i>
7	Ansawdd addysg / <i>Quality of education</i>
8	Cyflwr ac addasrwydd adeiladau / <i>Condition and suitability of the building</i>
9	Daearyddol a teithio / <i>Geographical and travel</i>



10

## OPSIYNAU POSIB / POSSIBLE OPTIONS

1	Status Quo – Parhau efo'r sefyllfa bresennol. <i>Status Quo – Continue with the current situation.</i>
2	Ffedereiddio Ysgol Baladeulyn gydag ysgol cyfagos. <i>Federating Ysgol Baladeulyn with a neighboring school.</i>
3	Cau Ysgol Baladeulyn o a chynnig lle i'r disgyblion yn yr ysgol agosaf. <i>Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer pupils at the nearest school.</i>



11

## CAMAU NESAF/ NEXT STEPS

Camau Nesaf / <i>Next Steps</i>	Dyddiad / <i>Date</i>
Dyddiad cau ar gyfer derbyn unrhyw opsiynau / sylwadau pellach <i>Closing date for receiving any further options / comments</i>	28/3/2025
Cyfarfod Panel Adolygu 2 <i>Review Panel Meeting 2</i>	7/4/2025



12

# Ysgol Baladeulyn Review Panel

Addysg

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Ysgol Baladeulyn Review Panel 1</b>	<b>Date/Time/Location: Monday, 17 March 2025 at 18:00 in Ysgol Baladeulyn</b>
<b>Present:</b>	Parents, Governors and Staff of Ysgol Baladeulyn (recorded on the register); Dafydd Pritchard, Headteacher of Ysgol Baladeulyn (DP); Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education Department (GapRh); Dewi Jones, Cabinet Member for Education (DJ); Gareth Richard Jones, Modernising Education Officer (GRJ); Enid Warren (EW) (taking minutes)	

Full Minutes		
1	<b>Welcome and apologies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DP welcomed everyone to the Schools Review Panel and thanked the staff, governors and parents for their support. It was stated that Council officers were present to discuss the school's current situation.</li> <li>Cllr Dewi Jones, the Cabinet Member for Education, gave a welcome and thanked the attendees for coming. He emphasised that the purpose of the meeting was to review the school's situation and that he was there to listen to the discussion.</li> <li>GapRh explained that a report had been submitted to the Cabinet seeking the approval to commence discussions with the school about its current challenges. He explained that this meeting was an initial conversation, giving stakeholders the opportunity to ask questions. He stated that it would be totally open and transparent, and he committed to giving the fullest possible responses to questions under the circumstances.</li> </ul> <p>He went through the presentation and outlined some obvious challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since 2016, the number of learners has fallen significantly. At present, 42 out of 55 places are empty (76%). Surplus places in schools are contentious; the Government requests that any school with 10% surplus places is reviewed, but in Gwynedd, the matter is not paid too much attention because many schools exceed the threshold of 10%.</li> <li>By September 2027, it is anticipated that the number of learners will drop to 8. The school has more learners among the senior year classes, with fewer young children registering. This reflects a trend of declining learner numbers.</li> <li>There are 14 children of primary school age living in the Baladeulyn catchment area. At present, 13 learners attend Ysgol Baladeulyn, but only four live within the designated catchment area. The remaining learners come from other catchment areas.</li> <li>Parents have been given the option of sending their children to schools outside their catchment area since the introduction of new rules in 1996. This has led to variable registration patterns.</li> <li>The school's classes contain a wide age-range, posing challenges for effective teaching and learning. Ideally, learners should be grouped according to age and academic level.</li> <li>The school receives a financial allocation from the Council, including minimum protection to secure staffing levels. Ysgol Baladeulyn has benefited from this protection scheme for some time.</li> <li>The school currently employs one full-time headteacher and two part-time teachers. Under the policy for schools with fewer than 15 learners, the governors and headteacher will need to review the staffing structure for September 2025.</li> <li>In appraising and comparing potential options for the school, all relevant factors contained in the presentation have to be addressed. The Council will assess several factors that could impact on these options.</li> <li>The presentation has already identified several potential options: maintain the status quo, establish a federation with another school (a key consideration as this</li> </ul>

Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
 Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money

[www.gwynedd.gov.uk](http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk)

is a rural school) or close the school and offer the learners places at another nearby school.

- These options will form the basis of reports to be submitted to the Cabinet which then takes the final decision.
- It was stated that if anyone had any other options to put forward, they should do so by 24 March 2025.

*\*End of the presentation\**

- Some attendees felt that the timetable was too tight to submit options. This was acknowledged and GapRh extended the submission date to 31 March 2025.
- One attendee raised concerns about depending on FOI requests before submitting options. GapRh agreed to look at the requests straight away, but explained that any concerns would be reflected in the impact assessments, which would be appended to the Cabinet Report following a full consultation.
- It was also noted that the Local Member's comments had not been included in the Cabinet minutes. GapRh confirmed that the comments had been minuted at the end of the Report within the Cabinet agenda.
- Concern was expressed about the location of the school, as it was situated on the boundary of the National Park, and a desire expressed for the Council to look at other primary schools within the National Park boundary and the impact of the location on them.
- Another attendee expressed the importance of the school's location, emphasising the beautiful views that surround it.
- DP noted that the school's data and figures were clear, and that the focus should now be on offering viable solutions.
- GapRh stated that he recognised the strong feelings surrounding the matter, but emphasised the need to follow the correct process.
- Council Officers would evaluate all options before the second meeting. Should the Cabinet approve a full consultation on the options, there would be opportunities for attendees to share their views and concerns.
- It was asked what the timetable would be if the school closed? The full process could take up to 18 months, but no assumptions should be made at this time.
- One of the attendees drew attention to the homely atmosphere at the school, its strong links with the local community, and its advantage in providing a higher staff-to-learner ratio. GapRh acknowledged this but emphasised the need to ensure fairness and equal opportunities across the county.
- An attendee expressed concerns at the lack of affordable housing in the village, with many properties being holiday homes or being left empty. Some believed that if social housing needs were met, school numbers would increase. GapRh noted that despite the Education Department not being in charge of the housing policy, the decline in school numbers was related to the lack of numbers of children. He mentioned that the birth rate in Gwynedd was at its lowest ever, affecting a number of rural and also urban areas, e.g. Bangor.
- It was asked, if Ysgol Baladeulyn were to close, would the Council pay to transport a child to an alternative school? GapRh explained that the catchment area would merge with the catchment area of a nearby school. The Council's transport policy would ensure that eligible children would receive transport to their new school.
- It was asked whether a chaperone would be provided for children who used school transport. GapRh explained that a chaperone would be provided for ALN pupils only.
- It was asked how the Education Department would ensure that children's views were included in the decision-making process. GapRh explained that the School Organisation Code made it a requirement to consult children, and the Council would endeavour to do this in the most sensitive way possible.
- DJ joined in the discussion, acknowledging attendees' concerns. He confirmed

		<p>that he would pass on their questions to the Council's Housing Service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He highlighted recent positive developments by the Council, including the purchase of houses for accommodation, the construction of social housing and the implementation of the Article 4 planning tool (Gwynedd is the only Local Authority in Wales to have introduced this). DJ referred to what was already a positive example, illustrated by six terraced houses in Twtil, Caernarfon (which had been holiday homes in the past) being sold locally since the introduction of the planning rule. He also stated that Cyngor Gwynedd's social housing policy was strict in terms of requiring local connections.</li> <li>• He asked whether funding would be allocated for the school's ALN learners? GapRh explained that the funding system was moving away from hours per learner. Instead, the new method calculates the ALN budget based on a formula. £9 million had been set aside for the ALN Service this year, together with an additional ALN grant investment of £800,000.</li> <li>• An attendee emphasised the school's all-important role in promoting the Welsh language. It was asked whether an assessment would be conducted on the impact of the changes on the language and community? GapRh confirmed that a language and community assessment would be undertaken.</li> <li>• It was asked whether parents who currently sent their children to Ysgol Talysarn could instead opt to register at Ysgol Baladeulyn? It was confirmed that applications would not be refused.</li> <li>• It was asked what the advantages and disadvantages of federating with another school were? GapRh explained that federating allowed schools to operate under one leadership, strengthening the collaboration. However, the financial challenges for small schools would continue. The federating option would be evaluated carefully alongside other options.</li> <li>• It was asked whether individual impact assessments would be carried out for each learner. GapRh explained that parents would have the opportunity to submit relevant details about their child's particular situation during the consultation process.</li> <li>• GapRh raised a point concerning the importance of considering the condition of the school building, noting that the schools' after-use policy included an option to offer the old school building to the community.</li> <li>• In bringing the discussion to a conclusion, DJ noted that this was not a pleasant experience for anybody. He stated that he agreed with many of the concerns of tonight's attendees. There may not be agreement every single time, but he stressed the importance of working together through the challenges. GapRh reiterated what DJ said and expressed thanks for the questions.</li> <li>• DP thanked Council officers and DJ. He noted that tonight's discussion reflected the strong feelings that existed among the school's stakeholders and appreciated that there was not an answer to every question. He reminded the attendees that this was an opportunity to propose alternative options, and they were encouraged to submit their ideas to him to be passed on to the Council.</li> </ul>
--	--	---

# PANEL ADOLYGU YSGOL GYNRADD BALADEULYN

## YSGOL GYNRADD BALADEULYN REVIEW MEETING

19 Mai 2025  
19 May 2025



1

## AGENDA

- |                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Croeso              | 1. <i>Welcome</i>                    |
| 2. Crynhoi Prif Heriau | 2. <i>Summary of Main Challenges</i> |
| 3. Ystyriaethau        | 3. <i>Considerations</i>             |
| 4. Opsiynau Posib      | 4. <i>Possible Options</i>           |
| 5. Dadansoddiad SWOT   | 5. <i>SWOT Analysis</i>              |
| 6. Camau Nesaf         | 6. <i>Next Steps</i>                 |



2

## CRYNHOI PRIF HERIAU'R SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL / SUMMARY OF THE MAIN CHALLENGES OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

1	Nifer disgyblion yr ysgol yn ail isaf yn y sir <i>The number of pupils at the school is the second lowest in the county</i>
2	Rhagamcanion yn parhau yn isel <i>Projections remain low</i>
3	Nifer uchel o lefydd gweigion <i>High number of surplus places</i>
4	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain <i>Small class sizes</i>
5	Amrediad ystod oedran eang o fewn dosbarthiadau <i>Broad age range within classes</i>
6	Cost y disgybl ymysg yr uchaf yn y sir a sylweddol uwch na'r cyfartaledd sirol <i>Cost per pupil amongst the highest in the county and significantly higher than the county average</i>
7	Ysgol yn derbyn swm ychwanegol o £77,659 (Medi 2024) trwy'r gwarchodaeth staffio <i>School receives an additional £77,659 (September 2024) through the minimum staffing protection</i>



3

## YSTYRIAETHAU / CONSIDERATIONS

Wrth lunio a chymharu opsiynau, byddwn yn rhoi ystyriaeth i sawl ffactor, gan gynnwys:  
*In formulating and comparing options, we will consider several factors, including:*

1	Maint dosbarthiadau / <i>Class sizes</i>
2	Niferoedd disgyblion / <i>Pupil numbers</i>
3	Arweinyddiaeth a Staffio / <i>Leadership and Staffing</i>
4	Y Gymuned / <i>The Community</i>
5	Adnoddau ariannol / <i>Financial resources</i>
6	Yr iaith Gymraeg / <i>The Welsh language</i>
7	Ansawdd addysg / <i>Quality of education</i>
8	Cyflwr ac addasrwydd adeiladau / <i>Condition and suitability of the building</i>
9	Daearyddol a teithio / <i>Geographical and travel</i>



4

## RHESTR HIR OPSIYNAU / LONG LIST OF OPTIONS

1	Dim newid - parhau gyda'r sefyllfa bresennol / No change - continue with the current situation
2	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol cyfagos / Federation with nearby school
3	Cau Ysgol Baladeulyn a chynnig lle i'r dysgwyr mewn ysgol cyfagos / Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer pupils a place at a neighbouring school
4	Ysgol Baladeulyn yn mynd yn ysgol Gristnogol / Ysgol Baladeulyn becomes a Christian school
5	Uno ysgolion lleol er mwyn cefnogi a chynnal Ysgol Baladeulyn / Merger of local schools in order to maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn
6	Ychwanegu ardal arbenigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn / Addition of a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn
7	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol arall gan ychwanegu ardal arbennigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn / Federation with another school and addition of a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn



5

## DIYSTYRU OPSIWN / DISCOUNTED OPTION

Mae'r opsiwn canlynol wedi cael eu diystyru gan nad ydi o yn cyd fynd gyda chanllawiau Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion / The following option has been discounted as it doesn't adhere to the School Organisation Code

4	Ysgol Baladeulyn yn mynd yn ysgol Gristnogol / Ysgol Baladeulyn becomes a Christian school	<p>Mae Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion (011/2018) yn nodi:</p> <p>Caiff cyrff llywodraethu ysgolion a gynhelir wneud cynigion i newid categori eu hysgol. Fodd bynnag, dylid nodi na cheir gwneud unrhyw newid i ysgol a gynhelir sy'n newid ei chymeriad crefyddol dynodedig <b>neu sy'n peri bod iddi wedyn gymeriad crefyddol dynodedig nad oedd iddi cynt, neu ei bod yn colli ei chymeriad crefyddol dynodedig. Ni chaniateir cymeriad crefyddol i ysgolion cymunedol.</b> Nid yw hi'n bosibl i ysgolion gwirfoddol a gynorthwyr, ysgolion gwirfoddol a reolir nac ysgolion sefydledig, os oes ganddynt gymeriad crefyddol dynodedig, ddod yn ysgolion cymunedol trwy gynnig i newid categori. <b>Yn ogystal â hyn, ni all ysgolion cymunedol ddod yn ysgolion gwirfoddol sydd â chymeriad crefyddol dynodedig.</b></p> <p>The governing bodies of maintained schools may make proposals to change the category of their school. However, it should be noted that <b>no alteration may be made to a maintained school that changes its designated religious character or causes it to acquire or lose a designated religious character. Community schools are not permitted to have a religious character.</b> It is not possible for voluntary aided, voluntary controlled or foundation schools with a designated religious character to become a community school through a change of category proposal. <b>Similarly community schools cannot become voluntary schools with a designated religious character.</b></p>
---	--	--



6



## OPSIYNAU RHESTR FER DADANSODDIAD SWOT / SHORT LIST OF OPTIONS - SWOT ANALYSIS

Rydym felly wedi cynnal gwerthusiad SWOT i'r 6 opsiwn arall gan gadw mewn cof prif heriau mae'r ysgol yn ei wynebu /  
We have therefore carried out a SWOT analysis on the other 6 options giving consideration to the main challenges facing the school

1	Dim newid - parhau gyda'r sefyllfa bresennol / No change - continue with the current situation
2	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol cyfagos / Federation with nearby school
3	Cau Ysgol Baladeulyn a chynnig lle i'r dysgwyr mewn ysgol cyfagos / Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer pupils a place at a neighbouring school
5	Uno ysgolion lleol er mwyn cefnogi a chynnal Ysgol Baladeulyn / Amalgamate local schools in order to maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn
6	Ychwanegu ardal arbenigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn / Addition of a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn
7	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol arall gan ychwanegu ardal arbennigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn / Federation with another school and addition of a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

7

### 1. Dim newid – Parhau hefo'r sefyllfa bresennol / No change – Continue with the current situation

CRYFDERAU / STRENGTHS	GWENDIDAU / WEAKNESSES
Keeping a school and community resource in Nantlle	Numbers remain low.
A school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area	The cost per learner is high.
Learners continue to receive Category 3 Welsh-medium education	Wide age range within classes
School staff positions continue (depending on allocation)	Small class sizes continue
The health and well-being of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners continues to be good	Numbers of learners not enough to allow non-contact time for the Headteacher.
	A high percentage of empty places in the school continues
CYFLEON / OPPORTUNITIES	BYGYTHIADAU / THREATS
Small classes mean more attention to individual learners.	Number projections remain low.
A wide age range in the classes offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages.	Possibility of a budget shortfall.
	Building maintenance costs continue
	A high percentage of Baladeulyn catchment area children continue to attend schools outside the catchment area.
	Uncertainty continues regarding the long-term sustainability of the school.

8

## 2. Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol cyfagos / Federation with a nearby school

CRYFDERAU / STRENGTHS	GWENDIDAU / WEAKNESSES
Keeping a school and community resource in Nantlle	Wide age range within classes
A school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area	Small class sizes continue.
Learners continue to receive Category 3 Welsh-medium education	Learner numbers remain low
The health and well-being of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners continues to be good	Numbers not enough to allow non-contact time for the Headteacher.
	Vacancies remain. Nothing likely to lead to an increase in the numbers of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn.
	Cost y disgybl yn parhau yn uchel.
CYFLEON / OPPORTUNITIES	BYGYTHIADAU / THREATS
One Governing Body.	Possibility of a budget shortfall.
Sharing resources and expertise.	Building maintenance costs continue
Schools supporting each other.	Significant vacancies remain.
A formal model can provide a definite structure	Projections of learner numbers remain low.
Small classes mean more attention to individual learners	A high percentage of Baladeulyn catchment area children continue to attend schools outside the catchment area.
Wide age range in classes offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages.	A federation is a model that is dependent on the willingness of other schools to join an arrangement to work together.



9

## 3. Cau Ysgol Baladeulyn a chynnig lle i disgyblion y dalgylch mewn ysgol cyfagos / Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer pupils from the catchment a place at a neighbouring school

CRYFDERAU / STRENGTHS	GWENDIDAU / WEAKNESSES
Learners are taught in classes of a more viable / suitable size.	Loss of school attendance in Nantlle
Reduction in empty places	Further travel distance from the home of Baladeulyn catchment area learners
Many children from the Baladeulyn catchment already attend nearby schools	Transport costs to transport learners to an alternative school.
A reduction in the cost of the pupil.	Learners to be taught in larger class sizes.
Minimum staffing protection reduced	Losing the robust inclusive approach that is currently offered to support health and well-being.
Learners would not have to travel an unreasonable distance to a nearby school.	Potential negative impact on the wellbeing of current learners.
Nearby schools offering Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	
The quality of education of all nearby schools is at least as good as Ysgol Baladeulyn (Estyn Inspections)	
CYFLEON / OPPORTUNITIES	BYGYTHIADAU / THREATS
An opportunity for learners to mix daily with others of the same age.	Staff redundancies.
A wider community where the children and parents can benefit from creating stronger links between communities.	Possibility of losing a community resource in the village.
Save on building maintenance costs	

10

## 5. Uno ysgolion lleol er mwyn cefnogi a chynnal Ysgol Baladeulyn / Amalgamate local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn

CRYFDERAU / STRENGTHS	GWENDIDAU / WEAKNESSES
Reasonable geographical distance between schools	A wide age range continues at Ysgol Baladeulyn
Keeping a school and community resource in Nantlle	Small class sizes continue at Ysgol Baladeulyn
Relevant schools within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area	Low numbers at Ysgol Baladeulyn likely to continue
No need for additional transport or costs associated with this	Vacancies remain. Nothing likely to attract additional pupils to Ysgol Baladeulyn.
A reduction in the cost per learner	Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Baladeulyn
Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education	
The health and well-being of Ysgol Baladeulyn learners continues to be good	
CYFLEON / OPPORTUNITIES	BYGYTHIADAU / THREATS
One Governing Body.	One headteacher has to manage more than one site therefore, depending on the structure, it is possible that there will not be a headteacher's presence on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site
One school on more than one site	
Possible sharing of resources.	Ysgol Baladeulyn maintenance costs continue
Small classes on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site mean more attention to individual learners.	Financial allocation unlikely to be sufficient to employ teachers for all sites
A wide age range in classes on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages	Significant empty places are likely to continue at the Baladeulyn School site



11

## 5. Uno ysgolion lleol er mwyn cefnogi a chynnal Ysgol Baladeulyn / Amalgamate local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn

CYFLEON / OPPORTUNITIES	BYGYTHIADAU / THREATS
Merging Ysgol Baladeulyn with other schools in the surrounding area will be an opportunity to stabilize student enrollment numbers, increase funding, and reduce operating costs. This method would ensure that Ysgol Baladeulyn can continue to provide a high quality Welsh medium education for all students and deal with the challenges caused by the reduction in enrolment.	Number projections are likely to remain low at the Ysgol Baladeulyn site
Merging Ysgol Baladeulyn with other nearby primary schools in the area would create a combined organization that can operate more efficiently. This would mean combining the schools' resources, such as staff, facilities and teaching materials, maintaining the focus on the medium of Welsh.	A high percentage of Baladeulyn catchment area children are likely to continue attending schools outside the catchment area.
By merging, the combined school will benefit from economies of scale. The larger school will attract more funding from the local authority due to a larger student body, as funding is often based on student enrollment numbers. This increased funding can be used to improve resources, teaching staff and facilities.	Possibility that the model will not be accepted by other schools
A merger would allow the consolidation of administrative functions, such as leadership roles, finance, HR and IT services, reducing overhead costs. This would lead to a more efficient use of resources, ensuring that more money is allocated to directly improve the educational experience.	
The united school can share resources such as staff, educational materials, sports facilities and extra-curricular programmes. This would reduce costs per student and improve the overall quality of the educational experience, allowing more investment in specialist areas such as special education, language programs and technology.	
The merger will allow Ysgol Baladeulyn to expand its curriculum and extracurricular activities. With additional resources, the school will be able to: Offer a wider range of subjects and activities that might not have been financially feasible in a smaller school setting.	
Developing specialist programs and support for students with special needs, ensuring that all children are included in the educational experience.	



12

## 5. Uno ysgolion lleol er mwyn cefnogi a chynnal Ysgol Baladeulyn / Amalgamate local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn

CYFLEON / OPPORTUNITIES	BYGYTHIADAU / THREATS
A larger, merged school will probably receive more funding from the Welsh Government and the local council, as funding models often take into account the number of registered students. The merger could lead to a more stable and predictable income, allowing the school to plan better for future needs rather than the budgetary constraints of the council's financial planning.	
Merging schools can help reduce duplication of services, simplify administrative costs, and allow more efficient use of resources. For example, the school can have one leadership team and reduce the number of non-teaching staff required for administration and support functions, reducing overhead costs. Shared services, such as transport and maintenance, can also be more cost-effective when centralised.	
A larger, more integrated school may be able to access additional funding from various educational and cultural grants, including those focused on safeguarding the Welsh language, additional learning needs, and rural education. The economies of scale created by the merger can make it more attractive for funding agencies to support the new school.	
The merger can lead to a more efficient allocation of teaching staff, staff progression and opportunities for training in specialist areas such as ALN, developing the Welsh language, and technology. Furthermore, a larger school will enable the staff to receive more robust professional development, leading to higher teaching standards and better outcomes for students. Baladeulyn already has a high average attendance.	
The merger will result in a stronger and more diverse education offering, helping students achieve their academic potential in a more stable and resource-rich environment. It will also ensure that children have access to a wider range of extra-curricular activities, support services and specialist programmes.	
Merging schools will help foster a greater sense of community. Parents, students and staff from different schools will have the opportunity to work together and create a shared vision for the future of Welsh-medium education in the area. This united community approach will help to protect the school's Welsh language and culture while strengthening the links within the local area.	
The larger, merged school will have the ability to better support children with additional learning needs. By pooling resources and expertise, the school can provide more tailored support and interventions, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive.	

13

## 6. Ychwanegu ardal arbenigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn / Add a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

CRYFDERAU / STRENGTHS	GWENDIDAU / WEAKNESSES
Keeping a school and community resource in Nantlle	Learner numbers remain low at Ysgol Baladeulyn
A school within a reasonable distance of the catchment area learners' homes.	Vacancies remain. Nothing likely to attract additional pupils to Ysgol Baladeulyn.
Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	The cost per pupil remains high.
The health and well-being of Baladeulyn School learners continues to be good	Wide age range within classes
	Small class sizes.
	Numbers of learners not enough to allow non-contact time for the Headteacher.
	Higher transport costs to transport learners with ALN to Ysgol Baladeulyn
CYFLEON / OPPORTUNITIES	BYGYTHIADAU / THREATS
Better use of the building by locating a ALN Unit on the site	The ALN and Inclusion Service works with schools to ensure that pupils with specific difficulties are included in the curriculum, ensuring the inclusive ethos of the whole school, with pupils with ALN being supported to participate fully in the school community.
Small classes at Ysgol Baladeulyn mean more attention to individual learners.	Lack of capital funding to make modifications to the site
A wide age range in Ysgol Baladeulyn's classes offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages	Building maintenance costs continue
Contribute positively to the mental and emotional well-being of the learners	Need to recruit specialist staff.



14

## 6. Ychwanegu ardal arbenigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn / Add a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn

CYFLEON / OPPORTUNITIES	BYGYTHIADAU / THREATS
Ysgol Baladeulyn is already a valuable educational resource within the community, and by adding a specialist area for children with special needs, we can provide a local solution, in Welsh for families who currently have limited options. This will also coincide with the growing recognition of the importance of inclusive education and support for children with diverse learning needs. At the moment the school has a history of children/learners with ALN.	Specialist centers have already been established for children with intense needs
Families will no longer need to travel long distances for specialist support, as they will have access to a local, Welsh language solution for their children's special educational needs.	Sacrifice learning space for the ALN Unit on site.
The addition of a specialist area will allow children with special needs to receive individual education.	A high percentage of Baladeulyn catchment area children are likely to continue attending schools outside the catchment area.
The specialist area will help foster a sense of inclusion, ensuring that children with special needs are integrated into the wider school community and that all students benefit from a nurturing and supportive learning environment.	
By continuing to provide education in Welsh, Ysgol Baladeulyn will ensure that children with special needs can access education in their first language, preserving their cultural heritage: Nantlle - a UNESCO area, and promoting continued use of the Welsh language in the community.	



15

## 7. Ffederalieiddio gyda ysgol gyfagos gan ychwanegu uned arbenigol ar gyfer plant ag ADY yn Ysgol Baladeulyn

CRYFDERAU	GWENDIDAU
Keeping a school and community resource in NantlleCadw ysgol ac adnodd cymunedol yn Nantlle	Wide age range within classes
A school within a reasonable distance of the catchment area learners' homes.	Small class sizes.
Learners receiving Category 3 Welsh-medium education.	Learner numbers remain low, as federalisation or locating a ALN unit on a school site does not normally attract additional learners to the school.
The health and well-being of Baladeulyn School learners continues to be good	Numbers not enough to allow non-contact time for the Headteacher.
	Vacancies remain. Nothing likely to lead to an increase in the number of learners at Ysgol Baladeulyn.
	The cost of the learner remains high.
CYFLEON	BYGYTHIADAU
One Governing Body.	The ALN and Inclusion Service works with schools to ensure that pupils with specific difficulties are included in the curriculum, ensuring the inclusive ethos of the whole school, with pupils with ALN being supported to participate fully in the school community.
Sharing resources and expertise.	Lack of funding to make adjustments to the site
Schools supporting each other.	Need to recruit specialist staff
A formal model can offer a concrete structure.	Possibility of a budget shortfall.
Better use of the building by locating a ALN unit on the site.	Building maintenance costs continue.
Small classes at Ysgol Baladeulyn mean more attention to individual learners.	Number projections remain low.
A wide age range in Ysgol Baladeulyn's classes offering an opportunity to work with children of different ages	A high percentage of Baladeulyn catchment area children continue to attend schools outside the catchment area.
Contribute positively to the mental and emotional well-being of the learners	A federation is a model that is dependent on the willingness of other schools to join an arrangement to work together.

16

## CAMAU NESAF / NEXT STEPS

Camau Nesaf / <i>Next Steps</i>	Dyddiad / <i>Date</i>
Dyddiad cau ar gyfer derbyn unrhyw gywiriadau / sylwadau <i>Closing date for receiving any corrections / comments</i>	16/6/2025
Cyfarfod Panel Adolygu 3 <i>Review Panel Meeting 3</i>	Gorffennaf 2025 / <i>July 2025</i>
Adrodd yn ôl i Gabinet ar ganlyniad y trafodaethau / <i>Report back to Cabinet on the outcome of the discussions</i>	Medi 2025 / <i>September 2025</i>



<b>Meeting:</b>	Ysgol Baladeulyn Review Panel	<b>Date/Time/Location:</b> 19 May 2025, 18:00, Ysgol Baladeulyn
<b>Present:</b>	<p><u>Elected Members:</u> Councillor Dewi Jones (Cabinet Member for Education) Peter Thomas (Member for Llanllyfni Ward)</p> <p><u>Education Department Officers:</u> Gwern ap Rhisiart (Head of Education Department), Gareth Richard Jones (Modernising Education Officer), Dion Roberts (Education Project Officer).</p> <p><u>Staff and Governors of Ysgol Baladeulyn:</u> Four members</p> <p><u>Parents/Guardians:</u> 15 members</p>	

## Full Minutes

	Item/Subject	Action
1	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Headteacher welcomed everyone to the meeting.</li> <li>Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education welcomed everyone to the meeting.</li> <li>Gwern discussed the reason for the meeting and what had happened in the meantime since the first meeting.</li> </ul>
2	Summarising the Main Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A presentation was given, highlighting the current situation and addressing the main challenges, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of pupils in the school was the second lowest in the county</li> <li>Projections remained low</li> <li>A high number of empty places (72%)</li> <li>Small class sizes</li> <li>A broad age range within classes</li> <li>Cost per pupil among the highest in the county and substantially higher than the county average</li> <li>The school received an additional amount of £77,659 (September 2024) via the staffing protection policy</li> </ul> </li> <li>It was noted that the options would be measured against these challenges.</li> <li>The options were discussed, including those proposed since the previous meeting.</li> <li>Gwern noted that there had been no change to the challenges since the last meeting; the number projections remained low. It was also noted that if there were more than 10% empty places that there was a duty on the Authority to review the provision.</li> </ul>
3	Possible Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was noted that 7 options had come to our attention, and that a SWOT analysis has been carried out on these seven options so as to identify strengths and weaknesses and also identify potential opportunities and threats.</li> <li>It was noted that an option to alter the school's designation to that of a Christian school had been disregarded, as the School Organisation Code did not allow this.</li> </ul> <p><b>Option 1: No change - continue with the current situation</b></p> <p>The strengths were discussed, noting that the attendees of the meeting had been included.</p>

		<p>A meeting attendee noted that different experiences such as gardening were available in Baladeulyn and that the age range allowed this to happen.</p> <p>Gwern referred to a weakness in that the Headteacher was not non-contact.</p> <p>It was noted that maintenance costs would continue. Several catchment area learners chose to attend a school outside the catchment area and that a broad age range within classes would remain.</p> <p><b>Option 2: Federate with a nearby school</b></p> <p>The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats identified in the SWOT evaluation were discussed.</p> <p>It was noted that that the formation of a federation is dependent on the willingness of schools to join the arrangement.</p> <p><b>Option 3: To close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer a place for the learners in a nearby school</b></p> <p>The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats identified in the SWOT evaluation were discussed.</p> <p>The transport policy was discussed, and it was noted that any learner who lived more than 2 miles away from the catchment area school was eligible for free transport.</p> <p>The stakeholders offered an opportunity to use Ysgol Baladeulyn as a Welsh-language unit, noting that a number of former and current pupils had made good progress at the school.</p> <p>It was noted that a SWOT analysis of the option of including a Language Unit on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site would be presented at the next SRP meeting.</p> <p>The Headteacher asked if a message was being given to the families from Nantlle who were moving from the catchment area that there was a school in the village? It was noted that it is not appropriate for the admissions officer to ask why they did not choose to attend their catchment area school.</p> <p><b>Option 5: Merge local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn</b></p> <p>The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats identified in the SWOT evaluation were discussed.</p> <p>It was noted that there would not be an increased financial allocation with this option.</p> <p><b>Option 6: Add a specialist space for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn</b></p> <p>The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats identified in the SWOT evaluation were discussed.</p> <p>It was noted that there would be high transport costs to transport learners to an ALN unit at Baladeulyn.</p> <p>It was noted that significant spending would be needed for repair and maintenance and to adapt the school for the purpose of ALN.</p> <p>It was noted that the space for ALN learners would reduce the space for the remainder of the school's learners (i.e reducing the school's capacity).</p>
--	--	---



		<p>There are two special schools and a number of ABC units in Gwynedd.</p> <p><b>Option 7: Federate with another school, adding a specialist space for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn</b></p> <p>The strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats identified in the SWOT evaluation were discussed.</p>
4	<b>SWOT Analysis</b>	<p>It was noted that all the proposals that had been offered by stakeholders had been included in the SWOT analysis and would be given full consideration in moving forward.</p>
5	<b>Next Steps</b>	<p>The next steps were discussed.</p> <p>It was noted that there would be a three-week period in which to receive any comments with 16/06/25 having been set as a date. It was noted that the third school review panel meeting would be held in July and subsequently, it would be necessary to feed back to the Cabinet.</p> <p><u>Questions/Comments</u></p> <p>Would my child receive transport to a school outside the catchment area if the school closed? Unlikely, depending on the transport policy.</p> <p>It was noted that the team would be available to support parents and staff with any option that would be taken forward.</p> <p>Concern was noted about insufficient housing in Nantlle and consequently no families to provide future learners for the school.</p> <p>A comment was received about the new cabin that had been built in Bro Lleu, and it was asked whether the Education Department could transport these learners by bus to a school such as Baladeulyn. In response to the question, it was emphasised that it is the parents' choice which school their child attends.</p> <p>It was noted that full consideration was being given to learners and staff as well as to the community and building in its entirety. We will assess the impact and evaluate each option when moving forward.</p> <p>Observation by the Headteacher: He thanked Gwern for the session. He thanked the parents for proposing options which had been included in the SWOT analysis. He asked that the impact any option may have on learners' well-being and what type of support they would receive in the future be looked at. Need to recognise the impact the school currently has on these learners. It was acknowledged that the school had low numbers but that what the school offered the community, families and specifically the learners needed to be considered.</p> <p>Gwern confirmed that we would be assessing the language unit option in addition to the ones proposed before the meeting.</p>

# YSGOL BALADEULYN

**7 Gorffennaf 2025**  
*7 July 2025*



Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
 Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money

1

## AGENDA

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1. Croeso</b>                             | <i>1. Welcome</i>                              |
| <b>2. Trafodaethau blaenorol</b>             | <i>2. Previous discussions</i>                 |
| <b>3. Gwerthusiad Opsiynau</b>               | <i>3. Options Appraisal</i>                    |
| <b>4. Camau Nesaf ac Amserlen Amlinellol</b> | <i>4. Next Steps and the Outline Timetable</i> |
| <b>5. Cloi</b>                               | <i>5. Close</i>                                |



Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
 Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money

2

## TRAFODAETHAU BLAENOROL / PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS

Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money



3

## PRIF HERIAU'R SEFYLLFA BRESENNOL / MAIN CHALLENGES OF THE PRESENT SITUATION

1	Nifer disgyblion yr ysgol yn ail isaf yn y sir <i>The number of pupils at the school is the second lowest in the county</i>
2	Rhagamcanion yn parhau yn isel <i>Projections remain low</i>
3	Nifer uchel o lefydd gweigion <i>High number of surplus places</i>
4	Maint dosbarthiadau bychain <i>Small class sizes</i>
5	Amrediad ystod oedran eang o fewn dosbarthiadau <i>Broad age range within classes</i>
6	Cost y disgybl ymysg yr uchaf yn y sir a sylweddol uwch na'r cyfartaledd sirol <i>Cost per pupil amongst the highest in the county and significantly higher than the county average</i>
7	Ysgol yn derbyn swm ychwanegol o £77,659 (Medi 2024) trwy'r gwarchodaeth staffio <i>School receives an additional £77,659 (September 2024) through the minimum staffing protection</i>

4

## RHESTR HIR OPSIYNAU / LONG LIST OF OPTIONS

Yn sgil y mewnbwn a dderbyniwyd yn ystod, ac yn dilyn y cyfarfod cyntaf, cynhyrchwyd rhestr o opsiynau i'w hystyried. Er bod yr achos dros newid wedi ei sefydlu, mae'r opsiwn 'Gwneud Dim' wedi ei gynnwys at ddiben cymharu.

*As a result of the input received during, and following the first meeting, a list of options was produced for consideration. Although the case for change has been established, the 'Do Nothing' option is included for comparison purposes.*

1	Dim newid - parhau gyda'r sefyllfa bresennol	1	No change – continue with the current situation
2	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol cyfagos	2	Federation with a nearby school
3	Cau Ysgol Baladeulyn a chynnig lle i'r dysgwyr mewn ysgol cyfagos	3	Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer pupils a place at a neighbouring school
4	Uno ysgolion lleol er mwyn cefnogi a chynnal Ysgol Baladeulyn	4	Merger of local schools in order to maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn
5	Ychwanegu ardal arbenigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn	5	Addition of a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn
6	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol cyfagos gan ychwanegu ardal arbennigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn	6	Federation with a nearby school and addition of a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn
7	Ysgol Baladeulyn yn mynd yn ysgol Gristnogol	7	Ysgol Baladeulyn becomes a Christian school
8	Cynnwys uned iaith yn safle Ysgol Baladeulyn	8	Include a language unit on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site

5

## DIYSTYRU OPSIWN / DISREGARD OPTION

Rydym wedi ystyried yr 8 opsiwn, a mae'r opsiwn canlynol wedi cael eu diystyru gan nad ydi o yn cyd fynd gyda chanllawiau Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion. We considered the 8 options, and the following option has been disregarded as it doesn't comply with the School Organisation Code guidelines.

Ysgol Baladeulyn yn mynd yn ysgol Gristnogol  <i>Ysgol Baladeulyn becomes a Christian school</i>	<p>Mae Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion (011/2018) yn nodi:</p> <p>Caiff cyrff llywodraethu ysgolion a gynhelir wneud cynigion i newid categori eu hysgol. Fodd bynnag, dylid nodi <b>na cheir gwneud unrhyw newid i ysgol a gynhelir sy'n newid ei chymeriad crefyddol dynodedig neu sy'n peri bod iddi wedyn gymeriad crefyddol dynodedig nad oedd iddi cynt</b>, neu ei bod yn colli ei chymeriad crefyddol dynodedig. <b>Ni chaniateir cymeriad crefyddol i ysgolion cymunedol.</b> Nid yw hi'n bosibl i ysgolion gwirfoddol a gynorthwyr, ysgolion gwirfoddol a reolir nac ysgolion sefydledig, os oes ganddynt gymeriad crefyddol dynodedig, ddod yn ysgolion cymunedol trwy gynnig i newid categori. <b>Yn ogystal â hyn, ni all ysgolion cymunedol ddod yn ysgolion gwirfoddol sydd â chymeriad crefyddol dynodedig.</b></p> <p>Ni fyddwn felly yn rhoi ystyriaeth pellach i'r opsiwn yma.</p>	<p><i>The School Organisation Code (011/2018) notes:</i></p> <p><i>The governing bodies of maintained schools may make proposals to change the category of their school. However, it should be noted that <b>no alteration may be made to a maintained school that changes its designated religious character</b> or causes it to acquire or lose a designated religious character. <b>Community schools are not permitted to have a religious character.</b> It is not possible for voluntary aided, voluntary controlled or foundation schools with a designated religious character to become a community school through a change of category proposal. Similarly, community schools cannot become voluntary schools with a designated religious character.</i></p> <p><i>We will therefore not be giving this option further consideration.</i></p>
--	---	---

6

## GWERTHUSIAD OPSIYNAU / OPTIONS APPRAISAL

Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money



7

## OPSIYNAU I'W GWERTHUSO / OPTIONS TO APPRAISE

1	Dim newid - parhau gyda'r sefyllfa bresennol
2	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol cyfagos
3	Cau Ysgol Baladeulyn a chynnig lle i'r dysgwyr mewn ysgol cyfagos
4	Uno ysgolion lleol er mwyn cefnogi a chynnal Ysgol Baladeulyn
5	Ychwanegu ardal arbenigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn
6	Ffederaleiddio gyda ysgol cyfagos gan ychwanegu ardal arbennigol ar gyfer plant ag anghenion arbennig yn Ysgol Baladeulyn
7	Cynnwys uned iaith yn safle Ysgol Baladeulyn

1	<i>No change – continue with the current situation</i>
2	<i>Federation with a neighbouring school</i>
3	<i>Close Ysgol Baladeulyn and offer pupils a place at a neighbouring school</i>
4	<i>Merger of local schools in order to maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn</i>
5	<i>Addition of a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn</i>
6	<i>Federation with a neighbouring school and addition of a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn</i>
7	<i>Include a language unit on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site</i>



8



## CAMAU NESAF / NEXT STEPS

Camau / <i>Steps</i>	Amserlen Amlinellol / <i>Outline Timetable</i>
Cwblhau gwerthusiad opsiynau <i>Complete the options appraisal</i>	Gorffennaf – Awst 2025 July – August 2025
Cynnal Asesiadau Effaith (Ieithyddol, Cymunedol, Cydraddoldeb + Asesiad yn erbyn y Ddeddf Llesiant) ar opsiynau rhestr fer <i>Undertake Impact Assessments (Language, Community, Equality + Assessment against the Wellbeing Act) on the short list of options</i>	Awst - Medi 2025 <i>August - September 2025</i>
Cyfarfod Cabinet Cyngor Gwynedd <i>Gwynedd Council Cabinet Meeting</i>	14 Hydref 2025 14 October 2025



Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian  
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money

# School Review Panel 3 - Ysgol Baladeulyn

Addysg

<b>Meeting:</b>	School Review Panel 3 - Ysgol Baladeulyn	<b>Date/Time/Location:</b> 07.07.25   18:00   Ysgol Baladeulyn
<b>Present:</b>	<p><u>Elected Members:</u> Dewi Jones (Cabinet Member for Education)</p> <p><u>Education Department Officers:</u> Gwern ap Rhisiart (Head of Education Department), Gareth Richard Jones (Modernising Education Officer), Dion Roberts (Education Project Officer)</p> <p><u>Staff and Governors of Ysgol Baladeulyn:</u> 3 members.</p> <p><u>Parents/Guardians:</u> 13 members</p>	

Full Minutes		
	Item/Subject	Action
1	<b>Welcome</b>	Gwern welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that the purpose of the meeting was to update everyone on where the process currently stood.
2	<b>Previous Discussions</b>	It was noted that we had looked at the current challenges facing the school.
3	<b>The Main Challenges with the Current Situation</b>	The main challenges as noted in the presentation were discussed.
4	<b>Long-list of Options</b>	<p>The options on the long-list were addressed, there were eight options in all, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change - continue with the current situation</li> <li>• Federating with a neighbouring school</li> <li>• Closing Ysgol Baladeulyn and offering the learners a place in a nearby school</li> <li>• Merging local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn</li> <li>• Add a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn</li> <li>• Federalisation with a neighbouring school adding a special area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn</li> <li>• Ysgol Baladeulyn becomes a Christian school</li> <li>• Include a language unit at Ysgol Baladeulyn</li> </ul> <p>This long list includes options that have been proposed following the SRP 1.</p> <p>It was noted that the option of changing the school's religious designation to Christian has been ruled out as the School Organisation Code notes:</p> <p><i>"No change is allowed to be made to a maintained school which changes the religious character of the school or causes the school to acquire or lose its religious character."</i></p>
5	<b>Options Appraisal</b>	<p>It was noted that further consideration will be given to 7 options within the options evaluation, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change - continue with the current situation</li> <li>• Federating with a neighbouring school</li> <li>• Closing Ysgol Baladeulyn and offering the learners a place in a nearby school</li> <li>• Merging local schools in order to support and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add a specialist area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn</li> <li>• Federalisation with a neighbouring school adding a special area for children with special needs at Ysgol Baladeulyn</li> <li>• Include a language unit at Ysgol Baladeulyn</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that the options appraisal was currently underway and would be completed over the summer.</p> <p>It was noted that every option would be considered in the options appraisal, and the option/options would be submitted to the Cabinet.</p>
6	Next Steps	<p>It was noted that a report with a recommendation on the way forward would be presented to the Cabinet on 14 October.</p> <p>The outline timetable, programme and the reasoning behind the need to submit to the Cabinet was explained. He explained the next steps.</p> <p>It was noted that the contents of the report would be shared with the school a week before it goes to the Cabinet.</p> <p>It was confirmed that all the documentation would be published on the Council's website.</p> <p>If the Cabinet decided to continue with any of the proposed proposals, a statutory consultation would need to be held on that proposal.</p> <p>The Headteacher asked whether cost per head would be reflected. It was answered that it would.</p> <p>One parent asked whether the school's contribution towards the progress of learners with ALN would be taken into account. It was noted that this was something that would be considered when evaluating options. It was noted that one option that has been included was to convert the school to a specialist hub for ALN, i.e. options 5 and 6.</p> <p>Several parents shared concern at the lack of provision for ALN and noted that Ysgol Baladeulyn had been good for their children.</p> <p>It was discussed how the impact assessments would be conducted and prepared and noted that impact assessments from previous projects were available to view on the Council's website.</p> <p>The Headteacher asked whether the school would be allowed to contribute to the options appraisal. It was noted that the SRP meetings provided the opportunity to give input.</p> <p>The Headteacher asked whether the ALN aspect would be considered against each option.</p> <p>One member asked whether it was possible for an individual to take part in the Cabinet meeting to represent the school. It was noted that the local member would be part of the meeting and that they would have an opportunity to provide comments on the report.</p> <p>It was noted that the appraisal of each option would be submitted to the Cabinet and the Cabinet would decide whether or not to proceed with a statutory consultation, depending on the recommendation.</p> <p>A high-level explanation of the statutory process procedure was given.</p> <p>The meeting was concluded by noting that the stakeholders were welcome to get in touch if they had any further questions.</p>

## **Input following Ysgol Baladeulyn Review Panel Meetings**

Following the local meetings, below is a summary of the comments received:

### **Baladeulyn PAY meeting 1 – 17 March 2025**

6 correspondences were received from Ysgol Baladeulyn stakeholders following the first local meeting. Here is a summary of the main comments made in the correspondence:

- 1 letter proposing an option to merge local schools to strengthen and maintain Ysgol Baladeulyn, detailing the benefits of the option.
- 1 letter proposing to add an ALN area/unit on the Baladeulyn School site, detailing the advantages of the option.
- 1 letter offering an option to include ALN provision on the Ysgol Baladeulyn site, detailing the benefits of the option.
- 1 letter offering innovative and regional ideas to support Ysgol Baladeulyn, detailing the advantages of the option.
- 1 letter offering an option to convert Ysgol Baladeulyn into a Christian school, detailing the benefits of the option.
- 1 email proposing the federalization of Ysgol Baladeulyn with Ysgol Talysarn, with Ysgol Baladeulyn offering ALN provision.

## CYNGOR GWYNEDD - Report to Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet

<b>Title of Item:</b>	Gwynedd and Anglesey ALN and Inclusion Agreement
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Dewi Jones, Cabinet Member for Education
<b>Relevant officer:</b>	Gwern ap Rhisiart (Head of Education Department)
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	14.10.25

### 1. Decision sought

The following decisions are sought:

- 1.1 To commission the Head of Education Department to plan to establish a new Additional Learning Needs Service by September 2026, to meet the needs of Gwynedd pupils in the future and consequently revoke the historic collaboration arrangement with the Isle of Anglesey Council.

### 2. The reason why the Cabinet needs to make the decision

- 2.1 The increasing pressures and increase in the complexities of Additional Learning Needs in the county means that we need to remodel the current service so that we can provide services which are fit-for-purpose to meet the needs of the county's pupils. Cabinet support is required to change the provision, starting by redesigning the specialist support services provided to pupils in mainstream schools. As a first step, the Department has already reviewed the Inclusion provision, and the Cabinet resolved to establish new Inclusion Units. This report deals with the second step in the required changes to ensure that we can cope with the substantial increase in the demand for ALN support since the Covid period.

### 3. Introduction and Rationale

#### 3.1 Background

- 3.1.1 The Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion Service has been providing services jointly for Cyngor Gwynedd and Isle of Anglesey Council since 2017. When the Service was established in 2017, a permanent saving of around £800k was made. During the years since the COVID period, the pressures on these work areas have increased substantially, with an increase also seen in the complexities of the cases facing the specialist Teams from day-to-day. Consequently, the councils' strategic direction has

followed different paths in specific fields, in response to the needs of pupils in both areas.

### **3.2 What has led us to this point?**

3.2.1 Ensuring the best support and provision for children with Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion is one of the Education Department's priorities. The demand for additional learning provision has intensified, and we are seeing an increase in challenging behaviour and in the complexity of Additional Learning Needs in mainstream schools.

3.2.2 The need to manage many staff, to plan strategically for two authorities, monitor integration budgets separately, report against different progress measures, provide progress reports at different times, undertake two separate processes for Estyn inspection processes, and in different formats, places substantial pressure on the Officers who have a management role.

3.2.3 The Service is split into two main elements, namely:

- a) Additional Learning Needs - input for learners with Needs, e.g. with Communication and Interaction, Sensory Impairment or physical and medical needs, specific needs with literacy and numeracy skills development.
- b) Inclusion and Welfare - input for social, emotional and behavioural needs, input for learners with English and Welsh as an additional language, and assistance to improve attendance, access to counselling.
- c) The Educational Psychologists and ALN&I Quality Team work across both main elements.

3.2.4 The Cabinet has already approved substantial modifications to the inclusion provision (Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet, April 2025; Appendix 1), and this change has already been made to the Gwynedd provision. This is in response to the increase in the inclusion field. However, no decision was made at the time on how to finance the increase in provision on a permanent basis, with advance notice that a permanent revenue bid is likely to fund the new-look provision. The revenue bid has been submitted and will be considered.

3.2.5 The ALN fields are also seeing an increase in the intensity of needs, and the need for support services, and this part of the service is also under increasing pressure, particularly since COVID times. This situation was presented to the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee in April 2025 (Appendix 2).

- 3.2.6 An increase has been seen in special setting applications as the needs intensify. However, mapping work shows that this is not suitable, with the strain on resources in the mainstream being a key reason for the increase in demand. As in 3.2.5, this was discussed at the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee, in April 2025.
- 3.2.7 To give you an idea of the increase in this area, see the table in Appendix 3 which shows the split in terms of the type of ALN cases where the pupil has an Individual Development Plan. Between 2022 and 2024 alone, an astounding increase of 37% was seen - our existing procedure cannot cope with the increase, and we need to take urgent action to be able to continue to support pupils, their parents and schools.
- 3.2.8 The role of the specialist teams in the ALN service is to collaborate with and support Schools to be able to provide an education for pupils with ALN and consequently enable them to continue in mainstream education in their local school, therefore there is no necessity to attend a Special School. The team includes Educational Psychologists, Specialist Teachers, Quality Officers, Specialist Assistants, Counsellors and Education Welfare Officers.
- 3.2.9 The services they provide are greatly appreciated by the schools as well as by the pupils' parents. Without the input of these teams, it would be impossible for mainstream schools to cope with the complexity of pupils' needs, leading to hindering pupil development and an increase in the demand for places in special schools. The performance data of these teams provides evidence that customer satisfaction is high but that there is a demand for more services. This also shows that the service provided leads to a direct increase in the development of ALN pupils.

### **3.3 What has already been done and what else needs to be achieved?**

- 3.3.1 The Anglesey and Gwynedd Inclusion provision is now very different, since Anglesey restructured the secondary inclusion provision in 2022. In Gwynedd, the Cabinet has approved an Inclusion provision for Gwynedd needs (Appendix 1).
- 3.3.2 The fact that we need to be able to redesign our ALN services in Gwynedd also, as well as the change that has already happened in the Inclusion field, means that the historical procedure of providing joint Services with the Isle of Anglesey Council is no longer viable. This is particularly the case on the managerial level, with many pupils requiring support and the Authorities' strategic direction veering to different directions in some areas. In line with what has been noted in the current agreement with the Isle of Anglesey Council, Cyngor Gwynedd has issued notice of proposal to revisit the current agreement.

- 3.3.3 We have undertaken modelling work to look at the financial impact of establishing the new ALN Service in Gwynedd. To increase the provision, there are no doubts that it would lead to increased costs, but that would be relevant whether we continue to follow the historical model jointly with Anglesey or not. The cost becomes clearer as the new model is agreed in its final form, but initial modelling work suggests a higher cost of approximately £200,000 to amend the ALN Service.
- 3.3.4 The Cabinet will need to consider this when looking at all other bids during the autumn, but to a vast degree, the higher cost is inevitable if we are going to be able to provide the support required for Gwynedd ALN pupils.
- 3.3.5 It is likely that there will be a further increase in the number of pupils requiring support, and as a result, further work will be needed (Step 3) to look at the support in the mainstream schools themselves. This will be challenging, bearing in mind the current complexity of our schools system. Before this, we need to improve our support arrangements within the Department.
- 3.3.6 Any changes to employment arrangements for members of the Team would require following the usual Human Resources procedures and TUPE requirements where necessary.

### **3.4 Equality Act 2010**

The Council is subject to public sector duties under the Equality Act 2010 (including Welsh public sector duties). In accordance with these legal duties when making decisions, Councils must pay due regard to the need (1) to eliminate unlawful discrimination (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) encourage good relations based on the protected characteristics and pay due attention to the socio-economic duty under Section 1 of the Act. An impact assessment will be prepared as a part of this process.

### **3.5 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 involves improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The act places a well-being duty on public bodies which is aimed at delivering the seven well-being goals, namely a prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal Wales with cohesive communities and a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language which is globally responsible. The Strategy has been prepared by paying attention to these requirements and in accordance with the 5 ways of working.

### **3.6 What principles will need to be considered when establishing the new model?**

- Consult in full with Isle of Anglesey Council Officers, and with Service staff
- A model that strengthens the response to Gwynedd needs
- A model that reduces any unnecessary management tiers
- A model that considers the possibility of continuing to collaborate with scarcer elements / more specific skills within the service
- A model that provides best value for money for Gwynedd

#### 4. Next Steps and Timetable

<b>October 2025</b>	Leadership Team discussion regarding the principles and the Cabinet's decision to commission a new model
<b>October 2025</b>	Further consultation with Isle of Anglesey Council Officers
<b>November 2025 - January 2026</b>	Consultation with staff regarding potential Models
<b>January - February 2026</b>	Establish the final model
<b>March - July 2026</b>	Restructuring process
<b>September 2026</b>	New model in progress

#### 5. Observations of the Statutory Officers

##### 5.1 Chief Finance Officer

I am satisfied with the accuracy of the financial information contained in the report.

Finance officers continue to work with the service as the new model develops. We will continue to assist the Education Department over the next year in identifying opportunities to fund the cost increases so that any permanent bid commitment for the 2026/27 budget can be avoided or reduced.

##### 5.2 Monitoring Officer

The decision sought is based on the termination of the current partnership with Ynys Môn for the provision of the service. I note from the report that engagement with Anglesey Council officers is one of the key principles of the process. However, winding up a cooperative arrangement like this also requires giving attention to and addressing contractual matters, resources, information management and human resources that can be relevant to achieving the change. The Department should ensure as part of this work that the project plan includes steps around these aspects that may need to be addressed from the outset to ensure that the change in the model takes place within a clear and appropriate framework.

#### List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Cabinet Member April 2025 (Inclusion Model item)

Appendix 2 - Scrutiny Report April 2025 (ALN in Mainstream and Special Schools item)

Appendix 3 - ALN Data



## CYNGOR GWYNEDD - Report to Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet

<b>Title of item:</b>	Gwynedd Inclusion Provision
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr Dewi Jones, Cabinet Member for Education
<b>Relevant officer:</b>	Ffion Edwards Ellis Assistant Head of Department - Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	10.4.25

### 1. Decision sought

Ensuring the best support and provision for children with behavioural needs is one of the Education Department's priorities. Children's behaviour is increasingly challenging and as a result, the number of learners who require support in school and outside school, is increasing. Fixed and permanent exclusions are on the increase, and are causing genuine concern to the Education Department, Headteachers and the Gwynedd schools' community (see Appendix 4 and 8). The need to prioritise this area was also noted as a recommendation by Estyn (see Appendix 1) and within an External Advisory report commissioned following receiving the Estyn report (Appendix 2).

### 2. The reason why the Cabinet needs to make the decision

The proposed changes require remodelling the service in order to improve on what is being provided currently. Financial investment is required in order to implement the proposed changes. The Department intends to fund the cost of establishing the changes in 2025/26 from current budgets. A process of reorganisation will be carried out during 2025/26, and if there continues to be a funding gap following this process, the Cabinet will need to be prepared for a probable bid for recurring funding from 2026/27.

The following decisions are sought:

1. Adopting the option of creating a Portfolio Pupil Referral Unit Model (multi site)
2. That the Cabinet accept the financial plan outlined.
3. That the Cabinet deputise the implementation timetable and implementation of the plan to the Head of Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member.

### 3. Introduction and Rationale

**What has led us to this point?**

Over the years, we have reduced the inclusion service. Back in 2012, we adopted an ambitious inclusion strategy which led to the closure of two referral units; one in Bangor and the other in Dolgellau, and the closure of Coed Menai special school.

Since then, we have allocated a sum of inclusion funding (£1.2M) to secondary schools in the form of an inclusion grant, with the intention of reducing exclusions and increasing attendance.

We have tried different models to provide for the children who cannot be included in schools with mixed results and limited impact, without the required breadth of provision. More recently, we tried a hubs model where two schools provide, instead of a central unit. Again, this was not an effective model.

All provisions have failed to provide the best experiences for our excluded learners, and this was highlighted by the Authority's Estyn inspection back in the summer of 2023, and in an evaluation carried out by external experts, which was commissioned by the Education Department.

### **What has already been done about this?**

A report was submitted to the Leadership Team back in January 2025 and March 2025, highlighting the possible options. The report elaborated further on the favoured option.

The new plan will bring additional costs to the Department in the short-term, however, we intend to restructure and consider any savings in other areas within the ALN and Inclusion Service in order to fund the additional investment at the end of the first year. As noted in Part 2, if there continue to be gaps in funding at this point, the Cabinet will need to prepare for a probable a bid for recurring funding from 2026/27 onward.

### **3.1 Background / Introduction**

Following the Estyn Report (Appendix 1) and Mrs Caroline Rees's External Review (appendix 2), a multi-agency Project Board was established, including Headteachers, in order to plan for this field. The board considered the reports of Estyn and the external Evaluation, as well as the impact of COVID on our children and young people. The need in this area has intensified, and exclusions have increased (Appendix 8).

It is worth noting that the Gwynedd EOTAS rate is low compared with other counties (EOTAS being the number of children who do not receive their education in a school setting), however, this picture is complicated at a national level, due to the differences in provisions.

Members of the Board visited other counties in order to see various practices, and discuss what works, and what does not work, within various inclusion provisions. There was also

collaboration with other services to map the multi-agency support available to these learners and their families.

As a result of this work, we have planned options for changing the provision, and these were submitted at the Leadership Team's meeting in January 2025 and March 2025. We have started consultation with Headteachers regarding our Strategy for Inclusion, which will give a new focus on reducing Exclusions, with Headteachers and other stakeholders being fully involved.

Appendix 5 provides information about the existing model, and the models we considered.

### **Equality Act 2010**

The Council is subject to public sector duties under the Equalities Act 2010 (including specific Welsh public sector duties). Pursuant to these legal duties Councils must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics and having due regard to the socio economic duty under Section 1 of the Act. An equalities impact assessment has been prepared and is appended at Appendix 1. The Cabinet will need to have regard to its findings when coming to a decision. The assessment does not identify any particular negative impacts stemming from the decision.

### **Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

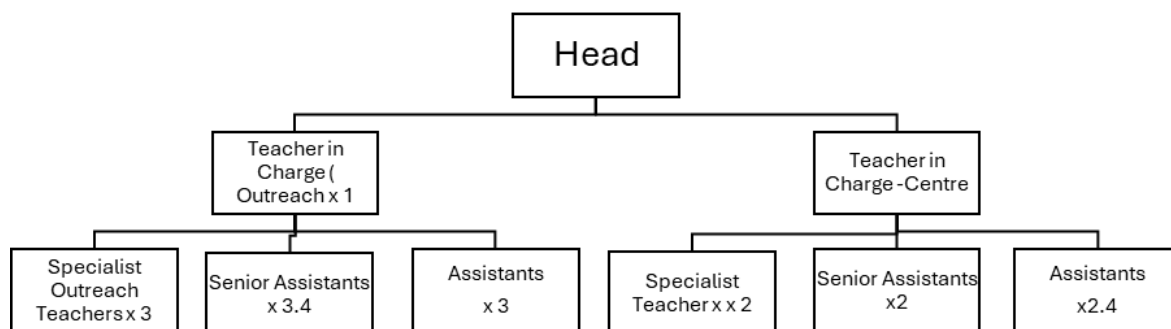
The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act places a 'well-being duty' on public bodies aimed at achieving 7 national well-being goals for Wales - a Wales that is prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, has cohesive communities, a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language and is globally responsible. The recommendations have been prepared having regard to these requirements and in accordance with the 5 ways of working.

### **What is the favoured option?**

The favoured option is a Portfolio Registered Pupil Referral Unit (multi-location). This means that the provision will be similar to a small school on more than one site, for children with behaviour problems. We are of the opinion that this is a model that will strengthen accountability, governance resilience and will increase capacity.

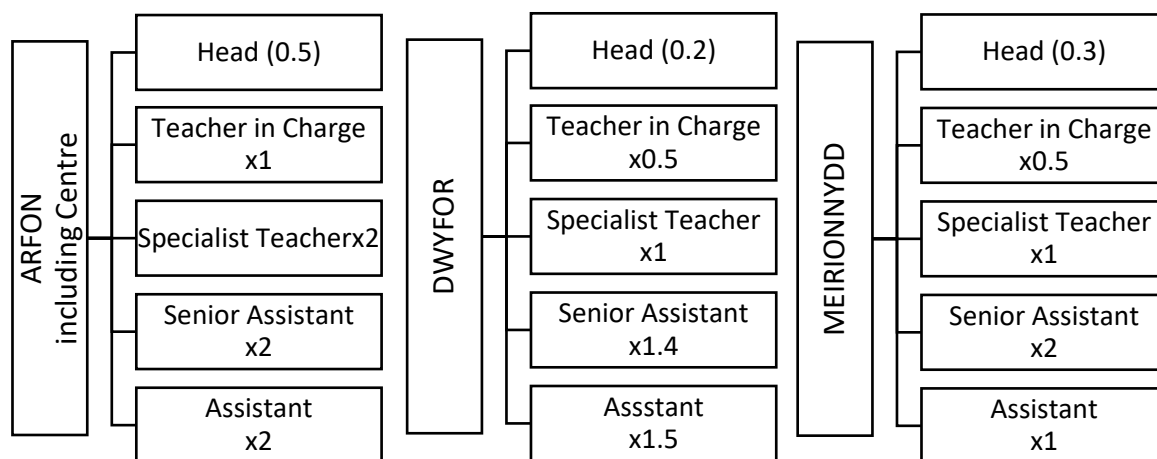
The option will increase the number of jobs in the structure, including the appointment of a leader and more teachers. In addition to creating a specialist provision, the structure would increase the modelling and training outreach for schools.

There will be an impact on some posts within the current model, where a consultation will be needed with existing staff, and job descriptions modified. The Staffing Structure of the Portfolio Pupil Referral Unit will be as follows.



The staff would be distributed in the following way (but with flexibility to move staff according to needs of learners). The rationale behind this structure is:

- The need to strengthen the outreach model
- And to secure adequate staffing for the three centres to run at the same time.



The head, the teachers and assistants will all be able to support children within the provision or within mainstream schools. They will be operational, i.e., work with children and young people, and not advise others about what should be done. This is what the schools have asked for.

There will be a need to strengthen multi-agency collaboration elements to maintain the learners, in terms of their entire personal and family needs. It is critical that we work as a part of a team as there is no expectation for this service alone to have all the answers.

#### **Where will the provision be located?**

We have invested capital ALN grant money to upgrade the former Ysgol Felinwnda building; the work will be completed by September 2025. This will be a home for the service and will add to the provision in Penygroes for Arfon/Dwyfor.

Work has commenced on identifying a suitable location to maintain a satellite site for Meirionnydd; a location that will work for the majority. Where transport costs are substantial, we will look at temporary locations that will address the needs and make better use of funding. As can be seen in Appendix 8, the need for this type of provision is smaller compared to Arfon/Dwyfor, therefore the provision will be smaller in size.

#### **What would the difference for the learners within the provision?**

The learners attending provision will need an alternative to mainstream classroom provision. The focus will be on more practical activities, therapeutic input, and alternative curriculum and qualifications, with a view to improving their pathway to work, healthy relationships, and community engagement.

#### **What does this mean for the secondary inclusion grant?**

As a key part of the plan, there will be a need to formalise the monitoring around Secondary Schools' use of the £1.2 million investment, which has been allocated to create inclusion provision within the schools. At present, this amount is not formally monitored and this must change.

#### **Who will be responsible for the quality of the children's experiences within this provision?**

The role of the Head of the Portfolio will be to manage the provision, the quality of the provision, and prepare for scrutiny, e.g., Performance Challenge, Estyn Inspections. The provision would be governed by a 'Management Committee' which is similar to a school's governing body.

#### **Positive Features:**

- Strengthen the impact of outreach input - modelling, training, consultation.
- Provide in specific suitable locations with a high-quality learning environment from a qualified and skilled workforce.
- Robust staffing and Governance structure (e.g., Management Committee, Estyn Inspection).
- Specialist central provision for learners with high-level needs.
- Also being able to prepare for other situations, e.g., circumstances where a learner is between schools following the exclusion, to assist with the transfer.
- Specialist provision for Yr 10 and 11, i.e., the most challenging years.

#### **Negative Features:**

- A possibility that Transport Costs could increase.
- Successful Schools Inclusion Strategy essential to be able to provide - e.g., monitoring the use of inclusion funding at the schools is an essential part.
- Need for extra funding during the establishment period (see below) and possibly in the long term.

### **What will be the cost of the favoured model?**

A revenue cost of £189,554 will be *additional* to the current expenditure.

In addition, £157,000 in ALN grant funding is being used within the current model. Should the grant be terminated, the future of this service would have to be considered.

We will look at savings in other areas within ALN&I in the future, in order to fund any gap. We will need time to realise these savings; we ask for this to be considered. If a funding gap continues to be present following the restructuring process, there is a risk that the Cabinet will need to prepare for a bid for recurrent funding from 2026/27 onward.

### **Does this provide the capacity that is genuinely needed?**

A discussion was held regarding the capacity of the provision at the last Leadership Team. The need levels we experience in this area are increasing, so there is also a need to be planning for the future.

We will be progressing with our Inclusion Strategy, to describes how the broader graduated response would also be strengthened, to reduce the need for a placement at the Pupil Referral Unit, with Units' staff offering to model, train and provide outreach.

We believe that the model provides sufficient places outside of school. Most learners should be supported within their own mainstream school, with the central provision for a small number of learners requiring provision outside of the mainstream.

## **3.2 Rationale and justification for recommending the decision**

The information presented within this report describes the current situation. We need to work in a different way, and the Project Board present the favoured model following a period of research and modelling to look at improving the offer for Gwynedd learners with significant needs in the areas of social skills, emotional and behavioural skills.

## **4. Next Steps and Timetable**

Consultation with staff and Unions	April – May 2025
Advertise for Head of Portfolio	April – May 2025
Identify location for Meirion/Dwyfor Satellite	March to July 2025

<b>Consulation with Stakeholders</b>	<b>July 2025</b>
<b>Registration of Portffolio Pupil Referral Unit and Establishment of Management Committee</b>	<b>July – Sept 2025</b>
<b>Provision in place</b>	<b>September 2025</b>

## **5. Observations of the Statutory Officers**

### **5.1 Chief Finance Officer**

Finance officers have cooperated with the service with the financial figures presented in the report, and I can confirm their accuracy. We will continue to assist the department over the next year to identify opportunities to fund the cost increases so that any permanent bid commitment for the 2026/27 onwards budget can be avoided or reduced.

### **5.2 Monitoring Officer**

The importance of this issue is underlined in the report. I am satisfied with the propriety of the decision sought

#### **List of Appendices:**

- Appendix 1: Cyngor Gwynedd Estyn Report
- Appendix 2: External Evaluation (Author: Mrs Caroline Rees)
- Appendix 3: ALN&I Principles Document
- Appendix 4: Need Data for Gwynedd, 2019 and 2024 compared
- Appendix 5: Current Staffing Models and Options
- Appendix 6: EOTAS Data (Education other than at School) for Gwynedd
- Appendix 7: Impact Assessment
- Appendix 8: Exclusion Data by area

<b>MEETING</b>	Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee
<b>DATE</b>	10/04/25
<b>TITLE</b>	ALN in Main Stream and Special Schools
<b>REASON FOR SCRUTINY</b>	To scrutinise the Additional Learning Needs education provision and to secure the input and understanding of the Scrutiny Committee of the progress made to ensure that Gwynedd is ready for the new ALN and Inclusion Act.
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Ffion Edwards Ellis, Assistant Head: Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Inclusion (Education Department)
<b>AELOD CABINET</b>	Cllr. Dewi Jones

## 1. Why does it need scrutiny?

- 1.1 This report is submitted in response to a request from members of the Scrutiny Committee Education and Economy to receive a report on ALN in Mainstream and Special Schools.
- 1.2 During the discussion on the item 'Gwynedd's Education Strategy towards 2032' in the Committee meeting on 14 September 2023, concern was expressed about 2 specific issues,
- Overcrowding at the two ALN schools in Gwynedd.
  - The number of children in the mainstream who are unable to cope with a mainstream education system.
- 1.3 There is a significant shift in the area in terms of integration and the role of assistants. How does the financial allocation of the special education sector in Gwynedd compare with the rest of Wales, along with the challenges in the field.

## 2. What exactly needs scrutiny?

This report is intended to present information regarding the situation of ALN in Gwynedd, within the context of a significant change in legislation, as well as an increase in demand for a service.

## 3. Summary and Key Issues

- 3.1 This report summarises the difficult situation facing Gwynedd Schools considering the change in demand for a service, the current financial climate and the impact of budget cuts.
- 3.2 There is a need to provide an update on the situation of Additional Learning Needs in Gwynedd in the context of changes in legislation and a change in demand for a service.



## **4. Background / Context**

### **4.1. Key Information:**

- The new 'ALN and Tribunal Act Wales (2018)' has come into force since September 2021, with a transition period ending in September 2025.
- The ALN and Inclusion Service was established in September 2017, in conjunction with Ynys Môn Council and Cyngor Gwynedd. The Service has evolved over the years since, in order to respond to changes in demand, and has been Externally Reviewed in 2020, and again in December 2023.
- There are two Special Schools for ALN within the Authority – Ysgol Hafod Lon and Ysgol Pendalar.

### **4.2 What is the ALN provision in mainstream?**

- Each School receives funding to cater for learners with an Individual Development Plan (IDP). They create a provision map using this funding. Additional funding is currently available by applying to the Moderation Panel at individual child level. From March 2025 (following implementing a working group, and consultation with Schools and Finance officers) this will change to receive funding on a formula basis. The formula will use data on the number of learners with an IDP, as well as the level of need.
- The ALN and I Service supports the schools to cater for the learners. The type of input depends on the needs of the school and learners. Input is tailored in order to respond in the most appropriate way. The input is given for a period, with a focus on upskilling school staff to be able to respond to their needs. We measure progress following receipt of input. See Appendix 1.
- Historically, the Special Schools budget have protected from cuts, while there have been cuts to the budget of the Mainstream Schools. The Special Schools are funded based on the intensity of each learner's need using 'bands' to describe the learners' need.

### **4.3 What works?**

- The transition to the New 'Additional Learning Needs and Tribunal Wales Act 2018' has been successful in terms of:
  - Working with the Schools to successfully transfer learners to Additional Learning Plans, from the old Statement arrangements.
  - Creating provision maps that are consistent (but with a more local flavour at individual school level) across the catchment areas and the schools.
  - Creating dispute resolution processes with parents, schools and the ALN Quality Officers. This is noted by Estyn as good practice within the Estyn ALN Thematic Survey (2023) (see link at the end of the report).
  - Review the funding methods for Schools, so that the method of funding responds to the requirements of the new act.
  - There is a close working relationship between the Schools and the ALN and Inclusion team, and the provision is well known by the LA.
  - The Act requires Schools, and the LA, to 'keep provision under constant review'. This includes evaluating how effective the provision is, and the effectiveness of interventions that are being provided. We have established a process to do this. The review process is a way for the Quality Service to monitor the provisions, and

discuss further developments with the Schools, with key information available within the IDP. The specialist teams also measure the progress of learners who receive input termly, with the majority making good progress.

- We have an electronic IDP System, and this development has been innovative. We have established an IDP User Group to further develop the system, with a focus on reducing the workload of ALN Coordinators in our schools.
- The Role of the Designated Education Clinical Lead Officer within the Act is a Statutory Role. We have a close relationship and clear communication systems with this officer, and this is a key part of our collaboration and dispute resolution processes with parents.
- Our knowledge of ALN in the early years, along with the provision offered to them, is good practice. There has been investment in this area through a bid for funding.

#### **4.4 How is the provision intended to meet demand? What specialist support and training is available to staff who support pupils with significant needs in mainstream schools? Is it sufficient?**

The provision provided is tailored to the needs of the school or learner where possible. Appendix 1 summarizes what is provided.

It is more challenging to do this now, with resources being spread more thinly. The Data in Appendix 2 indicates the increase in needs. It is also necessary to note that the needs of learners are now more complex and across more areas. Communication and interaction skills development, and emotional and social development are growth areas.

As school budgets shrink, schools find it more challenging to deliver what's in their provision map. This leads to more requests for support for input from the ALN Team and also requests for special school placement.

#### **4.5 What action is in place to respond to challenges in the area?**

##### **i) What are the challenges?**

- The statutory responsibility of the ALN Act has extended legal responsibilities. Because of this, the pressure on Schools, particularly the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo) has increased significantly. This is a challenge for Schools, especially where budgets are shrinking, and the ability of the ALNCo to fulfill the role is a challenge. This has been recognised in the Estyn ALN Thematic Review (2023) and by Welsh Government.
- Resources have been reducing. With needs increasing and more complex, meeting needs is increasingly challenging. This is true for schools, and the ALN Team is facing an increase in referrals. Grants in this area are provided by WG, but it does not match the increase in demand, and there is no assurance of recurrence of funding, so it is difficult to plan strategically (Appendix 2 – Data)
- The demand for a specialist placement is increasing, and not all requests for a specialist placement are appropriate. Some learners have complex needs, but should be supported in mainstream, but the challenge of doing this increases by reducing budgets. This can drive parents to apply for a Special School when they feel the mainstream are unable to meet needs.

- The number of Tribunals has increased over the last two years (partly related to the previous point), which is challenging in terms of the time of Officers and Schools to prepare for Tribunals and work with the parents and schools (Appendix 3 – Number of Tribunals)
- The lack of availability of individuals applying for Teaching Assistant positions is a challenge, and is a stressor on the school provision map when vacant positions are unable to be filled.
- The training of Educational Psychologists through Cardiff University affects our ability to recruit Educational Psychologists who are able to speak Welsh. It is a statutory role within the Act, and a key role in identifying the provision that the learners need.

## **ii) What will we focus on, in order to respond to the challenges?**

- In March 2025 the Primary Schools funding method will change to a formula approach in order to:
  - Provide greater financial stability to sustain staffing.
  - Be more consistent across schools – the formula is based on the number of learners who have a IDP, as well as the level of the learner's needs.
  - Reducing bureaucracy that currently exists.
- We will need to consider whether there is a need to put together a bid for extending the integration funding available to schools to provide adequate interventions, with financial challenges currently contributing to applications for specialist placement, and potential disputes with parents.
- We will work with Headteachers and ALNCo to:
  - Address the role of the ALNCo, reducing bureaucracy, and look at opportunities to collaborate across catchment areas.
  - Monitoring and evaluation of the new funding formula.
  - Ensure that the ALN and I service adapts to respond to the needs of Gwynedd schools.
- With the demand for specialist placement continuing, we are:
  - Continuing with the work to map the possible demand for specialist provisions from the early years upwards (see 4.6).
  - Look carefully at what our offer is for learners who have significant needs in the mainstream, but where a special school would not be a suitable placement. We have already scheduled training in April for all Mainstream Schools, with a focus on planning for learners with significant needs in mainstream. The Special Schools, and some of our Mainstream Schools, will share good practice during the day.
  - To collaborate with the Headteachers of the special schools to map their capacity. and the curriculum being offered (e.g. in the Post-16 sector). We will also look at the funding method through banding the learners needs (See 4.6).
  - Plan use of the ALN capital grant to develop to capacity/environments for learners in the special schools, mainstream and our centres.
- Continue to address the need for a training route for Educational Psychologists. This includes discussions about a training pathway in North Wales (Bangor University).

#### **4.6 What are the plans to respond to capacity issues in special schools?**

Special Schools have seen an increase in numbers over recent years (see Appendix 2), but this growth is not sustainable. The transitions to Special Schools tend to take place at certain key periods:

- Learners with intensive needs in the early years, who are assessed at the ABC centres, then transfer to the Special Schools at Reception Class age (4/5 years old).
- Learners moving into the area who have been attending special schools in their previous area.
- Learners who are coming to the end of a key stage (usually the end of the foundation phase or towards transition time to Secondary) with concern about their ability to make progress in mainstream moving forward.

When looking at the graph in Appendix 2, an increase in the numbers in current years 6-8 can be seen, with the number stabilising thereafter. This is likely to be in the period when the range of ALN and I centres were not available in the same way to support the mainstream, and also towards the end of the period of the current legislation. There were also a number of families moving to the area following the lockdown.

It is unusual for learners to transition back to mainstream once they have moved to a special school, and are able to stay in school until they reach Year 14 (18/19 years old).

It's unusual for a learner to share a placement with a mainstream school, but this can work well for some.

To target this situation we have been taking the following actions:

- Mapping: Our Early Years processes for ALN identification are robust. This means that we are able to map needs in the early years for forecasting numbers better than ever. We have started mapping more intensive needs in the early years, along with the learners who receive input from the ALN teams, in order to predict which learners are likely to need a specialist placement in the future.
- Integration: When a learner now attends the ABC Centre (Nursery), each one shares a placement with a Mainstream School. This helps us to observe the child in a mainstream placement – if the child is coping in mainstream, then we should be able to continue with the placement. We will also be looking at models of sharing placement with a Special School where possible, and transferring back to mainstream if a learner has made sufficient progress to be able to cope with mainstream curriculum.
- Intervention Centres and Groups: We have started to change the provision that some of our teams provide to more complex learners in the mainstream, in order to provide them with more regular support, and to upskill the schools in a different way. We will also look at provision maps with our schools, to improve provision for learners who are bordering on needing a special placement, but are making progress in the mainstream.
- Collaborative planning: We will be bringing the above information together with Special School Heads shortly, in order to plan further across the sector.
- We have invested in Ysgol Pendalar, using the ALN Capital grant in order to improve the use of the space available there, and increase capacity.

The above will enable us to develop a service and strategy for ensuring that we meet the requirements of Gwynedd Learners.

#### **4.7 How many pupils with additional learning needs are there in mainstream schools in Gwynedd?**

The data contained in Appendix 2 is annual data. Live data as of 23/3/25 showed the information below. There are 2139 children with an IDP (correct 23/3/25) in Gwynedd, which is 12.8% of the 0-25 population. There are also 36 children who have an Individual Medical Plan due to a condition e.g. Epilepsy, Type 1 Diabetes, which is provision for medical needs only. This equates to 0.2% of the school/preschool population.

School IDP – School Provision	943
Forum IDP Forum – School Provision, with input from the ALN Team	320
Authority IDP - Additional provision for a school, with input from the ALN Team	876

#### **4.8 Do all pupils in mainstream schools have an Individual Development Plan? If not, is there a process in place to keep an eye on these pupils?**

If education provision (pre-school/school or college 01-16) has identified that a learner has ALN (and therefore requires Additional Learning Provision) the learner has an IDP. If a school/pre-school/college is in the process of targeting the child, or gathering evidence to make a decision on whether a learner has ALN, they do not yet have an IDP.

Each school has a provision map, and as part of the map they will identify how they are keeping an eye on a learner's progress, in order to initiate an 'ALN enquiry' process if they feel ALN may be emerging.

### **5. Consultation**

- Collaborating with Headteachers to Develop the ALN and I Funding Formula
- Gathering information about school opinions through satisfaction questionnaires.
- Further Consultation will take place with the Headteachers of Special Schools as set out in the report.

### **6. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

6.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 seeks to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act imposes a duty of well-being on public bodies and is aimed at achieving 7 well-being goals by following the 5 ways of working.

6.2 The Act imposes a welfare duty on the Council to carry out sustainable development work by acting in co-operation with the 'sustainable development principle'. This means that the impact on people in the future needs to be considered when making decisions.

6.3 In terms of **collaboration and inclusion of others**, we are:

- Collecting monthly satisfaction questionnaires from parents and school staff, and respond to these comments.
- Gathering learners' views at the end of an intervention where possible, and also through a Person Central Planning process within the IDP.
- Discussing with Heads in the Strategic Groups and the Federation
- An Annual Panel meeting with each school, where there is an opportunity for them to give views on different aspects of the service

What has been done or will be done to **prevent** problems from arising or worsening in the future?

- The ALN Legislation and the Education Tribunal state the importance of responding early to any need that arises. Identifying a learner's need early is critical to reducing the long-term need.
- We will continue to review our ALN identification processes, so that we are proactive in preventing problems from developing.
- We have strong processes in starting the process in the early years, and this has been recognised by Estyn.

How have you considered the **long-term** and what will people's needs be in years to come?

In terms of **the long term** and looking to the future, we are already aware of the increase in demand for services. We use trend data to identify demand. This starts from the cradle, as the ALN Act covers the ages of 0-25.

To ensure **integration**, have you considered the potential impact on other public bodies?

- We work closely with the ALN Designated Clinical Lead Officer within the Health board, with our Early Years partners, and ongoing multi-agency work.

## **7. Impact on Equality, Welsh Language and Socio-Economic Duty Characteristics**

The Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion Service is in keeping with the ALN and Tribunal Act Wales 2018

The Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion Service offers a complete service through the medium of Welsh.

An impact assessment will be carried out when relevant to any change.

## **8. Next Steps**

See 4.5.

## **Background Information**

**Thematic Estyn** - [The new additional learning needs system](#)

**ETW Report** - [The Education Tribunal for Wales, Annual Report 2023-24](#)

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Staffing Structure of ALN and CH Service (Gwynedd)

Appendix 2 – ALN Data

Appendix 3 – Appeals/Tribunal Data

## Appendix 2 – ALN Trends Data

### Numbers of Learners with a IDP in Gwynedd:

PLASC	Authority IDP	School/Forum IDP	Total	
2022	767	1186	1953	Totals show an increase in numbers since 2022. An increase can be seen at all levels.
2023	804	1109	1913	
2024	795	1148	1943	
2025*	852	1219	2071	
				Forum IDP Status is a School IDP according to the Legislation – the Forwm level is a local description for Gwynedd and Anglesey, where the Team is involved with learners who are on School IDP

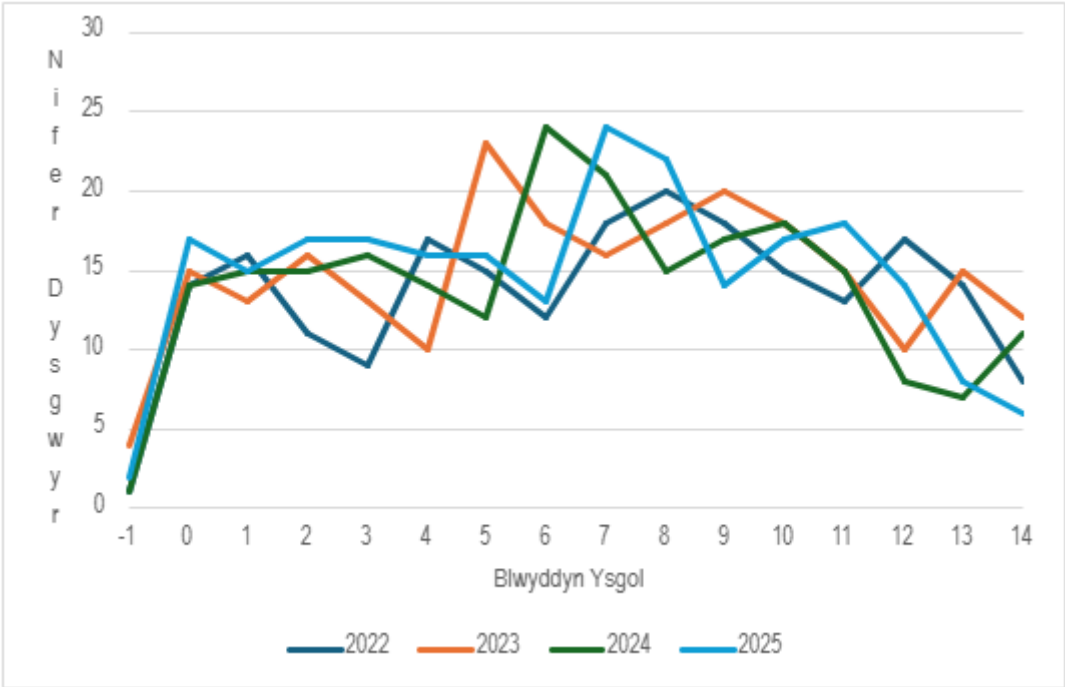
### Numbers of Learners based in Special Schools in Gwynedd:

The table and graph show the number of learners placed in a Special School. Note that the number has increased since 2022, but the age profile shows an increase in a given period (year 6-8 during the period) , and the graph shows this in the trend over time. The graph line seems to stabilize in the youngest years in School, which .

Period/BCC	PLASC	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Total
Special	2022	1	14	16	11	9	17	15	12	18	20	18	15	13	17	14	8	218
Special	2023	4	15	13	16	13	10	23	18	16	18	20	18	15	10	15	12	236
Special	2024	1	14	15	15	16	14	12	24	21	15	17	18	15	8	7	11	223
Special	2025	2	17	15	17	17	16	16	13	24	22	14	17	18	14	8	6	236

Appendix 2 – ALN Trends Data

Age Comparison of Learners within Special Schools





Appendix 2 – ALN Trends Data

PLASC Description Learners with a UDP (two descriptions can be given)

The area of need for all ALN learners needs to be recorded in the annual PLASC data. A school can give a primary field, and a second field. It can be seen from the data below that the use of some descriptions has increased over the last three years, with the fields in red standing out as areas of increase. It also possibly reflects the increased complexity of needs, where more than one code needs to be used.

PLASC	ADHD	ASD	Social, Behavioral, Emotional	Numeracy Difficulties (DYSC)	Literacy Difficulties (DYSL)	Dyspraxia	General Learning Difficulties	Hearing Impairment	Moderate Learning Difficulties	Multisensory	Physical/Medical	Intense and Multiple Communication	Speech, Language and	Intensive Learning Difficulties	Visual impairment	Total
2022	29	132	137	3	11	10	25	17	47	3	86	42	264	126	32	964
2023	40	163	196	3	19	14		22	78	5	111	53	382	128	39	1253
2024	36	167	225	2	20	14		20	99	5	112	44	404	131	40	1319

## CYNGOR GWYNEDD – Report to Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet

<b>Title of Item:</b>	<b>Annual Monitoring Report Local Development Plan 2024-2025</b>
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	<b>Cllr Craig ab Iago, Cabinet Member for the Environment</b>
<b>Relevant officer:</b>	<b>Gareth Jones, Assistant Head of Department</b>
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>14 October 2025</b>

### 1. THE DECISION SOUGHT

That Cabinet receive Annual Monitoring Report 7 (Appendix 1) and agree to submit to Government by the end of October 2025.

### 2. THE REASON WHY THE CABINET NEEDS TO MAKE THE DECISION

The Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 set out the need to monitor the Local Development Plan (LDP) annually and to submit an Annual Monitoring Report to the Welsh Government by 31st October each year.

Members of the Cabinet will recall from the AMR presented last year, as joint working arrangement between Cyngor Gwynedd and the Isle of Anglesey County Council on Planning Policy matters has now come to an end, the contents of the AMR and subsequent AMR will solely focus on evidence specifically relevant to the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority. The information presented in this report will serve as valuable evidence to support the preparation of the Local Development Plan (LDP).

This Report presents the seventh Annual Monitoring Report for the period 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025 along with the Planning Policy Working Group's comments on the document.

### 3. INTRODUCTION AND RATIONALE


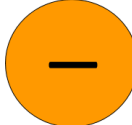
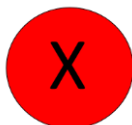
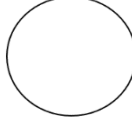
#### 3.1 Background

##### **The Monitoring Framework (Chapter 7 in the Plan)**

3.1.1 The AMR provides an important evidence base for the review of the Joint LDP and over time AMR can show trends, identify any policies that are delivering or

not, and highlight if there is any policy void or omission. The Gwynedd and Anglesey JLDP has a monitoring framework which was agreed with the Inspector during the Examination in Public. The Monitoring Framework can be found in Chapter 7 of the Joint LDP. There are 70 indicators, which report on the 5 themes in the JLDP. As the joint working arrangement on Planning Policy matters between Cyngor Gwynedd and the Isle of Anglesey County Council has come to an end AMR 7 reports on evidence specific to the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area only. The information presented in this Report will be useful evidence for the preparation of the LDP.

3.1.2 As a visual aid when monitoring the effectiveness of policies and to provide an overview of performance, key indicators and outcomes are shown in the table below:-

Symbol	Description	Number of Indicators
	Local policy contributes to achieving Plan objectives and performs in accordance with, or better than, expectations.	30
	The policy target is currently not achieved as anticipated but this is not leading to concerns regarding policy implementation.	18
	Local policy does not provide expected results and there are resulting concerns regarding Policy implementation.	5
	There is no conclusion - available data is scarce.	2
Number of Indicators that have been achieved		12
Number of indicators no longer reported (relevant to the Isle of Anglesey Local planning Authority Area)		3

3.1.3 There is an expectation that every monitoring framework includes core indicators related to the following:

Core indicator	Cyfeirnod yn y Fframwaith Fonitro
The spatial distribution of housing development	D25

The annual level of housing completions monitored against the Anticipated Annual Build Rate (AABR).	D47
Total cumulative completions monitored against the anticipated cumulative completion rate.	D44
Number of affordable housing constructed compared to the target in the Plan;	D47
The type of affordable housing constructed (tenure);	Not included within the adopted Monitoring framework and not currently monitored.
Employment land take-up against allocations.	D32 & D33
Market viability for housing developments.	D50
Housing development rate on allocations.	D45 & D46*
Developing key infrastructure projects.	Not included within the adopted Monitoring framework and not currently monitored.
Gypsy and Travellers accommodation sites that are developed;	D56*, D57 & D58
Scale / type of highly vulnerable development permitted within C2 flood risk areas.	D18

\*Not reported on, as they specifically apply to the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Local Planning Authority Area.

3.1.4 Other indicators seen in the Monitoring Framework of the Joint Local Development Plan are specific to the area of the JLDP.

3.1.5 The table below provides the actions available in the Monitoring Framework. Other actions could be relevant, depending on the circumstances, e.g. amending adopted supplementary planning guidance. An action has been identified against each indicator in the AMR as part of the analysis. A few indicators have a grey colour as the indicator has been achieved e.g. adoption of SPG. The table below outlines a summary of the actions following the assessment of the Monitoring Framework indicators:-

Assessment	Action	Number of indicators in the category.
Where indicators suggest that LDP policies are effectively implemented	No further action needed with the exception of continuing to monitor	42

Assessment of decisions on planning applications suggests that policies are not being implemented as intended	Perhaps an Officer and / or Member needs to be trained	0
Assessment suggests that additional further guidance is needed for those identified in the Plan in order i) to explain how policy should be implemented correctly, or ii) to facilitate the development of specific sites.	Publish an additional Supplementary Planning Guidance, that could include the development briefs of specific sites, work closely with the private sector and infrastructure providers, where relevant.	0
Assessment suggests that policy is not as effective as expected.	Further research and investigation required, which includes examining contextual information about the Plan area or topic field.	13
Assessment suggests that policy is not being implemented	Review the policy in accordance with that	0
Assessment suggests that the strategy is not being implemented	Reviewing the Plan	0
Target has been met	No further action required	15

### 3.1.6 Key findings of the AMR:-

1. Permission granted for 173 new residential units (including applications to reconsider or extend expiry date of existing permissions) during 2024/25. See the distribution of these permissions in Appendix 2. 75 units (43.4%) were for affordable housing.
2. 212 homes were completed during the monitoring period.
3. 140 affordable housing units completed in 2024-25 which is 66% of the total completions for this year. Note these figures do not include housing that is affordable due to its location, and size in certain areas within the Plan area.
4. It is noted that 2687 units have been completed in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area between the base date (2011) and 2024/25, whilst the

trajectory (conveyed for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area) notes a figure of 3487 units. This is therefore 22.9% lower than the figure in the trajectory.

5. 35.3% of the housing units<sup>1</sup> permitted during the AMR period are within the Sub-regional Centre and Urban Service Centres. 9.8% of units have been permitted within the Local Service Centres with a further 54.9% permitted in Villages, Clusters and Open Countryside.
6. In the AMR period (2024-25), 25.9% of housing units completed in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area are located on sites allocated for housing.
7. Average density of new housing permissions in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area during the AMR period is 29.4 units per hectare.
8. 4 affordable housing exception sites permitted in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area during this AMR period (14 units permitted on these sites).
9. Planning permission was given for one local market unit during this AMR period. No local market unit was completed during the AMR period.
10. In the last year, over 62% of housing permissions on new sites (not including those applications to reconsider or extend the date on which the current permissions expire) that meet the relevant threshold have included the expected level of affordable housing on the site. Of the 2 sites that were permitted in 2024- 2025 that are 11+ units in size, 1 site is for 100% affordable housing with the other site providing 66.6% of affordable housing.
11. Out of the units granted permission and completed since the Plan's adoption the percentage of affordable housing is 52.6%.
12. The Council received 8 Appeals during the monitoring period with 3 being allowed. 2 of the appeals allowed relate to design issues and the impact of the proposal on the surrounding landscape/amenities. These are therefore subjective matters and therefore do not undermine any policy in the Plan. The other appeal related to an application to demolish and rebuild a house within a settlement where new housing is restricted to Local Market Housing under Policy TAI 5. While the inspector had agreed that Policy TAI 5 was applicable, a potential inconsistency with the Supplementary Planning Guidance for demolition and rebuilding was highlighted. The implications of the ruling will need to be considered in the preparation of the new Local Development Plan.
13. One of the strategic objectives of the Joint LDP is to facilitate diversity in the rural economy, that objective has been successful during the AMR period, with permissions having been given for a range of employment uses including new flexible business/industrial units, a garage/boat store, erection of buildings for a timber and fruit picking businesses, workshop and store.
14. Indicator D21 sets targets for achieving the potential renewable energy resources identified in the Plan. It was expected that 50% of this of 1,113.35 GWh for electricity and 23.65 GWh for heat would have been achieved by

---

<sup>1</sup> New housing permissions or permissions to re-assess and to extend expiry date of prior permissions.

2021. However up to 2025 only 119.6 GWh in addition to the figures in tables 7 and 8 in the joint LDP has been provided. Therefore, the target of 50% the renewable energy potential for heat and electricity being delivered by 2021 has not been achieved. The permitted schemes have a potential for energy generated of 3,281.4GWh. This would achieve the target within the Plan however some of the proposals have had permission for some time. It is clear therefore that the failure to achieve the target within the Plan is in relation to the implementation of schemes rather than a failure of the Plan's Renewable Energy Policies.

15. 4 applications were refused partly due to linguistic issues and 24 applications were granted permission with a planning condition for linguistic mitigation measures.

3.1.7 The conclusions from this and the previous AMRs provide important evidence base when preparing the new LDP. As outlined above and within the Report in appendix 1 some policy targets are not being met, these are however related to matters which are outside of the control of the JLDP. The JLDP provides a policy framework to support appropriate developments within the plan area.

### **Reviewing the Plan**

3.1.8 As members are aware work has begun in preparing a new Local Development Plan for Gwynedd Local Planning Authority Area. The evidence and conclusions of the AMR will form part of the evidence base that will contribute to the preparation of the new plan. This AMR follows the same format as the previous ones but reports on the performance of Gwynedd LPA only.

### **General opinion from Planning Policy Working Group**

3.1.9 The following comments were received from members of the Working Group :

1. It was noted that the number of affordable dwellings which have been built during the AMR 7 period, 140 in number, is encouraging;
2. In relation to Indicator D2, reference was made to the inconsistency in the table and explanatory text in the English version between the number of housing which had been granted planning permission.
3. The analysis to Indicator D1 which states as follows was questioned "*In many of the neighbourhoods that have seen the greatest reduction in the percentage of Welsh speakers there has been very little new housing growth through the Joint Local Development Plan.*" It was noted that no statistical evidence has been provided to support this statement. It was further noted that there is no assessment of the impact of larger developments over time on the movement of Welsh speakers from one community to another.
4. Concern was expressed about the process of assessing erroneous Language Statements and Assessments. It is appropriate to ensure that what is stated within assessments/statements is accurate (including possible demographic

changes). In order to ensure that Assessments/Statements are impartial, it was suggested that a new procedure should be implemented whereby the Council appoints recognised experts to undertake a Linguistic Assessment/Statement at a cost to the applicant.

### **Action following the Working Group meeting**

3.1.10 Following the Working Groups observations, the following amendments to the AMR have been undertaken:

1. Note the comment.
2. The Welsh version of the Annual Monitoring Report is correct, the English version of indicator D2 has been amended accordingly for accuracy.
3. Indicator D1 states that AMB 5 looked at the changes within different neighbourhoods of the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) and noted that there were a number of factors affecting the changes between 2011 and 2021 in the percentage of Welsh speakers in them. The sentence referenced refers to the findings of AMR5.
4. The purpose of indicator D3 is to identify a number of planning applications that have been supported by a Linguistic Assessment/Statement. The concern expressed is not directly relevant to the indicator.

### **3.2 Rationale and justification for recommending the decision**

3.2.1 The Annual Monitoring Report contains factual information about the performance of the Joint Local Development Plan from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. It forms part of the evidence base for the preparation of a new Local Development Plan. As set out in part 2 of this report the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 set out the need to monitor the Local Development Plan (LDP) annually and to submit an Annual Monitoring Report to the Welsh Government by 31st October each year.

### **3.3 Next Steps**

3.3.1 Following any changes that may result from the discussion or any editorial changes which may be required for accuracy, a final version of the Annual Monitoring Report will be prepared and then submitted to the Welsh Government by 31 October 2025.

### **4.0 The views of the statutory officers**

#### **4.1 Head of Finance**

Nothing to add from the perspective of financial propriety.

#### **4.2 Monitoring Officer**



No observations to add in relation to propriety.

**Appendices:**

Appendix 1– Joint Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Report 2024-2025.

**Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan  
2011-2026**

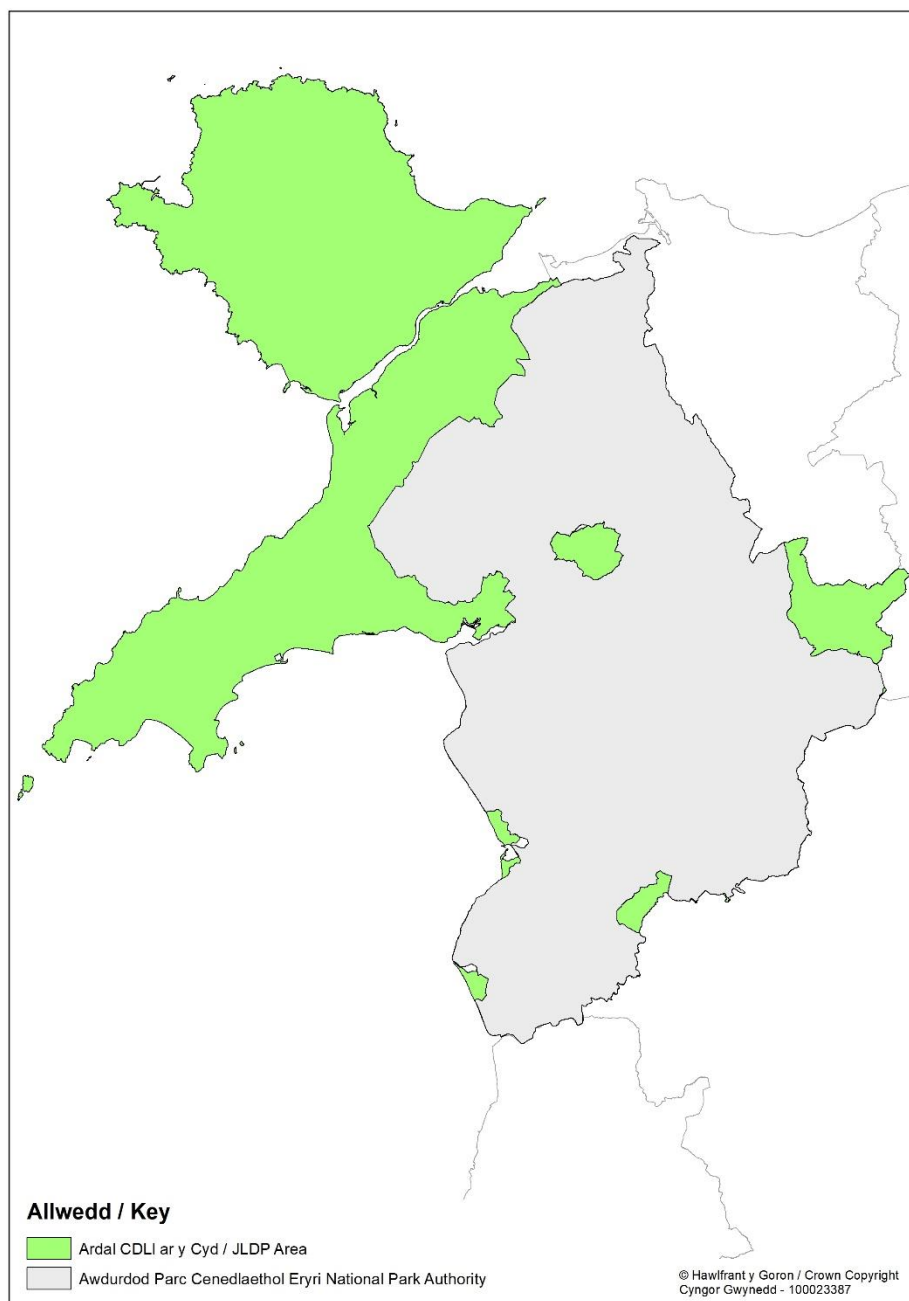
**ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT – Gwynedd  
1 April 2024- 31 MARCH 2025  
7<sup>th</sup> Annual Monitoring Report**

# Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	3
Key Findings of the AMR .....	6
Plan Review .....	7
Monitoring the Sustainability Assessment (SA) .....	8
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION .....	9
What is the AMR? .....	10
Indicators .....	10
Thresholds .....	11
Actions .....	11
Plan Review .....	12
Structure and content .....	13
CHAPTER 2: ANALYSING CONTEXTUAL CHANGES .....	15
THE NATIONAL CONTEXT .....	15
CONCLUSION .....	18
CHAPTER 3: AN ANALYSIS OF INDICATORS .....	19
6.1 Safe, Healthy, Distinctive and Vibrant Communities .....	22
6.2 Sustainable Living .....	40
6.3 Economy and Regeneration .....	56
6.4 Housing supply and quality .....	73
6.5 Natural and Built Environment .....	111
CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....	121
Appendix 1 – Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring .....	123
Appendix 2 – Distribution of Residential Permissions .....	142
Appendix 3 – The provision of land for housing .....	146

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY


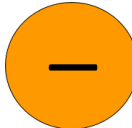
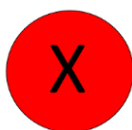
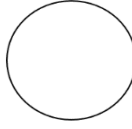
- i. The Gwynedd and Anglesey Joint Local Development Plan (Joint LDP) was adopted on 31 July 2017. The Joint LDP area includes Anglesey and the Gwynedd Planning Authority area. It does not include the parts of Gwynedd that are within the Eryri National Park.



- ii. Monitoring is a continuous part of the process of drawing up a plan. Monitoring is the connection between gathering evidence, the plan's strategy, and the work of drawing up policies, implementing policies, evaluating, and reviewing the Plan. The Monitoring

Framework is in Chapter 7 of the Joint LDP. It includes a total of 70 indicators<sup>1</sup> that are used to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan and its policies. It also includes a series of targets and defines thresholds that trigger further action, when required. The Monitoring Framework was developed in accordance with Welsh Government Regulations, and it was considered at the Public Inquiry for the Joint LDP.

- iii. As part of the Development Plan's statutory process, the Council must prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The Monitoring Framework is the basis of the AMR. The AMR will record the work of assessing the indicators and any important contextual changes that could influence on the implementation of the Joint LDP. Over time, it provides an opportunity for the Council to assess the impact of the Joint LDP on social, economic, and environmental well-being in the Plan area.
- iv. This is the seventh AMR to be prepared since the Joint LDP was adopted. This AMR looks at the period from 1st April 2024 to 31 March 2025 and focuses specifically on the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area, see paras 1.13 – 1.16. It is a requirement to submit the Report to the Welsh Government and publish on the Councils website by 31 October 2025.
- v. As a visual aid when monitoring the effectiveness of policies and to provide an overview of performance, key indicators and outcomes are shown in the table below.

Symbol	Description	Number of Indicators
	Local policy contributes to achieving Plan objectives and performs in accordance with, or better than, expectations.	30
	The policy target is currently not achieved as anticipated, but this is not leading to concerns regarding policy implementation.	18
	Local policy does not provide expected results and there are resulting concerns regarding Policy implementation.	5
	There is no conclusion - available data is scarce.	2

<sup>1</sup> AMR 7 will be reporting on 55 indicators. The target for 5 indicators were met during AMR1 and for another 5 of the indicators during AMR2 one during AMR 3 and a further one during AMR6. Further, 3 of the indicators were specifically relevant to the Isle of Anglesey County Council - therefore there isn't a need to continue to monitor these indicators.

Number of Indicators that have been achieved	12
Number of indicators no longer reported (relevant to the Isle of Anglesey Local planning Authority Area)	3

- vi. A summary of the outcomes of assessing the indicators is shown in the following table:

**Table A: Summary of conclusions from the Monitoring Framework indicators**

Assessment	Action	Number of indicators in the category.
Where indicators suggest that LDP policies are effectively implemented	No further action needed with the exception of continuing to monitor	42
Assessment of decisions on planning applications suggests that policies are not being implemented as intended	Perhaps an Officer and / or Member needs to be trained	0
Assessment suggests that additional further guidance is needed for those identified in the Plan in order i) to explain how policy should be implemented correctly, or ii) to facilitate the development of specific sites.	Publish an additional Supplementary Planning Guidance, that could include the development briefs of specific sites, work closely with the private sector and infrastructure providers, where relevant.	0
Assessment suggests that policy is not as effective as expected.	Further research and investigation required, which includes examining contextual information about the Plan area or topic field.	13
Assessment suggests that policy is not being implemented	Review the policy in accordance with that	0
Assessment suggests that the strategy is not being implemented	Reviewing the Plan	0
Target has been met	No further action required	15

- vii. As can be seen above most indicators do not require any further action apart from continuing to monitor. Some indicators have been coloured grey as they have been achieved and therefore no further action is required and therefore are not noted above. The information which derives from this and the previous AMRs are an important evidence base for the new Local Development

- viii. A small number of indicators relate to the preparation of the Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), and it can be seen that the series of SPG was not prepared by the target date. However, in every case, reasons are recorded to justify the delay in preparing the SPG, which show that they will be considered for adoption as soon as is practically possible. Where an indicator relates to an SPG that has been adopted the action has been coloured grey as no further action is required in relation to that indicator.
- ix. When assessing the performance of the Joint LDP, as well as considering the indicators, the AMR must consider any national, regional, and local contextual changes that have taken place in the previous year. The resulting impact of these changes on the Joint LDP must also be considered.

### Key Findings of the AMR

1. Permission granted for 173 new residential units (including applications to reconsider or extend expiry date of existing permissions) during 2024/25. See the distribution of these permissions in Appendix 2. 75 units (43.4%) were for affordable housing.
2. 212 homes were completed during the monitoring period.
3. 140 affordable housing units completed in 2024-25 which is 66% of the total completions for this year. Note these figures do not include housing that is affordable due to its location, and size in certain areas within the Plan area.
4. It is noted that 2687 units have been completed in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area between the base date (2011) and 2024/25, whilst the trajectory (conveyed for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area) notes a figure of 3487 units. This is therefore 22.9% lower than the figure in the trajectory.
5. 35.3% of the housing units<sup>2</sup> permitted during the AMR period are within the Sub-regional Centre and Urban Service Centres. 9.8% of units have been permitted within the Local Service Centres with a further 54.9% permitted in Villages, Clusters and Open Countryside.
6. In the AMR period (2024-25), 25.9% of housing units completed in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area are located on sites allocated for housing.
7. Average density of new housing permissions in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area during the AMR period is 29.4 units per hectare.
8. 4 affordable housing exception sites permitted in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area during this AMR period (14 units permitted on these sites).
9. Planning permission was given for one local market unit during this AMR period. No local market unit was completed during the AMR period.
10. In the last year, over 62% of housing permissions on new sites (not including those applications to reconsider or extend the date on which the current permissions expire) that meet the relevant threshold have included the expected level of affordable housing on the site. Of the 2 sites that were permitted in 2024- 2025 that are 11+ units in size, 1 site is for 100% affordable housing with the other site providing 66.6% of affordable housing.

---

<sup>2</sup> New housing permissions or permissions to re-assess and to extend expiry date of prior permissions.

11. Out of the units granted permission and completed since the Plan's adoption the percentage of affordable housing is 52.6%.
12. The Council received 8 Appeals during the monitoring period with 3 being allowed. 2 of the appeals allowed relate to design issues and the impact of the proposal on the surrounding landscape/amenities. These are therefore subjective matters and therefore do not undermine any policy in the Plan. The other appeal related to an application to demolish and rebuild a house within a settlement where new housing is restricted to Local Market Housing under Policy TAI 5. While the inspector had agreed that Policy TAI 5 was applicable, a potential inconsistency with the Supplementary Planning Guidance for demolition and rebuilding was highlighted. The implications of the ruling will need to be considered in the preparation of the new Local Development Plan.
13. One of the strategic objectives of the Joint LDP is to facilitate diversity in the rural economy, that objective has been successful during the AMR period, with permissions having been given for a range of employment uses including new flexible business/industrial units, a garage/boat store, erection of buildings for a timber and fruit picking businesses, workshop and store.
14. Indicator D21 sets targets for achieving the potential renewable energy resources identified in the Plan. It was expected that 50% of this of 1,113.35 GWh for electricity and 23.65 GWh for heat would have been achieved by 2021. However up to 2025 only 119.6 GWh in addition to the figures in tables 7 and 8 in the joint LDP has been provided. Therefore, the target of 50% the renewable energy potential for heat and electricity being delivered by 2021 has not been achieved. The permitted schemes have a potential for energy generated of 3,281.4GWh. This would achieve the target within the Plan however some of the proposals have had permission for some time. It is clear therefore that the failure to achieve the target within the Plan is in relation to the implementation of schemes rather than a failure of the Plan's Renewable Energy Policies.
15. 4 applications were refused partly due to linguistic issues and 24 applications were granted permission with a planning condition for linguistic mitigation measures.

## **Plan Review**

- x. In accordance with national guidelines, LDPs must be reviewed every four years and a Revised Plan prepared. The current Plan was adopted on 31 July 2017 and therefore a Review Report was prepared. The conclusion of the Review Report was to undertake a Full Revision of the Joint Local Development Plan which is tantamount to the preparation of a new Plan. This was followed by a decision by Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet and Isle of Anglesey County Council's Executive to end the joint working arrangement between the two Councils and to prepare separate Development Plans. The joint working arrangement ended on 31 March 2023 and new policy teams were established for both Councils. The conclusions of all the AMRs will form part of the evidence base that will contribute to the preparation of new Local Development Plans for both Councils. Although there is a decision to prepare a separate LDP for both Councils, this AMR follows the same format as the previous ones however AMR 6 and 7 concentrates specifically on Gwynedd Local Planning Authority Area. The information presented in this



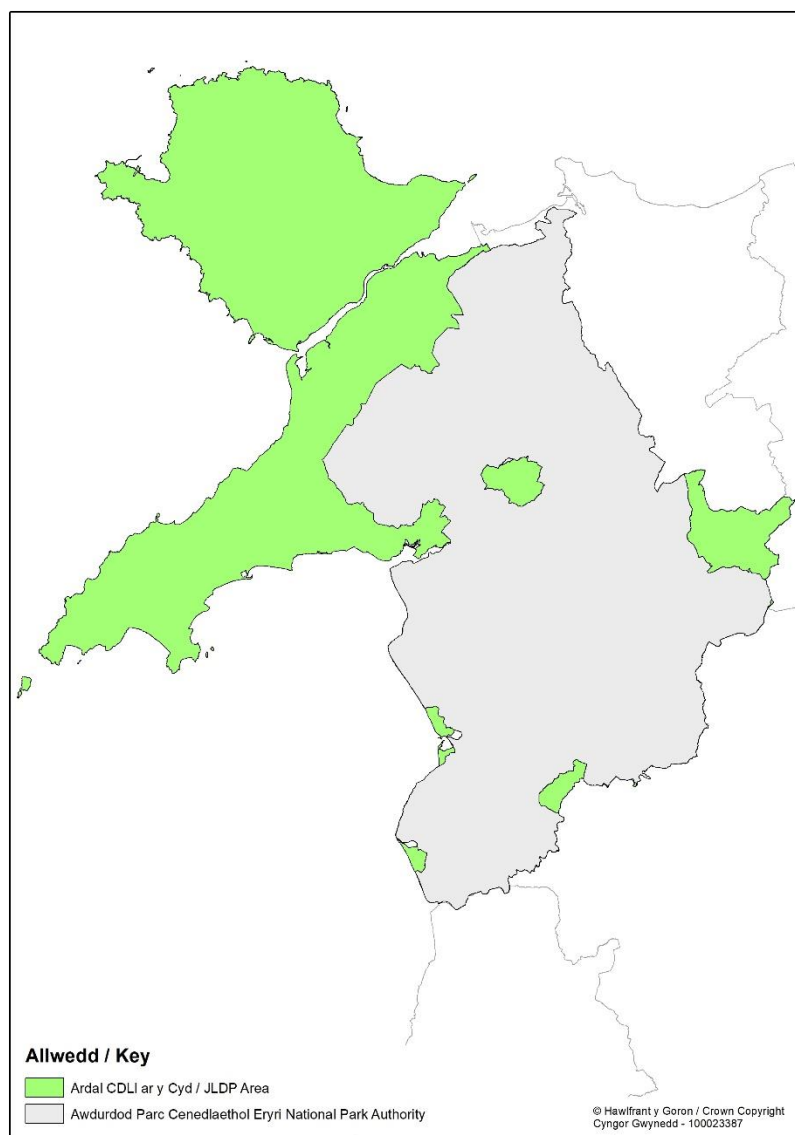
Report in will be useful as evidence for the preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

#### **Monitoring the Sustainability Assessment (SA)**

- xi. Appendix 1 provides a detailed assessment of the performance of the LDP against the SA monitoring objectives. Detailed indicators have been identified to provide more specific evidence for the performance of the LDP against the SA Objectives outlined in the LDP.

## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Joint Local Development Plan (Joint LDP) adopted on 31 July 2017 provides a land use framework that will form the basis for decisions surrounding development in the Plan area during the lifespan of the Joint LDP (up to 2026). The Plan area does not contain the parts of Gwynedd that are within the Snowdonia National Park.



- 1.2 Sub-section 76 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that Council produces an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the LDP following its adoption and keep a regular eye on every matter that is expected to impact the development of the Joint LDP area. Welsh Government has published regulations and guidelines on what should be expected in an AMR. The AMR will need to be submitted to Welsh Government and published on the Councils' websites by 31 October every year following the adoption of the Joint LDP, as long as a full financial year (1 April - 31 March) has elapsed since the adoption date of the Joint LDP.

- 1.3 This is the seventh AMR to be prepared since the adoption of the Plan. This AMR covers the period from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. It is a requirement to submit this AMR (AMR7) to the Welsh Government by 31 October, 2025.

### What is the AMR?

- 1.4 The AMR provides an opportunity to record assessments of important matters that could influence the ability to deliver the Joint LDP and the outcomes of that work, as well as the credibility of the Joint LDP in terms of sustainability. The outcomes of this monitoring process will feed into the continuous analysis of the Joint LDP. The findings of the AMRs will be part of the evidence base which will contribute to the preparation of a new Plan. A review of the plan has taken place and a Review Report prepared further information is available in paragraph 1.12 below.
- 1.5 The Monitoring Framework is the main basis of the AMR. The Monitoring Framework is noted in Chapter 7 of the Joint LDP. It includes a total of 69 indicators (amended to 70, see para 1.6 below) used to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan and its policies.

### Indicators

- 1.6 There is an expectation within the Local Development Plan Manual (Edition 3) that every monitoring framework includes key indicators related to the following: -

**Table 1: Core indicators**

Core indicator	Monitoring Framework Reference
The spatial distribution of housing development	D25
The annual level of housing completions monitored against the Anticipated Annual Build Rate (AABR).	D47
Total cumulative completions monitored against the anticipated cumulative completion rate.	D44
Number of affordable houses constructed compared to the target in the Plan;	D47
The type of affordable housing constructed (tenure);	Not currently being monitored
Employment land take-up against allocations.	D32 & D33
Market viability for housing developments.	D50
Housing development rate on allocations.	D45 & D46*
Developing key infrastructure projects.	Not currently being monitored
Gypsy and Travellers accommodation sites that are developed;	D56*, D57 & D58

Scale / type of highly vulnerable development permitted within C2 flood risk areas.	D18
---	-----

\*Not reported on, as they specifically relate to the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Local Planning Authority Area.

- 1.7 The Monitoring Framework also contains a variety of local and contextual indicators noted by the Councils relating to the context of the Joint LDP area and wider economic, social, and cultural matters in turn.
- 1.8 Each of these indicators need to be monitored, and the nature of the data collected will vary from one to the other. Some are factual (e.g. has a development or SPG been delivered within the proposed timetable?), whilst others call for the collection of data and monitoring over a longer period (e.g. house completion figures).

### Thresholds

- 1.9 All of the indicators have a specific threshold that notes at which time further consideration may need to be given to the implementation of the policy and/or its assessment. This could mean that a plan must be delivered by a specific date, if the progress falls below the accumulative requirement over a fixed period, or if a development is permitted which is contrary to the policy framework. Once a threshold is reached, the required actions must be considered in an attempt to reconcile the situation (see below).

### Actions


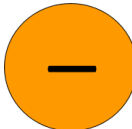
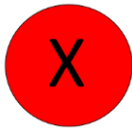
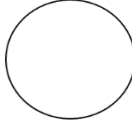
- 1.10 The Monitoring Framework notes a range of achievable actions that could address any shortcomings or unexpected outcomes. However, it does not necessarily follow that a failure to achieve a specific target will be interpreted as a policy failure that would automatically mean that this policy (or the entire Plan) becomes the subject of a review.
- 1.11 Table 2 below notes the potential actions that could derive from the monitoring, and these are noted in the Monitoring Framework in Chapter 7 of the Joint LDP. There are several possible options to help deal with indicators that give the impression of a failure to deliver in line with the expectation. To assist with the interpretation of the monitoring made, a simple colour plan was used, as seen in Table 3 below, to show how the indicator is performing.

**Table 2: Potential actions**

Assessment	Action
Where indicators suggest that LDP policies are effectively implemented	No further action needed with the exception of continuing to monitor

Assessment of decisions on planning applications suggests that policies are not being implemented as intended	Perhaps an Officer and / or Member needs to be trained
Assessment suggests that additional further guidance is needed for those identified in the Plan in order i) to explain how policy should be implemented correctly, or ii) to facilitate the development of specific sites.	Publish an additional Supplementary Planning Guidance, that could include the development briefs of specific sites, work closely with the private sector and infrastructure providers, where relevant.
Assessment suggests that policy is not as effective as expected.	Further research and investigation required, which includes examining contextual information about the Plan area or topic field.
Assessment suggests that policy is not being implemented	Review the policy in accordance with that
Assessment suggests that the strategy is not being implemented	Reviewing the Plan
Target has been met	No further action required

**Table 3: Monitoring symbols**

	Local policy contributes to achieving Plan objectives and performs in accordance with, or better than, expectations.
	The policy target is currently not achieved as anticipated, but this is not leading to concerns regarding policy implementation.
	Local policy does not provide expected results and there are resulting concerns regarding Policy implementation.
	There is no conclusion - available data is scarce.

## Plan Review

- 1.12 In line with national guidelines, Plans must be reviewed every four years and a Revised Plan prepared. The current plan was adopted on 31 July 2017 and therefore in accordance with national guidance a Review Report was prepared. The conclusion of the Review Report was to undertake a full Joint Local Development Plan Review which constitutes the preparation of a new Plan. This was followed by the decision of Gwynedd Council's Cabinet and Anglesey County Council's Executive Committee to wind down the collaboration arrangement between the two Councils and prepare separate Development Plans. The collaboration arrangement ended on 31 March 2023 and new policy teams were established for both Councils. The conclusions of all previous AMBs will form part of the evidence base that will contribute to the preparation of new Local Development Plans for both Councils.

### Contents of AMB 7

- 1.13 As the joint working arrangement between the Isle of Anglesey County Council and Cyngor Gwynedd on Planning Policy matters has come to an end on 31 March 2023, and as the local planning authorities are now actively preparing a Local Development Plan for their individual Local Planning Authority area, this Annual Monitoring Report (AMB 7) focus specifically on the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority Area.
- 1.14 Due to a lack of access to data relevant to Anglesey it is not possible to report in accordance with the requirements of some of the indicators. Further it is noted that it would not be appropriate to report on matters relating to another Local Planning Authority given that it is Gwynedd Council's responsibility to approve this Annual Monitoring Report.
- 1.15 Furthermore, it is not considered advantageous to report on matters relating to Anglesey as it may give a false impression of the success or failure of the indicators and it is not considered that it is appropriate to respond to concerns arising from those matters when looking to the future and preparing a Local Development Plan for the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area.

### Structure and content

- 1.16 Outlined below is the structure of the rest of the AMR.

**Table 5: Structure of the AMR**

Chapter		General Contents
2	Analysing significant contextual change	A summary and review of wider contextual issues within what the LDP operates in, e.g. legislation/strategies/external policies.

3	Analysis of Indicators	Details of the findings of the monitoring of the Joint LDP Indicators (in the order of the layout of the LDP)
4	Conclusion and recommendations	Identify required changes to the Plan during statutory review or triggered earlier, if appropriate.
5	Appendices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Monitoring of the Sustainability Appraisal</li> <li>2. Distribution of residential permissions</li> <li>3. Provision of land for housing</li> </ol>

- 1.17 The structure of the AMB should remain the same from year to year to make it easy to be able to compare one with another. However, given that the monitoring process relies on a wide range of statistical and factual information accessed by Council and external sources, any changes to these sources may or may not make some indicators not as reliable. Accordingly, a subsequent AMB may have to note any considerations of this nature.

## **CHAPTER 2: ANALYSING CONTEXTUAL CHANGES**

- 2.1 During the monitoring period, new and updated policy documents/guidelines were published, and legislation introduced. It is important to understand the various factors that could impact the performance of the Joint LDP, from global and national levels, down to local policies and the Councils' own guidelines. Some changes are clearly completely beyond the Councils control. This Chapter provides a brief overview of the relevant contextual changes published during this monitoring period. It includes national legislation, and plans, policies and strategies on a national, regional and local level. Any potential general implications for Joint LDP are outlined where appropriate. General economic trends that have appeared during the period of the AMR are also outlined. Contextual information that is specific to a particular policy field in the Joint LDP will be provided in the relevant policy analysis section for convenience and, therefore, will not be repeated here.

### **THE NATIONAL CONTEXT**

#### **Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023**

- 2.2 The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 and its suite of supporting secondary legislation came into full effect on 4 November 2024.
- 2.3 This is the first consolidated legislation in the Welsh Government's initial five-year programme to improve the accessibility of Welsh law. This historic piece of legislation provides fully bilingual, orderly and accessible law for the effective protection and management of our unique historic environment so that it can continue to contribute to the well-being of Wales and its people. The 2023 Act and its substantive supporting regulations also constitute the first code of law produced under the Welsh Government's programme to improve the accessibility of Welsh law.
- 2.4 With the full commencement of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023, the Acts that provided the legislative framework for the management and protection of the Welsh historic environment for decades — principally the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 — no longer apply in Wales.

#### **TAN 15 (Development, Flooding, and Coastal Erosion) – Welsh Government - March 2025**

- 2.5 The new TAN15 was published on the 31 of March 2025 and comes into immediate effect as the starting point for the consideration of flood risk in the planning system. The TAN replaces the previous version of the TAN (Development and Flood Risk) which was published in 2004. The previous Development Advice Maps have been replaced with the Flood Maps for Planning. The new TAN15 continues to take a risk-based approach, dividing land uses into highly vulnerable, less vulnerable, and 'water compatible' forms of development, before setting out under what circumstances each category of land use can be located within each flood risk zone, both in the case of planning applications and allocations within a Local Development Plan. Central to determining the appropriateness of the site is whether the site is defended and whether it is greenfield or previously developed with generally more flexibility where a proposal is on land that is previously developed and / or defended.



### **Consultation on new National Park (Natural Resources Wales (NRW)) October - December 2024**

- 2.6 Welsh Government have requested that NRW assess the evidence and justification for a new National Park and subsequently make a recommendation on the proposal.
- 2.7 Following the public engagement period on the Area of Search in late 2023, and a period of evidence gathering, between 7 October and 16 December 2024 a public consultation on the emerging proposal was held.
- 2.8 The proposed area is based on the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley 'National Landscape'. The area of Gwynedd Local Planning Authority which lies within the proposal areas is the Mynydd Mynyllod/Llandderfel area.

### **Empowering Communities, strengthening the Welsh Language - Commission for Welsh-speaking Communities (August 2024)**

- 2.9 A comprehensive report has been commissioned and published by the Commission for Welsh Language Communities. The report recommends strategic policy interventions to strengthen the Welsh language in communities where a high percentage of the population speaks the language. The designation of 'areas of higher density linguistic significance' is central to the proposals to protect and strengthen Welsh as a thriving community language.
- 2.10 The Commission have made 57 recommendations in several key policy areas, including:
- Designating 'areas of higher density linguistic significance' to recognise communities where there is a high percentage of Welsh speakers, and to ensure greater consideration for Welsh in policy developments, the ability to vary policy, and to support the effective use of Welsh at community level. The Commission recommends two ways of designating these areas, namely that the Government designates areas where over 40% of the population speaks Welsh, and also gives local authorities the discretion to designate specific areas where appropriate;
  - Addressing the housing crisis within Welsh-speaking communities, advocating housing developments based on local needs and community-led housing initiatives. There is also a call to set up a low-interest loan fund or equity scheme to assist community groups to purchase land or property.
  - Supporting models of community development that promote community initiatives and shared ownership.
  - Developing language planning strategies for communities facing a language shift.
- 2.11 The other recommendations address issues affecting Welsh language communities, including community development, workplaces, the economy, education and equality. The report also includes a detailed analysis of the results of the 2021 Census.
- 2.12 The Commission was established by the Welsh Government in summer 2022 to respond to the declining percentage of Welsh speakers in communities where the majority of the population speaks the language, or where this has been the case until relatively recently.

### **The Report of the Commission for Welsh-speaking Communities on Town and Country Planning - The Commission for Welsh-speaking Communities - February 2025**

- 2.13 The Commission organised a workshop for town and country planning experts and language planners in October 2023 to discuss the relationship between these two policy fields and provided the basis for the chapter on town and country planning published in Empowering communities, strengthening the Welsh language. This report builds on that work and outlines 14 recommendations. Whilst this is a stand-alone report it read side by side with Empowering Communities, strengthening the Welsh Language.

## **LOCAL CONTEXT**

### **Local Flood Management Strategy, Cyngor Gwynedd**

- 2.14 There is a duty on Local Authorities to prepare a Local Flood Management Strategy for their areas in line with the requirements of the Water Act 2010. Cyngor Gwynedd was required to amend the original strategy (dated 2013) to align with objectives, measures and policies and legislation associated with the National Flood Risk Management Strategy.
- 2.15 The strategy includes objectives to reduce the risk of flooding and coastal erosion, develop an understanding of these hazards, and collaborate with relevant bodies. It also emphasizes the need to raise awareness and encourage collaboration on mitigation plans. The strategy runs alongside the Council's Climate and Nature Emergency Plan, aiming to create safer and more sustainable communities in Gwynedd.
- 2.16 The strategy was adopted by Gwynedd Council's Cabinet on 11 June 2024.

### **Article 4 Direction (September 2024)**

- 2.17 In August 2023 an Article 4 Direction Notice was placed in the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area to control the use of residential housing as holiday accommodation. Along with placing the Notice a public engagement period was also undertaken. This period was an opportunity to express an opinion on the intention. Following the public engagement period and taking into account all comments received, on 16 July 2024 Gwynedd Council's Cabinet decided to confirm the Article 4 Direction, with the Direction effective from 1 September 2024.
- 2.18 The Article 4 Direction means that it is now a requirement to receive planning permission in order to undertake the material change of use of a residential house (Use Class C3) to a second home use (Use Class C5), holiday accommodation (Use Class C6) or mixed use of these use classes.

## **Appeals**

- 2.19 The Council received 8 Appeals during the monitoring period. 5 were rejected whilst 3 were granted. The overall details of the appeals allowed are as follows:
- Slurry store at Glanrafon. It was refused by the Council due to concerns that it would have an impact on the Special Landscape Area. It was allowed on appeal as there was no robust evidence to support this view.
  - Extension to a house creating a balcony in Morfa Nefyn. The application was refused on the grounds of impact on amenity of neighbouring houses. The appeal was allowed as it was not considered that the proposal would have an impact on the amenities of neighbouring houses.
  - Demolition of an existing house and the erection of a new house in Abersoch. The original application was refused as the size of the new house is beyond the thresholds set out in Policy TAI 5. The appeal was allowed following concerns

about the relevance of Policy TAI 5 and other material considerations (including the existing right to extend the existing house).


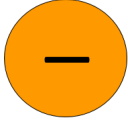
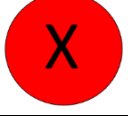
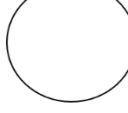
- 2.20 With the first two appeals listed above (Glanrafon and Morfa Nefyn) these decisions are considered to relate to design and consideration given to the impact of what is proposed on the landscape/amenities. These issues are subjective and open to interpretation. Accordingly, these particular appeals are not considered to have undermined the policies of the Plan or to cause any concern as to the interpretation of the relevant policies.
- 2.21 In respect of the last appeal allowed (demolition and reconstruction of a house in Abersoch), the application was refused by the Council on the grounds that the size of the existing house was within the maximum size of a 4 bedroom house highlighted within Policy TAI 5 (Local Market Housing) while the proposal would result in a significantly larger house and therefore contrary to the requirements of Policy TAI 5. The Inspector agreed with the Council that the most relevant policy in terms of considering the appropriateness of the principle of the development is Policy TAI 5 (Local Market Housing). In granting the appeal, the inspector placed greater emphasis on other material considerations, noting that the SPG for Local Market Housing refers towards adding to the existing housing stock, that the existing house could be extended under permitted rights, that consent exists for significant extensions to the existing property, the value of the existing house and the energy performance level of the existing house. Therefore, in this case whilst the inspector considers it appropriate to assess the development in accordance with Policy TAI 5, some potential discrepancy between the policies of the Plan and the interpretation within the SPG is highlighted. It is further suggested that the policy does not provide clear guidance in terms of alternative situations (i.e. demolition and reconstruction). It is therefore noted that this decision does not cause any significant concern, however the implications of the ruling will need to be considered in the preparation of the new Local Development Plan.

## **CONCLUSION**

- 2.22 As noted above, new legislation and plans, and national, regional, and local policies and strategies emerged during this monitoring period. These will need to be considered when preparing the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.
- 2.23 All subsequent AMR will continue to provide updates on the relevant contextual matters that could impact the implementation of the plan in future.

## CHAPTER 3: AN ANALYSIS OF INDICATORS

- 3.1 This chapter assesses whether the associated strategic and supporting policies of the Joint LDP are implemented as intended, and whether the strategy and objectives of the Joint LDP are being delivered. The individual tables in this chapter provide conclusions and appropriate steps (where required) to address any policy implementation matters noted through the monitoring process.
- 3.2 As a visual aid when monitoring the effectiveness of policies and to provide an overview of performance, key indicators and outcomes are shown as follows:

Symbol	Description
	Local policy contributes to achieving Plan objectives and performs in accordance with, or better than, expectations.
	The policy target is currently not achieved as anticipated, but this is not leading to concerns regarding policy implementation.
	Local policy does not provide expected results and there are resulting concerns regarding Policy implementation.
	There is no conclusion - available data is scarce.

- 3.3 The following table provides information relating to the indicators within the Monitoring Framework where the target has been met during previous Annual Monitoring Reports. Therefore, there is no requirement for the indicators to be reported on in subsequent Annual Monitoring Reports: -

Indicator Number	Description	Date target met (AMR period)
D4	Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance to promote the Maintenance and creation of distinctive and sustainable communities	AMR 2
D9	Preparation of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to provision of open spaces in new housing developments	AMR 1

D10	Preparation of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to planning obligations	AMR 2
D13	The number of applications permitted within sites/ areas safeguarded for transportation improvements (all improvement areas in Gwynedd have been completed).	AMR 6
D14	Delivery of Llangefni Link Road (Phase 4)	AMR 1
D15	Delivery of improvements to the A5025	AMR 1
D16	Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance to promote the Maintenance and creation of distinctive and sustainable communities	AMR 2
D30	Prepare and adopt a revised Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to the Wylfa Newydd Project	AMR 1
D34	Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to alternative uses on employment sites	AMR 3
D51	Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance for Affordable Housing	AMR 2
D54	Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance for Local Market Housing	AMR 1
D55	Prepare and approve a Local Housing Market Area (LHMA) study for Gwynedd	AMR 2

- 3.4 Due to the fact that this (and subsequent) Annual Monitoring Report only reports on matters relating to Cyngor Gwynedd, it is not considered appropriate to report on the indicators that specifically relate to the Isle of Anglesey Local Planning Authority area. Accordingly, the following Indicators are not reported in AMB 7: -

Indicator Number	Description
D28	Number of Planning applications submitted and approved for Wylfa Newydd related development.
D46	Total housing units built on allocated sites in Anglesey as a % of overall housing provision.

D56	Number of Traveller pitches for residential accommodation provided at Penhesgyn, Anglesey.
-----	--

**Note:** In accordance with the Minister for Housing and Local Government [letter](#), indicator D43 has been replaced with D43A and D43B.

## 6.1 Safe, Healthy, Distinctive and Vibrant Communities

### Welsh Language and Culture

Census 2021 figures for the number of Welsh speakers have been published for the whole of Wales, Welsh Local Authorities and for each Lower Super Output Area (LSOA).

In Wales the number able to speak Welsh was 17.8% which is a decrease of 1.2% since 2011 in fact 18 out of the 22 Welsh Local Authorities had a decrease with the largest decrease in Carmarthenshire (-4.0%), the largest increase was seen in Cardiff (+1.1%).

In Gwynedd on the Census day in 2021 there were 73,560 people (aged 3+) were able to speak Welsh which equates to 64.4%. In 2011 the equivalent percentage was 65.4% with the number of Welsh speakers aged 3+ in 2011 being 77,000. Therefore, the proportion has fallen by 1% with the number of Welsh speakers reduced by 3,440.

The type of housing applications seen this year on new sites that have been granted permission since the Plan was adopted shows a significant percentage of affordable homes at 50.7% (increasing to 62.4% when considering applications that reached the threshold for affordable housing). In fact, for the 2 sites with 11+ housing units that were granted permission during 2024 to 2025 one of these provide 100% affordable sites with another providing 66.6% of affordable housing.

This means that new permissions under the Plan to date, given that evidence needs to be presented with planning applications to demonstrate the need for the mix and type of housing as well as including a high percentage of affordable housing helps to ensure that local needs are addressed and thereby helps to maintain the language within the Plan area.

Indicator: D1				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO1	Safeguard and strengthen the Welsh language and culture and promote its use as an essential part of community life.		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>		PS1
		<b>Outcome:</b>		<b>Trigger level:</b>
D1 % Welsh speakers in 2021 in Anglesey and Gwynedd	New developments contribute to maintaining or strengthening the Welsh language in Anglesey and Gwynedd  (Note: Direct impact of new development on the use of the Welsh language in individual communities and Plan area is a difficult area to monitor, given that	AMR 1	—	Biennial narrative about relevant completed schemes, e.g. under Policy PS 1, Policy TAI 1 – Policy TAI 7, by 2019
		AMR 2	—	
		AMR 3	—	
		AMR 4	—	
		AMR 5	—	
		AMR 6	—	
		AMR 7	—	

	<p><i>the Plan can't differentiate on the basis of language ability. The Councils consider a combination of approaches is required in order to monitor the effectiveness of policies, including the indicators set out under this theme.)</i></p>			
<p><b>Analysis:</b></p> <p>The role of planning is limited to trying to create the best possible circumstances through the Plan's policies to facilitate sustainable development that could increase the percentage of Welsh speakers.</p> <p>There are a number of policies within the Plan which help to facilitate sustainable development which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy TAI 5 'Local Market Housing' which prevents any open market housing within the coastal settlements listed;</li> <li>• Policy TAI 15 'Affordable Housing Threshold and Distribution' requires an affordable element for the development of 2 or more housing units within Centres and Villages;</li> <li>• Policy TAI 16 'Exception Sites' supports developments 100% affordable housing;</li> <li>• Policy TAI 6 'Clusters' and TAI 7 'Conversion of Traditional Buildings in the Open Countryside to Residential Use' only supports affordable housing provision;</li> <li>• Policy TAI 8 'Appropriate Housing Mix' ensures that all residential development contributes towards improving the balance of housing and meets the identified needs of the whole community;</li> <li>• Policy CYF 1 'Safeguarding, Allocating and Reserving Land and Units for Employment Use' ensures that there is sufficient land for employment opportunities to be provided within the Plan.</li> </ul> <p>An 'Annual Report of the population' who say they speak Welsh by the ONS is published quarterly, the basis of this is data from a survey. The latest figures are December 2024 which states that there are 891,800 Welsh speakers in Wales. For Gwynedd it states that there are 92,500 able to speak Welsh, which is 76% of the County's population.</p> <p>However, as a result of figures in the 2021 Census (538,300 Welsh Speakers in Wales, and 73,560 or 64.4% in Gwynedd) and the difference between these and figures in the Annual Report the Welsh Government has commission work to establish why there is a difference between the figures.</p> <p>The Chief Statistician's blog (25 April 2023) states that "... it has always been clear that we regard the census as the authoritative source of information on the number of Welsh speakers in Wales...". He further states that "... There are several other data sources available that provide some information about the Welsh language that we can use to monitor trends in the period</p>				



between censuses. These sources have their own strengths and limitations when it comes to statistics on the Welsh language...".

The Annual Population Survey is based on a Labour Force Survey. Although household surveys usually give us higher estimates of ability to speak Welsh, they have generally moved in a similar direction to the census estimates. However, with the results of the 2021 Census, this is the first time that the census estimates that the number of Welsh speakers has decreased and the household surveys estimate that the numbers have increased.

Due to the range of data sources available, it is not easy for users of statistics about ability in Welsh to reconcile the different estimates, especially as some estimates show an increase in the number of Welsh speakers and others show that the numbers are decreasing. This can make it challenging to know how to use these statistics to inform Welsh language public policy.

Within the Report 'Differences between estimates of ability in Welsh in the 2021 Census and household surveys' the main points were:

- Of the people who said they could speak Welsh in the Labour Force Survey or Census 2021, the following groups tended to agree across the two sources most often: people aged 65 or over; people living in North West Wales; people born in Wales; and people with Welsh national identity.
- Of the people who say they can speak Welsh in the Labour Force Survey or Census 2021, the following groups tended to disagree across the two sources most frequently: people younger than 25; people living in the South East and North East; people born elsewhere in the UK; and people without a Welsh national identity.
- Of the people who agreed that they could speak Welsh on both sources, over two-thirds (68.6%) indicated that they spoke Welsh on a daily basis. Of the people who said they could speak Welsh in the Labour Force Survey but not in the 2021 Census, only around a quarter (24.8%) said they spoke Welsh on a daily basis.
- A smaller proportion of couple households agree on their ability to speak Welsh between the two sources where neither or only one adult can speak Welsh compared to couple households which have two or more adults who can speak Welsh.

**Therefore, on the basis of all this, it is not believed that any weight should be given to the increase in the number of Welsh speakers seen in Gwynedd within the 'Annual Population Report' December 2024.**

AMR 5 highlighted the changes within the different neighbourhoods of the Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) identifying that there are a number of factors affecting the changes between 2011 and 2021 in the percentage and number of Welsh speakers in them.

Some areas have seen an increase in the percentage of speakers with fairly large residential developments, others have seen an increase in the number but a decrease in the percentage.

Some areas have seen an increase in the percentage although there is a decrease in the number of Welsh speakers, this is on account of a higher decline in the number of non-Welsh speakers. For some neighbourhoods this may be based on a loss of units from housing stock to use as second homes / holiday accommodation.

In many of the neighbourhoods that have seen the greatest reduction in the percentage of Welsh speakers there has been very little new housing growth through the Joint Local Development Plan.

A large element of the changes affecting the Plan area comes out of changes to the existing housing stock.

The Article 4 Direction came into operation in the Gwynedd Local Planning Area on 1 September 2024. This means that planning permission is now required in order to undertake a material change of use from a primary residential use (use class C3) to a second home use (use class C5) or holiday accommodation (use class C6).

The Council is in the process of preparing a Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) 'Managing the Use of Housing as Holiday Homes (Second Homes and Holiday Accommodation)'. A public consultation period on a draft version of the SPC was held between 24 February and 7 April 2025 with a view to its adoption in the summer of 2025.

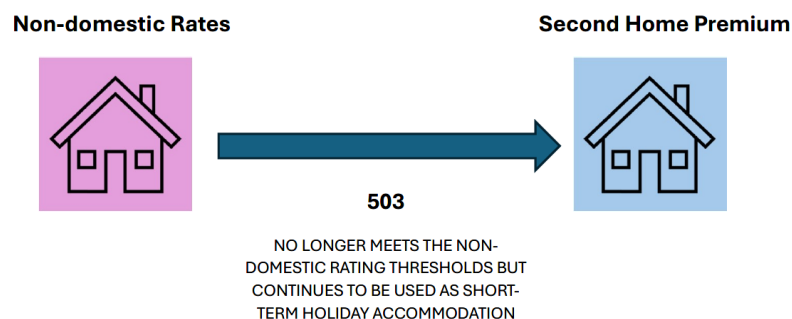
Looking at information from the Council Tax Unit of the Finance Service the following changes can be seen in the core data during the period 2024 to 2025 for Second Homes (payment of second home premium) and Holiday Accommodation (payment of non-domestic business tax of holiday accommodation) (Please note that these are figures for the whole of Gwynedd):

Period	Second Homes	Holiday Accommodation
Total April 2024	4,217	2,628
Total April 2025	4,698	2,200
Change	+481	-428

However, the picture is not as simple as a basic shift from holiday accommodation to second homes. Research into changes to the categories of taxation shows:

#### Changes within Second Homes Category

- An additional 503 second homes have transferred from the holiday accommodation category (non-domestic business tax) as they do not meet the letting requirements for at least 182 days and therefore in terms of Council Tax pay a premium as second homes (as the owner owns more than one house).



- 70 units fall into the Second Homes category as the Council has received information that they are no longer being placed as holiday accommodation.

#### Non-domestic Rates



70

NO LONGER USED AS HOLIDAY  
ACCOMMODATION

#### Second Home Premium



- 104 units have switched use from second homes to a primary residential space.

#### Second Home Premium



104

NO LONGER USED AS A SECOND HOME

#### Main place of residence



- There appear to have been 12 new second homes added to the list.

#### Second Home Premium



+ 12

NEW UNITS – NO PREVIOUS  
RECORD

#### Changes within Second Homes Category

- In terms of changes within the category of Holiday Accommodation 503 fall into the Second Home category because they have not been let for at least 182 days.

#### Non-domestic Rates



503

NO LONGER MEETS THE NON-  
DOMESTIC RATING THRESHOLDS BUT  
CONTINUES TO BE USED AS SHORT-  
TERM HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

#### Second Home Premium



- It appears that an additional 75 units have been added to the list.

#### Non-domestic Rates



+ 75

NEW UNITS – MAY HAVE TRANSFERRED PRIOR  
TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE A4D

New second homes and holiday accommodation units may have come through C3 units moving either to C5 or C6 before the Article 4 became operational. Since the Article 4 Direction came into force on 1 September 2024 until the end of March 2025, no planning permission has been granted to change the use of residential C3 unit to the use of second home C5 and/or holiday accommodation C6.

It is believed that it is too early in the period after implementing the Article 4 Direction to see what impact it has had on the Second Homes/Holiday Accommodation market. While 104 Second Homes units have changed to be the main place of residence, this was 114 units in 2023/24 and 95 units in 2022/23, which is very close to the 2024/25 figure.

In the year from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 there have been 134 new housing units (i.e. sites that did not have permission on the day of adoption of the Plan) that have been granted planning permission. This is by permission for an individual house on 26 sites with the rest on 18 sites from a site with 2 units up to a site of 24 units. Out of the applications that met the threshold for affordable housing contribution i.e. 2 or more units or within a Cluster or outbuilding conversion being 109 housing units, 68 affordable units were granted consent either by condition or legal agreement, which means an affordable percentage of 62.4%.

In the period since the adoption of the Plan there have been two Joint Land Availability for Housing Studies which have been published the 2018 and 2019 study together with the 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 survey which feeds into the new Indicators for assessing the growth against the Plan's Housing Trajectory. These state that 3,219 housing units have been completed since 2017 (2,870 in Gwynedd and Ynys Môn up to 2023 and 349 from 2023 to 2025 in Gwynedd only) with 2,178 of these being with planning permission before the Joint LDP was adopted.

The table below sets out the situation for applications that have been granted and completed planning permission since the adoption of the Plan:

Period	Number of Units which gained planning permission and were completed during the Plan period	Number which are Affordable Housing	Percentage of Affordable Housing
AMR 1	56	35	62.5%
AMR 2	90	45	50%
AMR 3	125	55	44%
AMR 4	205	87	42.4%

AMR 5	231	117	50.6%
AMR 6*	126	68	54%
AMR 7*	208	141	67.8*
TOTAL	1,041	548	52.6%

\* Note AMR 6 and 7 are Gwynedd only figures

The percentage of affordable homes in the table above has increased over the past year. These levels should be considered against the fact that the affordable housing viability assessment identifies levels of 30%, 20% or 10% in the different housing price areas. So given this the level of affordable housing as a percentage of all units that have been consented and completed in the life of the Plan is higher than this. With the percentage of affordable homes out of all newly consented housing units increasing to over 50% again this year then it is hoped that the percentage of completed affordable homes will increase in the coming years as well.

In the past year, over 60% (62.4%) of housing consents on new sites which reached the relevant threshold have been for affordable housing. In addition of the units consented and completed since the adoption of the Plan the percentage of affordable homes is also just above 50% (52.6%) (which is above the 10%, 20% and 30% thresholds for the different areas). This means that new consents under the Plan to date, by preparing a high percentage of affordable homes which helps to meet local needs and thus helps to maintain the language within the Plan area.

Recent applications from Registered Social Landlords have been supported with evidence for the Preferred Language of Main Tenants and any joint tenant who has chosen Welsh compared to the percentage of Welsh speakers aged 20+ in the relevant Ward for recent developments by them. The following table states the information here:

Development	Number and Type of Affordable Units	Optional Language of Welsh by the Primary Tenant and Any Joint Tenant (%)	Welsh Speakers (20+ years old) in the Relevant Ward (%)
Llygaid y Meolwyn, Blaenau Ffestiniog	5 social rented housing	89%	73%
Rhandir Mwyn, Caernarfon	18 units, a mix of social and intermediate rented housing	100%	79%
Frondeg, Pwllheli	28 social rented flats for residents over 55	72%	73%
Cae Rhosydd, Rachub	30 units, a mix of social and intermediate rented housing	56%	59%
Gwel y Foel, Dinas Llanwnda	24 units, a mix of social, intermediate and rent-to-buy	89%	77%

Cae'r Gors, Tregarth	8 social rented units and 4 intermediate units	96%	68%
Trem Engan, Penygroes	24 units, a mix of social and intermediate rented housing	89%	80%
Gerddi Bach, Waunfawr	4 social rented housing	75%	69%
Llety'r Adar, Bethesda	17 social rented housing	71%	71%
Cae Magw, Rhosgadfan	4 social rented housing	100%	77%
Bron Gwynedd, Bethel	4 social rented housing	100%	84%
Cae Capel, Bontnewydd	9 social rented housing	89%	80%



As can be seen, the % of Main Tenants who have chosen Welsh as their language of choice is higher than the percentage of Welsh speakers aged 20+ in the Ward where the houses are located within 9 of these developments, with 1 being the exact the same level and two slightly lower (1% for one development and 3% for the other).






The factors referred to above highlight how the Plan seeks to ensure that new developments address the needs of the local community. As can be seen from the above analysis of the Census results many of the local changes are due to movements within the existing housing stock that are outside of the Plan's control. With the National changes to use classes for houses the Council's introduction of an Article 4 Direction means that the Council has more control over the number of second homes / holiday accommodation arising out of the existing housing stock. The Article 4 Direction will need to be reflected in the formulation of housing policies into the New Local Development Plan as well as updating the evidence supporting the Local Market Housing Policy to extend the area where it is applicable.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D2**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO1	Safeguard and strengthen the Welsh language and culture and promote its use as an essential part of community life.		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>	PS1	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger level:</b>	
D2 Planning applications permitted where Welsh language	Where required, significant harm to the character and the language	AMR 1		One planning application permitted in any one-year contrary to Policy PS 1
		AMR 2		

mitigation measures are required	balance of a community is avoided or suitably mitigated in accordance with Policy PS 1	AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

#### Analysis:

As highlighted in the response to Indicator D1, in the year 2024/25 planning permission has been given for 134 new housing units (i.e. sites that did not have permission on the date the Plan was adopted).

These units have received permission on sites of the sizes highlighted in the table below:

Size of Housing Applications	Number of Sites	Total number of units
1 unit	26	26
2 to 5 units	12	34
6 to 10 units	4	34
11+ units	2	40

Of the 2 sites of size 11+ units one of these is a brownfield site within the development boundary and the other is a site with the majority of the site within the development boundary with a small part forming an exception site. One site provides 100% affordable units with another providing 66.6% of affordable units.

There were 3 Linguistic Assessments and 22 Linguistic Statements with applications that were determined where they met the thresholds within PS Policy 1 (see Indicator D3 for details of the type of applications these were submitted with). In addition, in accordance with Annex 5 of the CCA, consideration has also been given to the Welsh language for applications that fall below the threshold of those requiring a formal Statement or Assessment.

4 applications were refused in part due to following language issues:

- 1 residential application for 21 units as evidence was not received about the need for the number of houses and updated information within the Welsh language Assessment to be able to assess whether the proposal meets the requirements of criterion 1c of Policy PS1. On this basis, the Local Planning Authority is not convinced that the proposal would not have a negative impact on the Welsh language in the Plan area;
- 1 residential application for 18 affordable units as the Local Planning Authority is not convinced that there will not be a negative impact on the Welsh language and therefore the proposal would not be in accordance with the requirements of Policy PS1;
- 1 application for conversion of a former shop to a residential unit as insufficient information has been submitted with the planning application to enable the Local Planning Authority to assess all necessary material planning considerations. In order to enable a complete

assessment under PS 1 policies it would be necessary to submit the following information: Welsh Language Statement, Housing market assessment to show how the new unit will meet the requirements of the local community;

- 1 application for the removal of an existing wooden summer hut and the erection of a shepherd's hut for the purpose of holiday accommodation as insufficient information has been submitted as part of a planning application to enable a Local Planning Authority to fully assess several aspects of the proposal including a potential impact on the Welsh Language.




24 applications were granted permission with a planning condition for language mitigation measures namely:

- 7 residential applications with a condition a Welsh name must be provided for the dwelling hereby permitted (Any new name should be derived from historical, geographical or local links to the area where possible.) (these application provide for a total of 37 residential units);
- 7 applications with the condition that any signs advertising and promoting the development inside and outside the site must be in Welsh or bilingual with priority to the Welsh language (2 applications totalling 110 residential units, 1 application for 10 industrial units, 1 application for a retail supermarket, 1 application for 2 business units, 1 application for a mot garage and 1 application for a retail unit);
- 1 application for a retail supermarket where the applicant/developer must submit a Welsh language impact mitigation plan including details of bilingual internal and external signage/information packs/marketing arrangements to be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority before the permitted use hereby becomes operational and the development must be implemented in accordance with the permitted details;
- 9 applications with a condition that any signs advertising and promoting the development within and outside the premises must be in Welsh or bilingual with priority to Welsh and a condition that a Welsh name must be provided for the development (7 applications for a total of 60 residential units, 1 mixed use application for 3 residential units and 3 holiday accommodation and 1 application for the erection of a new workshop / office).





**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D3**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO1	Safeguard and strengthen the Welsh language and culture and promote its use as an essential part of community life.		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>	PS1	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger level:</b>	
D3 Number of planning applications accompanied by a Welsh Language Statement or a	All relevant planning applications to be accompanied by a Welsh Language Statement or a Welsh Language	AMR 1		One Welsh Language Statement or Welsh Language Impact Assessment in any one year that doesn't address factors relevant to
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		



Welsh Language Impact Assessment	Impact Assessment, which address factors relevant to the use of the Welsh language in the community as set out in the Supplementary Planning Guidance.	AMR 3		the use of the Welsh language in the community.
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		

#### Analysis:

During the monitoring period, 22 Welsh Language Statements and 3 Welsh Language Impact Assessments in total were submitted in Anglesey and Gwynedd. In addition, in accordance with Annex 5 of the CCA, consideration has been given to Welsh for applications below the threshold requiring a formal Statement or Assessment. 13 Linguistic Statements were received with residential applications, and 6 statements with commercial applications, 3 with mixed use applications two for the creation of a shop and residential units and another for the use of 3 residential units and 3 holiday accommodation units. 3 Language Assessment were submitted all for residential applications.

In the cases where Welsh Language Statements/Assessments were submitted which did not follow the main structure of the response template contained in the SPG "Maintaining and Creating Distinctive and Sustainable Communities" adopted in July 2019 further information was requested from the applicant to ensure that they complied with the requirements of the adopted CCA.

It is considered, therefore, that the policies continue to be implemented effectively.


#### Action:







Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

#### Indicator: D4

Target has been met during AMR2, no need to continue to monitor.

### Infrastructure and Developer Contributions

Indicator: D5				
Objective:	SO2	Ensure that appropriate physical or community infrastructure is in place e.g. water supply, health facilities, schools, community facilities, or that it can be provided (e.g. by means of developer contributions) to cope with every kind of development.		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:	ISA1, ISA2, ISA4, ISA5	
		Outcome:	Trigger level:	
		AMR 1		

D5 Number of planning applications granted where new or improved infrastructure has been secured through developer contributions	Where appropriate, new development will address the impact on communities through the provision of new or improved infrastructure in accordance with Policy ISA 1	AMR 2		One planning application permitted contrary to Policy ISA 1 in any one year
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

#### Analysis:

The Plan's policies attempt to ensure that the infrastructure provision is sufficient for new developments. If this is not the case, then financial contributions can be sought from developers to ensure that a sufficient infrastructure capacity exists.

4 planning applications were submitted where there was new or enhanced infrastructure through developer contributions. These included:




- 1 to increase school capacity
- 3 for open space provision and/or financial contributions.





No planning application was approved contrary to Policy ISA 1 during the monitoring period. The target to prevent developments from being approved where there is insufficient infrastructure in any one year is therefore being met.

#### Action:

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

#### Indicator: D6


<b>Objective:</b>	SO2	Ensure that appropriate physical or community infrastructure is in place e.g. water supply, health facilities, schools, community facilities, or that it can be provided (e.g. by means of developer contributions) to cope with every kind of development.		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy</b>	ISA1, ISA2, ISA4, ISA5	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger level:</b>	
D6 Number of planning applications for change of use of community facilities	Viable community facilities retained in accordance with Policy ISA 2	AMR 1		One viable community facility lost contrary to Policy ISA 2 in any one year
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		







		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<b>AMR 7</b>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>Policy ISA 2 aims to protect existing community facilities and encourage the development of new facilities where appropriate. 5 planning application which resulted in the loss of a community facility were granted planning permission being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demolition of a former library and replacement with a new community centre;</li> <li>• Conversion of a public house into 5 flats;</li> <li>• Conversion of a Chapel to a house;</li> <li>• Re-develop former school into 10 houses; and</li> <li>• Conversion of former school into 9 flats.</li> </ul> <p>All of the applications satisfied the criteria listed in Policy ISA 2 relating to the loss of community facilities.</p> <p>The target to prevent the loss of viable community facilities developments in any one year is therefore being met.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				





## Open Spaces




Open spaces have an important function within the communities of the Plan's area, and this is reflected in the Joint LDP that seeks to safeguard existing open spaces and make it a requirement to provide open spaces to satisfy the needs of the new housing development.

Since the Plan's adoption, policies have protected open spaces in communities and they have also ensured that new open spaces are created, maintained, and improved.

<b>Indicator: D7</b>				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO2	Ensure that appropriate physical or community infrastructure is in place e.g. water supply, health facilities, schools, community facilities, or that it can be provided (e.g. by means of developer contributions) to cope with every kind of development.		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy</b>	ISA 4	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger level:</b>	
D7 – Number of Planning	Amount of open space (ha) in	AMR 1		Open space lost in any Centre or Village in any one

applications for alternative uses on areas of open space	individual settlements retained in accordance with Policy ISA 4.	AMR 2		year leading to net reduction in supply in the Centre or Village contrary to Policy ISA 4.
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>8 applications have been approved on sites which are wholly or partly within protected open spaces identified in the plan (on the proposals map). All applications comply with the policy criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 applications on parts of a school playing fields which do not undermine the use of the land as playing fields (improvements to school kitchen and erection of a fence).</li> <li>• 2 applications for tree maintenance works.</li> <li>• 1 application for improvements to an existing footpath.</li> <li>• 1 application for the laying of a 3G pitch and floodlights.</li> <li>• 1 application for new furniture and an interpretation board.</li> <li>• 1 application relating to SUDS.</li> </ul> <p>It is considered that Policy ISA 4 is implemented efficiently. The Councils will continue to monitor the indicator.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

<b>Indicator: D8</b>				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO2	Ensure that appropriate physical or community infrastructure is in place e.g. water supply, health facilities, schools, community facilities, or that it can be provided (e.g. by means of developer contributions) to cope with every kind of development.		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>		ISA 5
		<b>Outcome:</b>		<b>Trigger level:</b>
D8 – Open space (ha) secured in association with residential development of 10 or more units	Provision of new open space if application of the Fields in Trust (FiT) benchmark standards identifies a deficiency of open	AMR 1		One planning application permitted in any one year not contributing to meeting the open space needs of occupiers of new housing as defined by the FiT benchmark standard contrary to Policy ISA 5
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		

	space in accordance with Policy ISA 5	AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>3 applications for 10 or more dwellings have been approved in this AMR period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The creation of 720m<sup>2</sup> of new open space provision created on site.</li><li>• A financial contribution of £1306.86.</li></ul> <p>It is considered that Policy ISA 5 is implemented efficiently. The Councils will continue to monitor the indicator.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
<p>Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.</p>				

**Indicator: D9**

Target has been met during AMB1, no need to continue to monitor.

**Indicator: D10**

Target has been met during AMB1, no need to continue to monitor.

**Sustainable Transport, Development and Accessibility**

**Indicator: D11**








**Objective:**

SO3

Improve and maintain safe, efficient, high quality, modern and integrated transport networks to employment, services, and education/ training facilities particularly by foot, bicycle and public transport, thus reducing where possible the number of journeys in private cars.

SO4

Maximise the opportunities of Holyhead as a major international gateway and the A55, E22 Trans European network route and the A5025, A487, A470 as key transportation corridors:

				<b>Key outputs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Plan’s strategy and policies will have contributed to creating more communities with over 70% of Welsh speakers;</li><li>• No community infrastructure will have been lost unless evidence has shown it was not critical to the community;</li><li>• Development will be located in order to provide opportunities for people to undertake the full journey to work or part of it on foot, by bicycle or on buses and trains</li><li>• New roads or essential improvements to roads on the present road network will have been provided.</li></ul>
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>		TRA 1, TRA 2, TRA 3, TRA 4
D11 – Preparation of Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to parking standards	Prepare and adopt the Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to parking standards within 12 months of the Plan’s adoption	<b>Outcome:</b>		<b>Trigger level:</b>
		AMR 1		Not adopting a Supplementary Planning Guidance within 12 months of the Plan’s adoption
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b> <p>The policy target is currently not achieved as anticipated, but this does not lead to concerns regarding policy implementation.</p> <p>The timescale for adopting a revised Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) on Parking Standards was set for Quarter 2 in 2018/19. This target has not been achieved due to changes in the LDP schedule of works and resource priorities.</p> <p>However, the local planning authorities have a ‘saved’ SPG from the Unitary Development Plan and can also refer to national guidance when determining new applications.</p>				








As the new LDP policy on Parking Standards is in line with national guidance, it is not felt that the slippage in the delivery of a new SPG has been detrimental to the decision-making process.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D12**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO3	Improve and maintain safe, efficient, high quality, modern and integrated transport networks to employment, services, and education/ training facilities particularly by foot, bicycle and public transport, thus reducing where possible the number of journeys in private cars.
	SO4	<p>Maximise the opportunities of Holyhead as a major international gateway and the A55, E22 Trans European network route and the A5025, A487, A470 as key transportation corridors:</p> <p><b>Key outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Plan's strategy and policies will have contributed to creating more communities with over 70% of Welsh speakers;</li> <li>• No community infrastructure will have been lost unless evidence has shown it was not critical to the community;</li> <li>• Development will be located in order to provide opportunities for people to undertake the full journey to work or part of it on foot, by bicycle or on buses and trains</li> <li>• New roads or essential improvements to roads on the present road network will have been provided.</li> </ul>

Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		TRA 1, TRA 2, TRA 3, TRA 4
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
D12 – Number of planning applications accompanied by a Travel Assessment	All relevant planning applications above the relevant thresholds identified in Policy TRA 1 accompanied by a Travel Assessment	AMR 1		One planning application submitted in any one year not accompanied by a Travel Assessment as required by Policy TRA 1
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		

**Analysis:**

There was a total of 3 applications for large scale housing developments and 1 for employment developments supported by Transport Assessment. No applications were received without a Travel Assessment when required.

The policy is clear and requests an assessment based upon the thresholds set out in 'Table 6: Scale of development requiring transport assessment'. Officers request an assessment at the point of pre-application enquiry or planning application stage if it is not included as part of the submission.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D13**

Target has been met during AMB6, no need to continue to monitor.

**Indicator: D14**

Target has been met during AMB1, no need to continue to monitor.

**Indicator: D15**

Target has been met during AMB1, no need to continue to monitor.



## 6.2 Sustainable Living

### Sustainable Development and Climate Change

#### Indicator: D16

Target has been met during AMB2, no need to continue to monitor.

#### Indicator: D17

##### Objective:

SO5

Ensuring that development in the Plan area supports the principles of sustainable development and creates sustainable communities whilst respecting the varied role and character of the centres, villages and Countryside

SO6

Minimize, adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change. This will be achieved by:

- ensuring that highly vulnerable development is directed away from areas of flood risk wherever possible;
- reduce the need for energy and other resources in developments;
- promote renewable and low carbon energy production within the area;
- make use of suitable previously developed land and unoccupied buildings or ones that are not used to their full capacity, where available;
- manage, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of the water environment and reduce water consumption.

##### Indicator:

##### Target:

##### Relevant Policy

PS 5, PS6, PCYFF 1 & PCYFF 2, ADN 1, ADN 2, ADN3

##### Outcome:

##### Trigger Level:

D17 - Number of planning applications permitted by TAN 15 category in C1 floodplain areas

No planning applications permitted within C1 floodplain areas not meeting all the tests set out in TAN15

AMR 1



AMR 2



AMR 3





AMR 4










AMR 5



One planning application permitted in any one year within C1 floodplain not meeting all TAN15 tests

		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>23 full planning applications were permitted on sites that were wholly/partly within a C1 flood zone; 8 of these were householder applications. As part of the process of assessing the planning applications information was collected regarding the compliance of the planning applications with the tests contained in Technical Guidance Note 15 (Flooding); it was determined that they complied with the requirement of the tests set out in TAN 15.</p> <p>It is concluded that the applications approved complied with policies PS 5, PS6, 1 PCYFF &amp; PCYFF 2 of the Joint LDP. Therefore, it is considered that the policies are continuing to being implemented effectively.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

<b>Indicator: D18</b>				
<b>Objective:</b>	S05	Ensuring that development in the Plan area supports the principles of sustainable development and creates sustainable communities whilst respecting the varied role and character of the centres, villages and Countryside		
	S06	Minimize, adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change. This will be achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensuring that highly vulnerable development is directed away from areas of flood risk wherever possible;</li> <li>reduce the need for energy and other resources in developments;</li> <li>promote renewable and low carbon energy production within the area;</li> <li>make use of suitable previously developed land and unoccupied buildings or ones that are not used to their full capacity, where available;</li> <li>manage, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of the water environment and reduce water consumption.</li> </ul>		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant Policy</b>	PS 5, PS6, PCYFF 1 & PCYFF 2, ADN 1, ADN 2, ADN3	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger Level:</b>	
		AMBR1		One planning application permitted for highly

D18 - Number of planning applications for highly vulnerable development permitted in C2 floodplain areas	No planning applications for highly vulnerable development permitted in C2 floodplain areas	AMR 2		vulnerable development in C2 floodplain areas in any one year
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

**Analysis:**








37 full planning applications were permitted on sites that were wholly/partly within a C2 flood zone; 12 of these were householder applications. No planning applications were approved for a type of development that would be considered as a 'highly vulnerable development' in accordance with Figure 2 of Technical Advice Note 15 (Development and Flood Risk). Further all application located (partly/fully) within the C2 flood zone complied with the tests as contained within TAN 15.

It is concluded that the applications approved were in compliance with policies PS 5, PS6, 1 PCYFF & PCYFF 2 of the Joint LDP. Therefore, it is considered that the policies are continuing to be implemented effectively.








**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

Indicator: D19		
<b>Objective:</b>	S05	Ensuring that development in the Plan area supports the principles of sustainable development and creates sustainable communities whilst respecting the varied role and character of the centres, villages and Countryside
	S06	<p>Minimize, adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change. This will be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensuring that highly vulnerable development is directed away from areas of flood risk wherever possible;</li> <li>reduce the need for energy and other resources in developments;</li> <li>promote renewable and low carbon energy production within the area;</li> <li>make use of suitable previously developed land and unoccupied buildings or ones that are not used to their full capacity, where available;</li> </ul>

		• manage, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of the water environment and reduce water consumption.		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy		PS 5, PS6, PCYFF 1 & PCYFF 2, ADN 1, ADN 2, ADN3
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D19 - Number of planning applications for new development on previously developed land (brownfield redevelopment and conversions of existing buildings) expressed as a % of all development per annum	Maintain or increase proportion of new development permitted on previously developed land (brownfield redevelopment and conversions of existing buildings) compared to average % recorded during 2015/2016 – 2016/2017	AMR 1		Decrease in proportion of development permitted on previously developed land (brownfield redevelopment and conversions of existing buildings) for 2 consecutive years.
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		
Analysis:				
<p>Due to rural nature of the area, opportunities for development of previously developed land are largely limited to numerous small sites. Whilst development is guided towards the use of these sites in the first instance pressure for greenfield development is inevitable particularly because of the nature of proposals, e.g. renewable energy schemes, housing outside development boundaries, rural diversification schemes and tourist related development. The proportion of development on previously developed land in Gwynedd is as follows:</p> <p>% of previously developed land:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Gwynedd 2015-2016</b> = 14.54ha (44%)</li><li><b>Gwynedd 2016-2017</b> = No data available, method of entering the data was under review during this period</li><li><b>Gwynedd 2017-2018</b> = 12.82ha (64%)</li><li><b>Gwynedd 2018 to current</b> – information is not collated. Unable to report on the indicator,</li></ul> <p>Due to the lack of availability of information for the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area, it is not possible to fully conclude if the target has been met.</p>				
Action:				
Explore the possibility of collecting the data for future reporting.				

<b>Indicator: D20</b>		
<b>Objective:</b>	SO5	Ensuring that development in the Plan area supports the principles of sustainable development and creates sustainable communities

	S06	whilst respecting the varied role and character of the centres, villages and Countryside		
		Minimize, adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change. This will be achieved by:		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>ensuring that highly vulnerable development is directed away from areas of flood risk wherever possible;</li><li>reduce the need for energy and other resources in developments;</li><li>promote renewable and low carbon energy production within the area;</li><li>make use of suitable previously developed land and unoccupied buildings or ones that are not used to their full capacity, where available;</li><li>manage, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of the water environment and reduce water consumption.</li></ul>		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy		PS 5, PS6, PCYFF 1 & PCYFF 2, ADN 1, ADN 2, ADN3
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D20 - Number of planning applications Permitted outside development boundaries	No Planning applications permitted outside development boundaries that do not meet the requirements of Policy PCYFF 1 and other relevant policies	AMR 1		One Planning application permitted outside development boundaries that does not meet the requirements of policy PCYFF 1 and other relevant policies in the Plan in any one year.
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		
Analysis:				
A total of 324 planning applications were approved outside development boundaries during the 7th AMR period which represents 48.5% of all development.				
A breakdown of the types of planning applications approved outside development boundaries are as follows:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Agriculture and Forestry – 30.2%</li><li>Employment – 10.8%</li><li>Community – 2.5%</li><li>Householder – 31.6%</li><li>Leisure – 1.9%</li><li>Infrastructure &amp; Transport– 4.0%</li></ul>				

- Retail – 1.0%
- Housing – 8.0%
- Tourism – 6.5%
- Minerals and Waste – 0.6%
- Energy – 2.2%

Most planning applications approved outside development boundaries were householder applications or applications for the verification of conditions for approved planning applications. With regards to housing developments, these included developments within clusters, rural enterprise dwellings, and replacement dwellings which conformed to relevant policies in the Plan. No applications for open market housing developments were approved outside any development boundary. There are also a number of applications for rural development including, for example tourism, renewable energy and agricultural development which, by their nature, are more likely to be located outside development boundaries. No applications were approved contrary to Policy PCYFF 1.








**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

## Renewable Energy Technology

**Indicator: D21**

Objective:	SO5	Ensuring that development in the Plan area supports the principles of sustainable development and creates sustainable communities whilst respecting the varied role and character of the centres, villages and Countryside		
	SO6	Minimize, adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change. This will be achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ensuring that highly vulnerable development is directed away from areas of flood risk wherever possible;</li><li>• reduce the need for energy and other resources in developments;</li><li>• promote renewable and low carbon energy production within the area;</li><li>• make use of suitable previously developed land and unoccupied buildings or ones that are not used to their full capacity, where available;</li><li>• manage, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of the water environment and reduce water consumption.</li></ul>		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:	PS 7	
		Outcome:	Trigger level:	

D21 Number of planning applications for standalone renewable energy development granted, per technology, area (Anglesey and Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area) and recorded energy output (GWh)	50% of the renewable energy potential (1,113.35 GWh) delivered by 2021 to address electricity demand	AMR 1		The amount of energy output from renewable energy sources is 10% or more below the requirements set in the Policy Target
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
	100% of the renewable energy potential (2,226.7 GWh) delivered by 2026 to address electricity demand	AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
	50% of the renewable energy potential (23.65 GWh) delivered by 2021 to address heat demand	AMR 7		
	100% of the renewable energy potential (47.3 GWh) delivered by 2026 to address heat demand			

#### Analysis:

The policies in the JLDP support applications for appropriate renewable energy generation developments.

The evidence base does not distinguish between opportunities for renewable energy within the Gwynedd Local Planning Area and Anglesey. As such it is not possible to assess this indicator for Gwynedd Local Planning Area individually and therefore considers the situation against the latest figures for the whole of the Plan area.

In this monitoring period no new renewable energy commercial scale development was granted planning permission.

Tables 7 and 8 within the JLDP identifies an installed capacity of 159.6 (MWe) and 12.4 (MWt) within the Plan area in 2016. In the latest 'Energy Generation in Wales' (2023 figures) published by the Welsh Government the total installed heat and electricity capacity for Anglesey and Gwynedd was 265MW which gave an estimated generation of 470GWh. This is an increase of 93MW from that identified in tables 7 and 8 of the JLDP.

The low level of applications granted planning permission reflects the decline in the number of commercial applications submitted over recent years rather than applications being refused by the Local Planning Authorities. It should also be noted that all major energy developments for

10MW or more are classed as Developments of National Significance and are decided by the Welsh Ministers.

Indicator D21 sets targets for achieving the potential renewable energy resources identified in the Plan. It was expected that 50% of this of 1,113.35 GWh for electricity and 23.65 GWh for heat would have been achieved by 2021. However up to 2025 only 119.6 GWh in addition to the figures within Tables 7 and 8 of the JLDP has been provided. Therefore, the target of 50% the renewable energy potential for heat and electricity being delivered by 2021 has not been achieved.

No proposals have come forward on the potential opportunity areas for solar farms, however, a number of submissions for solar farms have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as a scheme that is potentially a Development of National Significance, this being Alaw Môn Solar Farm (Enso Energy) (160MW) (application has gone through an examination awaiting an inspector's decision) and Maen Hir Project (formally known as Anglesey Solar Farm) (Lightsource BP) (350MW) (is in the pre-submission stage to the Planning Inspectorate).

If these applications were granted permission in their current form, then they would prepare 446.8GWh.

The following developments have received permission:

- Parc Solar Traffwll (35MW) (Low Carbon) – pre-commencement conditions have been released and cable installation to the site is taking place.
- Tryslgwyn Wind Farm (5.6MW) (Ventient Energy Ltd) has been granted permission to extend operational period to 29 June 2031.
- Llyn Alaw Wind Farm (20.4MW) (Ventient Energy Ltd) for an extension of operational period to 22 October 2032.
- A 299MW biomass plant at Holyhead a certificate of lawful use was granted confirming that the development has been commenced.
- Porth Wen Solar Farm (49.99MW) (EDF) the site is now operational.
- Morlais (240MW) (Menter Môn) multiple arrays of tidal energy devices remain in the construction phase.
- Glyn Rhonwy Pumped Hydro (100MW) no details received regarding implementation date.

The permitted schemes, as highlighted above, have a potential for energy generated of 3,281.4GWh. This would achieve the target within the Plan however some of the proposals have had permission for some time e.g. the Holyhead Biomass and Glyn Rhonwy Hydro schemes with the Morlais tidal scheme, due to the technology used, likely to take a number of years to be implemented. It is clear therefore that the failure to achieve the target within the Plan is in relation to the implementation of schemes rather than a failure of the Plan's Renewable Energy Policies.

The Planning Service has contributed towards the delivery of a Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) for Gwynedd Council. The Local Area Energy Plan is due to go before Gwynedd Council's Cabinet in Spring/Summer 2025. This will be in line with paragraph 5.9.5 of Planning Policy Wales and will help identify challenging but achievable targets for renewable energy in the new Local Development Plan.








**Action:**



Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. The Renewable Energy policies will need to be reviewed and the potential from such technology identified in the LAEP should be undertaken during the preparation of the new Local Development Plans.

#### Indicator: D22

<b>Objective:</b>	SO5	Ensuring that development in the Plan area supports the principles of sustainable development and creates sustainable communities whilst respecting the varied role and character of the centres, villages and Countryside
	SO6	Minimize, adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change. This will be achieved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ensuring that highly vulnerable development is directed away from areas of flood risk wherever possible;</li> <li>reduce the need for energy and other resources in developments;</li> <li>promote renewable and low carbon energy production within the area;</li> <li>make use of suitable previously developed land and unoccupied buildings or ones that are not used to their full capacity, where available;</li> <li>manage, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of the water environment and reduce water consumption.</li> </ul>

Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		PS7
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
D22 Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to standalone renewable energy technology	Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance within 18 months of the Plan's adoption	AMR 1		Not adopting a Supplementary Planning Guidance within 18 months of the Plan's adoption
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		

#### Analysis:

There was a delay in the timetable for providing this SPG due to the need to prioritise other SPGs that took longer to prepare and report through the Committees of both Councils.

There has been a substantial fall in the number of applications for independent renewable energy plans within the Plan area, which potentially reflects the move toward preparing developments in the sea and a reduction in the available grants for such developments on land.

It should also be noted that all major energy developments for 10MW or more are classed as Developments of National Significance and are decided by the Welsh Ministers.

The publication of Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 together with revised targets within Planning Policy Wales means significant contextual changes in relation to renewable energy technology. A review of the Renewable Energy policies within the Plan will be undertaken in light of these contextual changes as well as the work of preparing a Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) will enable an evaluation over the need and content for a future standalone renewable energy technology SPG.

**Action:**

Following the preparation and adoption of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan consideration will need to be given to the need for a separate Renewable Energy SPG.

**Indicator: D23**

**Objective:**

SO5 & SO6

SO5: Ensuring that development in the Plan area supports the principles of sustainable development and creates sustainable communities whilst respecting the varied role and character of the centres, villages and countryside.

SO6: Minimise, adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change This will be achieved by:

- ensuring that highly vulnerable developments are directed away from areas of flood risk wherever possible;
- reduce the need for energy and other resources in developments;
- promote renewable and low carbon energy production within the area;
- make use of suitable previously developed land and unoccupied buildings or ones that are not used to their full capacity, where available;
- manage, protect and enhance the quality and quantity of the water environment and reduce water consumption

**Indicator:**

**Target:**

**Relevant policy:**

PS 5, PS6, PCYFF 1 & PCYFF 2, ADN 1, ADN 2, ADN3

**Outcome:**

**Trigger level:**

D23 - Average density of permitted housing developments in the Plan area

Minimum average net density of 30 housing units per hectare achieved overall in the Plan area

AMR 1







AMR 2



AMR 3



Failure to achieve an overall minimum average net density of 30 housing units per hectare in the Plan area for two consecutive years, unless

	AMR 4		it is justified by Policy PCYFF 2.
	AMR 5		
	AMR 6		
	<u>AMR 7</u>		

#### Analysis:

##### **New permissions - All permissions (Gwynedd Planning Authority area only)** <sup>3</sup>

Gwynedd Planning Authority Area = 173 units / 5.88 ha = 29.4 Units per hectare

##### **New permissions: Sites with 5 or more new units (Gwynedd Planning Authority area only)**

Gwynedd Planning Authority Area = 118 units/3.79 ha = 31.1 units per hectare

Based on all approved eligible developments, the average density is lower than the target of 30 units per hectare. The trigger level refers to failure to deliver an overall density of 30 units per hectare for two consecutive years. Please note that information from the AMR 6 period for Gwynedd only is also below the target level. However, it is noted that the average density for the AMR 7 period is only slightly below the target level.








When considering the permissions for large residential sites only i.e. those for five or more units, it can be seen that the average density is higher than the figure of 30 units per hectare. Therefore, it is noted that the expected density has been delivered on new developments that are substantial in size.

The average density of all relevant single units permitted in Gwynedd during the period of this AMR (26 units on 1.55 hectares) is 16.8 units per hectare. The ability to demand a higher density on individual plots is more challenging based on aspects such as the density of adjacent developments and the character of a settlement along with the shape of the site in some cases.

It is noted that Policy PCYFF 2 refers to a minimum density of 30 housing units per hectare unless there are local circumstances or restrictions on the site that determine a lower density. It is believed that certain circumstances exist, especially on individual plots, that means developing at a density lower than this figure. Therefore, it is not believed that the figure for the period of this AMR is a cause for concern, but it is believed that this aspect can be looked at further during the preparation of the new Plan.

<sup>3</sup> The information for this indicator is relevant for new permissions and applications to reconsider or extend the expiry date of a previous permission. These are all applications where the requirements of the Joint Local Development Plan would need to be considered. Therefore, it does not consider applications for reserved matters where the principle of the permission had already been granted, nor does it consider certificates of lawfulness for residential use. Neither does it consider any permissions for demolishing and rebuilding houses, i.e. where there is no increase in the number of units. Please note as well, that this information does not include retrospective permissions or permissions that amend the conditions of the extant permissions (and therefore extend the five-year permission further) where a permission has not re-considered specifically the content of the Joint LDP.

<b>Action:</b>	
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.	

Indicator: D24				
Objective:	SO7	Ensure that all new development meets high standards in terms of quality of design, energy efficiency, safety, security (persons and property) and accessibility, relates well to existing development, enhances public realm and develops locally distinctive quality places.		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		PCYFF 2, PCYFF 3, PCYFF 4
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
D24 – Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance on design matters	Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance on design matters within 12 months of adoption	AMR 1		Not adopting a Supplementary Planning Guidance within 12 months of adoption
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>The policy target is currently not achieved as anticipated, but this does not lead to concerns regarding policy implementation.</p> <p>The timescale for adopting a revised Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) on Design has been set for Quarter 4 in 2017/18. This target has not been achieved due to changes in the LDP schedule of works and resource priorities.</p> <p>However, the local planning authority continues to use a SPG which derives from the Unitary Development Plan and can also refer to national guidance when determining new applications.</p> <p>As the JLDP policy on Design is in line with National Guidance it is not felt that the slippage in the delivery of a new SPG has been detrimental to the decision-making process.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

Indicator: D25				
Objective:	SO8	SO8: Ensure that settlements are sustainable, accessible and meet all the needs of their communities in accordance with their role in the settlement hierarchy:		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		PCYFF 2, PCYFF 3, PCYFF 4 & PS17
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
D25 - Number of new housing permitted per category in the Settlement Hierarchy set out in Policy PS 17, expressed as a % of all developments developed per annum	From the date of adoption, number of housing units permitted per category of settlement, expressed as a % of all residential developments, in accordance with the requirements of Policy PS 17, which is as follows:  Sub-regional Centre and Urban Service Centres = 53% Local Service Centres = 22% Villages, Clusters and the Countryside = 25%	AMR 1		From the date of adoption, the number of housing units permitted over 2 consecutive years, expressed as a % of all residential development, in the:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sub Regional Centres and Urban Service Centres and the Local Service Centres falls below the % requirement;</li><li>Villages, Clusters and countryside is higher than the % requirement</li></ul>
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		
Analysis:				
Information for 2024/25 <sup>4</sup> - Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only				
*It is noted that exception sites are considered based on the settlement it borders with, rather than as a location in the countryside.				

<sup>4</sup>Mae'r wybodaeth ar gyfer y dangosydd hwn yn berthnasol ar gyfer caniatadau o'r newydd a chaniatadau i ail-ystyried neu ymestyn dyddiad terfyn caniatâd blaenorol. Mae'r rhain oll yn geisiadau ble byddai angen ystyried gofynion y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol ar y Cyd. Nid yw felly yn ystyried caniatadau am faterion a gadwyd yn ôl ble mae egwyddor y caniatâd eisoes wedi ei roi nac ychwaith tystysgrifau cyfreithlondeb ar gyfer defnydd preswyl. Nid yw ychwaith yn ystyried unrhyw ganiatâd ar gyfer dymchwel ac ail-adeiladu tŷ h.y. ble nad oes cynnydd yn nifer yr unedau. Noder yn ogystal nad yw'r wybodaeth hyn yn cynnwys caniatadau ôl-weithredol nac ychwaith ganiatadau sydd yn diwygio amodau caniatâd presennol (ac sydd o'r herwydd yn ymestyn caniatâd am 5 mlynedd pellach) ble nad yw'r caniatâd wedi ail-ystyried yn benodol gynnwys y CDLI ar y Cyd.

Tier	Number of units approved	Percentage of all residential permissions	Target Distribution
Sub-regional Centre and Urban Service Centres	61	35.3%	53%
Local Service Centres	17	9.8%	22%
Villages, Clusters and the Countryside	95	54.9%	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>	-	

**Information for 2024/25 for new permissions only i.e. excluding the 39 units that are subject to an extension of a previous consent period.**

Tier	Number of units approved	Percentage of all residential permissions	Target Distribution
Sub-regional Centre and Urban Service Centres	61	45.5%	53%
Local Service Centres	17	12.7%	22%
Villages, Clusters and the Countryside	56	41.8%	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>134</b>	-	-

The trigger level associated with the indicator notes that the number of housing units approved over two consecutive years should be considered. When combining information for AMR 6 and AMR 7 collectively (1st April 2023-31st March 2025), the following information is noted (Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only):

**Collective information for AMR 6 and AMR 7 period**

Tier	Number of units approved	Percentage of all residential permissions	Target Distribution
Sub-regional Centre and Urban Service Centres	99	26.0%	53%

Local Service Centres	119	31.2%	22%
Villages, Clusters and the Countryside	163	42.8%	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>381</b>	-	-

**Information for AMR 6 and AMR 7 period for new permissions only i.e. excluding permissions to extend the time period of previous consents**

<b>Tier</b>	<b>Number of units approved</b>	<b>Percentage of all residential permissions</b>	<b>Target Distribution</b>
Sub-regional Centre and Urban Service Centres	99	28.9%	53%
Local Service Centres	119	34.8%	22%
Villages, Clusters and the Countryside	124	36.3%	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>342</b>	-	-

AMR 7 Period only – It is clear that the distribution does not correspond effectively with the target level, with the percentage of units permitted in the Sub-Regional Centre and Urban Service Centres being significantly lower than the target level with the figure for the Villages, Clusters and Countryside tier being significantly higher than that stated in the target information. However, when considering new permissions only, it is noted that the percentages noted are more consistent with the target figures, although it is noted that the figure for the Villages, Clusters and Countryside tier remains significantly higher than the target figure. However, it is important not to consider the information for one single year, and there is a need to consider broader periods to get a full picture of the situation in terms of this indicator.

Two consecutive years (AMR 6 and AMR 7 periods jointly) - When considering the trigger level and the two-year situation jointly, the information in terms of the number of units that have received permissions between the three tiers is more equal compared to the AMR 7 period individually, especially when only considering new permissions. It is therefore believed that the information for this period does not convey clear compliance with the target distribution. A clear difference remains evident between the actual figures and what is noted in the target levels, particularly in relation to the 'Sub-Regional Centres and Urban Service Centres' tier which is well below the expected figure.

Looking at the wider picture over the Plan period (although noting the information jointly with Anglesey), it is not thought to be a concern when considering the wording of the trigger level for this indicator. The situation can change from year to year depending on various aspects such as the aspirations of developers and potential opportunities that arise. However, this would

certainly need to be considered carefully when preparing the new Plan and the way that the housing growth will be distributed. Factors such as the fact that Bangor has already reached its growth figure in the JLDP, flooding and topography matters in the urban centres of Pwllheli and Porthmadog and a lack of information for the urban centres of Anglesey could all have affected the above figures.

Also, as noted in previous Annual Monitoring Reports, a potential factor for the percentages of residential permissions at the Sub-regional Centre and Urban Service Centres falling below the target level is the delay that is apparent in terms of the allocated sites in these locations receiving planning consent. Of the 12 sites that have been allocated within settlements in this tier in Gwynedd, as of April 2025, seven (58.3%) of these sites did not have extant planning permission. It is noted that this situation is evident only one year before the end of the Plan period.

See appendix 2 for maps showing the distribution of planning permissions for residential units in 2024/25 together with the number of cumulative permissions since the adoption of the Plan.

<b>Action:</b>	
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.	



## 6.3 Economy and Regeneration

### National Significant Infrastructure projects and Related Developments

#### Wylfa Newydd

Horizon submitted a Development Consent Order for the development of a new nuclear power station on 1 June 2018. The application was the subject of an examination by a Panel of Planning Inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. The Public Examination came to an end (closed) on 23 April 2019. At the end of the examination, the Panel had three months to submit a report to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy, outlining its conclusions and its recommendations with regard to whether permission should be granted, with the final decision to be made by the Secretary of State on or before 23 October 2019 (6 months after close of examination).

The decision date was later rescheduled to 31 March 2020 to allow further information in respect of environmental effects and other outstanding issues which required further consideration.

As a result of the restrictions relating to Covid-19 the Secretary of State decided to reschedule the decision to 30 September 2020, as the Parliament was not currently sitting. The intention was that a statement outlining the revised decision would be made to the House of Commons and House of Lords in accordance with section 107 (7) of the Planning Act (2008) as soon as possible after parliament resumes.

On 22nd September 28th September and 18th December 2020 Horizon sent correspondence to the Secretary of State requesting a deferral of the Wylfa Newydd's Development Order Application (DCO) decision. It was noted that the reason for requesting a deferral was due to ongoing discussions with third parties who had expressed an interest in progressing the development of a new nuclear power station following Hitachi's withdrawal. On the 27th of January 2021 the Development Order Application was withdrawn by Horizon Nuclear Power. The application was withdrawn due to the lack of investors in the project and the lack of a new funding policy from the Government. The decision has resulted in Hitachi deciding to wind up Horizon as an operational development entity by 31 March 2021. As a result, it was considered appropriate that the Development Order Application be withdrawn.

Indicator: D26			
Objective:	SO9	Support and capitalise on the development of the Wylfa Newydd Project and associated development to maximise socio-economic opportunities for local business and sustainable employment opportunities for local people, including facilitating a suitable network of Wylfa Newydd project related associated development sites while ensuring that adverse effects of the Wylfa Newydd project on the local communities are appropriately avoided, or mitigated and where appropriate legacy benefits are provided.	
Indicator:	Target	Relevant Policy:	PS 8, PS 9, PS 10, PS 11, PS 12
		Outcome:	Trigger Level:

D26 – Stage in the application for Development Consent Order (DCO) in relation to Wylfa Newydd)	Application for Wylfa Newydd DCO submitted for approval by December 2017.	AMR 1		Horizon Nuclear Power fails to submit an application for DCO by December 2017.
		AMR 2		
	Application for Wylfa Newydd DCO approved by May 2018.	AMR 3		Horizon Nuclear Power fails to obtain approval of DCO application by December 2018.
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		

#### Analysis:

The Development Consent Order application was submitted on 1 June 2018. The Public Inquiry is programmed to end on 23 April 2019. The findings and conclusions of the Inquiry, along with the recommendations of the independent Inspectors was presented to the Secretary of State. The final decision from the Secretary of State was expected by 23 October 2019. However, upon the request of the Secretary of State to receive further information in relation to the environmental impact of the development, this period was further extended to 31 March 2020. Following a request from Horizon Nuclear power that the Secretary of State defers the decision, on 27 January 2021 it was confirmed that Horizon Nuclear Power had withdrawn the Development Consent Order application.

#### Action:

No action currently required. Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Any developments related to Wylfa Newydd will need to be considered and addressed when preparing the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

#### Indicator: D27

<b>Objective:</b>	SO9	Support and capitalise on the development of the Wylfa Newydd Project and associated development to maximise socio-economic opportunities for local business and sustainable employment opportunities for local people, including facilitating a suitable network of Wylfa Newydd project related associated development sites while ensuring that adverse effects of the Wylfa Newydd project on the local communities are appropriately avoided, or mitigated and where appropriate legacy benefits are provided.		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Relevant Policy:</b>	PS 8, PS 9, PS 10, PS 11, PS 12	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger Level:</b>	
	Wylfa Newydd project gets	AMR 1		Horizon Nuclear Power fails to get approval /

D27 – Status of application to DECC for final approval	approval / “sign off” from DECC by December 2019.	AMR 2	—	“sign off” from DECC by December 2019.
		AMR 3	X	
		AMR 4	X	
		AMR 5	X	
		AMR 6	X	
		<u>AMR 7</u>	X	

#### Analysis:

The Development Consent Order application was submitted on 1 June 2018. The Public Inquiry is programmed to end on 23 April 2019. The findings and conclusions of the Inquiry, along with the recommendations of the independent Inspectors was presented to the Secretary of State. The final decision from the Secretary of State was expected by 23 October 2019. However, upon the request of the Secretary of State to receive further information in relation to the environmental impact of the development, this period was further extended to 31 March 2020. Following a request from Horizon Nuclear power that the Secretary of State defers the decision, on 27 January 2021 it was confirmed that Horizon Nuclear Power had withdrawn the Development Consent Order application.

#### Action:

No action currently required. Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Any developments related to Wylfa Newydd will need to be considered and addressed when preparing the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.








#### Indicator: D28

No need to report on the indicator as it specifically applies to the Isle of Anglesey Local Planning Authority Area.

#### Indicator: D29

<b>Objective:</b>	SO9	Support and capitalise on the development of the Wylfa Newydd Project and associated development to maximise socio-economic opportunities for local business and sustainable employment opportunities for local people, including facilitating a suitable network of Wylfa Newydd project related associated development sites while ensuring that adverse effects of the Wylfa Newydd project on the local communities are appropriately avoided, or mitigated and where appropriate legacy benefits are provided.
-------------------	-----	---

<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Relevant Policy:</b>	PS 8, PS9, PS10, PS11, PS12
-------------------	---------------	-------------------------	-----------------------------

		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D29 – Number and type of Wylfa Newydd Project related development commenced.	Individual Wylfa Newydd Project related development commenced in accordance with the individual Planning consents.	AMR 1		Wylfa Newydd Project related development not started within the timeframe set out in the individual Planning consents and the Development Consent Order (as applicable).
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
Following the decision by Horizon Nuclear Power to withdraw the Development Consent Order, no associated development has commenced. Planning permission has been granted for improvements to the A5025 (27C106E/FR/ECON) in 2018 followed by a further application extend the commencement period for the works (VAR/2020/24) up until July 2023.				
<b>Action:</b>				
No action currently required. Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Any developments related to Wylfa Newydd will need to be considered and addressed when preparing the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

<b>Indicator: D30</b>
Target has been met during AMB1, no need to continue to monitor.









## Providing Opportunities for a Flourishing Economy

### Economic Vision

The Council will continue to work closely with Welsh Government and other Authorities across North Wales through the North Wales Economic Ambition Board. The Board is a joint group of private and public establishments in North Wales which have committed to promote economic growth across the area. The key objectives include encouraging business investment in North Wales and helping local

companies to take advantage of opportunities in the supply chain and encourage connection skills with work in the region.

At the end of 2017 a partnership of the six North Wales Councils, business partners, colleges and universities formally launched the North Wales Growth Deal. The Growth deal notes a vision for the region, with the aim of creating 5,300 jobs and attracting a private sector investment worth £1 billion in the region over the coming 15 years. The final agreement for the North Wales Growth Deal was signed on December 17, 2020. The deal is backed with £120 million each from the Welsh and UK Governments. It is hoped that the Growth Deal will transform the region's economy by supporting green and sustainable growth.

Indicator: D31				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO10	Ensure that a network of employment sites and premises of a size and quality is safeguarded and allocated in sustainable locations that best meet the needs of existing businesses and are able to support the growing sectors of the local economy, attracting investment, and retaining and increasing the number of indigenous jobs.		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy		CYF 1, CYF 3 A CYF 5
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D31 - Amount of employment land or floor space (use class B1, B2 and B8) included on sites set out in Policy CYF 1 lost to other uses	No net loss of employment land/floor space to alternative uses (uses other than use class B1, B2 and B8) contrary to Policy CYF 3 or Policy CYF 5	AMR 1		One planning application permitted that does not accord with Policy CYF 3 or Policy CYF 5
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

**Analysis:**

A total of 12 planning applications were permitted on safeguarded employment sites in accordance with Policy CYF 1. 11 of these applications were associated with uses in use classes B1, B2, and B8 or other existing uses located on the employment sites. The one application that were not associated with these uses was:

- C24/0371/16/LL: Change of Use of Office at Arriva Bus Depot, Llandygai Industrial Estate, Bangor, LL57 4YH to allow Vocational Driving Test Centre (unique use) - Gorsfa Bws Arriva Ystâd Ddiwydiannol Llandygai, Llandygai, Gwynedd, LL57 4YH

It is emphasised that this use is an unique uses (sui generis). Strategic Policy 13 allows for certain types of suitable unique uses (sui generis) on protected employment sites within the Plan





Planning permission was not granted on the employment sites (whether it be designated or safeguarded) for alternative uses that did not conform with Policies CYF 3 or CYF 5. It is considered that the policies are continuing to be implemented effectively.




**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D32**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO10	Ensure that a network of employment sites and premises of a size and quality is safeguarded and allocated in sustainable locations that best meet the needs of existing businesses and are able to support the growing sectors of the local economy, attracting investment, and retaining and increasing the number of indigenous jobs.
-------------------	------	---

Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy		CYF 1, CYF 3 a CYF 5
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D32 - Amount of employment land on safeguarded sites included in Policy CYF 1 taken up by use class B1, B2 or B8 development	6.9 ha employment land on safeguarded sites taken up per annum in Gwynedd	AMR 1		Less than 27.4 ha employment land taken up on safeguarded employment sites by 2021 in Gwynedd Less than 57 ha employment land taken up on safeguarded employment sites by 2021 in Anglesey
	14.3ha employment land on safeguarded sites taken up per annum in Anglesey	AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		

		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

#### Analysis:

The monitoring trigger relates to the size of the safeguarded employment land that has been taken up by the end of 2021.

In Gwynedd, 0.5384ha of land has received permission for employment use, and 2.64ha of safeguarded employment sites during the seventh Annual Monitoring Report period (AMB7).








Including planning permissions granted during AMB1, AMB2, AMB3, AMB4, AMB5 & AMB 6 the cumulative total of land that received permission for employment use in Gwynedd is 16.91ha (includes relocating a 0.47ha unit on the Cibyn Estate associated with the Caernarfon bypass development).

It is noted that the permission rate on safeguarded employment sites during this short period is lower than expected. It is considered that the Plan is a facilitator in terms of providing employment sites and that fewer applications for developments on the employment sites are likely to be based on economic matters that are beyond the Plan's control.

\*NOTE: Part of the Caernarfon bypass runs through the south-western corner of the Cibyn Industrial Estate. A small part of the current estate has been lost to the bypass.

#### Action:

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

Indicator: D33				
Objective:	SO10	Ensure that a network of employment sites and premises of a size and quality is safeguarded and allocated in sustainable locations that best meet the needs of existing businesses and are able to support the growing sectors of the local economy, attracting investment, and retaining and increasing the number of indigenous jobs.		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy		CYF 1, CYF 3 a CYF 5
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D33 - Amount of employment development (hectares) permitted on allocated sites as a % of all employment allocations	Secure planning permission on the allocated employment site in Gwynedd by 2019	AMR 1		Total amount of employment land permitted falls below the cumulative requirement identified in the Policy Target
	Secure planning permission for 64 ha employment land on allocated site in Anglesey by 2021	AMR 2		
	Secure planning permission for 112 ha employment land on allocated sites in Anglesey by 2024	AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
	Secure planning permission for 144 ha employment land on allocated sites in Anglesey by 2026	AMR 6		
		AMR 7		
Analysis:				
No planning application was submitted on an allocated site within Gwynedd during AMB 7.				
The target notes the need for the sites to be brought forward by 2019 and consequently the trigger level has already been reached. However, the economic climate is significantly different to when the Plan was adopted, and it is considered that this has had a considerable impact on the take up of employment land.				
*NOTE: This analysis relates to the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area only.				
Action:				










Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan. It is intended to prepare an Employment Land Review will be prepared as part of the evidence base to support the new Plan.

#### Indicator: D34

Target achieved during AMR3, no need to continue to monitor.

#### Indicator: D35

<b>Objective:</b>	SO11	Secure opportunities to improve the workforce's skills and education		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>	PS 9, ISA 3	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger level:</b>	
D35 – Employment status of 16 years +	To achieve an increase in the rate of economic activity by 2026 compared to level in 2017	AMR 1		The rate of economic activity declines for 2 consecutive years
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

#### Analysis:

##### Local Workforce Survey: A Summary of Economic Activity (16-64)

	Year ending Mar 2021	Year ending Mar 2022	Year ending Mar 2023	Year ending Mar 2024	Year ending Sept 2024
Ynys Môn	78.8%	74.1%	79.6%	Not Monitoring	Not Monitoring
Gwynedd	77.9%	75.9%	77.7%	73.7	76.7% (+3%)
Wales	76.6%	75.6%	75.5%	76.2	75.1% (-1.1%)








Origin: Stats Cymru - Economic Activity Rate (16-64) according to Local Area and Year in Wales

The rate of economic activity rate in Gwynedd has increased between March 2024 and September 2024. March 2025 statistics were not available at the time of writing.

#### Action:

No action currently required. Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR.

**Indicator: D36**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO11	Secure opportunities to improve the workforce's skills and education		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>	PS 9, ISA 3	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger level:</b>	
D36 – Number of people commuting out of Anglesey to Gwynedd	Following the Plan's adoption reduce the number of people commuting out of Anglesey to Gwynedd by 2026 compared to level in 2017	AMR 1		Failure to reduce number of people commuting out of Anglesey to Gwynedd by 2021
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		

**Analysis:**

The table below highlights commuting patterns from Anglesey to Gwynedd over recent years.

Year	Total Anglesey commuters	Number of commuters from Anglesey to Gwynedd	% of commuters from Anglesey to Gwynedd
2016	32,200	7,900	24.5%
2017	31,500	7,000	22.2%
2018	32,200	7,900	24.5%
2019	32,000	7,500	23.4%
2020	30,900	7,400	24%
2021	30,000	5,700	19%
2022	31,600	4,300	13.6%
2023	32,500	4,800	14.8%
2024	30,300	6,500	21.5%

(Source: StatsWales, Welsh Government)








As can be seen, the rate of the working population commuting from Anglesey to Gwynedd has fluctuated over the years, after a clear decrease between 2021 and 2023 there has been an increase in 2024 although still lower than the situation in 2016. This may be due to changes in people's working patterns after the pandemic period.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D37**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO12	Diversify the Plan area's rural economy, building on opportunities, offering local employment opportunities with good quality jobs that are suitable for the local community and respects environmental interests.
-------------------	------	--

Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy		CYF 6
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D37 - Number of planning applications permitted for new businesses in Service/ Local/ Rural/ Coastal Villages or in the countryside	New small-scale businesses permitted on suitable sites or in suitable buildings within or near villages or in the countryside in accordance with Policy CYF 6	AMR 1		No planning applications for new small scale businesses permitted on sites/ within buildings within or close to a village or in the countryside for two consecutive years
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

**Analysis:**

6 planning applications were approved for new businesses in service/local/rural/coastal villages and the open countryside that have referred to Policy CYF 6 in considering the principle of the proposal. The types of applications that have been approved include new flexible business/industrial units, a garage/boat store, erection of buildings for a timber and fruit picking businesses, workshop and store.

It appears that Policy CYF 6 is continued to be used effectively to approve new small-scale business applications and, therefore, contribute towards ensuring economic prosperity and employment opportunities in rural areas.








**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.








## Town Centres and Retail Developments

Retail centres in both authorities remain the focus for retail uses. No major applications have been received for retail use during the sixth AMR period within the town centres or primary retail area. The impact of Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic on town centres has increasingly manifested itself during recent years with several high street flagship stores closing. This has meant that some of our main town centres were left with a noticeable void.

In 2020 the Welsh Government published a document 'Building Better Places: The Planning System Delivering Resilient and Brighter Futures'. This document sets out the priorities for the planning system in Wales following the Covid pandemic. Considerable emphasis is given within the document to the recovery of the high street following Covid.

Indicator: D38				
Objective:	SO13	Promote vital and vibrant town centres in Amlwch, Bangor, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Holyhead, Caernarfon, Llangefni, Porthmadog and Pwllheli, that have either maintained or rediscovered their purpose as centres for work and services, and that are vibrant and attractive places for residents and visitors.		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy		MAN 1, MAN 2 & MAN 3
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
		AMB 1		Annual amount of major retail floor space (sq. m.) permitted on sites located outside established town centres exceeds annual amount permitted within established town centres
		AMB 2		
		AMB 3		
		AMB 4		
		AMB 5		
		AMB 6		
		AMR 7		
Analysis:				
It is noted that the indicator trigger level has already been reached because of allowing a major retail application (C19/0398/11/LL) outside Bangor city centre during Annual Monitoring period 2 (1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020).				
No major retail planning applications were submitted during this monitoring period (AMB 7).				
Action:				

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

Indicator: D39				
Objective:	SO13	Promote vital and vibrant town centres in Amlwch, Bangor, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Holyhead, Caernarfon, Llangefni, Porthmadog and Pwllheli, that have either maintained or rediscovered their purpose as centres for work and Services, and that are vibrant and attractive places for residents and visitors.		
Indicator:	Target	Relevant Policy:		MAN 1, MAN 2, MAN 3
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D39 – Undertake a study to explore potential candidate retail sites in Bangor, Llangefni and Pwllheli.	Study to explore potential candidate retail sites in Bangor, Llangefni and Pwllheli undertaken by end of 2017/2018.  Allocate retail sites in Bangor, Llangefni and Pwllheli to address results of the Study in the Plan’s review.	AMR 1		Not undertaking a study to explore potential candidate retail sites in Bangor, Llangefni and Pwllheli undertaken by end of 2017/2018.
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		Failure to provide retail sites to address results of the Study.
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		

Analysis:
<p>Since adopting the Joint LDP, it appears that the number of planning applications for retail uses (A1) in Bangor and Pwllheli are relatively low, and in reality, what is being submitted are applications to change the use of A1 use class units to alternative uses, such as A3 or C3 use or to decrease the retail floorspace. Brexit and the Covid pandemic have had a noticeable impact on the highstreets, with flagship stores vacating town centres rather than a demand for additional retail area. Due to the lack of progress and pressure for A1 development in these specific retail centres it appears that the demand for retail development is not in-keeping with the conclusions of the Retail Study (2013) conducted by Applied Planning. Therefore, it is not considered appropriate to hold a Study to examine potential retail sites in Bangor and Pwllheli. It is anticipated that the Retail Study (2013) will be updated during the process of reviewing the Plan. The findings of the Study are grounds to the retail policies in the review and enable us to anticipate whether the pressure and the demand for more comparison goods floor space still exists in Bangor and Pwllheli.</p> <p>The policies contained within the Plan facilitates the provision of retail sites in accordance with the demand and site propriety, and therefore a policy mechanism is in place to meet the need should it arise. Furthermore, it is considered appropriate to hold a review of the Retail Study</p>








during the process of reviewing the Plan to discover whether the conclusions are still current and assess the need for provision for retail floor space.

Due to the lack of demand for retail space since the Plan was adopted, it is considered appropriate that future need and demand for retail space is properly considered as part of the Plan review.

\*NOTE: This analysis relates to the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority Area only.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered during the plan preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

Indicator: D40				
Objective:	SO13	Promote vital and vibrant town centres in Amlwch, Bangor, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Holyhead, Caernarfon, Llangefni, Porthmadog and Pwllheli, that have either maintained or rediscovered their purpose as centres for work and services, and that are vibrant and attractive places for residents.		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		PS 15, MAN 1, MAN 2, MAN 3
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
D40 – Number of planning applications for non-A1 uses permitted in individual primary retail areas	A1 uses remain the predominant use within individual primary retail areas compared to the 2017 retail floor space study	AMR 1		Non-A1 uses permitted in individual primary retail areas contrary to Policy MAN 2
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
Analysis:				
15 applications permitted in the Primary Shopping Area. All applications conform to the policy's criteria:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 permission for the installation of artwork,</li><li>• 1 permission for new building with A1, A2 and A3 on the ground floor and flats on the upper floors,</li><li>• 1 permission for change of use from A1 to and mixed use A1/A3 unit,</li><li>• 1 permission for change of use A1 to A3,</li></ul>				

- 1 permission for change of use A2 to A3,
- 1 permission for change of use from A1 to D2,
- 1 permission for change of use from A1 to D1,
- 2 permissions for residential development on first floor,
- 2 permissions for the subdivision of existing retail units,
- 3 permissions for adverts,
- 1 application for changes to shop fascia.

It is considered that the plan's retail Policy is implemented efficiently as no permission has been granted for a use that is not a town centre use (as defined in PPW). The Councils will continue to monitor the indicator.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered during the plan preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

### The Visitor Economy

Tourism is a dynamic sector which changes continuously. It plays a substantial part in the economy of the plan's area. The visitor economy provides jobs, services and facilities that are essential to the well-being and enjoyment of local communities and residents of the plan's area.








The importance of tourism Gwynedd can be seen in the statistics below:




#### Tourism Summary for Gwynedd\* 2023 (STEAM)

<b>Total economic impact of tourism (£Bn)</b> % change from 2022	<b>1.72</b> -0.6%
<b>Total visitor days (Millions)</b> % change from 2022	<b>24.20</b> +0.1%
<b>Staying visitor days (Millions)</b> % change from 2022	<b>20.25</b> -0.8%
<b>Total visitor numbers (Millions)</b> % change from 2022	<b>8.02</b> +1.7%
<b>Number of staying visitors (Millions)</b> % change from 2022	<b>4.07</b> -1.2%
<b>Number of day visitors (Millions)</b> % change from 2022	<b>3.95</b> +4.9%
<b>Number of FTE<sup>5</sup> jobs supported by tourism spend</b> % change from 2022	<b>17,538</b> -1.1%





<sup>5</sup> FTE = Full Time Employment

\*includes Eryri National Park

Indicator: D41				
Objective:	SO14	Manage the area as an alternative sustainable destination for tourists by providing facilities of a high standard that meet modern day needs and offer benefits throughout the year.		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		PS 14, TWR 1
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
		AMR 1		No planning applications for new or improved visitor attractions or facilities permitted for 2 consecutive years
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
<u>AMR 7</u>				
Analysis:				
5 new permissions for tourist facilities: 3 applications to improve facilities in Parc Llyn Padarn and 2 applications for interpretation boards.				
Action:				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered during the plan preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

Indicator: D42				
Objective:	SO14	Manage the area as an alternative sustainable destination for tourists by providing facilities of a high standard that meet modern day needs and offer benefits throughout the year.		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		PS 14, TWR 3, TWR 5
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
D42 – Number of applications for new permanent and temporary alternative camping units permitted	New permanent or temporary alternative camping units permitted in accordance with Policy TWR 3 or Policy TWR 5	AMR 1		No planning applications for new permanent or temporary alternative camping units permitted for 2 consecutive years
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		



		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
1 new planning permission for permanent alternative camping developments (TWR 3).				
It is considered that the policies are implemented efficiently. The Councils will continue to monitor the indicator.				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered during the plan preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

## 6.4 Housing supply and quality

### Location of Housing (Part 1)

The Development Plan Manual (Edition 3), March 2020, specifies the need to introduce two new indicators that are based on the Housing Trajectory within the Plan. This replaces the need to undertake a Joint Housing Land Availability Study and to monitor on the basis of the land supply that is noted from that study (Previously Indicator D43 as noted in the Joint LDP). These two new indicators are noted below, namely indicators D43(A) and D43(B).

It is noted that the completion levels in relation to Indicators D43(A) and D43(B) must be presented clearly in the Annual Monitoring Report both in numerical and percentage terms (plus/minus x %).

For those plans published before the issue of the Development Plan Manual (March 2020), such as the Joint LDP, it is noted that housing completion levels are measured against the Average Annual Requirement noted in the Plan.

In accordance with the requirements of the Development Plan Manual (Edition 3, section 8.16), an assessment of the housing provision against the housing trajectory noted in the Plan is made, amending the trajectory in order to compare it with the trajectory that is part of the Plan.

It is noted that the trajectory in the Plan conveys information for the Plan area as a whole, which includes Anglesey. Bearing in mind that the Joint Planning Policy Service came to an end in April 2023, there is now a need to consider information for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area individually. As a result of this, the original trajectory submitted in the JLDP has been conveyed in this AMR based on the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only. The information gathered is therefore considered and assessed against the trajectory for Gwynedd Planning Authority alone.

The original trajectory information conveyed only for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area is noted in the table below:

Year	2011/ 12	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/ 16	2016/ 17	2017/ 18	2018/ 19	2019/ 20	2020/ 21	2021/ 22	2022/ 23	2023/ 24	2024/ 25	2025/ 26	TOTAL
Small sites	74	79	65	75	83	79	79	79	79	79	79	80	80	80	80	1170
Large sites	47	92	107	136	70	79	79	79	79	79	79	79	79	79	80	1243
Allocations	0	0	4	27	58	88	127	165	159	147	147	119	103	90	65	1299
Plan Annual Requirement	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	247.5	3712.5
Total completions	121	171	176	238	211	246	285	323	317	305	305	278	262	249	225	3712
Cumulative completions	121	292	468	706	917	1163	1448	1771	2088	2393	2698	2976	3238	3487	3712	

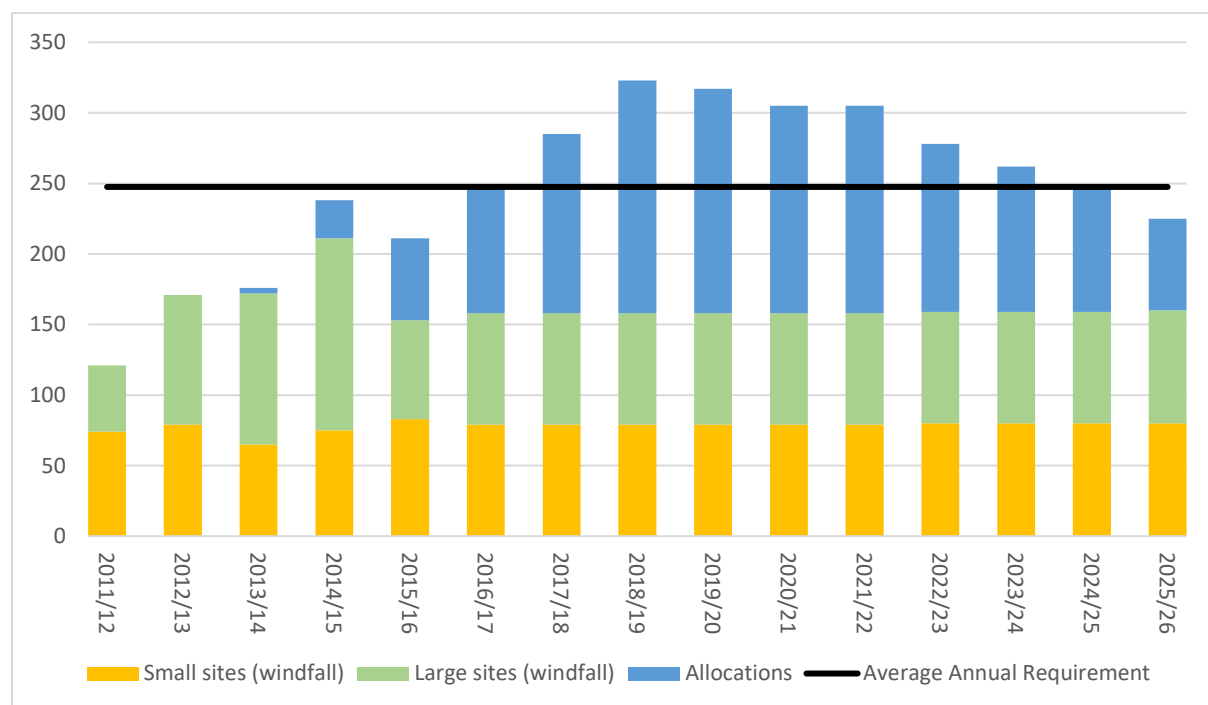
The Annual Monitoring Report must include a section that includes the original trajectory graph and a Calculating the Anticipated Annual Construction Rate table (or the Average Annual Requirement in the case of the Joint LDP) and the AMR must include an update on both elements. This will make it possible for more detailed monitoring work, comparison, and analysis to be undertaken in the Annual Monitoring Report. It is noted that the key point is that it should be clear to the readers what has changed between the adopted plan and the current Annual Monitoring Report.

It is noted that observations on the results and implications must be included and clearly note (where relevant) what actions are being taken to address any shortfall/underachievement against the plan's strategy. It is noted that such observations will be offered within the analysis of indicators D43(A) and D43(B) below.

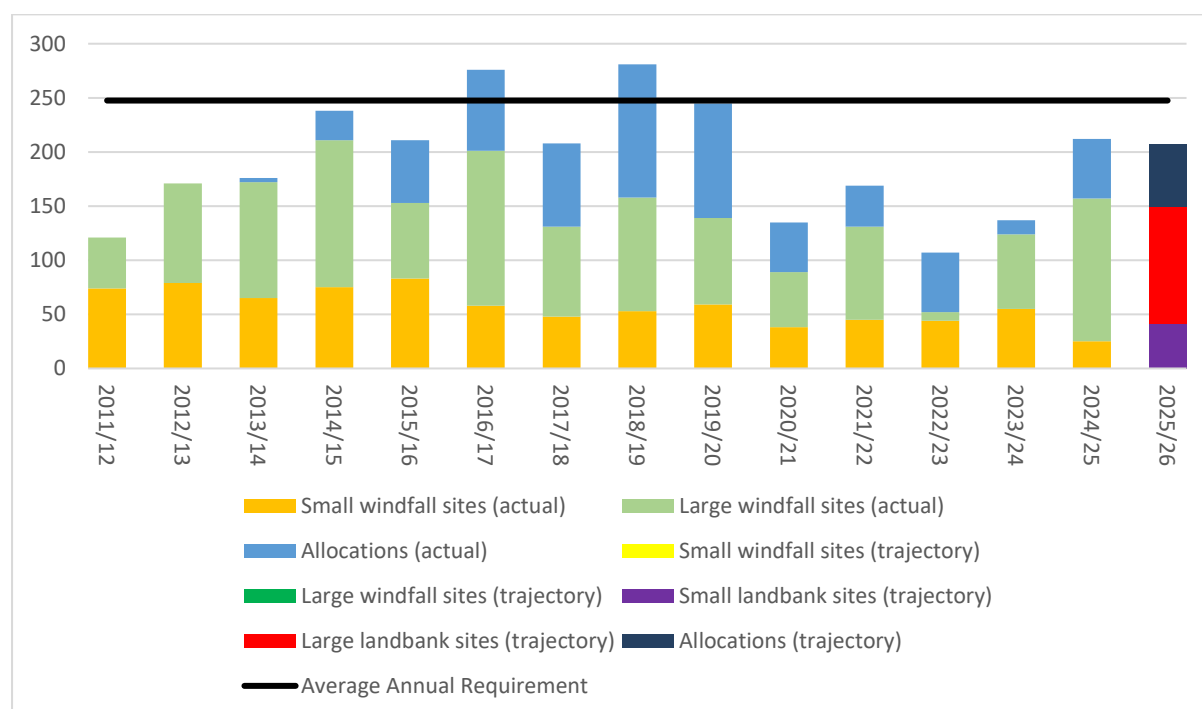
Bearing in mind that only a year is left in the JLDP period, no consultation was held with landowners/developers in relation to establishing the intention regarding the Plan's housing allocations and large land bank sites (5 or more units). No consultation was held with the Housing Stakeholders Group either when considering the proposed trajectory for the remaining JLDP period.

See Appendix 3 for an assessment of the housing allocations and the large land bank sites along with the relevant information regarding this process.

Trajectory Graph as noted in the adopted JLDP - information has been conveyed for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only



Trajectory Graph - as amended through the Annual Monitoring Report - Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only



This graph is based on the information in the following table which conveys the information in the adopted Plan for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only. This is based on the actual units completed and the assumptions made based on other elements of the housing supply components. The basis of the figures for 2025-26 can be found in Appendix 3 of this Report.

This table and the above graphs provide the basis for the assessment of indicators D43(A) a D43(B).

JLDP year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	2011 - 12	2012 - 13	2013 - 14	2014 - 15	2015 - 16	2016 - 17	2017 - 18	2018 - 19	2019 - 20	2020 - 21	2021 - 22	2022 - 23	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26
Completed housing units on large sites	47	92	111	163	128	218	160	228	186	97	124	63	82	187	
Completed housing units on small sites	74	79	65	75	83	58	48	53	59	38	45	44	55	25	
Number of housing units expected to be completed on allocated sites during the year															58
Number of housing units expected to be completed on land bank sites during the year															149
Number of housing units expected to be completed on large windfall sites during															0

the year															
Number of housing units expected to be completed on small windfall sites during the year															0
Number of housing units completed during the year	121	171	176	238	211	276	208	281	245	135	169	107	137	212	
Anticipated number of housing units that will be completed during the year															207
Average Annual Requirement	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247	247

#### Indicator D43

This indicator was superseded based on a letter from the Minister for Housing and Local Government, dated 26 March 2020: [https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-03/changes-to-planning-policy-and-guidance-on-the-delivery-of-housing\\_0.pdf](https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-03/changes-to-planning-policy-and-guidance-on-the-delivery-of-housing_0.pdf)

#### Indicator: D43(A)

<b>Objective</b>	SO15 & SO16	<p>SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.</p> <p>SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population</p>			
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>		PS16, TAI1- TAI7, PS 18, TAI 5, TAI 8, TAI 15-TAI 19	
		<b>Outcome:</b>		<b>Trigger Level:</b>	
The annual levels of housing completions monitored against the Average Annual Requirement	The housing completion levels are measured against the Average Annual Requirement that is noted in the Plan	AMR 1		Response to deviation that is either significantly higher or significantly lower than the average annual requirement rate	
		AMR 2	—		
		AMR 3	—		
		AMR 4	—		

AMR 5	
AMR 6	
<u>AMR 7</u>	

#### Analysis:

It is noted that for plans published prior to the publication of the Development Plan Manual (March 2020), housing completion levels will be measured against the Average Annual Requirement set out in the Plan.

It is noted that the components of housing supply, including site allocations, large and small windfalls should also be monitored separately.

These levels must be clearly noted in the Annual Monitoring Report in numerical form and percentages (plus/minus x %).

The following information is noted in terms of the units that have been completed annually against the Average Annual Requirement and the annual completion information that is noted in the housing trajectory in the Joint LDP (noted based on the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only). Alongside this it is important to consider information in relation to the amended trajectory for the remaining year of the Plan period.

#### 2024/25

##### Comparison with the housing trajectory (Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only)

	Actual units completed	Information from the Plan's housing trajectory i.e. the number of units expected to be completed	Comparison between actual completions and information in the trajectory
Small windfall sites (fewer than 5 units)	25	80	-55 (-68.8%)
Large windfall sites (5 units or more – not on allocated sites)	132	79	+53 (+67.1%)
Allocated housing sites	55	90	-35 (-38.9%)
<b>Total completion</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>-37 (-14.9%)</b>

### Comparison with the Average Annual Requirement (Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only)

Actual units completed	Plan's Average Annual Requirement	Comparison between actual completions and average annual requirement
212	247	-35 (-14.2%)

- In this AMR period, it is noted that 212 units have been completed in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area. The Annual Average Requirement is 247 units for Gwynedd alone (therefore 35 units less or -14.2%) and the trajectory envisaged the development of 249 houses, excluding slippage allowance, during 2024/25 (therefore 37 units less or -14.9%).
- Compared to the information from the trajectory (excluding the slippage allowance), it is noted that for 2024/25 there were 55 fewer units (-68.8%) completed on small windfall sites; 53 units more (+67.1%) on large windfall sites (5 or more units); with 35 fewer units completed on sites allocated in the Plan (-38.9%).
- In comparison with previous years, the following information is noted for the Plan area as a whole as well as the Gwynedd Planning Authority area individually:

	Joint LDP Area			Gwynedd Planning Authority Area		
	Number of units completed	Comparison with trajectory figure	Comparison with Annual Average Requirement	Number of units completed	Comparison with trajectory figure	Comparison with Annual Average Requirement
2016/17	402	+6.9%	-16.0%	276	+12.2%	+11.7%
2017/18	462	-8.5%	-3.5%	208	-27.0%	-15.8%
2018/19	548	-11.2%	+14.4%	281	-13.0%	+13.8%
2019/20	453	-28.2%	-5.4%	245	-22.7%	-0.8%
2020/21	360	-44.4%	-24.8%	135	-55.7%	-45.3%
2021/22	347	-44.3%	-27.6%	169	-44.6%	-31.6%
2022/23	298	-47.3%	-37.7%	107	-61.5%	-56.7%
2023/24	-	-	-	137	-47.7%	-44.5%

- Further discussion relating to the number of units completed annually and on the housing allocations is seen in the analysis to indicators D44 and D45.
- The information for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area for the AMR 7 period is in line with the general trend that has been evident in this area along with the Plan area as a whole since 2019/20, namely the fact that the number of units provided does not meet the requirement in the trajectory nor the average annual requirement (which has been conveyed to the Gwynedd Planning Authority area). However, it is noted that this deficit is much lower than it has been in recent years (for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area). There has been a significant increase in the number of completed housing units in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area in 2024/25 compared to the previous year.
- It can be noted that, in accordance with the trigger level, what has developed is slightly lower than the average annual requirement rate (for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only),


although it is noted that this deficit is significantly less than what has been evident annually since the AMR 2 period. It is believed that there is certainly a need to take into account what is highlighted in this indicator within the preparation of the new Plan. It is also noted that the amended trajectory suggests a housing supply for the final year of the Plan's lifespan which is consistent with the level of completion for the period of this AMR and higher than the figure for the previous four years (although note that the figure for 2025/26 remains below the average annual requirement). It should be noted that this is presumptive information and what will actually happen will depend on many factors.

- In this respect, it is important to consider the various components of housing provision i.e. the role of small and large windfall sites and allocations, when assessing the entire provision. The number of houses developed on allocated sites is significantly lower than what was anticipated in the trajectory (see also the response to indicator D45). However the updated trajectory suggests that the number of units to be provided on housing allocations in the final year of the Plan period is similar to that provided on such sites during the period of this AMR. It is believed that there is a need to keep an eye on the situation as a whole when preparing a new Plan and it will be important to consider this information along with other contextual matters, such as the economic situation and the content of the Future Wales document along with the information in relation to indicator D43(B) when considering the impact of annual developments on the housing figure as a whole.






**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D43(B)**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO15 & SO16	SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.  SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>	PS16, TAI1- TAI7, PS 18, TAI 5, TAI 8, TAI 15-TAI 19	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger level:</b>	
Total cumulative completions monitored against the cumulative	Cumulative completions will be measured against	AMR 1		Respond to a deviation that is either significantly
		AMR 2		



average annual housing requirement	the cumulative average annual housing requirement set out in the Plan	AMR 3		higher or significantly lower than the cumulative average annual housing requirement
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<b>AMR 7</b>		

#### Analysis:

It is noted that for plans published prior to the publication of the Development Plan Manual, cumulative completions will be measured against the cumulative average annual housing requirement set out in the Plan.

The following information is noted in terms of the actual units completed against the cumulative completion rate as specified in the housing trajectory of the JLDP (noted on the basis of the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only).

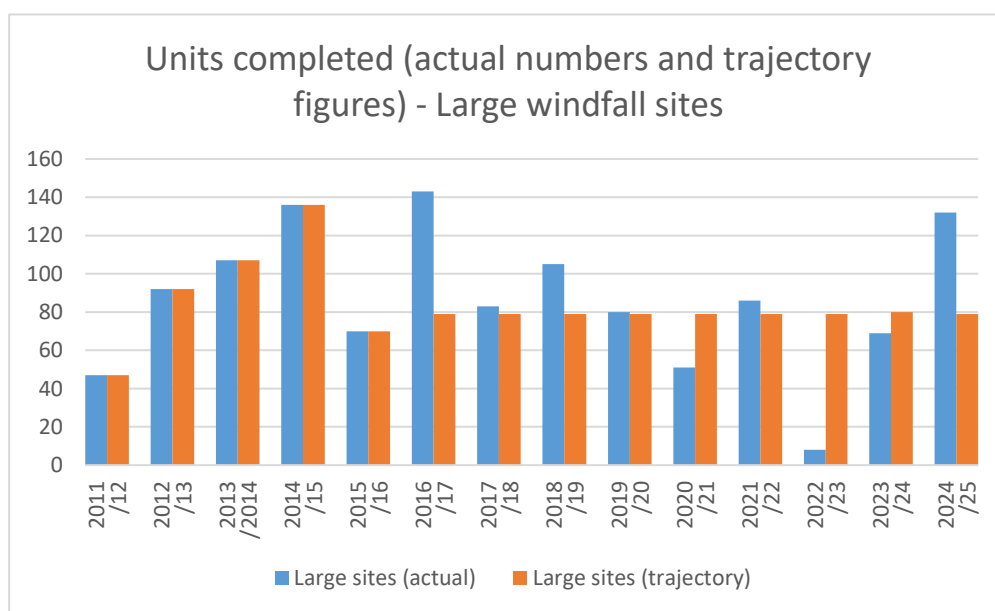
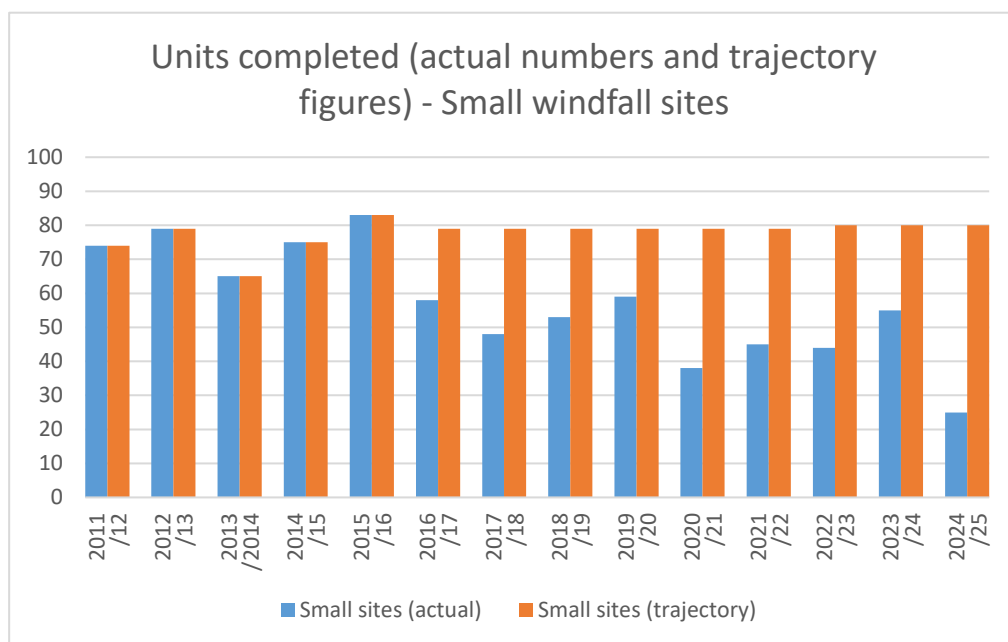
#### Information in terms of the cumulative completion rate up to 2024/25 – information per housing provision component (for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only)

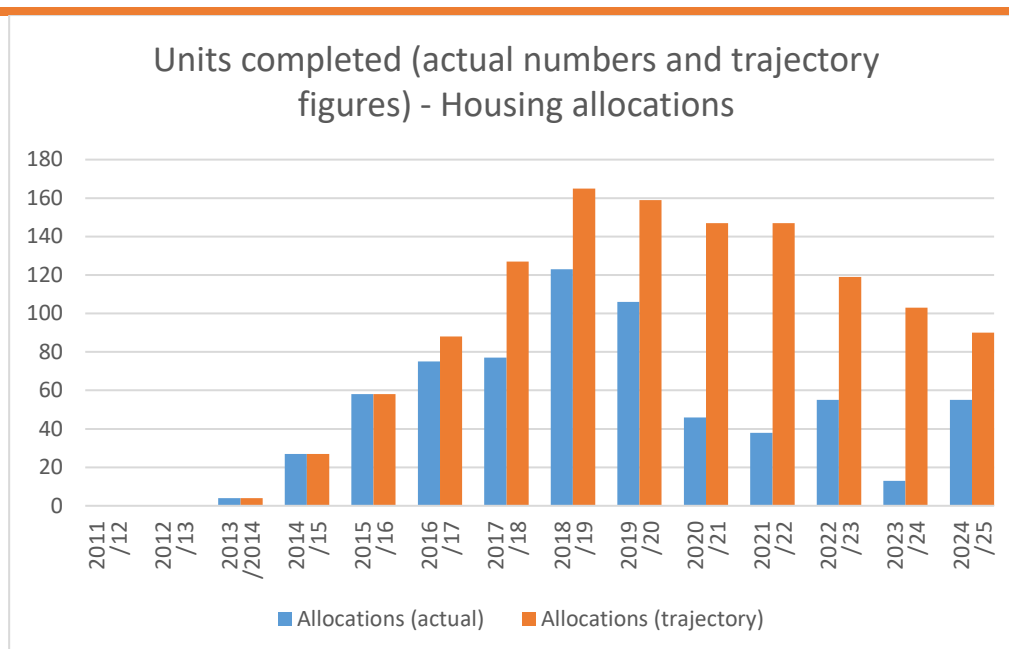
	Actual units completed	Information from the Plan's housing trajectory i.e. the number of units expected to be completed	Comparison between actual completions and information in the trajectory
Small sites (fewer than 5 units)	801	1090	-289 (-26.5%)
Large sites (5 units or more – not on allocated sites)	1209	1163	+46 (+4.0%)
Allocated housing sites	677	1234	-557 (-45.1%)
<b>Total cumulative completed units</b>	<b>2687</b>	<b>3487</b>	<b>-800 (-22.9%)</b>

**Annual housing provision rate compared to information in the housing trajectory (for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only)**

Year	Cumulative completion figure noted in the trajectory	Actual completion figure (annual)	Comparison with the annual completion figure in the trajectory	Total cumulative completion	Comparison with the cumulative completion figure in the trajectory	% completion against the cumulative completion figure
2011-12	121	121	0	121	0	0%
2012-13	292 (+171)	171	0	292	0	0%
2013-14	468 (+176)	176	0	468	0	0%
2014-15	706 (+238)	238	0	706	0	0%
2015-16	917 (+211)	211	0	917	0	0%
2016-17	1163 (+246)	276	+30	1193	+30	+2.6%
2017-18	1448 (+285)	208	-77	1401	-47	-3.2%
2018-19	1771 (+323)	281	-42	1682	-89	-5.0%
2019-20	2088 (+317)	245	-72	1927	-161	-7.7%
2020-21	2393 (+305)	135	-170	2062	-331	-13.8%
2021-22	2698 (+305)	169	-136	2231	-467	-17.3%
2022-23	2976 (+278)	107	-171	2338	-638	-21.4%
2023-24	3238 (+262)	137	-125	2475	-763	-23.6%
2024-25	3487 (+249)	212	-37	2687	-800	-22.9%
2025-26	3712 (+225)					

The graphs below compare the housing provided per different components against the information in the Plan's housing trajectory (based on information for the Gwynedd Planning Authority only).





Information is noted below which assesses the actual housing provision against the average annual requirement and the cumulative average annual housing requirement, namely what is noted as the target information as highlighted in Development Plan Manual 3.

**Housing provision rate compared to the average annual requirement and the cumulative average annual housing requirement (for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only)**

Year	Average cumulative annual requirement (247 units per year)	Actual completion figure (annual)	Comparison against the average annual requirement	Total cumulative completion	Comparison against the cumulative average annual housing requirement	% completions against the cumulative average annual housing requirement
<b>2011-12</b>	247	121	-126	121	-126	-51.0%
<b>2012-13</b>	495	171	-76	292	-203	-41.0%
<b>2013-14</b>	742	176	-71	468	-274	-36.9%
<b>2014-15</b>	990	238	-9	706	-284	-28.7%
<b>2015-16</b>	1237	211	-36	917	-320	-25.9%
<b>2016-17</b>	1485	276	+29	1193	-292	-19.7%
<b>2017-18</b>	1732	208	-39	1401	-331	-19.1%
<b>2018-19</b>	1980	281	+34	1682	-298	-15.1%

<b>2019-20</b>	2227	245	-2	1927	-300	-13.5%
<b>2020-21</b>	2475	135	-112	2062	-413	-16.7%
<b>2021-22</b>	2722	169	-78	2231	-491	-18.0%
<b>2022-23</b>	2970	107	-140	2338	-632	-21.3%
<b>2023-24</b>	3217	137	-110	2475	-742	-23.1%
<b>2024-25</b>	3465	212	-35	2687	-778	-22.5%
<b>2025-26</b>	3712					

- Including information from the period of this AMR, please note that 800 fewer units have been completed in the Gwynedd Planning authority area compared to the expected figure noted in the trajectory for the Gwynedd area. When compared to the average annual requirement, please note that the actual figure of 778 units is lower than the expected figure by 2024/25. It is noted that this does not take into consideration the Plan's slippage allowance but rather the actual figure for meeting the Plan's housing figure.
- It is noted that 2687 units have been completed in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area since the base date in 2011 up to 2024/25. This is 22.9% lower than the figure noted in the trajectory and 22.5% lower than the cumulative average annual requirement figure.
- The shortfall in the percentage of units actually completed compared to the expected cumulative completion figure in the trajectory has narrowed slightly since the AMR 6 period (from -23.6% to -22.9%). However, note that there has been a significant increase in this deficit in recent years (for example, the deficit was -13.8% in period AMR 3). In terms of the comparison with the cumulative annual housing requirement in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area, note again that there has been a small reduction in the shortfall between the periods of AMR 6 and AMR 7 (from -23.1% to -22.5%). This shortfall is slightly less significant over a wider period compared to the comparison with the trajectory figures e.g. from -16.7% in the AMR 3 period to -22.5% for the AMR 7 period.
- It is noted that the cumulative completion rate was fairly consistent with the information noted in the trajectory until the AMR 2 period but it is noted that the gap, in terms of the percentage, has consistently grown since then (in terms of the shortfall) until this AMR period where there was a reduction. However, note that with respect to the actual figure, the gap between the cumulative number of completed units and the figure in the trajectory increased between the AMR 6 and AMR 7 periods.
- Despite the significant shortfall in the number of units completed compared to the cumulative average annual housing requirement, it is noted that in general the cumulative number of units completed has been far more consistent with the cumulative average annual requirement in the period since the Plan's adoption compared to the early years of the Plan period (in percentage form). The information from the AMR 7 period, in terms of a reduction in the gap (in percentage form) between the actual number of units completed and the

cumulative annual housing requirement figure, has reversed the recent trend in terms of an annual increase over the previous 4 years.

- When analysing this information in more detail, compared to the cumulative information from the trajectory for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area (excluding slippage allowance) it is noted that 289 fewer units (-26.5%) have been completed on small windfall sites (less than 5 units) compared to the data noted in the trajectory; 46 more units (+4.0%) were completed on large windfall sites (5 units or more); with 557 fewer units completed on sites that were allocated in the Plan (-45.1%).
- The graphs above highlight that completed units on small windfall site in recent years have been lower than what the trajectory had anticipated whilst, on the other hand, completed units on large windfall sites (5 units or more) have been significantly higher than the information in the trajectory. It is apparent that units completed on sites allocated specifically for housing in the Plan have been substantially lower than what was projected in the trajectory (see further comments regarding this aspect in the observations on indicator D45).

The following points associated with this information are noted below:

- If there is a shortfall in terms of cumulative housing completion levels against the Average Annual Requirement for two consecutive years, Development Plan Manual 3 notes that the LPA must consider the extent of any shortfall and note its conclusion/monitoring actions in terms of the implications for the supply of the required housing level or delivery of the strategy. The trigger level in terms of this indicator notes that a response must be provided to a deviation that is either significantly higher or significantly lower than the cumulative average annual housing requirement.
- Further discussion relating to the number of cumulative units completed and on the housing allocations is seen in the analysis to indicators D44 and D45.
- Looking at the updated trajectory, it is anticipated that the number of housing units completed in the final year of the Plan period will be consistent with the completion level for the period of this AMR. While this figure is higher than the figure for the previous four years, it remains below the average annual requirement. It should be noted that this is a projection and as can be seen with the actual figures over the previous years, the situation can change and the number of units that are actually completed is subject to circumstances in terms of individual sites and in terms of broader aspects and requirements, e.g. economic situation. Whilst consideration is given to all relevant aspects when projecting the future housing growth levels, the truth is that this is subject to the wishes and aspirations of landowners and developers in terms of developing the relevant sites. The Plan is a facilitator to housing provision – it cannot enforce this. However, as there is only a year left in the Plan period, the amended trajectory conveys those units where there is an actual chance that they will be completed in this time e.g. where units are currently being developed.
- However, it is very apparent from the information up to the period of this AMR that there has been a shortcoming in the housing provision on sites allocated in the JLDP compared to what was expected. As highlighted in relation to indicator D45, when preparing a new Plan

consideration must be given to the suitability of the Plan's housing allocations to contribute effectively to the housing figure.








- It is noted that the role of the Joint LDP is to provide the conditions to deliver relevant developments and to supply housing in the most suitable manner. Bearing in mind that the work of preparing the new Plan has commenced, it is not believed that there is a need to act on this indicator at present.
- The considerations in relation to this indicator are crucial in the preparation of a new Plan. Whilst the Plan aims to ensure that the sites identified can deliver the relevant developments, the Plan cannot compel these developments to happen in accordance with the information in the trajectory. When preparing a new Plan, it will be crucial to consider the housing growth level in its entirety and to identify the best and most suitable sites to meet this growth in an effective manner that meets the strategy of the Plan.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D44**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO15 & SO16	<p>SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.</p> <p>SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population</p>
-------------------	-------------	---

Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		PS16, TAI1- TAI7, PS 18, TAI 5, TAI 8, TAI 15-TAI 19
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
D44 The number of new housing units built in the Plan area	Provide 7,184 new housing units over the Plan period, according to the breakdown set out in Topic Paper 20B Housing Trajectory  Annual targets for remainder of Plan period:  2016/17 = 376 2017/18 = 505 2018/19 = 617	AMR 1		The number of new housing units provided in the Plan area falls below the requirement for 2 consecutive years
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

2019/20 = 631  
 2020/21 = 647  
 2021/22 = 623  
 2022/23 = 565  
 2023/24 = 527  
 2024/25 = 528  
 2025/26 = 466


#### Analysis:

The table below notes a comparison of the number of units built in the Plan area against the target:

Year	Target	Actual number	Difference (%)
<b>Plan Area in its entirety</b>			
2016/17	376	402	+6.9%
2017/18	505	462	-8.5%
2018/19	617	548	-11.2%
2019/20	631	453	-28.2%
2020/21	647	360	-44.4%
2021/22	623	347	-44.3%
2022/23	565	298	-47.3%
<b>Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only</b>			
2023/24	527 (with Anglesey)	137	
2024/25	528 (with Anglesey)	212	

Given that the Joint Planning Policy Service for Gwynedd and Anglesey came to an end on 31 March 2023, and that only information from the Gwynedd Planning Authority area is available for the AMR 7 period, the table below conveys information for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area by using the information from the trajectory for this area only.

#### Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only

Year	Target	Actual number	Difference (%)
2016/17	246	276	+12.2%
2017/18	285	208	-27.0%
2018/19	323	281	-13.0%
2019/20	317	245	-22.7%
2020/21	305	135	-55.7%



2021/22	305	169	-44.6%
2022/23	278	107	-61.5%
2023/24	262	137	-47.7%
2024/25	249	212	-14.9%

In terms of the target and trigger level, it is apparent that the number of new housing units provided in the Gwynedd Planning authority area has fallen below the requirement for two consecutive years. Indeed, the number of completed units has not met the annual target level, in Gwynedd nor in the Plan area as a whole, since 2016/17.

In terms of the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only, when adding the information from the AMR 7 period to the information in the previous years as noted in the above table (i.e. 2016-25 period), it is noted that 1770 units have been completed, compared with a target of 2570 units. This is equivalent to 68.9% of the target level (a deficit of 800 units over a 9-year period, namely 89 units per year).

It is noted that there has been a significant increase in the number of residential units completed in the period of this AMR compared to the previous year (+75 units) as well as the previous three years. This is the highest completion figure for the Gwynedd area since 2019/20. While the figure for the AMR7 period does not meet the target level, the shortfall is much lower than it has been in recent years. The gap between the target figure and the number of units that have actually been built has seen an evident reduction between the AMR 6 (-125 units) and AMR 7 period (-37 units).

Compared with the highest annual completion figure since adopting the Plan, i.e. 2018/19, 69 fewer units have been completed in Gwynedd in the AMR 7 period. This difference is much lower than what has been seen in recent years. It is believed that one factor for a higher number of residential units being developed are the housing association development programmes. Housing Associations are responsible for a significant proportion of the units completed in Gwynedd in the AMR 7 period (127 units on 8 sites, which is 59.9% of all units completed in the AMR period). On this basis, it is noted that a significant proportion of all units completed in the AMR 7 period are affordable units (66.7%).

Whilst the fieldwork in terms of this indicator shows that the work is ongoing on some of the Plan's housing allocations, it is noted that no new planning permissions were granted on any housing allocation during the period of this AMR (however it is noted that the permission for the T65 site in Deiniolen was extended). The completion figure for allocated sites is significantly lower than the target level in the trajectory. This is therefore a consideration in terms of the trigger level. Note that no planning permission exists (April 2025) for a significant number of the sites allocated for housing i.e. 16 of the 38 allocations in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area, which is 42.1%. It is noted that this is only one year before the end of Plan period.

Given the gap between the target level (annually and cumulatively) and the actual completions, it is believed that this aspect must be considered in the preparation of the new Plan.

The work of monitoring the Plan will be a means of assessing whether the rate of housing development is acceptable in line with this indicator, considering therefore the suitability of some of the housing allocations in the Plan to contribute effectively to the target. However, it is noted that the role of the Local Development Plan is to provide the conditions to achieve appropriate developments and to supply housing in the most suitable way. The Plan cannot enforce the development of these sites. When preparing a new Plan, it is believed that the housing growth rate as well as the allocations to be included within it should be re-examined.

The update to the housing trajectory [see indicators 43(A) and D43(B)] suggests a housing supply for the last year of the Plan period that is consistent with the completion level for the period of this AMR.

**Action:**

No need to act at present. Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered as part of the preparation of the new Plan, specifically in terms of the evidence gathering in relation to housing.

**Indicator: D45**

**Objective:**

SO15 &  
SO16

SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.

SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population

**Indicator:**

**Target:**

**Relevant policy:**

PS16, TAI1- TAI7, PS 18, TAI 5, TAI 8, TAI 15- TAI 19

**Outcome:**

**Trigger level:**

D45 Total housing units built on allocated sites in Gwynedd as a % of overall housing provision

Sites have been allocated within Policies TAI 1 - 5 for 1,467 new housing units in Gwynedd (including 10% slippage allowance) over the Plan period, which equates to 19% of overall housing provision.

Annual completion targets for remainder of Plan period:






AMR 1



The overall number of new housing units constructed on allocated sites within Gwynedd falls below the requirement for 2 consecutive years

AMR 2



	Allocated sites	AMR 3	
2016/17	99	AMR 4	
2017/18	144		
2018/19	187		
2019/20	180		
2020/21	166		
2021/22	166		
2022/23	135		
2023/24	117		
2024/25	102		
2025/26	74		
		AMR 5	
		AMR 6	
		<u>AMR 7</u>	
Analysis:			

The number of units completed on the sites specifically allocated for housing in Gwynedd has fallen below the targets noted for the period of this AMR, along with every other year noted in the target data:

	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual number</b>
2016/ 17	99	70
2017/ 18	144	77
2018/ 19	187	123
2019/ 20	180	106
2020/ 21	166	49
2021/22	166	38
2022/23	135	55
2023/24	117	13
2024/25	102	55

It is noted that some of the housing allocations have received planning permission prior to the date of the adoption of the Plan, often on the basis that they were allocations in the previous development plan. This is responsible for a significant percentage of the units already completed as noted in the table above, particularly so in the early years after adoption.

Such examples (in relation to sites completed in the previous AMR periods) include sites such as site T1 Goetra Uchaf in Bangor and T27 Lôn Cae Phillips in Caernarfon, which are some of the largest housing allocations in the JLDP in Gwynedd.

In the AMR 7 period it is noted that all the units completed on housing allocations were sites that were previously allocated in the Gwynedd Unitary Development Plan, namely Land near Canol Cae, Penrhyndeudraeth, Land near North Terrace, Cricieth and Cae Denio, Pwllheli. No units were completed during 2024/25 on new allocations introduced in the JLDP. The provision on new allocations (introduced in the JLDP) is therefore not sufficient to meet the target level set out in the indicator. It would by now be expected for the housing allocations to provide a significant proportion of housing units annually. Please note, therefore, that the proportion of units completed on housing allocations is significantly below the target.

It is noted that as of April 2025, 28 units were under construction on 4 different sites that have been allocated for housing in the JLDP within the Gwynedd Planning Authority area. Consent was also granted during the period of this AMR for extending the period of planning permission on an allocated site in Deiniolen (27 units). Whilst there is a chance that there will be some increase in provision on housing allocations in the future, there is a question as to whether this will be sufficient to meet the target for the next AMR period.

Of the 26 allocations in Gwynedd that had not been completed by the end of this AMR period, planning permission exists for 10 of these sites (i.e. extant permission on 31 March 2025). This therefore means that 16 allocated sites in Gwynedd did not have planning permission as of 31st March 2025. There is a link here with the housing trajectory in terms of when it is considered that allocations without planning permission will be developed.

25.9% of all units completed in Gwynedd in 2024/25 are located on housing allocations. While this is a low figure, it is higher than the figure for the AMR 6 period, namely 9.6%. However, the figure for 2024/25 remains lower than the rate for previous AMR periods apart from AMR 4: AMR 5 (51.4%); AMR 4 (22.5%); AMR 3 (36%) and AMR 2 (43%). The housing trajectory in the Plan notes that it was expected for 46.5% of units completed in 2024/25 within the Plan area to be on housing allocations.

As the number of units developed on the housing allocations is consistently lower than the targets for this indicator, and that the gap between the actual figure and the target figures are significant over recent years, it is believed that it is appropriate to re-consider the sites that are suitable to be allocated when preparing the new Plan. Consideration must be given to the suitability of all the housing allocations in the Plan to contribute effectively to the target.

The update to the housing trajectory [Indicators 43(A) and 43(B)] suggests a similar supply on housing allocations in the last year of the Plan' period compared to what was seen in the AMR 6 period.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D46**

No need to report on the indicator as it specifically applies to the Isle of Anglesey Local Planning Authority Area.

**Affordable housing**

**Indicator: D47**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO15 & SO16	SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.  SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population
-------------------	-------------	--

<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>	PS16, TAI1- TAI7, PS 18, TAI 5, TAI 8, TAI 15-TAI 19
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger level:</b>

D47 Total number of additional affordable housing built in the Plan area	Build 1,572 affordable houses in the Plan area by 2026	AMR 1	—	The overall number of additional affordable housing units built within the Plan area is 10% or more below the cumulative requirement set in the Policy Target
	Construction targets for remainder of Plan period (2015 – 2026):			
	Build 345 additional affordable housing units in the Plan area by 2018	AMR 2	—	
		AMR 3	—	
	Build 575 additional affordable housing units in the Plan area by 2020	AMR 4	—	
		AMR 5	—	
	Build 805 additional affordable housing units in the Plan area by 2022	AMR 6	—	
	Build 1035 additional affordable housing units in the Plan area by 2024			
	Build 1266 additional affordable housing units in the Plan area by 2026			
		AMR 7	—	
Analysis:				

In the 2015-23 period, it is noted that 854 affordable units were built in the Plan area. However, the information from AMR periods 6 and 7 applies only to Gwynedd. In 2024-25, 142 affordable units were built in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area. This is in addition to the 67 affordable units built in the area during 2023-24. This therefore means a provision of 1063 affordable units in the relevant period excluding information from Anglesey in the AMR6 and AMR7 periods.

It is difficult to make a direct assessment against the target set out in the indicator given the lack of information from Anglesey for the last two years. It is also noted that there is no target set for 2025 but rather a target of building an additional 1266 affordable homes in the Plan's area by 2026 is specified.

Therefore, it is not possible to assess whether the overall number of additional affordable housing built within the Plan area is 10% or more below the cumulative target set in the Policy Target. It is noted however that the number of units built since 2015 (excluding the Anglesey figure for AMR 6 and AMR 7) is above the target given by the end of 2024 for the Plan area as a whole, namely 1035 additional affordable homes.

The split of the completed affordable units is as follows:

Year	Gwynedd Planning Authority Area Total	Entire Plan Area Total
2015-16	44 units	82 units
2016-17	54 units	68 units
2017-18	31 units	61 units
2018-19	118 units	187 units
2019-20	98 units	120 units
2020-21	31 units	99 units
2021-22	74 units	115 units
2022-23	58 units	122 units
2023-24	68 units	-
2024-25	140 units	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>716 units</b>	<b>854 units* (not including 2023-25)</b>

\* Please note that the above figures have been revised based on a re-examination of the information in relation to completed affordable units (a reduction of 9 affordable units compared to the AMR 6 period).

While it is noted that no specific target has been noted for this AMR period, it is not believed that any action is required in relation to this indicator. For Gwynedd only, it is noted that the number of affordable units completed in this AMR period is higher than in any other year since the adoption of the Plan. Indeed, it is a figure that is higher than any annual completion figure for the Plan area as a whole (up to AMR 5) apart from 2018-19.

Whilst it is noted that no specific target has been noted for this AMR period, it is believed that no action is required in relation to this indicator.

To meet the target set for 2026, 204 affordable units will need to be built in the AMR 8 period. To ensure a provision that is above the trigger level (10% or more below the cumulative target in the Policy Target), 77 units will need to be built in the next period. While the number of new affordable units required to meet the 2026 target has never been achieved during the period covered by this indicator, it is noted that the number of affordable units completed in the AMR 6 period in Gwynedd would be sufficient to avoid having to consider the trigger level. It is also noted that these figures do not consider affordable units that have been completed in Anglesey during the AMR 6 and AMR 7 periods.

Due to the requirement to justify affordable units based on viability, Joint LDP policies note thresholds that are often below those noted in the previous development plans relating to the requirement for affordable provision. It can take time for this policy to lead to a significant increase in the number of affordable units developed in the Plan area. In this respect it is noted that the number of affordable units built each year since 2018-19 is significantly higher than the data for previous years. It is noted that the number of affordable units completed in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area in the AMR 7 period is much higher than the corresponding information for the Plan area as a whole in the early years of the information shown.

The figure in terms of the number of affordable homes provided is likely to be higher for the area than what is stated, as it does not include housing units that are affordable due to their size and location (but are not formally bound as affordable units by condition or legal obligation). In addition, a financial contribution has been accepted in relation to some developments rather than affordable provision on site.

The fieldwork linked to this indicator (April 2025) indicates that planning permission exists for 299 affordable units in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area (187 units not commenced and 112 units under construction). Therefore, there are numerous affordable units already within the existing land bank that can contribute towards effectively meeting the targets noted in this indicator.








**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D48**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO15 & SO16	<p>SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.</p> <p>SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population</p>
-------------------	-------------	---



Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:	PS16, TAI1- TAI7, PS 18, TAI 5, TAI 8, TAI 15-TAI 19	
		Outcome:	Trigger level:	
D48 % affordable housing units permitted per house price area	% affordable housing provision in line with indicative target per house price area	AMR 1		Overall % affordable housing provision falls below the indicative target per house price area for 2 consecutive years, unless justified by Policy TAI 15
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		

#### Analysis:

It is noted that the information below refers to sites where it is relevant to ask that a percentage of units be affordable in accordance with Policy TAI 15 i.e. a threshold of two or more units, excluding sites in clusters or in the countryside. It does not consider permission on exception sites where the proposal must be for 100% affordable housing.

The data is relevant for new permissions and applications to reconsider or extend the expiry date of the previous permission. These are all applications where the affordable provision must be considered in line with the content of Policy TAI 15. Therefore, it does not consider applications for reserved matters where the principle of the permission had already been granted, nor does it consider certificates of lawfulness for residential use.

It is noted that the trigger level refers to 2 consecutive years. Whilst the information for 2024/25 needs to be considered alongside the information for the AMR 6 period, it is noted that the Anglesey information is no longer presented in the information below. The information in terms of this indicator therefore only refers to the relevant information for the house price areas located in Gwynedd.

Table summarising the information for all House Price Areas

House Price Areas	Period	Percentage of affordable housing sought	Actual affordable housing provision (percentage)	Does it meet the target level?

Gwynedd High Value Coastal	2023/24	No relevant planning permission.		
	2024/25	No relevant planning permission.		
Larger Coastal Settlements	2023/24	30%	67%**	✓
	2024/25	30%	33%	✓
Rural Centres	2023/24	No relevant planning permission.		
	2024/25	No relevant planning permission.		
Northern Coast and South Arfon	2023/24	20%	32%**	✓
	2024/25	20%	56%(*)(**)	✓
Llŷn	2023/24	No relevant planning permission.		
	2024/25	10%	40%	✓
Western Coast and Rural Arfon	2023/24	10%	95%**	✓
	2024/25	10%	44%**	✓
The Mountains	2023/24	10%	100%	✓
	2024/25	10%	33%	✓
Eastern Gwynedd and the National Park	2023/24	No relevant planning permission.		
	2024/25	No relevant planning permission.		
Blaenau Ffestiniog	2023/24	No relevant planning permission.		
	2024/25	10%	17%	✓ <sup>2</sup>

\*Financial contribution (affordable) also

\*\* Additional units that are not affordable under TAN 2 but are believed to be affordable 'by design' also approved (not counted for the purpose of this indicator).

Of the eight housing price areas located in Gwynedd, it is noted that there has been no relevant planning permission in three of these during the AMR 7 period. Of the 6 areas where relevant consents were been granted, it is noted that all have met the indicative target (as highlighted in Policy TAI 15) in terms of the general percentage of affordable housing provided as part of relevant residential planning permissions in the AMR 7 period.

Along with the formal affordable provision, it is noted that units deemed to be affordable by design have also been permitted during this period. A financial contribution is also to be received

at the expense of affordable provision on one site that received planning permission during 2024/25.

Based on the above, it is therefore considered that the information regarding the affordable provision during the AMR 7 period is acceptable.

If considering the trigger level, i.e. that the general percentage of the affordable housing provision falls below the indicative target per housing price area for two consecutive years, it is noted that this has not been apparent in any housing price area. It is noted however that there is no relevant information available for all areas for the two years in question.

Joint House Price Areas: Percentage affordable 30% - Information for Gwynedd only

Period	Number of permissions	Number of units approved	Affordable housing	Percentage of affordable units
2023/24	3	55	37	67%
2024/25	1	12	4	33%

Joint House Price Areas: Percentage affordable 20% - Information for Gwynedd only

Period	Number of permissions	Number of units approved	Affordable housing	Percentage of affordable units
2023/24	7	34	11	32%
2024/25	6	54	30	56%

Joint House Price Areas: Percentage affordable 10% - Information for Gwynedd only

Period	Number of permissions	Number of units approved	Affordable housing	Percentage of affordable units
2023/24	4	64	62	97%
2024/25	10	65	26	40%

When considering the house price areas jointly for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only (where the percentage of affordable housing sought is consistent), it is noted that the affordable provision corresponds effectively with all policy targets (in terms of the 30%, 20% and 10% requirements). Along with the above formal provision of affordable units, it should also be borne in mind that further units have been permitted which are considered 'affordable by design' and also that a financial contribution has been received for one site at the expense of providing

affordable units on site.








The number of relevant planning permissions that are relevant to consider in relation to this indicator in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area in the AMR 7 period (17 applications) is higher than the information for the AMR 6 period (14 relevant applications) and consistent with the information for AMR 5 period (17 applications). Please note, however, that there are some house price areas where no relevant planning permissions has been given in neither 2024/25 nor 2023/24 in terms considering the requirements of Policy TAI 15.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D49**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO15 & SO16	<p>SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.</p> <p>SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population</p>
-------------------	-------------	---

Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
D49 The number of planning applications permitted on rural exception sites	An increase in the number of affordable housing exception sites compared to average during 2015/16 – 2016/17	AMR 1		No increase in the number of affordable housing exception sites permitted for 2 consecutive years
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

**Analysis:**

Planning permission on exception sites during the period of this AMR (Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only)<sup>6</sup>

Site	Number of units
Bodernabwy, Aberdaron	5
Tŷ Isaf, Bryniau Fawnog Ffordd Minffordd, Llanrug	1
Land Maes Twnti, Morfa Nefyn	6*
Land by Talardd, Dinas	2*
Total (Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only)	14

\*Sites located within and outside the development boundary. Where the part of the site that is located outside of the boundary is considered against Policy TAI 16 (Exception Sites), then those units located on the exception site will be considered in this figure.

**Previous Information:**

Period	Plan Area		Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only	
	Number of sites	Number of units	Number of sites	Number of units
<b>AMR1 (all in 2018/19)</b>	6	24	-	-
<b>AMR 2<sup>7</sup></b>	4	45	1	10
<b>AMR 3</b>	3	10	2	8
<b>AMB 4</b>	2	24	1	1
<b>AMR 5</b>	5	33	2	4
<b>AMR 6</b>	-	-	3	26

It is difficult to make a direct comparison with figures from previous periods since the information from this AMR period does not consider information from Anglesey. However, when looking at the information from the recent Annual Monitoring Report periods, particularly in terms of Gwynedd information individually, it is believed that this year's figures are acceptable. More exception sites have been permitted in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area in the AMB 7 period than in any other AMR period (separate information for Gwynedd not available for the AMR 1 period). However, it is noted that that the number of units permitted on exception sites is

<sup>6</sup> New permissions only:

<sup>7</sup> Some sites located within and outside the development boundary. Where the part of the site that is located outside the boundary has been considered against Policy TAI 16 (Exception Sites) then these sites/units are considered in this figure.

considerably lower than the previous year (although it is noted that this figure is higher than any of the other years for Gwynedd individually).

The figures for Gwynedd for the AMR 7 period are higher than the figure for the Plan area as a whole in the AMR 3 period (in terms of number of sites as well as the number of units) and is higher than the number of such sites that were permitted in the Plan area in the AMR 4 period.

The likely reason for this is a combination of fewer suitable sites available within development boundaries due to the Plan period coming to an end, the development programmes and scale of RSL (site near Talardd, Dinas) and Cyngor Gwynedd developments (Land near Maes Twnti, Morfa Nefyn), as well as individual opportunities that have emerged.

Whilst the trigger level is relevant for the Plan area as a whole, it is believed that the information from this AMR period, in terms of Gwynedd only, corresponds effectively with it. It is also noted that there has been a steady increase of one site per annum in the number of exception sites that have received consent in the Gwynedd planning area since the AMR 4 period, which therefore means compliance with the trigger level.

Whilst it is important to consider how the Plan facilitates the provision of affordable units on exception sites, it is noted that applications for such sites rely on specific schemes being brought forward in locations where the demand for affordable housing cannot be met within the development boundary. Whilst it is important to consider the additional provision of affordable units, it is believed that it is important to consider this in relation to the affordable provision in its entirety.

It is noted that the target in terms of this indicator states "Increase in the number of affordable housing exception sites compared to the average during 2015/16 – 2016/17". It is noted that the figure in terms of the exception sites and units permitted in these years was: 2015/16 (3 sites: 3 units); 2016/17 (2 sites: 3 units) - for the Plan area as a whole. It is noted that information relating to exception site permissions granted in 2024/25 within the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only, in terms of the number of sites together with the number of units on these sites, compares positively with this target. The information for the AMR 7 period is therefore considered to be acceptable compared with the target information

Based on the above information it does not appear that any action is required in relation to this indicator, but it is believed that there is a need to consider facilitating a sufficient provision of affordable units when preparing the new Plan.

**Action:**








Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D50**

**Objective:**

SO15  
&  
SO16

SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.








		SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy:		PS16, TAI1- TAI7, PS 18, TAI 5, TAI 8, TAI 15-TAI 19
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D50 Changes in residual Values across the housed price areas identified in Policy TAI 15.	Deliver the maximum level of affordable housing considered viable in accordance with policy TAI 15.	AMR 1		An increase or decrease of 5% of residual value in any house price area in any one year.
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
Analysis:				
<p>There will be updated evidence base for the viability of different areas to prepare affordable units on residential sites being prepared as part of the preparation of the new Local Development Plan. In addition, the Council is currently preparing a Local Housing Market Assessment and the draft version identifies housing market areas that differ from that in the current joint Plan.</p> <p>Because of this the Council has not carried out work assessing the changes within the residual values of house price areas contained in the joint Plan and therefore this indicator could not be updated.</p>				
Action:				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Detailed viability studies will be undertaken by the individual authorities as part of the evidence base for their new Local Development Plans.				

#### Indicator: D51

Target has been met during AMB2, no need to continue to monitor.

#### Location of Housing (Part 2)

#### Indicator: D52

<b>Objective:</b>	SO15 & SO16	SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.																													
		SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population																													
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>																													
		<b>Outcome:</b>		<b>Trigger level:</b>																											
D52 Number of local market housing units built in settlements noted in Policy TAI 5	Deliver the highest possible level of local market housing in settlements listed in Policy TAI 5.	AMR 1		Fewer than 10 local market housing units built in settlements noted in Policy TAI 5 in any one year.																											
		AMR 2																													
		AMR 3																													
		AMR 4																													
		AMR 5																													
		AMR 6																													
		<u>AMR 7</u>																													
<b>Analysis:</b>																															
2024/25: 0 local market units completed (Gwynedd Planning Authority area only)																															
Please see below for information on the number of local market units completed per year (since the adoption of the JLDP)																															
<table><tr><th>Period</th><th>JLDP Area</th><th>Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only</th></tr><tr><td>AMR 7*</td><td>-</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>AMR 6*</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>AMR 5</td><td>3</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>AMR 4</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>AMR 3</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>AMR 2</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>AMR1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>5</td><td>3</td></tr></table>					Period	JLDP Area	Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only	AMR 7*	-	0	AMR 6*	-	1	AMR 5	3	1	AMR 4	0	0	AMR 3	0	0	AMR 2	1	1	AMR1	0	0	Total	5	3
Period	JLDP Area	Gwynedd Planning Authority Area only																													
AMR 7*	-	0																													
AMR 6*	-	1																													
AMR 5	3	1																													
AMR 4	0	0																													
AMR 3	0	0																													
AMR 2	1	1																													
AMR1	0	0																													
Total	5	3																													



\* Not including any potential local market units in Anglesey

It is apparent, in terms of considering the Gwynedd Planning Authority area individually, that the above information does not correspond effectively with the target and trigger levels relating to this indicator.

It is noted that that permission for 1 local market unit was granted in the Gwynedd planning authority area during the AMR 7 period. In Gwynedd, it is noted that this is the only extant permission for a local market unit (as of 31/3/25).

It is noted that a total of 5 local market units have been completed in the Plan area (excluding any potential units in Anglesey during the AMR 6 and AMR 7 periods). Three of these units are in Gwynedd.

Whilst there was a suggestion in the AMR 5 period that this new policy requirement had begun to have a real impact, this however has not been conveyed in the information for the AMR6 and AMR 7 periods.

It must be borne in mind that Policy TAI 5 in relation to Local Market Housing has introduced a completely new policy principle that was not apparent in previous development plans, and this has possibly meant differences from year to year in terms of the number of local market units being completed. However, it is accepted that some time has now elapsed since the Plan was adopted and the new principles that were introduced within it should by now be transferred into permissions and then relevant developments. The fact that there is only extant permission for 1 local market unit in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area means that the completion figures in the short-term are not going to be very high.

There was also a suggestion in the assessment of the AMR 5 information that the policy requirement was starting to be accepted more broadly by the public and housing developers (although note that this is for the Plan area as a whole). Given the information from the AMR 6 and AMR 7 periods, ongoing monitoring can confirm any specific trends.

Whilst it is hoped that there will be a further increase in the number of such units constructed and permitted as the policy principle is further established and accepted in order to meet the needs of the local communities, it is noted that the policy has clearly restricted speculative developments in the locations with the most acute problems in terms of the housing market.

It will be important to consider aspects in relation to promoting more local market housing developments as part of the new Plan to ensure that the policy is effective in terms of meeting local housing needs.

It is not believed that there is a need for any action at present in terms of this indicator. A further assessment of this policy will be an important part of the preparation for the new Plan. In this respect, it would be important, for example, to update the evidence base and possibly also consider other sources of evidence. Research also needs to be conducted to understand the reasons for the low number of local market units which have received planning permission and developed, including any new aspects and barriers which have been highlighted since the








introduction of the policy. To this end, it must be ensured that there is sound evidence to support such a policy in the new Plan.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered as part of the preparation of the new Plan.

**Indicator: D53**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO15 & SO16	<p>SO15: To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.</p> <p>SO16: To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population</p>
-------------------	-------------	---

Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		Trigger level:
		Outcome:		
D53 Planning applications and appeals to modify or remove section 106 agreements or conditions relating to local market housing	Retain S106 agreements and conditions that facilitate delivery of local market housing in accordance with Policy TAI 5.	AMR 1		Planning application or appeal to modify or remove S106 agreements or condition relating to local market housing approved or allowed (as appropriate) in any one year
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

**Analysis:**

No planning applications or appeal decisions to modify or remove section 106 agreements or conditions for local market housing have been approved or permitted (during this AMR period nor since adopting the Plan).

In accordance with the Planning Act 1990, it is possible to appeal a planning obligation to the Planning Inspectorate after five years, on the grounds that it has no relevant planning reasons. Before this, planning obligations may be renegotiated if the local planning authority and developers agree. However, bearing in mind that any planning permission for a local market house is based on policy within the Joint LDP that was adopted in 2017, it is highly unlikely that a Local Planning Authority would be willing to amend or remove a section 106 condition/agreement relating to restricting a house to a local market house.

**Action:**

No action currently required. Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered as part of the preparation of the new Plan.

**Indicator: D54**

Target achieved during AMR1, no need to continue to monitor.

**Local Housing Market Assessment**

**Indicator: D55**

Target has been met during AMB2, no need to continue to monitor.

**Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation**

ARC 4 were commissioned to help with undertaking a Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Needs Assessment in 2022 (GTAA), the final report was presented in February 2023.

The GTAA identified the following residential need within Gwynedd:

Local Authority	Unmet Need (5 years) to 2025	Unmet need (plan period) to 2036 which includes 2025 target
Gwynedd	7	11

For transit requirements, it was concluded that there wasn't any need for an additional site in Gwynedd since there is currently a site in Caernarfon.

Since a new Local Development Plan will not be adopted until after 2025 any identified need by 2025 will have to be delivered through the Joint Local Development Plan Policy TAI 19 'New Permanent or Transit Pitches or Temporary Stopping Places for Gypsy and Travellers'.

The Welsh Government has approved the GTAA, but up to the end of March 2025 the Council has yet to agree/adopt it. The Council is working to accommodate the additional need and continues to be in discussions with landowners in the search for a suitable site.

A residential need of 7 pitches by 2025 is identified within the GTAA. Since the new Local Development Plan will not be adopted until post 2025 this need will have to be delivered through Policy TAI 19 of the Joint Local Development Plan.


**Indicator: D56**


No need to report on the indicator as it specifically applies to the Isle of Anglesey Local Planning Authority Area.







**Indicator: D57**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO15	To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.
	SO16	<p>To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population:</p> <p><b>Key outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there will be a consistent minimum 5 year supply of land for housing;</li> <li>• housing growth will be distributed across the Plan area in accordance with the spatial distribution;</li> <li>• the supply of affordable housing units will have increased;</li> <li>• the demand for sites for Gypsies and Travellers will have been addressed.</li> </ul>







<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>		PS1
		<b>Outcome:</b>		<b>Trigger level:</b>
D57 The number of additional Gypsy pitches provided on an extension to the existing residential Gypsy site, adjacent to the Llandygai Industrial Estate, Bangor	Provide 5 additional pitches on an extension to the existing residential Gypsy site adjacent to the Llandygai Industrial Estate, Bangor by the end of 2017/ 2018	AMR 1	—	Failure to provide additional 5 pitches on an extension to the existing residential Gypsy site adjacent to the Llandygai Industrial Estate, Bangor by end of 2017/ 2018
		AMR 2	—	
		AMR 3	—	
		AMR 4	—	
	Provide a cumulative total of	AMR 5	—	Failure to provide a cumulative total of 10 additional pitches on an extension to the existing
		AMR 6	—	

	10 additional pitches on an extension to the existing residential Gypsy site adjacent to the Llandygai Industrial Estate, Bangor by the end of 2026	<u>AMR 7</u>		residential Gypsy site adjacent to the Llandygai Industrial Estate, Bangor by the end of 2026
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>An additional 5 pitches have been provided with a total of 12 permanent pitches now available to Gypsies all of which were occupied in March 2024.</p> <p>The GTAA 2022 report identifies a residential need of 7 pitches by 2025 with a further 4 by 2036. The provision of 5 additional pitches as well as upgrading the existing pitches at the Gypsy site in Llandygai industrial estate means there is no additional land available to further expand this site. Since a new Local Development Plan will not be adopted until post 2025 the 7 pitches needed by 2025 will have to be delivered through Policy TAI 19 of the Joint Local Development Plan.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Consideration will be given to this as part of the new Plans.				

<b>Indicator: D58</b>				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO15	To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.		
	SO16	<p>To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population:</p> <p><b>Key outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there will be a consistent minimum 5 year supply of land for housing;</li> <li>housing growth will be distributed across the Plan area in accordance with the spatial distribution;</li> <li>the supply of affordable housing units will have increased;</li> <li>the demand for sites for Gypsies and Travellers will have been addressed.</li> </ul>		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>	PS1	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger level:</b>	
D58 The need for additional pitches	Provide number and type of pitches to	<u>AMR 1</u>		Failure to provide number and type of additional








identified in a Gypsy Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTANA)	address need identified in the GTANA by the end of 2026	AMR 2		pitches to address need identified in the GTANA by the end of 2026
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>The Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation Needs Assessment 2022 identified the need for transit sites, one in the Caernarfon area of Gwynedd.</p> <p>In order to meet the need for a temporary site in the Caernarfon area, the Council has agreed to use the farthest section of the Shell car park in Caernarfon when there is demand, and that appropriate facilities be provided for the Gypsies / Travellers.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Consideration will be given to this in the new Plans.				

<b>Indicator: D59</b>				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO15	To ensure that a sufficient and appropriate range of housing sites are available in sustainable locations in accordance with the settlement hierarchy to support economic growth.		
	SO16	<p>To provide a mixture of good quality and affordable housing units, of a range of types and tenures to meet the housing requirements of all sections of the population:</p> <p><b>Key outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there will be a consistent minimum 5 year supply of land for housing;</li> <li>• housing growth will be distributed across the Plan area in accordance with the spatial distribution;</li> <li>• the supply of affordable housing units will have increased;</li> <li>• the demand for sites for Gypsies and Travellers will have been addressed.</li> </ul>		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant policy:</b>	PS1	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	Trigger level	
		AMR 1		

D59 The number of unauthorised Gypsy & Traveller encampments reported annually and length of stay	Monitor changes in need for pitches and compare with supply of pitches in the inter GTANA period.	AMR 2		The number of encampments and length of stay suggests a need for additional supply of pitches.
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
There was no unauthorised encampment during this year in Gwynedd.				
From reviewing the situation, nothing is causing concern at present.				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR to see whether similar patterns emerge in future. This will be considered as part of the preparation of the new Plans.				








## 6.5 Natural and Built Environment

### Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

Indicator: D60				
Objective:	SO17	Protect, enhance and manage the natural and heritage assets of the Plan area, including its natural resources, wildlife habitats, and its landscape character and historic environment		
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy		PS19, AMG1, AMG2, AMG3, AMG4, AMG5, AMG6, PS20, AT1, AT3, AT4
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D60 - Number of planning applications permitted on locally important biodiversity and geodiversity sites	Biodiversity or geodiversity value of locally important sites maintained or enhanced in accordance with Policy AMG 5 and Policy AMG 6	AMR 1		One application permitted contrary to Policy AMG 5 or Policy AMG 6
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		
Analysis:				
After an examination of the planning applications determined it does not appear that a planning permission has been approved, contrary to policy AMG 5 and AMG 6 during the monitoring period.				
It appears that the policies are implemented effectively.				
Action:				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

Indicator: D61				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO17	Protect, enhance and manage the natural and heritage assets of the Plan area, including its natural resources, wildlife habitats, and its landscape character and historic environment		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant Policy</b>	PS19, AMG1, AMG2, AMG3, AMG4, AMG5,	



			AMG6, PS20, AT1, AT3, AT4	
		Outcome:	Trigger Level:	
D61 - Number of planning applications permitted on nationally or internationally designated sites or on sites that affect the biodiversity or geodiversity value of the designated sites	No planning applications permitted that are harmful to the biodiversity or geodiversity value of nationally or internationally designated sites	AMR 1		One planning application permitted contrary to Policy PS 19
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		AMR 7		
Analysis:				
The total of approved planning applications that were entirely/partially within nationally or internationally designated sites of biodiversity or geodiversity value (i.e. Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Ramsar, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves) was 2; these were as follows:				
1. C24/0541/05/LL - Cais Cynllunio ôl-weithredol ar gyfer gosod gabions Retrospective Planning Application for the installation of Gabions - Bwlch Bryn Caravan Park, Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd, LL48 6RY				

2. C24/0307/18/LL - Repair of the external fabric of the buildings, restoring the collapsing roof of the utility unit - Creation of spaces for a dive centre to use as teaching, changing and rest rooms. Provision of storage and drying areas. Removal of the current portacabin, which will be removed following the works. These will be within the existing utility unit and within a pod sat within the storage barn. - Provision of shelter / protection and possible display of the existing salvaged machinery within the blast shelter. - Relevant interpretation, services and ecological enhancement works - Parc Gwledig Padarn, Llanberis, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 4TY

It was not considered that any planning permission granted disturbed an international/national biodiversity or geodiversity value of these designations. Consequently, it is considered that all permissions complied with policy PS 19, and that the policy are continuing to be implemented effectively.








**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

**Indicator: D62**

<b>Objective:</b>	SO17	Protect, enhance and manage the natural and heritage assets of the Plan area, including its natural resources, wildlife habitats, and its landscape character and historic environment
-------------------	------	--

<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant Policy</b>	PS19, AMG1, AMG2, AMG3, AMG4, AMG5, AMG6, PS20, AT1, AT3, AT4
-------------------	----------------	------------------------	---







		Outcome:		Trigger Level:
D62 Number of planning applications permitted for major development in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).	No planning applications permitted for major development, which are harmful to an AONB's natural beauty.	AMB 1		One planning application permitted contrary to Policy PS 19 and Policy AMG 1
		AMB 2		
		AMB 3		
		AMB 4		
		AMB 5		
		AMB 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		


**Analysis:**








No planning application was permitted for a 'major development' within the AONBs during the monitoring period.

<b>Action:</b>	
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.	

## Preserving and Enhancing Heritage Assets

Indicator: D63				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO17	Protect, enhance and manage the natural and heritage assets of the Plan area, including its natural resources, wildlife habitats, and its landscape character and historic environment		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Relevant Policy</b>	PS19, AMG1, AMG2, AMG3, AMG4, AMG5, AMG6, PS20, AT1, AT3, AT4	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger Level:</b>	
D63 – Number of Planning applications permitted in Conservation Areas and World Heritage Sites or sites that affect their historic or cultural values	No Planning application permitted that are harmful to the character and appearance of a Conservation Area or the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage Sites	AMR 1		One Planning application permitted contrary to Policy PS 20 or Policy AT1
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		

		<b>AMR 7</b>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>No planning application (nonsignificant) was approved within the Castles and Town Walls of King Edward' WHS, 43 within the 'Slate Landscapes of Northwest Wales' WHS, and a total of 61 planning applications (full/outline) within the Plan's Conservation Area. These include installation of heat pumps, solar panels, change of uses, new dwelling/apartment houses, conversion of buildings, new front windows, and extensions.</p> <p>It is considered that these permissions comply with Policies PS 20 and AT 1 and that these policies are continuing to be implemented effectively.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

Indicator: D64					
Objective:	SO17	Protect, enhance and manage the natural and heritage assets of the Plan area, including its natural resources, wildlife habitats, and its landscape character and historic environment			
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant Policy		PS19, AMG1, AMG2, AMG3, AMG4, AMG5, AMG6, PS20, AT1, AT3, AT4	
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:	
D64 – Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance relating to Heritage Assets	Prepare and adopt a Supplementary Planning Guidance in relation to Heritage Assets within 18 months of the Plan’s adoption	AMB 1		Not adopting a Supplementary Planning Guidance within 18 months of the Plan’s adoption	
		AMB 2			
		AMB 3			
		AMB 4			
		AMB 5			
		AMB 6			
		AMR 7			
Analysis:					

Initial work relating to preparing the SPG has been undertaken. However, with the release of TAN 24 (Historic Environment) and several CADW guidance publications, it is considered that there is no longer a need for a specific SPG on this matter. In addition, it is noted that the adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance: The North West Wales Slate Landscape World Heritage Site outlines how Gwynedd Council and its partners would manage the Site in the future, by protecting our heritage and by ensuring high quality and appropriate development.








**Action:**

Consideration will be given to the need to prepare an SPG as part of the preparation of the new Plan.

## Waste Management

### Indicator: D65

<b>Objective:</b>	SO18	Encourage waste management based in the hierarchy of reduce, re-use, recovery and safe disposal.
-------------------	------	--








Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		GWA 1
		Outcome:		Trigger level:
D65 – The amount of land and facilities to cater for waste in the Plan area	Maintain sufficient land and facilities to cater for the Plan area’s waste (to be confirmed at a regional level in accordance with TAN 21 waste monitoring arrangements)	AMR 1		Triggers to be established at a regional level in accordance with TAN21
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		

### Analysis:



Based on the North Wales Waste Monitoring Report for 2020 there is no need to provide additional non-hazardous or inert waste landfill within the North Wales region, and careful consideration should be given to the possibility of an over-provision in dealing with proposals to develop further residual waste treatment in the region.

In accordance with the requirements of TAN 21, Waste Monitoring Reports must be undertaken in order to identify whether sufficient regional landfill and waste treatment capacity is maintained; whether the spatial provision is sufficient to meet this need; and whether local planning authorities need to undertake necessary steps to meet any unforeseen issue, and to enable Welsh Government and local planning authorities to provide a strategic overview of trends in the waste sector to inform the LDP and provide guidance when dealing with waste planning applications.

<b>Action:</b>	
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.	



Indicator: D66					
Objective:	SO18	Encourage waste management based in the hierarchy of reduce, re-use, recovery and safe disposal.			
Indicator:	Target:	Relevant policy:		GWA 1	
		Outcome:		Trigger level:	
D66 – Number of planning applications for waste management facilities on employment sites identified in Policy GWA 1 and Policy CYF 1.	Increase in number of waste management facilities provided on employment sites identified in Policy GWA 1 and Policy CYF 1, compared to number provided on employment sites in 2016/2017.	AMR 1		No planning applications for waste management facilities on employment sites identified in Policy GWA 1 and Policy CYF 1.	
		AMR 2			
		AMR 3			
		AMR 4			
		AMR 5			
		AMR 6			
		<u>AMR 7</u>			
Analysis:					
1 new application for waste facilities during this AMR period.					
It is considered that Policies CYF 1 and GWA 1 are implemented efficiently. The Councils will continue to monitor the indicator.					
Action:					
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. Full consideration will be given to this during preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.					








## Minerals

Indicator: D67					
Objective:	SO19	Meet the needs of minerals locally and regionally in a sustainable manner.			
Indicator:	Target	Relevant Policy:		PS 22, MWYN 6	
		Outcome:		Trigger Level:	
D67 – The extent of primary land-won aggregates permitted in	Maintain a minimum 10 year land supply of crushed rock	AMB 1		Less than a 12 year land supply of crushed rock aggregate reserves in the Plan area in any one year	
		AMB 2			

accordance with the Regional Technical Statement for Aggregates expressed as a percentage of the total capacity required as identified in the Regional Technical Statement (MTAN)	aggregate reserves throughout the Plan period in the Plan area in line with Policy PS22	AMB 3		
		AMB 4		
		AMB 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>At the end of 2016, there was a residual 42.94 million tonnes of permitted crushed rock aggregate reserves, which is far above the threshold level (Source: North Wales Regional Aggregates Working Group Annual Monitoring Report (2016)). The information is based on the distribution outlined in the Second Review of the Regional Technical Statement (RTS) that is undertaken every five years.</p> <p>Each review of the Regional Technical Statement provides a mechanism to encourage the national sustainability objectives that every individual Local Authority in the region need to fulfil over a 25 year period for crushed rock (which is sufficient to fulfil the requirements of MTAN1 of achieving a 10 year land bank) during the 15 year period of the Joint LDP. The preferred areas for crushed rock in Policy MWYN 2 of the JLDP exceeds the minimum allocation needed to meet the required provision identified in the Second Regional Technical Statement.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered during the plan preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

Indicator: D68				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO19	Meet the needs of minerals locally and regionally in a sustainable manner.		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Relevant Policy:</b>	PS 22, MWYN 6	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger Level:</b>	
D68 – Sand and gravel land supply in the Plan area.	Maintain a minimum 7 year land supply of sand and gravel throughout the Plan period in the Plan area in line with Policy PS22.	AMR 1		One Planning application permitted contrary to Policy MWYN 6
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		

		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		
<b>Analysis:</b>				
<p>North Wales had approximately 15.70 million metric tonnes of residual sand and gravel at the end of 2016 (the Plan area's contribution towards this total was 1.175 million). Using the average sales of over 10 years, as recommended by Welsh Government in their CL-04-14 policy explanation letter, this is equivalent to a land bank of 21.8 years.</p> <p>The information is based on the distribution outlined in the Second Review of the Regional Technical Statement (RTS) that is undertaken every five years. Each review of the Regional Technical Statement provides a mechanism in order to encourage the national sustainability objectives that every individual Local Authority in the region need to fulfil over a 22 year period for sand and gravel (which is sufficient to fulfil the requirements of NCTM1 of achieving a 7 year land bank) during the 15 year period of the Joint LDP. Whilst the landbank of sand and gravel for the Plan area is below the 7 year threshold, the preferred areas identified in Policy MWYN 2 of the JLDP exceeds the minimum allocation needed to meet the required provision in the Regional Technical Statement.</p>				
<b>Action:</b>				
Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered during the plan preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.				

<b>Indicator: D69</b>				
<b>Objective:</b>	SO19	Meet the needs of minerals locally and regionally in a sustainable manner.		
<b>Indicator:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Relevant Policy:</b>	PS 22, MWYN 6	
		<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>Trigger Level:</b>	
D69 – Number of Planning applications permitted within a mineral buffer zone	No development permitted within a mineral buffer zone that would lead to the sterilisation of the mineral Resource, unless it is in accordance with Policy MWYN 6	AMR 1		One Planning application permitted contrary to Policy MWYN 6
		AMR 2		
		AMR 3		
		AMR 4		
		AMR 5		
		AMR 6		
		<u>AMR 7</u>		



**Analysis:**

13 planning permissions were granted on sites within a mineral buffer zone. The type of permission varies from being householder development, tourism establishments, agricultural developments, energy developments and application relating to the mineral site.

No planning permission was granted within a mineral buffer zone that is contrary to Policy MWYN 5. Consequently, it is considered that Policy MWYN 5 is implemented efficiently. The Councils will continue to monitor the indicator.

**Action:**

Continue to monitor as part of the next AMR. This will be considered during the plan preparation of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan.

## CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 As with the previous AMRs, AMR7 will provide evidence on the indicators for comparison in future years to enable the Council to identify any trends. AMR7 along with the previous AMRs will also provide important evidence for the preparation of the new Local Development Plan.
- 4.2 It is considered that on the whole good progress is being made in delivering the targets outlined in the monitoring framework. Where targets have not been met this is largely due to factors outside of the control of the JLDP. As has been noted above these factors will need to be considered by the when preparing a new LDP. While there are issues where further work is needed and the policies need to be revisited, the statutory steps of preparing new Plans must be followed with the preparation of a sound evidence base to support any changes to policy or new policies.
- 4.3 The number of houses completed in the Plan area since the Plan's start date (2011) is lower than the expected figure. There are a number of reasons for this including, economic growth has not been at the expected scale, large scale infrastructure projects have not progressed, consequences of the Pandemic or that demand for housing in some areas of the Plan has not been at the expected rate.
- 4.4 Permission was granted for 75 affordable housing units during 2024-25. In addition, 617 affordable housing units have been completed during the 2017-25 period. 140 affordable housing units have been completed during 2023-24 which is a significant increase on the previous year for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area. These figures do not include housing that is affordable due to their location and size, as would be the case in certain areas within the Plan area and therefore the provision of housing that is affordable is likely to be higher than this figure. Of the units given permission and completed since the Plan's adoption the percentage of affordable housing is approximately 52%. This means that new permissions under the Plan thus far, have delivered a high percentage of affordable housing, ensuring that local needs are being addressed and this assists to maintain the language within the Plan's area.
- 4.5 On the whole the indicators contained within the monitoring framework are performing in accordance with expectations under the circumstances. Where policy targets are not being achieved this overall is due to factors which are outside of the control of the JLDP. Where other policy targets are not being achieved there are currently no concerns regarding policy implementation. These matters will be considered whilst the Council prepares the evidence base for its new Local Development Plan. Despite the contextual changes, it is considered that the JLDP policies are still relevant and provide a sound planning framework for determining applications across the plan area. The following points highlights how the plan is still delivering for the area:
  - No policies have been identified as failing to deliver the objectives of the plan. However, it is noted that 13 indicators indicate that the policy is not being implemented as effectively as was expected. Most of these indicators relate to failing to reach expected growth targets e.g. employment land, renewable energy and housing growth level. As detailed in the AMR, these failures are due to factors outside of the control of the LDP.

- 4 applications were refused partly due to language issues and 24 applications were granted permission with a planning condition for language mitigation measures.
- Some developments reported on are decisions which were made before the adoption of the JLDP.
- On the whole appeal decisions since the adoption of the JLDP have supported the policies and strategy of the Plan. Approved appeal decisions do not undermine the policies of the JLDP. However, recent decisions have highlighted matters which will require careful consideration when preparing policies for the new Local Development Plan.
- Permission has been granted for 173 new residential units (including applications to reconsider or extend the expiry date of current permissions) during 2024/25. 75 units (43.4%) were for affordable housing.
- 140 affordable housing units have been completed in 2024-25.
- The housing land bank (sites with extant permission) in 2025 in Gwynedd excluding units the JLDP has noted are unlikely to be developed during the Plan period stood at 811 units (489 not started and 322 under construction) of which 299 are affordable units (187 units not started and 112 units under construction).
- It is noted that 2687 units have been completed in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area between the base date (2011) and 2024/25, whilst the Plan's trajectory (conveyed for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area) notes a figure of 3487 units. This is therefore 22.9% (800 units) lower than the figure in the trajectory. Part of this shortfall is due to the delay in the implementation of major infrastructure projects in the plan area. A revised trajectory has been prepared for the remainder of the Plan period for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only based on information up to the end of the AMR 7 period.
- No planning applications or appeal decisions to modify or remove S106 agreements or conditions for local market housing have been approved or permitted (during this AMR period nor since adopting the Plan).
- Proposals for new employment development on safeguarded sites have been supported by the policies within the JLDP.
- Overall, the indicators contained within the monitoring framework are performing in accordance with expectations, where they are not being achieved there is no concerns regarding policy implementation.

4.6 The JLDP will continue to be monitored in line with the monitoring framework as set out in Chapter 7 of the JLDP. Full consideration will be given to the conclusions of the Annual Monitoring Reports in preparing the evidence base that will support the policies of the new Local Development Plan.

## **Appendix 1 – Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring**

### **1. SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL MONITORING**

- 1.1 The JLDP was subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA) including Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as an iterative process through the plan preparation process. The SA incorporated the SEA requirements in accordance with EU Directive 2001/42/EC. The purpose of the SA was to appraise the likely social, environmental, and economic effects of the Plan, to ensure they were consistent with the principles of sustainable development. The SA of the JLDP identified 11 objectives and 29 indicators which are intended to measure the social, economic, and environmental impact of the Plan.
- 1.2 It should be noted that the monitoring programme contained within the Sustainability Appraisal Report was preliminary and only identified potential indicators. The monitoring process has found that there is opportunity to improve the SA monitoring to ensure that appropriate data is collected. Whilst none of the indicators are deleted, it should be noted that the analysis makes it clear where information is unavailable and/or not applicable. In some instances, information is no longer available (or relevant); in other instances, the data available is of insufficient detail to enable useful monitoring.
- 1.3 There are several SA indicators where information is not published annually, for example those based on the census. The implications of the Covid pandemic have also meant that some information has not been available. The purpose of the monitoring framework is to review changes on an annual basis, consequently these are not necessarily going to be useful moving forward in terms of future monitoring. They have however been retained to provide a baseline; further work will be undertaken in time for the next AMR to determine whether alternative sources of information are available.
- 1.4 It should be noted that the traffic light rating system used for the LDP Monitoring Indicators has not been taken forward for use with the SA Monitoring. Many of the SA objectives are aspirational in nature and to some extent would be information monitored in an ideal world scenario. In addition, the LDP alone would not be the only factor that would need to be considered in achieving their aims. The SA Monitoring does not include targets as such, unlike the LDP monitoring, it would therefore prove difficult to interpret the commentary into a traffic light rating.
- 1.5 As this is the fifth Annual Monitoring Report, the focus of the analysis will be to assess the changes that have happened with respect to each SA indicator since the fourth AMR of the JLDP. The data collected includes a mix of qualitative and quantitative data with a commentary under each SA objective to describe progress. Each SA Objective is assessed against the relevant monitoring indicators, with the findings set out in the sections below. The following colour coding has been used to give an overall summary of the findings for each indicator:

Colour	Indication
✓	Positive Impacts
+/-	Mixed Impacts
X	Negative Impacts
0	Neutral / Data Unavailable

### Summary of SA Monitoring

1.6 Table 1 sets out the summary assessment of the results of the Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring. summary analysis of these results is provided in paragraph 1.7

Table 1: Sustainable Appraisal Monitoring - Summary		
Objectives		Result
1	Maintain and enhance biodiversity interests and connectivity	✓
2	Promote community viability, cohesion, health and well being	0
3	Manage and reduce the impacts of climate change by promoting and supporting mitigation and adaptation measures	✓
4	Conserve, promote and enhance the Welsh language	X
5	Conserve, promote and enhance cultural resources and historic heritage assets	✓
6	Support economic growth and facilitate a vibrant, diversified economy providing local employment opportunities	✓
7	Provide good quality housing, including affordable housing that meets local needs	✓
8	Value, conserve and enhance the plan area's rural landscapes and urban townscapes	✓
9	Use land and mineral assets efficiently and promote mechanisms for waste minimisation, re-use, and recycling	✓
10	Promote and enhance good transport links to support the community and the economy	✓
11	Safeguard water quality, manage water resources sustainability and minimise flood risk	✓

## Summary of Results

- 1.7 The results of the Sustainability Appraisal monitoring indicate that out of the 11 Sustainability Objectives, overall positive effects were identified for 9 objectives, neutral effects for 1 objective and 1 objective identified as having a negative effect. The table shows that for most of the sustainability objectives identified, progress is being made, on balance, against the range of monitoring indicators for the particular objective. The following tables include a detailed analysis of the performance of all the indicators:

SA Objective 1: Biodiversity				
SA Indicator	Target	Baseline /Previous Data	Recent Data	Performance
1) Loss of biodiversity through development measured by loss or impact to international sites (e.g. SSSI) and local sites in JLDP area.	Decrease	2024/2025	See explanation below	✓
2) Net loss of biodiversity in LDP area caused by development	Decrease	-	See explanation below	0
3) % of features (various types) in favourable condition, including both land and marine based	Increase	2019/2020	See explanation below	0
4) Achievement of BAP objectives and targets	Increase	-	See explanation below	0

5) Trends and status of NERC 2006, Section 42 species/habitats	Improvement	-	See explanation below	0
6) Number and area of SINCs and LNR within the plan	Maintain/Increase	2019/2020	See explanation below	✓
<b>Explanation / Analysis</b>				
<p>1) The total of 5 approved planning applications that were entirely/partially within nationally or internationally designated sites of biodiversity or geodiversity value (i.e. Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Ramsar, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves). These were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C24/0179/04/TR – Rebuild existing 11kv single overhead power line. NRW suggested standard conditions to mitigate potential impacts on the River Dee and Bala Lake SAC and the River Dee SSSI.</li> <li>• C24/0904/39/LL – Erection of an agricultural building on an existing farm yard. NRW had concerns that the development may impact on the Mynydd Cilian, Trwyn y Wylfa ac Ynysoedd Sant SPA and the Porth Ceiriad, Porth Neigel ac Ynysoedd Sant Tudwal SSSI but considered that it would not have an adverse effect if the development was completed in line with the Water Resources (Control of Agriculture Pollution) (Wales) Regulations.</li> <li>• C24/0830/18/LL – Tree works. NRW suggested standard conditions to mitigate potential impacts on the Coedydd Afon Menai SSSI.</li> <li>• C24/0307/05/LL – Conversion for building for economic/tourism use. NRW stated that they had no objection as they considered that the proposed development would not likely impact on the Coed Dinorwig SSSI and the Llyn Padarn SSSI.</li> <li>• C24/0541/0/LL – Retrospective application for the installation of gabions. NRW stated that they had no objection as they considered that the proposed development would not likely impact on the Ysbyty Brn y Garth SSSI.</li> </ul> <p>2) While this is not currently monitored by the Authority due to limited resources, policies within the LDP ensure that biodiversity is protected.</p> <p>3) No updated data since the previous AMR. The information only available for SACs and SPAs and the results are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SACs - 40% (8 of 20 SACs located or partially located within the LDP area) are of all features of 'favourable' condition;</li> <li>• SPAs - 89% (8 of 9 SAPs located or partially located within the LDP area) are of all features of 'favourable' condition.</li> </ul> <p>4) No information currently available as this is not monitored by the Authority due to limited resources.</p>				

- 5) No information currently available as this is not monitored by the Authority due to limited resources.
- 6) No change since the previous AMR:
  - 392 (7115HA) confirmed Wildlife Sites (SINCs)
  - 13 (3137HA) LNRs

SA Objective 2: Community & Health				
SA Indicator	Target	Baseline /Previous Data	Recent Data	Performance
1) % of total population with access to key services	Increase	-	Data not available	0
2) Lifestyle related health measures (e.g. Overweight/obese)	Improvement	-	Data not available	0
Explanation / Analysis				
1) Data for this indicator is not currently available on a Local Authority level. Continue to monitor the indicator in future AMRs.				
2) Data for this indicator is not currently available on a Local Authority level. Continue to monitor the indicator in future AMRs.				

SA Objective 3: Climate Change				
SA Indicator	Target	Baseline /Previous Data	Recent Data	Performance
% change in carbon dioxide emissions from industry / commercial, domestic, road transport, land use change and forestry sectors.	Decrease	2018/19	See explanation below	✓
Explanation / Analysis				



There has been no update in statistics since the previous AMR.

The following tables highlights CO2 emission estimates (KtCO2) in all 5 sectors in Gwynedd since 2018:

#### Gwynedd

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Industry</b>	49.6	46.9	44.4	50.2	49.5	44.5
<b>Commercial</b>	59.6	49.3	40.2	48.2	46.7	41.0
<b>Domestic</b>	198.1	189.5	183.3	184.1	151.8	147.8
<b>Transport</b>	277.1	269.9	212.4	227.2	230.0	232.6
<b>Forestry and Land Use Change</b>	-142.6	-145.7	-150.1	-152.4	-153.7	-154.1

*(Source: Department for Energy Security and Net Zero)*

- As can be seen from the table above, there has been a decrease in carbon emissions in all the sectors since 2018.

#### SA Objective 4: Welsh Language

SA Indicator	Target	Baseline /Previous Data	Recent Data	Performance
Number/ % Welsh Language speakers	Increase	Year ending 31 December 2021	Census 2021	X

#### Explanation / Analysis

Policy PS 1: The Welsh Language and Culture, promotes and supports the use of the language. The aim of Policies PS 1, PS 5 and PS 6 is to integrate 'sustainable development' into the development process, to maintain and create distinctive and sustainable communities.

An 'Annual Report of the population' who say they speak Welsh by the ONS is published quarterly, the basis of this is data from a survey. The latest figures are December 2024 which states that there are 891,800 Welsh speakers in Wales. For Gwynedd it states that there are 92,500 able to speak Welsh, which is 76% of the County's population.

However, as a result of figures in the 2021 Census (538,300 Welsh Speakers in Wales, and 73,560 or 64.4% in Gwynedd) and the difference between these and figures in the Annual Report the Welsh Government has commission work to establish why there is a difference between the figures.

The Chief Statistician's blog (25 April 2023) states that "... it has always been clear that we regard the census as the authoritative source of information on the number of Welsh speakers in Wales...". He further states

that "... There are several other data sources available that provide some information about the Welsh language that we can use to monitor trends in the period between censuses. These sources have their own strengths and limitations when it comes to statistics on the Welsh language...".

The Annual Population Survey is based on a Labour Force Survey. Although household surveys usually give us higher estimates of ability to speak Welsh, they have generally moved in a similar direction to the census estimates. However, with the results of the 2021 Census, this is the first time that the census estimates that the number of Welsh speakers has decreased and the household surveys estimate that the numbers have increased.

Due to the range of data sources available, it is not easy for users of statistics about ability in Welsh to reconcile the different estimates, especially as some estimates show an increase in the number of Welsh speakers and others show that the numbers are decreasing. This can make it challenging to know how to use these statistics to inform Welsh language public policy.

Within the Report 'Differences between estimates of ability in Welsh in the 2021 Census and household surveys' the main points were:

- Of the people who said they could speak Welsh in the Labour Force Survey or Census 2021, the following groups tended to agree across the two sources most often: people aged 65 or over; people living in North West Wales; people born in Wales; and people with Welsh national identity.
- Of the people who say they can speak Welsh in the Labour Force Survey or Census 2021, the following groups tended to disagree across the two sources most frequently: people younger than 25; people living in the South East and North East; people born elsewhere in the UK; and people without a Welsh national identity.
- Of the people who agreed that they could speak Welsh on both sources, over two-thirds (68.6%) indicated that they spoke Welsh on a daily basis. Of the people who said they could speak Welsh in the Labour Force Survey but not in the 2021 Census, only around a quarter (24.8%) said they spoke Welsh on a daily basis.
- A smaller proportion of couple households agree on their ability to speak Welsh between the two sources where neither or only one adult can speak Welsh compared to couple households which have two or more adults who can speak Welsh.

**Therefore, on the basis of all this, it is not believed that any weight should be given to the increase in the number of Welsh speakers seen in Gwynedd within the 'Annual Population Report' December 2024.**

AMR 5 highlighted the changes within the different neighbourhoods of the Lower Super Output Area (LSOA) identifying that there are a number of factors affecting the changes between 2011 and 2021 in the percentage and number of Welsh speakers in them.

Some areas have seen an increase in the percentage of speakers with fairly large residential developments, others have seen an increase in the number but a decrease in the percentage.

Some areas have seen an increase in the percentage although there is a decrease in the number of Welsh speakers, this is on account of a higher decline in the number of non-Welsh speakers. For some neighbourhoods this may be based on a loss of units from housing stock to use as second homes / holiday accommodation.

In many of the neighbourhoods that have seen the greatest reduction in the percentage of Welsh speakers there has been very little new housing growth through the Joint Local Development Plan.

A large element of the changes affecting the Plan area comes out of changes to the existing housing stock.

For more detail relating to the Welsh language please refer to the Welsh language indicators in Chapter 3.

SA Objective 5: Heritage / Culture				
SA Indicator	Target	Baseline/Previous Data	Recent Data	Performance
Number of historic assets at risk / change in number at risk	Decrease	2024/2025	See explanation below	✓
Explanation / Analysis				
Data relating to the number of historic assets at risk / change in number at risk is currently not available on a Local Authority level. No planning permission was granted for applications that were contrary to policies PS 20 and AT 1 during the monitoring period. 48 planning applications were approved within the Slate Landscape of North Wales World Heritage Site and 1 application was approved within the Caernarfon Castle and Walls World Heritage Site. A total of 68 planning applications were approved within the Plan's Conservation Areas compared to 96 in the last AMR period. These include the conversions of buildings, annexes, changes of use, alterations & extensions and tree works. It is considered that these permissions comply with Policies PS 20 and AT 1 and that these policies are continuing to be implemented effectively.				

SA Objective 6 Economy and Employment				
SA Indicator	Target	Baseline/Previous Data	Recent Data	Performance
1) Economic activity by sector	Increase	2023/2024	See explanation below	✓
2) Employment status of residents 16 years +	Increase	2024/2025	See explanation below	✓

3) Number of people commuting into and out of authority areas	Decrease	2023/2024	See explanation below	+/-

#### Explanation / Analysis

1 & 2) Statistics show that there has been a increase in economic activity and employment rate in the Gwynedd Local Authority areas between March 2024 and September 2024 as can be seen in the table below.

#### Local Workforce Survey: A Summary of Economic Activity (16-64)

	Year ending Mar 2021	Year ending Mar 2022	Year ending Mar 2023	Year ending Mar 2024	Year ending Sept 2024
Ynys Môn	78.8%	74.1%	79.6%	Not Monitoring	Not Monitoring
Gwynedd	77.9%	75.9%	77.7%	73.7	76.7% (+3%)
Wales	76.6%	75.6%	75.5%	76.2	75.1% (-1.1%)

Origin: Stats Cymru - Economic Activity Rate (16-64) according to Local Area and Year in Wales

- 3) Statistics show that there has been an increase in the number of people commuting out of Gwynedd and Anglesey in 2024. Whilst there has been an increase in the number of people commuting into Gwynedd the number of people commuting into Anglesey has remained constant since 2022 as can be seen in the tables below. Continue to monitor the indicator.

#### Commuting Patterns by Welsh Local Authority

Year	Anglesey	Gwynedd	Wales
Number of people commuting out of the area 2018	10,200	8,600	95,400
Number of people commuting out of the area 2019	10,500	8,700	98,500
Number of people commuting out of the area 2020	9,800	8,000	100,300

<b>Number of people commuting out of the area 2021</b>	7,800	5,700	92,100
<b>Number of people commuting out of the area 2022</b>	6,900	7,100	78,500
<b>Number of people commuting out of the area 2023</b>	8,400	6,800	81,800
<b>Number of people commuting out of the area 2024</b>	8,300	7,300	92,600

*Source: Stats Wales*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Anglesey</b>	<b>Gwynedd</b>	<b>Wales</b>
<b>Number of people commuting into the area 2018</b>	4,200	12,500	47,000
<b>Number of people commuting into the area 2019</b>	4,500	12,200	42,700
<b>Number of people commuting into the area 2020</b>	4,300	13,300	48,400
<b>Number of people commuting into the area 2021</b>	1,900	10,100	34,900
<b>Number of people commuting into the area 2022</b>	3,000	7,300	32,500
<b>Number of people commuting into the area 2023</b>	3,000	8,900	31,600

<b>Number of people commuting into the area 2024</b>	3,000	11,200	37,400
--	-------	--------	--------

*Source: StatsWales*

SA Objective 7: Housing				
SA Indicator	Target	Baseline/Previous Data	Recent Data	Performance
Number of new affordable housing units provided / year as percentage of all new units.	Increase	2024/25	See explanation below	✓
Explanation / Analysis				
The table below compares the percentage of affordable housing completions since the plan's adoption (Gwynedd Planning Authority area only):				
Year	Affordable housing units completed	Total housing units completed	Affordable units as a percentage of total housing completions	
2017-18	31	208	14.9%	
2018-19	118	281	42.0%	
2019-20*	102	245	41.6%	
2020-21*	36	135	26.7%	
2021-22	74	169	43.8%	
2022-23	58	107	54.2%	
2023-24	67	137	48.9%	
2024-25	140	212	66.0%	

*\*It is noted that due to visit constraints because of the Coronavirus pandemic, not all sites were visited during this period.*

There has been an increase in the number of affordable housing units completed compared to the previous year and also in terms of the percentage of affordable housing units completed compared to total housing completions. The target for this indicator has therefore been met in relation to both these aspects. Continue to be monitor therefore in future AMR's.

SA Objective 8: Landscape and Townscape				
SA Indicator	Target	Baseline/Previous Data	Recent Data	Performance
1) Proportion of high/very high quality landscapes identified by LANDMAP	Increase	2019-2020	See analysis below	✓
2) Number / proportion of new developments within AONBs	Decrease	2023-2024	See analysis below	✓
3) Number / proportion of new developments within areas classed as outstanding by LANDMAP	Decrease	2023-2024	See analysis below	✓
Explanation / Analysis				
1) No change since the previous AMR. The results for the areas defined under LANDMAP are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual and Sensory - 51% (135 out of 267 areas) of areas were classed as High or Outstanding;</li> <li>• Cultural 98 % (374 out of 382 areas) of areas were classed as High or Outstanding;</li> <li>• Geological - 62% ( 133 out of 213 areas) of areas were classed as High or Outstanding</li> <li>• Historical Landscapes - 81% (319 out of 392 areas) of areas were classed as High or Outstanding;</li> </ul>				

- Landscape Habitats - 47% (592 out of 934 areas) of areas were classed as High or Outstanding.

2) The number of approved planning applications within AONBs are as follows:

- 2018/2019 = 540
- 2019/2020 = 219
- 2020/2021 = 222
- 2021/2022 = 340
- 2022/2023 = 209
- 2023/2024 = 100 (Gwynedd LPA Only)
- 2024/2025 = 96 (Gwynedd LPA Only)

3) The number of approved planning applications within areas classed as outstanding by LANDMAP are as follows:

<b>LANDMAP Category</b>	<b>AMR 1</b>	<b>AMR 2</b>	<b>AMR 3</b>	<b>AMR 4</b>	<b>AMR 5</b>	<b>AMR 6*</b>	<b>AMR 7*</b>
Visual and Sensory	81	26	20	24	31	7	4
Cultural	1587	619	613	861	687	502	523
Geological	724	291	287	374	322	235	255
Historical	1270	532	528	691	493	278	255
Landscape Habitats	70	26	24	36	36	20	19

\*Gwynedd LPA only

The overall number of approved planning applications within areas classed as outstanding by LANDMAP have remained constant since the previous AMR. The above indicators will continue to be monitored in subsequent future AMR's.

<b>SA Objective 9: Land, Minerals, Waste</b>				
<b>SA Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Baseline/Previous Data</b>	<b>Recent Data</b>	<b>Performance</b>
1) % of development on previously developed land	No data	2021/2022	See analysis below	0
2) % municipal wastes sent to landfill	Decrease	2018-2019	See analysis below	✓



3) % municipal wastes reused /recycled	Constant	2025-2024	See analysis below	+/-
<b>Explanation / Analysis</b>				
<p>1) % proportion of development on previously developed land is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gwynedd: 2017-2018 12.82ha (64%);</li> <li>Gwynedd 2018 to current – information is not collated. Unable to report on the indicator.</li> </ul> <p>Due to the lack of availability of information for the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area, it is not possible to fully conclude if the target has been met.</p> <p>2] % Municipal waste to landfill is as follows (<i>Source: StatsWales</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2016-2017 = Gwynedd (31%)</li> <li>2017-2018 = Gwynedd (24.3%)</li> <li>2018-2019 = Gwynedd (18.1%)</li> <li>2019-2020 = Gwynedd (7.6%)</li> <li>2020-2021 = Gwynedd (0.6%)</li> <li>2021-2022 = Gwynedd (1%)</li> <li>2022-2023 = Gwynedd (0.5%)</li> <li>2023-2024 = Gwynedd (0.4%)</li> </ul> <p>The percentage of waste taken to landfill in Gwynedd has decrease significantly since 2018-2019.</p> <p>3] % Municipal waste recycled is as follows (<i>Source: My Recycling Wales</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2016-2017 = Anglesey (66%) Gwynedd (61%)</li> <li>2017-2018 = Anglesey (72%) Gwynedd (60%)</li> <li>2018-2019 = Anglesey (70%) Gwynedd (62%)</li> <li>2019-2020 = Anglesey (68%) Gwynedd (65%)</li> <li>2020-2021 = Anglesey (65.7%) Gwynedd (65.5%)</li> <li>2022-2023 = Anglesey (62.3%) Gwynedd (64.2%)</li> <li>2023 – 2024 = Gwynedd (65%)</li> <li>2024 – 2025 = Gwynedd (64%)</li> </ul>				

Gwynedd has seen a slight decrease in the percentage of municipal waste recycled between 2023/2024 and 2024/2025. Continue to monitor in subsequent AMR's.

### SA Objective 10: Transport and Access

SA Indicator	Target	Baseline/Previous Data	Recent Data	Performance
1) Method of travel to work - % working population who travel by car	Decrease	2011 Census	2021 Census	✓
2) Percentage of new residential developments within 30 minutes public transport time of facilities	Increase	2017/2018/2019	See analysis below	0
3) Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling	Increase	2016/17	See analysis below	0
4) % increase in the cycle network	Increase	Transport Topic Paper (2015)	See analysis below	0
5) Proportion of LPG fuel sources for motor vehicles	Increase	2019 onwards	See analysis below	0

#### Explanation / Analysis

- 1) The tables below compare the situation in Anglesey, Gwynedd and Wales between the 2011 and 2021 Census for the different modes of transport to work (these are based on the working age 16-74 population):

#### Ynys Môn

Method used to travel to workplace (12 categories)	Ynys Môn % (2011 Census)	Ynys Môn % (2021 Census)	Change %
Work mainly at or from home	6.85%	22.51%	15.66%
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	0.07%	0.02%	-0.05%
Train	0.71%	0.41%	-0.30%
Bus, minibus or coach	2.67%	1.59%	-1.08%
Taxi	0.38%	0.32%	-0.06%
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	0.73%	0.39%	-0.34%
Driving a car or van	70.40%	61.35%	-9.05%
Passenger in a car or van	6.10%	4.64%	-1.46%

Bicycle	1.58%	0.96%	-0.62%
On foot	9.54%	6.87%	-2.67%
Other method of travel to work	0.96%	0.74%	-0.22%

#### Gwynedd

Method used to travel to workplace (12 categories)	Gwynedd % (2011 Census)	Gwynedd % (2021 Census)	Change %
Work mainly at or from home	8.41%	23.66%	15.25%
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	0.07%	0.05%	-0.02%
Train	0.71%	0.38%	-0.33%
Bus, minibus or coach	4.53%	2.44%	-2.09%
Taxi	0.23%	0.24%	0.01%
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	0.51%	0.26%	-0.25%
Driving a car or van	62.97%	56.61%	-6.36%
Passenger in a car or van	5.94%	4.38%	-1.56%
Bicycle	1.31%	1.03%	-0.28%
On foot	14.55%	10.21%	-4.34%
Other method of travel to work	0.78%	0.74%	-0.04%

#### Wales

Method used to travel to workplace (12 categories)	Wales % (2011 Census)	Wales % (2021 Census)	Change %
Work mainly at or from home	5.36%	25.61%	20.25%
Underground, metro, light rail, tram	0.09%	0.04%	-0.05%
Train	2.01%	0.84%	-1.17%
Bus, minibus or coach	4.61%	2.30%	-2.31%
Taxi	0.48%	0.56%	0.08%
Motorcycle, scooter or moped	0.56%	0.34%	-0.22%
Driving a car or van	67.37%	56.46%	-10.91%
Passenger in a car or van	6.80%	4.83%	-1.97%
Bicycle	1.44%	1.10%	-0.34%
On foot	10.64%	7.06%	-3.58%
Other method of travel to work	0.64%	0.86%	0.22%

As seen the biggest change is in the percentage of people working from home +15.66% in Anglesey, +15.25% in Gwynedd and +20.25% in Wales. In terms of the number driving a car or van to work this has fallen by -9.05% in Anglesey, -6.36% in Gwynedd and -10.91% in Wales.

- 2) 100% of new residential development within 30 minutes.
- 3) No update in data since previous AMR.
  - Anglesey has the third lowest number of concessionary bus pass holders aged 60+ (75.6%).
  - Gwynedd has the fourth lowest number (80.0%).
  - The area with the lowest number is Powys (71.5%).
  - The area with the highest number is Cardiff (98.9%).
  - The national average is 87.0%. Therefore, Gwynedd is below the national average.
- 4) No update in data since previous AMR.

- Anglesey is covered by the Taith area. Gwynedd is covered by both the Taith and Tracc areas.
- The National Cycle Routes in the Taith area are: 5 - Reading to Holyhead; 8 - Cardiff to Holyhead.
- The National Cycle Routes in the Tracc area are: 8 - Cardiff to Holyhead; 42 - Glasbury to Gloucester; 43 - Builth Wells to Swansea; 81 - Aberystwyth to Shrewsbury; 82 - Porthmadog to Cardigan.

5) No change since previous AMR

- There are 10 stations in Gwynedd that have LPG. These are: A496 – 1; A4487 – 1; Bangor – 1; Barmouth – 1; Blaenau Ffestiniog – 1; Caernarfon -2; Machynlleth – 1; Pwllheli – 2.

SA Objective 11: Water and Flood Risk				
SA Indicator	SA Indicator	SA Indicator	SA Indicator	SA Indicator
1) % of new developments with integrated sustainable drainage systems	Increase	-	Data unavailable	0
2) % of waterbodies at good ecological status or potential	Increase	2018/2019	See analysis below	✓
3) Proportion / absolute number of development in C1 and C2	Decrease	2023-2024	See analysis below	✓
Explanation / Analysis				
<p>1) This information is not currently collected by the Authorities.</p> <p>2) No updated data from the previous AMR was available. The indicator will continue to be monitored in subsequent future AMR's.</p> <p>3) 20 planning applications were permitted on sites that were wholly/partly within a C1 flood zone; the majority for less vulnerable developments on previously developed land. As part of the process of assessing the planning applications information was collected regarding the compliance of the planning applications with the tests contained in Technical Guidance Note 15 (Flooding); it was determined that they complied with the requirement of the tests set out in TAN 15.</p> <p>26 planning applications were permitted on sites that were wholly/partly within a C2 flood zone; the majority for less vulnerable developments on previously developed land. No planning applications were approved for a type of development that would be considered as a 'highly vulnerable development' in accordance with Figure 2 of Technical Advice Note 15 (Development and Flood Risk). Further all application located (partly/fully) within the C2 flood zone complied with the tests as contained within TAN 15.</p>				

It is concluded that the applications approved are in compliance with policies PS 5, PS6, 1 PCYFF & PCYFF 2 of the Joint LDP. Therefore, it is considered that the policies are continuing to be implemented effectively.

## Appendix 2 – Distribution of Residential Permissions

Information for the Gwynedd Planning Authority area only on the basis that joint working arrangement between Anglesey and Gwynedd came to an end on 31st March, 2023.

### Sub-regional Centre:

1. Bangor (Planning permission for 52 residential units in this AMR period / Planning permission for 370 units since the Plan was adopted)

### Urban Service Centre:

2. Blaenau Ffestiniog (7 units / 31 units),
3. Caernarfon (1 unit / 112 units),
4. Porthmadog (0 units / 19 units),
5. Pwllheli (1 unit / 86 units)

### Local Service Centres:

6. Abermaw (3 units / 23 units),
7. Abersoch (0 unit / 2 units),
8. Bethesda (6 units / 59 units),
9. Cricieth (0 units / 67 units),
10. Llanberis (0 units / 15 units),
11. Llanrug (4 units / 19 units),
12. Nefyn (2 units / 15 units),
13. Penrhyndeudraeth (0 units / 59 units),
14. Penygroes (0 units / 39 units),
15. Tywyn (2 units / 30 units)

### Service Villages:

16. Bethel (0 units / 46 units),
17. Bontnewydd (0 units / 29 units),
18. Botwnnog (0 units / 1 unit),
19. Chwilog (1 unit / 57 units),
20. Deiniolen (27 units / 74 units),
21. Rachub (0 units / 31 units),
22. Tremadog (0 units / 1 unit)
23. Y Ffôr (1 unit / 1 unit)

### Local, Rural and Coastal Villages:

#### **A) Local Villages**

24. Abererch,
25. Brynrefail (0 units / 1 unit)
26. Caeathro (12 units / 12 units)
27. Carmel (3 units / 4 units),
28. Cwm y Glo,
29. Dinas (Llanwnda (16 units / 28 units),
30. Dinas Dinlle (1 unit / 1 unit),

31. Dolydd a Maen Coch,
32. Efailnewydd,
33. Garndolbenmaen (0 units / 1 unit),
34. Garreg-Llanfrothen,
35. Groeslon,
36. Llandwrog,
37. Llandygai,
38. Llanybi (1 unit / 2 units),
39. Llanllyfni,
40. Llanystumdwy (0 units / 7 units)
41. Nantlle (0 units / 1 unit),
42. Penisarwaun (0 units / 3 units)
43. Pentref Uchaf (0 units / 3 units),
44. Rhiwlas (1 unit / 5 units)
45. Rhosgadfan (0 units / 4 units),
46. Rhostryfan,
47. Sarn Mellteyrn (0 units / 2 units)
48. Talysarn (0 units / 2 units),
49. Trefor (1 units / 2 units),
50. Tregarth (2 units / 19 units),
51. Tudweiliog,
52. Waunfawr (0 units / 2 units),
53. Y Fron

#### **B) Coastal/Rural Villages:**

54. Aberdaron (6 units / 6 units),
55. Borth-y-Gest (0 units / 1 unit),
56. Clynog Fawr,
57. Corris (0 units / 1 unit),
58. Edern (4 units / 6 units),
59. Fairbourne,
60. Llanaelhaearn (1 unit / 3 units),
61. Llanbedrog (0 units / 1 unit),
62. Llangian,
63. Llithfaen (0 units / 2 units),
64. Morfa Bychan (0 units / 2 units),
65. Morfa Nefyn, (12 units / 15 units)
66. Mynytho,
67. Rhoshirwaun,
68. Sarn Bach,
69. Y Felinheli (0 units / 25 units)

### Clusters:

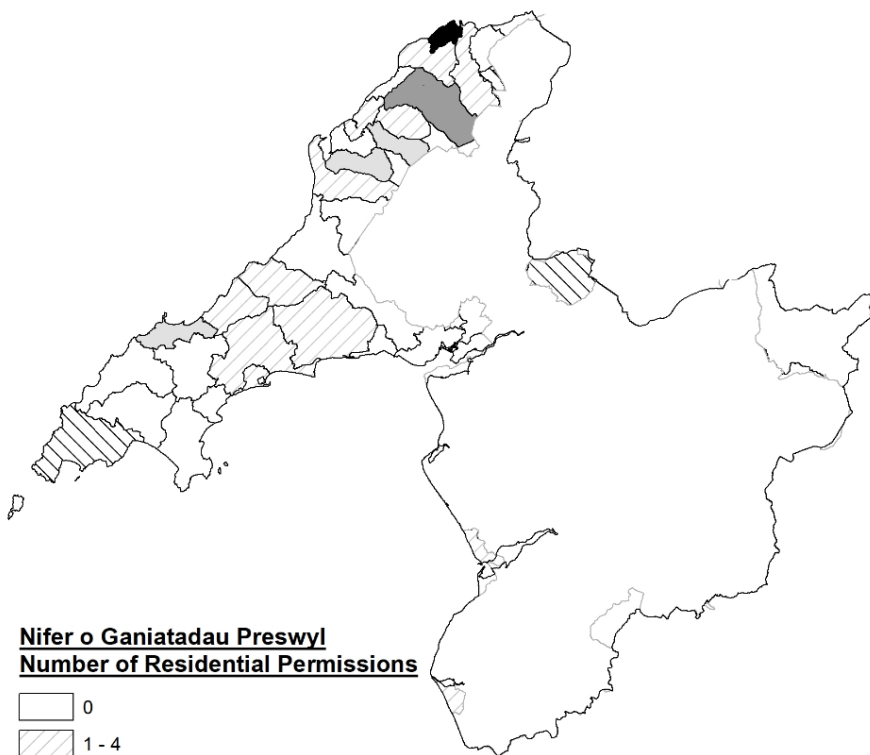
70. Aberdesach,
71. Aberllefenni,
72. Aberpwl,
73. Bethesda Bach,
74. Bryncir,
75. Bryncroes,
76. Caerhun/Waen Wen,
77. Capel y Graig,
78. Corris Uchaf,

79. Crawia,
80. Dinorwig (0 units / 1 unit)
81. Gallt y Foel,
82. Glasinfryn (0 units / 9 units),
83. Groeslon Waunfawr,
84. Llanaber (0 units / 1 unit),
85. Llandderfel,
86. Llanengan (0 units / 2 units),
87. Llanfor,
88. Llanllechid,
89. Llannor,
90. Llanwnda,
91. Llwyn Hudol,
92. Minffordd,
93. Minffordd (Bangor),
94. Mynydd Llandygai,
95. Nebo,
96. Pantglas,
97. Penmorfa,
98. Penrhos,
99. Penrhos (Caeathro),
100. Pentir,
101. Pentrefelin,
102. Pistyll (0 units / 1 unit),
103. Pontllyfni,
104. Rhoslan,
105. Saron (Llanwnda),
106. Swan,
107. Tai'n Lôn,
108. Talwaenydd,
109. Talybont,
110. Tan y Coed,
111. Treborth (0 units / 4 units),
112. Ty'n-lôn,
113. Ty'n y Lôn,
114. Waun (Penisarwaun) (0 units / 1 unit).



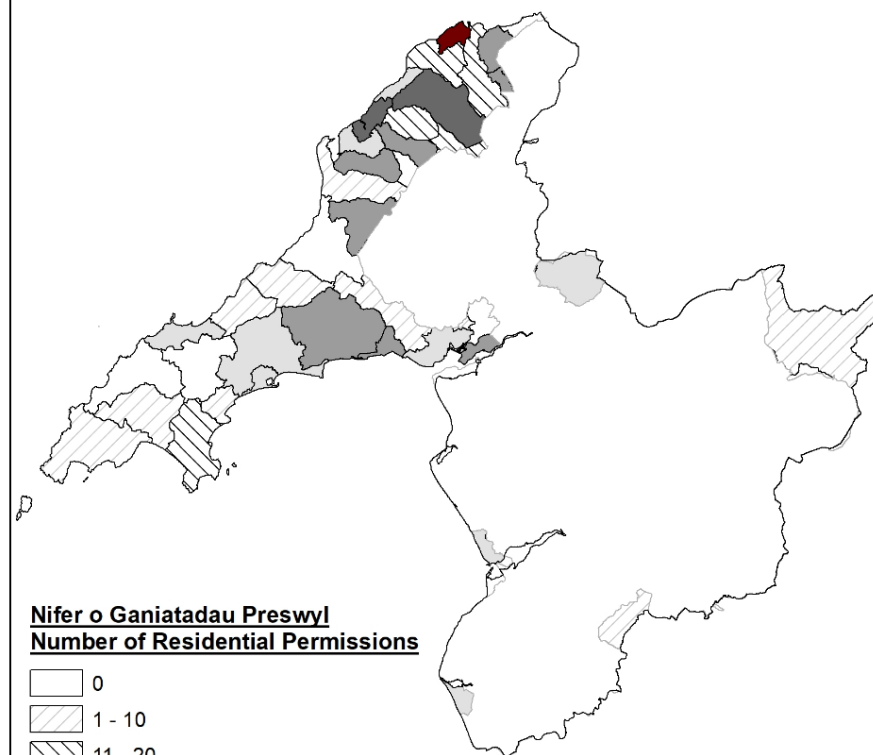
**DOSBARTHAD CANIATADAU PRESWYL FESUL CYNGHORAU CYMUNED  
1 EBRILL 2024 - 31 MAWRTH 2025**

**DISTRIBUTION OF RESIDENTIAL PREMISSIONS PER COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
1 APRIL 2024 - 31 MARCH 2025**



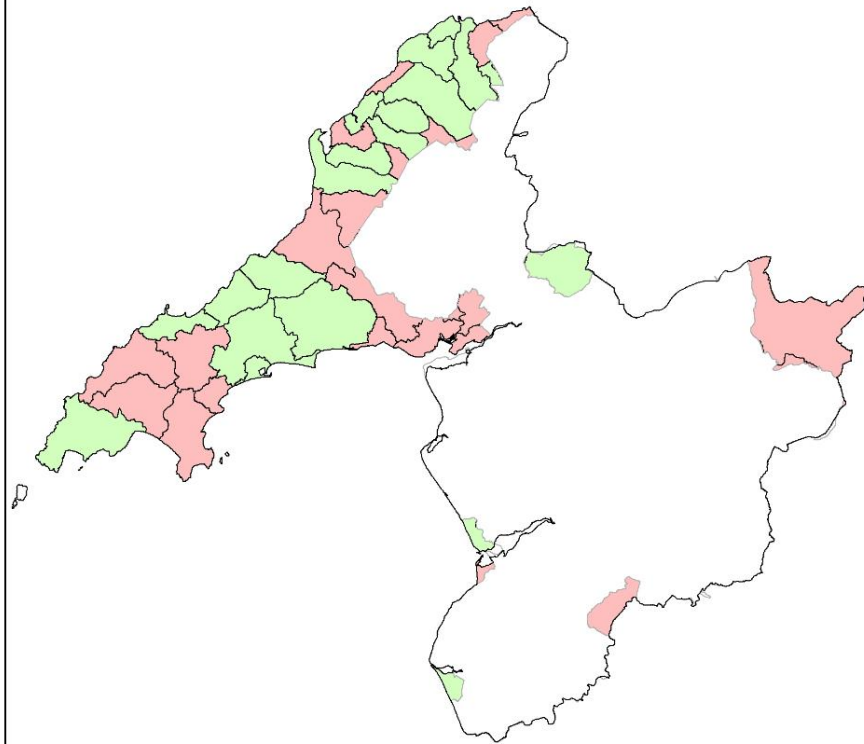
**DOSBARTHAD CANIATADAU PRESWYL FESUL CYNGHORAU CYMUNED  
ERS MABWYSIADU'R CYNLLUN - 1 AWST 2017 - 31 MAWRTH 2025**

**DISTRIBUTION OF RESIDENTIAL PREMISSIONS PER COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
SINCE THE PLAN'S ADOPTION - 1 AUGUST 2017 - 31 MARCH 2025**



**DOSBARTHIAID CANIATADAU PRESWYL FESUL CYNGHORAU CYMUNED  
1 EBRILL 2024 - 31 MAWRTH 2025**

**DISTRIBUTION OF RESIDENTIAL PREMISSIONS PER COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
1 APRIL 2024 - 31 MARCH 2025**

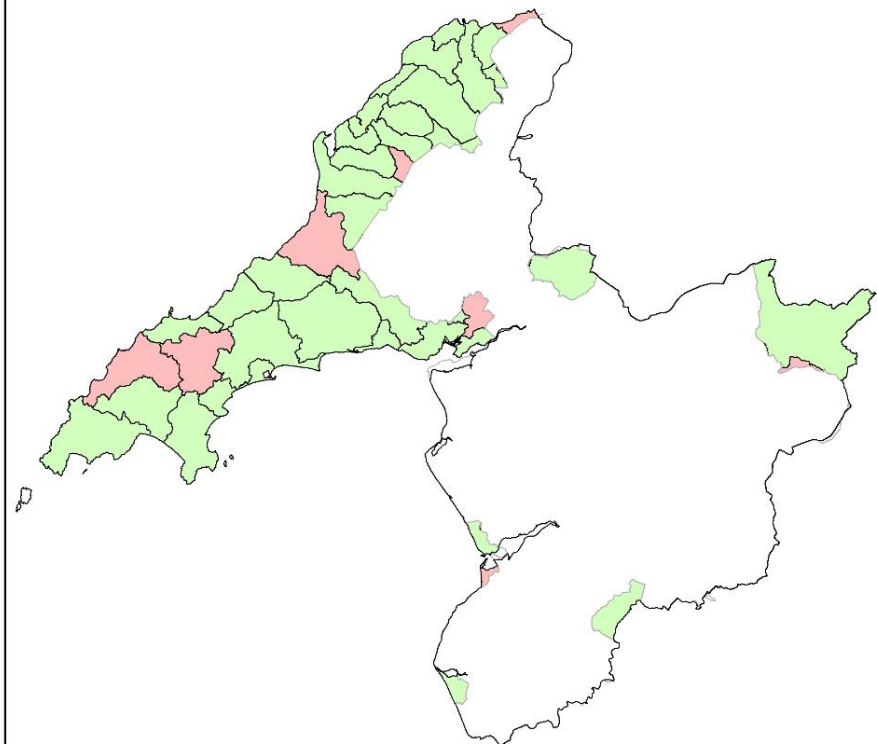


**Allwedd / Key**

- Caniatadau / Permissions
- Dim Caniatadau / No Permissions

**DOSBARTHIAID CANIATADAU PRESWYL FESUL CYNGHORAU CYMUNED  
ERS I'R CYNLLUN CAEL EI FABWYSIADU - 1 AWST 2017 - 31 MAWRTH 2025**

**DISTRIBUTION OF RESIDENTIAL PREMISSIONS PER COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
SINCE THE PLAN'S ADOPTION - 1 AUGUST 2017 - 31 MARCH 2025**



© Hawlfraint y Goron / Crown Copyright  
Cyngor Gwynedd - 100023387

## Appendix 3 – The provision of land for housing

### Background

Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12 (February 2024) (paragraphs 4.2.11 and 4.2.12) notes that the ability to provide housing has to be demonstrated in the Plan through a housing trajectory. Planning authorities must use their housing trajectory as a basis for monitoring the delivery of their housing requirement. Detailed information on housing delivery assessed against the trajectory is necessary in order to form part of the evidence base for the development plan's Annual Monitoring Reports and for subsequent plan review. It is noted that under-delivery against the trajectory could be sufficient reason in itself to review the development plan. This process has replaced the need to demonstrate a 5-year land supply for housing that was assessed through the Joint Housing Land Availability Study.

The Development Plan Manual (Edition 3, March 2020) by the Welsh Government gives information on the process to consider and update the trajectory within the Annual Monitoring Reports. See the amended table and graph in the information in relation to the D43(A) and D43(B) indicators.

As part of this process, tables need to be presented that specify the development timetable for the sites allocated in the Plan together with large windfall sites within the land bank i.e. sites with 5 or more units with extant planning permission that are not located on land allocated for housing.

Bearing in mind that only a year is left in the JLDP period, no consultation was held with landowners/developers in relation to establishing the intention regarding the Plan's housing allocations and large land bank sites (5 or more units). No consultation was held with the Housing Stakeholders Group either when considering the proposed trajectory for the remaining JLDP period.

The manner in which the allocated housing sites and the large land bank sites are categorised can be seen in tables A1 and A2 below.

It is noted below how this information, together with the assumptions made in relation to other components of the housing provision, have been inputted into the trajectory update. **The figures that are noted in the trajectory table within the AMR [prior to indicators D43(A) and D43(B)] have been highlighted in colour within the information below.**

### Small sites (Land bank and windfall sites)

For small land bank sites (permission for less than 5 units) the average number of units completed on such sites over the last 5 years was considered:

2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total	Average
38	45	44	55	25	207	41.4 = 41

Given that only a year remains in the Plan period, the annual average noted above is based on this period in order to establish the provision on small land bank sites for the remainder of the Plan period i.e. 5-year average over a 1-year period, namely 41 units.

Based on the April 2025 housing survey it is noted that there are 205 units in the small sites land bank without considering the units where no activity has taken place on those sites during the past five years (in relation to any development work or further permissions).

Given that the number of units in the landbank (small sites) is higher than the figure relating to the average number of units developed on small sites over the previous 5 years conveyed over a period of a year, for the purpose of the trajectory no additional units are to be provided on small windfall sites i.e. new planning permissions after the AMR 7 period, as it is assumed that the relevant provision will be met through units that are currently in the landbank (please see relevant table below).

All of the 41 units per annum that are expected on small sites are therefore noted on landbank sites (current planning permissions) with none on windfall sites (new permissions). Whilst there is only a year remaining in the Plan period, there would be a presumption anyhow that for the next two years that all the units would be developed on sites that are in the existing land bank.

Number of houses expected to be completed on small land bank sites:

2025/26
41

Number of houses expected to be completed on small windfall sites during the year

2025/26
No units on new windfall sites completed during the next year.

### Large land bank sites

The figures for the large site windfall units derive from table A1 below in relation to large land bank sites in the Gwynedd Planning Authority area. The figures note the units that are expected to be developed on the relevant sites per year.

Number of houses expected to be completed on large land bank sites:

2025/26
108

**Therefore:**

Number of houses expected to be completed on land bank sites annually (large and small sites)

2025/26
149  (108 large sites / 41 small sites)

**Large windfall sites (5 or more units)**

For the presumption in relation to the provision on large windfall sites (i.e. new permissions on sites with 5 or more units that have not been allocated), the revised trajectory uses information for the units that have been completed on large windfall sites in the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority area during the last 5 years (see the table below). This does not include units that have been completed on housing allocations. This figure is 346 units.

2020-21	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total
51	86	8	69	132	346

Given that there is only a year remaining in the Plan period, the annual average noted above is based on this period in order to establish the provision on large land bank sites for the remainder of the Plan period i.e. 5-year average over a 1-year period i.e.  $346/5 = 69.2 = 69$  units

It is noted that table A1 projects that 108 units will be developed on large land bank sites in the final year of the Plan period, which is greater than the large sites provision that is noted above. Therefore, for the purpose of the trajectory, no units have been included on new large windfall sites for the remainder of the Plan period. Based on past development trends, it is believed that a sufficient number of units are likely to be developed on large land bank sites to meet the needs relating to this part of the housing provision.

#### Number of houses expected to be completed on large windfall sites annually

2025/26
No units on new windfall sites completed during the next year.

#### Housing allocations

The information for the number of units predicted to derive from the Plan's housing allocations can be seen in Table A2 below.

Table A2 notes the detailed information per site. The total units anticipated to be developed on all the Plan's allocations (within the Gwynedd Planning Authority area) per year are as follows:

#### Number of houses expected to be completed on allocated sites annually

2025/26
58

**Table A1: The timing and phasing of sites with planning permission – Large land bank sites (Gwynedd Planning Authority area)**

LPA reference	Settlement tier	Site name	Planning permission reference	Total site capacity	Units remaining	Overall completions	Completions in JLDP period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the plan period
4	Sub-regional Centre	30-32, Holyhead Road, Bangor	3/11/722B	8	8	0	0	0		8
1932	Sub-regional Centre	Neuadd Deiniol & Wayside, Holyhead Road, Bangor	C11/0342/11/TC	24	24	0	0	0		24
5006	Sub-regional Centre	137 High Street, Bangor	C20/0848/11/LL	12	0	12	12	COMPLETED 2024/25		
178	Sub-regional Centre	Coed y Maes (Caeau Briwas), Penrhos, Bangor	3/25/195AB	20	2	18	0	0		2
179	Sub-regional Centre	Land at Y Garnedd, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor	C06A/0663/25/LL	5	1	4	0	0	0	1
5105	Sub-regional Centre	Railway Institute, Euston Road, Bangor	C21/0803/11/LL	25	25	0	0	0		25
5106	Sub-regional Centre	Plas Penrhos, Penrhos oad, Bangor	C21/0648/11/LL	39	0	39	39	COMPLETED 2024/25		
5109	Sub-regional Centre	Land at Pen y Ffridd Road, Bangor	C19/1072/11/LL	30	0	22	22	COMPLETED 2024/25		
5200	Sub-regional Centre	Blenheim House, Holyhead Road, Bangor	C20/0669/11/LL	36	36	0	0	0		36
5201	Sub-regional Centre	Maes Berea, Bangor	C18/0365/11/AM	9	9	0	0	0	0	9
5255	Sub-regional Centre	Plas Llwyd Terrace, Bangor	C07A/0755/11/MG	10	10	0	0	0	0	10

LPA reference	Settlement tier	Site name	Planning permission reference	Total site capacity	Units remaining	Overall completions	Completions in JLDP period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the plan period
5305	Sub-regional Centre	Coed Mawr, Bangor	C24/0436/11/LL	10	10	0	0	6	10	0
5242	Sub-regional Centre	340 High Street, Bangor	C22/0950/11/LL	9	0	9	9	COMPLETED 2024/25		
5273	Sub-regional Centre	290-294 High Street, Bangor	C21/0959/11/LL	24	24	0	0	24		24
5298	Sub-regional Centre	Independent School, Bangor	C24/0074/11/LL	9	9	0	0	0		9
2206	Urban Service Centre	Part of OS 8825, Cae Clyd, Manod, Blaenau Ffestiniog	C14/0248/03/LL	5	5	0	0	0		5
5069	Urban Service Centre	Wynne Road, Blaenau Ffestiniog	C20/0538/03/LL	5	0	5	5	COMPLETED 2024/25		
1660	Urban Service Centre	Former Marine Hotel, North Road, Caernarfon	C18/1040/14/LL	15	15	0	0	15		15
5209	Urban Service Centre	Lleiod Garage, Llanberis Road, Caernarfon	C22/0745/14/LL	21	21	0	0	21	21	
2518	Urban Service Centre	Capel Garth, Bank Place, Porthmadog	C16/0761/44/LL	9	9	0	0	9		9
1969	Urban Service Centre	Snowdon Mill, Heol yr Wyddfa, Porthmadog	C07D/0707/44/LL	24	24	0	0	24		24
1640	Urban Service Centre	Plot 31, Awel y Grug, Porthmadog	C15/0224/44/LL	10	1	9	0	0	0	1



LPA reference	Settlement tier	Site name	Planning permission reference	Total site capacity	Units remaining	Overall completions	Completions in JLDP period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the plan period
4838	Urban Service Centre	Ysgubor Wen land, Pwllheli	C20/0870/45/LL	5	1	4	4	1	1	
743	Local Service Centre	Promenad Abermaw	5/51/815B	26	26	0	0	0		26
4100	Local Service Centre	Whitehouse Hotel site, Abersoch	C14/1208/39/LL	18	18	0	0	18	18	
5023	Local Service Centre	Land near Llain y Pebyll, Bethesda	C20/0018/13/LL	7	0	7	7	COMPLETED 2024/25		
5249	Local Service Centre	Brig y Nant, Bethesda	C22/0256/13/LL	18	18	0	0	0	0	18
24	Local Service Centre	OS 8361, 8958, 8650, Bryn Caseg, Bethesda	3/13/130A-E	22	1	21	0	0	0	1
5269	Local Service Centre	Natwest bank, Bethesda	C23/0969/13/LL	6	6	0	0	0		6
224	Local Service Centre	Gorseddfa Estate, Cricieth	2/15/143A-Z	13	1	12	0	0		1
225	Local Service Centre	Wern y Wylan Estate, Cricieth	C96D/0181/15/CL	9	1	8	0	0		1
5198	Local Service Centre	Land near Treddafydd, High Street, Penygroes	C19/1089/22/LL	12	12	0	0	0	12	0
2495	Local Service Centre	Seion Chapel, Stryd y Plas, Nefyn	C04D/0722/42/LL	7	7	0	0	7	0	7
285	Local Service Centre	Bro Gwylwyr Estate, Nefyn	C07D/0699/42/LL	35	1	34	1	0	0	1

LPA reference	Settlement tier	Site name	Planning permission reference	Total site capacity	Units remaining	Overall completions	Completions in JLDP period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the plan period
3790	Local Service Centre	Tir y Farchnad, Sandilands Road, Tywyn	C13/0102/09/LL	18	18	0	0	18	0	18
76	Service Village	Bro Eglwys, Saron, Bethel	3/18/2021	50	14	36	0	0		14
4576	Service Village	Cae Bodlondeb, Ael y Bryn (Site 1), Chwilog	C16/1363/41/AM & C20/0674/41/MG	9	0	9	9	COMPLETED 2024/25		
4577	Service Village	Cae Bodlondeb, Ael y Bryn (Site 2), Chwilog	C16/1603/41/AM & C20/0673/41/MG	9	0	9	9	COMPLETED 2024/25		
5177	Service Village	Ebeneser Chapel, Stryd Fawr, Deiniolen	C19/1194/18/LL	7	7	0	0	0	0	7
2477	Service Village	Llwyn Bedw Estate, Rachub	C10A/0040/21/MG	13	1	12	8	0	1	
3966	Local Village	Plot of land near Hen Gapel, Waunfawr Road, Caeathro	C09A/0412/26/LL	12	12	0	0	0	0	12
2216	Local Village	Ceir Cwm, Cwm y Glo	C10A/0087/23/LL	8	5	3	3	0		5
5310	Local Village	Land near Talardd, Dinas	C20/1093/24/LL	16	16	0	0	0	16	
5171	Local Village	Land near Maes Llwyd, Llanystumdwy	C21/1091/41/LL	6	6	0	0	0	4	2
5274	Coastal / Rural Village	Bodernabwy, Aberdaron	C24/0011/30/AM	5	5	0	0	0	0	5
1669	Coastal / Rural Village	Plots 15-23 Heol Seithendre, Fairbourne	C04M/0072/01/LL	9	5	4	0	0	0	5

LPA reference	Settlement tier	Site name	Planning permission reference	Total site capacity	Units remaining	Overall completions	Completions in JLDP period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the plan period
5290	Coastal / Rural Village	Maes Twnti land, Morfa Nefyn	C24/0689/42/LL	9	9	0	0	0	0	9
5107	Coastal / Rural Village	Land near Cae Gors, Tregarth	C21/0617/16/LL	12	0	12	12	COMPLETED 2024/25		
2517	Coastal / Rural Village	Opposite Halfway House, Y Felinheli	C09A/0424/20/LL	7	7	0	0	0		7
1730	Coastal / Rural Village	Plas Dinorwig Hotel, Y Felinheli	C05A/0152/20/LL	8	8	0	0	0		8
1428	Coastal / Rural Village	Harbour, Y Felinheli	C05A/0750/20/LL	22	3	19	0	0		3
5256	Coastal / Rural Village	Land near Y Wern, Y Felinheli	C23/0772/20/LL	23	23	0	0	0	18	5
5168	Cluster	Near Bro Infryn, Glasinfryn	C21/1206/25/LL	7	0	7	7	COMPLETED 2024/25		
2428	Cluster	OS 3910, Near St Engan Church, Llanengan	C11/1186/39/MG	6	1	5	5	1	1	
TOTAL				807	479	320	152	144	108	371

**Table A2: The timing and phasing of housing allocations (Gwynedd Planning Authority area only)**

LPA reference	Settlement tier	Allocated site number	Allocated site name	Total site capacity*	Time lag to construction start in months	Phasing of development				
						Completions	Completions in JLDP period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the Plan period
3944	Sub-regional Centre	T1	Goetra Uchaf, Bangor	SITE COMPLETED						
4591	Sub-regional Centre	T2	Former Friars School Playing Field, Bangor	43						43
4225	Sub-regional Centre	T3	Former Jewsons site, Bangor	17						17
4592	Sub-regional Centre	T4	Land opposite the Crematorium, Bangor	72						72
4596	Urban Service Centre	T23	Former Playing Fields, Blaenau Ffestiniog	95						95
4597	Urban Service Centre	T24	Land at Congl y Wal, Blaenau Ffestiniog	60						60
4443	Urban Service Centre	T25	Former Hendre School, Caernarfon	SITE COMPLETED						
1373	Urban Service Centre	T26	To the rear of Maes Gwynedd, Caernarfon	29						29
1372	Urban Service Centre	T27	Cae Phillips Road, Caernarfon	SITE COMPLETED						

LPA reference	Settlement tier	Allocated site number	Allocated site name	Total site capacity*	Time lag to construction start in months	Phasing of development				
						Completions	Completions in JLDP period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the Plan period
2213	Urban Service Centre	T28	Land near Lôn Caernarfon, Pwllheli  Permission C22/0969/45/LL (for a supermarket) on part of the site  Number of units based on the area of the site remaining	90						90
1400	Urban Service Centre	T29	Cae Deiniol, Pwllheli	14	Planning permission C21/0111/45/LL	12	12	2	2	
1399	Urban Service Centre	T30	Former Hockey Field, Pwllheli	14	Planning permission C18/1198/45/AM	0	0	14	14	
2205	Local Service Centre	T41	Land near North Terrace, Criccieth	23	Planning permission C21/1136/35/LL	12	12	11	11	
1374	Local Service Centre	T42	Land near Victoria Hotel, Llanberis	16						16
2790	Local Service Centre	T43	Land near Tŷ Du Road, Llanberis	SITE COMPLETED						
3602	Local Service Centre	T44	Church Field, Llanrug	10	Planning permission C18/0942/23/LL & C23/0033/23/LL	9	9	0	0	1

LPA reference	Settlement tier	Allocated site number	Allocated site name	Total site capacity*	Time lag to construction start in months	Phasing of development				
						Completions	Completions in JLD period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the Plan period
2567	Local Service Centre	T45	Land near Rhythallt Road, Llanrug			SITE COMPLETED				
4603	Local Service Centre	T46	Land near Helyg, Nefyn	19						19
3832	Local Service Centre	T47	Former Allotments, Nefyn			SITE COMPLETED				
1405	Local Service Centre	T48	Canol Cae, Penrhyndeudraeth			SITE COMPLETED				
4604	Local Service Centre	T49	Land near Former Bron Garth Hospital, Penrhyndeudraeth	46						46
4605	Local Service Centre	T50	Land near Canol Cae, Penrhyndeudraeth	31						31
1379	Local Service Centre	T51 (part)	Land near Maes Dulyn, Penygroes  Permission C20/0942/22/LL (5064) on part of the site - Number of units based on the area of the site remaining	15						15
5064	Local Service Centre	T51 (part)	Land near Maes Dulyn, Penygroes			SITE COMPLETED				

LPA reference	Settlement tier	Allocated site number	Allocated site name	Total site capacity*	Time lag to construction start in months	Phasing of development				
						Completions	Completions in JLDP period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the Plan period
2142	Local Service Centre	T52	Sŵn y Tonnau, Tywyn	41	Planning permission C06M/0069/09/LL	32	23	0	0	9
667	Local Service Centre	T53	Garreglwyd, Tywyn	23	Planning permission 5/79/134	11	2	0		12
4598	Service Village	T57	Land opposite Cremlyn Estate, Bethel	30	Planning permission C23/0657/18/LL	0	0	30	30	
4599	Service Village	T58	Land opposite Rhoslan Estate, Bethel	7	Planning permission C18/0545/18/MG	6	6	1	1	
2478	Service Village	T59	Land near Glanrafon Estate, Bontnewydd	SITE COMPLETED						
4593	Service Village	T60	Land near Pont Glan Beuno, Bontnewydd	10						10
4594	Service Village	T61	Land near Cefn Capel, Botwnnog	21						21
4595	Service Village	T62	Land near Pentre, Botwnnog	11						11
4125	Service Village	T63	Land to rear of Madryn Arms, Chwilog	SITE COMPLETED						
1364	Service Village	T64	Land near Cae Capel, Chwilog	21	Planning permission C18/1055/441/LL	0	0	0		21
3959	Service Village	T65	Land near Pentre Helen, Deiniolen	27	Planning permission C09A/0396/18/AM	0	0	0		27

LPA reference	Settlement tier	Allocated site number	Allocated site name	Total site capacity*	Time lag to construction start in months	Phasing of development				
						Completions	Completions in JLDP period	Under construction	2025/26	Units beyond the Plan period
4600	Service Village	T66	Land near Maes Bleddyn, Rachub	SITE COMPLETED						
4601	Service Village	T67	Land near Tyn Lôn, Y Ffor	18						18
4602	Service Village	T68	Land near the School, Y Ffor	10						10
2214	Service Village	T69	Land near Bro Gwystil, Y Ffor	SITE COMPLETED						
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>82</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>673</b>
*	For sites with planning permission, the figure indicates the number of units that have been permitted.									
	Completed									
	Extant planning permission (not yet completed)									



## CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET



**Date of Meeting:** 14 October 2025  
**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Craig ab Iago  
**Relevant Officer:** Bethan Richardson, Climate Change Programme Manager  
**Title of Item:** Climate and Nature Emergency Plan: Annual Report 2024/25

### Report to a meeting of Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet

---

#### 1. Decision Sought

- i. That the Cabinet considers and approves the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan: Annual Report 2024/25.
- 

#### 2. The reason why the Cabinet needs to make the decision

- i. Gwynedd Council issued a climate emergency declaration in March 2019 which led to the publication of the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan 2022/23 - 2029/30 (CNEP) in March 2022. The CNEP is also one of the projects within the Green Gwynedd heading in The Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28.
- ii. The Climate and Nature Emergency Plan became operational at the beginning of 2022/23 and since then annual reports for 2022/23 and 2023/24 have been published following approval by the Cabinet.
- iii. Much of the work described in this Annual Report has already been scrutinised by the Climate and Nature Board and through the Council's internal performance challenge arrangements, but the annual report brings all the information together for the first time.
- iv. Following the same procedure as in previous years, this is an opportunity for Cabinet to decide whether they are satisfied that the Annual Report at Annex 1 provides an accurate and balanced picture of the work delivered during 2024/25 to meet the ambition of the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan.
- v. According to Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, public authorities operating in Wales have a duty to maintain and improve biodiversity and to promote the strength of ecosystems. We report on the progress against the 'Section 6 duty' within the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan Annual Report 2024/25.
- vi. A draft version of the Annual Report was discussed at a meeting of Gwynedd Council's Communities Scrutiny Committee on 18 September, and the committee's comments are summarised in 4. below.

- vii. Cabinet can also offer comments and guidance on the future work of the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan.

### **3. Background**

- i. The Council adopted the [Climate-and-Nature-Emergency-Plan.pdf \(llyw.cymru\)](#) following a Cabinet meeting on 8 March 2022. The ambition of the plan is "Gwynedd Council will be net zero carbon and ecologically positive by 2030." "Responding to the climate change crisis" is also one of the Council's 8 Improvement Priorities within [The Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28.pdf \(llyw.cymru\)](#).
- ii. The Climate and Nature Emergency Plan (the Plan/CNEP) outlines how we as a Council will adapt the way we work and deliver services to reduce our carbon emissions and increase carbon absorption capacity. It provides examples of projects we will be pursuing, their outline costs and the timeframe to deliver.
- iii. Cyngor Gwynedd, like most public sector bodies in Wales, collects data on carbon emissions and absorption following a methodology developed by the Welsh Government. We collected data for the 2024/25 year following these processes, and are using 2019/20 data as our baseline year for comparison.
- iv. We need to collect data about the carbon derived from our procurement processes, but the current methodology is based on measuring by financial expenditure alone. Simply put, the more we spend, the greater the emissions. Because this can paint an imperfect picture of the true situation the Annual Report sets out two different sets of data – with procurement and without procurement data.
- v. Based on this data we know how much the 'gap to net zero' is and therefore how much more work lies ahead if we are to reach our target.

### **4. Recommendations of the Communities Scrutiny Committee**

- i. The Annual Report was presented to a meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee on 18 September 2025 and their comments and recommendations of matters to be discussed by Cabinet are set out below:
  - 1. To accept the report noting the comments submitted during the discussion
  - 2. To recommend to the Environment Cabinet Member that the Council's ambition to be net zero carbon by 2030 needs to be revisited and that a realistic target for reducing carbon emissions should be considered

### **5. Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016**

- i. Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 says public authorities operating in Wales have a duty to maintain and improve biodiversity and to encourage ecosystem strength.
- ii. The Welsh Government published a national biodiversity strategy, the 'Nature Restoration Action Plan' in 2015 which outlined the commitment to reverse biodiversity loss in Wales, with which there are 6 objectives for action. In order to comply with the duty of Section 6 public authorities must publish a plan of their own based on the Welsh Government's plan, and then the progress needs to be reported upon.

- iii. Cyngor Gwynedd has been updating our own Nature Recovery Plan to comply with the requirements of the Act, but in the meantime we are reporting on our progress against the 6 objectives of the national Nature Recovery Action Plan through the Climate and Nature Annual Report. The information can be found in chapter 3 and at the end of chapters 6 to 11.

## 6. Main Issues

- i. Chapter 5 of the Annual Report provides information on the levels of emissions and carbon absorption for which the Council was responsible, and on the all-important figure, which is the remaining gap to reach net zero. Our gap to net zero in 2024/25 was 18,132,729 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e.
- ii. Carbon emissions from our procurement processes are currently based solely on expenditure, and this can paint a misleading picture of the true impact of our climate spending. Simply put, the more we spend the greater the emissions.
- iii. Gwynedd Council's total carbon emissions in 2024/25, including procurement, had increased by 4% since the 2019/20 baseline year and increased by 24% since 2023/24. The main reason for that is the increase in financial spending.
- iv. Gwynedd Council's total carbon emissions in 2024/25, excluding procurement, had decreased by 35% since the 2019/20 baseline year and increased by 4% since 2023/24. The main reasons for the increase since 2023/24 are the increase in energy consumption and increased travel, but the more detailed explanation can be found in the annual report.
- v. Looking at our carbon emission and absorption data together, without taking into account procurement data, then our gap to net zero is 32% smaller in 2024/25 compared to 2019/20 and 4% higher than in 2023/24.

## 7. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

- i. Have you **included** residents / service users? If not, when and how do you intend to consult with them?
- ii. The final Annual Report will be published on the Council's website after receiving the Cabinet's seal of approval and we will share information about it with all Council members, and with the residents of Gwynedd and the general public.
- iii. Have you considered **collaboration**?
- iv. Chapters 11 and 12 of the Annual Report cover the work carried out in part by the Gwynedd Nature Partnership, namely a consortium of local organisations led by the Council. A number of other projects in CNEP are carried out in partnership with others, such as active travel projects in collaboration with Public Service Board partners.
- v. What has been done or will be done to **prevent** problems arising or worsening in the future?
- vi. One of the basic principles of CNEP is to try to prevent further increases in the average temperature of the planet and to limit global warming to "well below 2oC" in accordance with the United Nations Paris Agreement. Each of the plan's projects seek to stabilise or even reverse the probability that the current situation will lead to further problems in the future.

- vii. How have you considered the **long-term** and what will people's needs be in coming years?
- viii. As noted above, the basis of the CNEP is to seek to prevent global warming problems from getting worse in the future, and while the Council has its own target of net zero carbon by 2030 the Welsh Government has set a target for the whole of Wales to be net zero by 2050. The CNEP therefore also takes into account that changing the habits of Gwynedd's residents and businesses will be long-term work beyond 2030.
- ix. The Annual Report highlights that the CNEP itself states that further work is needed to incorporate projects that will help residents, businesses and communities to respond to climate change that is already changing our landscape, such as the impact of flooding and extreme weather. Work is currently underway to review the CNEP and make any necessary amendments so it is very likely that we will see additional projects in the future that will focus on helping Gwynedd residents to adapt to the different needs over a long period of time.
- x. To ensure **integration** have you considered the possible impact on other public bodies?
- xi. A large number of the CNEP projects are planned or implemented in conjunction with other public bodies or with the voluntary sector and communities. See 8.4.
- xii. A number of local public bodies including Cyngor Gwynedd are members of the Public Services Board and one of the three Well-being Objectives in the Gwynedd and Anglesey Well-being Plan 2023-2028 is 'We want to work together to support our services and communities to move towards Net Zero Carbon'. There is ongoing collaboration with other local authorities across north Wales, the Welsh Local Government Association, the Welsh Government's Energy Service, Transport for Wales which has resulted in joint planning and commissioning. A number of CNEP projects are also dependent on successful collaboration with other partners, such as our biodiversity and land use projects in conjunction with the Gwynedd Nature Partnership.

## **8. Impact on Equality Characteristics, the Welsh Language and the Socio-Economic Duty**

- i. The impact of Equality Characteristics, the Welsh Language and the Socio-Economic Duties on the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan were assessed when it was adopted at a meeting of the Cabinet on 8 March 2022. This assessment is directly relevant to the Annual Report on the CNEP.

## **9. Next steps and timetable**

- i. We will publish the Annual Report on our website and share information about it.
- ii. We will continue to discuss in partnership and build relationships with external partners to discuss lessons learned from each other's work, and how best to develop the work into the future.

**Monitoring Officer:**

No observations to add in relation to propriety

**Chief Finance Officer:**

I have no objections to the decision sought from the perspective of financial propriety.

---

**Appendices**

Appendix 1 - Climate and Nature Emergency Plan: Annual Report 2024/25



# Annual Report

## Cyngor Gwynedd Climate and Nature Emergency Plan

2024/25

# Contents

---

1. Foreword by the Leader of Cyngor Gwynedd	2	7. Movement and Transport	17
2. Background	3	8. Waste	22
3. Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016	4	9. Governance	25
4. Reaching the Current Situation	6	10. Procurement	28
5. Carbon Emissions and Absorption 2023/24	8	11. Land Use	30
6. Buildings and Energy	11	12. Ecology	33



# 1. Foreword by the Council Leader

---



It is my pleasure to submit a report which provides a detailed overview of Cyngor Gwynedd's progress to realise our Climate and Nature Emergency Plan 2024/25. It includes data, information about projects, and an evaluation across many operational areas.

Implementing our Climate and Nature Emergency Plan is a central part of the work to create a Green Gwynedd, which is one of the priorities in the Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028. We are attempting to change how the Council operates in order to reduce the harm caused to the planet, and it is important that all elected members and staff contribute to this work. Having said this, changing work practices and behaviours is no mean feat, and we have a challenge ahead of us if we wish to reach our ambition of being net zero carbon and ecologically positive by 2030.

Nevertheless, positive steps forward were taken during 2024/25. By investing in installing solar panels on 66 sites, we have reduced our energy costs, as well as saving carbon. We also helped residents to make the best of energy-saving technology

which will in turn, hopefully, help reduce the serious problem of fuel poverty.

I am pleased that we are taking big steps forward to change our fleet to electric vehicles. 43% of our cars and vans are now electric vehicles, and the rest will be replaced when the vehicle comes to the end of its lifespan. Our support to the Sherpa'r Wyddfa public bus service has led to a substantial increase in use again this year.

We are all aware how challenging the current financial circumstances are, therefore, every penny of financial investment from us as a Council must lead to the best value when reducing carbon emissions, as well as reduce costs. Since 2019, Cyngor Gwynedd has invested £6.8m in projects that are a part of the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan, but this has enabled us to attract £13.5m in grants from external bodies. These grants have been essential to be able to achieve our work, and more funding is needed if we are to continue with this essential work in the future.

Councillor Nia Jeffreys  
Leader of Cyngor Gwynedd



## 2. Background

---

Cyngor Gwynedd has made it clear that responding to the climate and nature emergency is one of its priorities, and a Green Gwynedd is one of 7 priority areas in the [The Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28](#).

To understand more about what the Council is trying to achieve, please turn to the [Climate-and-Nature-Emergency-Plan.pdf](#) (CNEP) which was adopted by the Cabinet in March 2022.

The ambition of the Plan is "Cyngor Gwynedd will be net-zero carbon and ecologically positive by 2030."

The ambition corresponds with the Welsh Government's target for joint public sector organisations to be net-zero carbon by 2030 and for Wales to be a net-zero country by 2050.

Our Climate and Nature Emergency Plan includes several projects within the main themes –

- buildings and energy
- movement and transport
- waste
- governance
- procurement

- land use
- ecology

The Welsh Government is asking all local authorities and public sector bodies in Wales to present data annually on their carbon emissions and absorption, using a generic data spreadsheet. All data in this report has been extracted from the data submitted to the Government.

The progress with the plan is regularly monitored by the Climate and Nature Board, which has membership of officers and Cabinet Members and representatives from scrutiny committees.

This report will provide an insight into the progress that has been made in each of the CNEP's projects during the 2024/25 year, which is the third year the plan has been operational.

The previous annual reports can be viewed here - [Climate and nature: Plans, policies and reports](#).

This Annual Report will be scrutinised at a meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Committee on 18 September 2025 and then it will be submitted to the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet.

### 3. Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

---

Our Climate and Nature Emergency Plan (CNEP) declares our ambition to be: "Cyngor Gwynedd will be net-zero carbon and **ecologically positive by 2030.**" One of the steps we can take to make this a reality is to act on the contents of Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

According to Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, public authorities operating in Wales have a duty to maintain and improve biodiversity and to promote the strength of ecosystems.

'Section 6' notes that public authorities should incorporate the need to consider biodiversity and ecosystems in their ideas and initial business plans, including any policies, plans, programmes and projects, as well as their daily activities.

The Welsh Government published a national biodiversity strategy, namely the 'Nature Recovery Action Plan' in 2015 which outlined the commitment to reversing biodiversity loss in Wales, and the objectives for action. It contains 6 objectives for nature recovery in Wales:

**Objective 1:** Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision-making at all levels

**Objective 2:** Protecting species and habitats of paramount importance and improving their management

**Objective 3:** Increasing the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and creating new habitats

**Objective 4:** Addressing key pressures on species and habitats

**Objective 5:** Improving our evidence, understanding and monitoring

**Objective 6:** Implementing a governance framework and support for achieving the objectives

To comply with the duty of Section 6, public authorities must publish a plan of their own outlining what they intend to do to maintain and enhance biodiversity and encourage resilience. Welsh Government guidance states that public bodies should consider basing their Section 6 duty scheme too on the national Nature Recovery Action Plan.

Cyngor Gwynedd is currently developing a revised Nature Recovery Plan, but in the meantime we have also included relevant information in the CNEP. While nature conservation and biodiversity has been woven throughout the CNEP, the Land

Use and Ecology sections list the projects that will focus specifically on this work.

At the end of each section of this annual report you will find a description of how the work that has been undertaken contributes to the realisation of one or more of the above 6

objectives, which in turn comply with Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

Here is a summary of the link between the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan projects and the Objectives of Section 6:

Climate and Nature Emergency Plan

	Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4	Objective 5	Objective 6
Buildings and Energy						
Movement and Transport						
Waste						
Governance						
Procurement						
Land Use						
Ecology						

## 4. Reaching the Current Situation

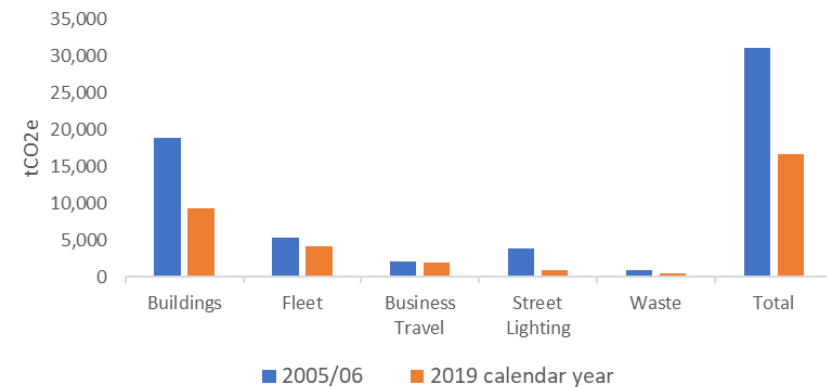
### 2010 - 2019

Prior to the existence of the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan the Council had already been taking action for years to try to reduce our carbon footprint. The Carbon Management Plan 1 was published in 2010 and the Carbon Management Plan 2 in 2015. 2005/06 was used as the baseline year to measure the data and progress for both plans.

By investing around £8m in energy consumption reduction measures between 2010 and 2019, we managed to reduce our carbon emissions by 58% in the areas of buildings, business travel, street lighting, fleet and waste.

The reduction per field can be seen in the graph below and it is fair to say that our efforts have resulted in national recognition several times.

Carbon Emissions  
Carbon Management Plans 1 & 2



### Since 2019

In March 2019, Cyngor Gwynedd announced that we faced a climate emergency and committed to taking decisive action to reduce carbon emissions and strive for a zero-carbon future. The next step on this journey was to draw up a strategy and action plan so that we have a clear work programme to follow.

Whilst developing the strategy, it became apparent that we need to give equal attention to the emergency that is facing nature as well, as they are running so closely together. The work concluded with the publication of the [Climate-and-Nature-Emergency-Plan.pdf](#) (CNEP) in March 2022. See chapter 2 'Background' for more details.

## Measuring our Carbon Emissions

When the Council implemented Carbon Management Plans 1 and 2, we followed the Carbon Trust's recognised carbon emissions measurement methods, and measured progress in 5 areas as indicated by the chart. Since 2019, the Welsh Government has adopted a different system of measuring carbon data and therefore the CNEP has used year 2019/20 data as a new baseline. As there are slight variations between the two measures it would be misleading to make a direct comparison between carbon data before, and after, 2019.

We are now also measuring our carbon emissions in additional areas – procurement, staff commuting, and working from home (since 2021/22). We also measure how much carbon our lands absorb, and in offsetting that figure against total emissions we get a net figure, which is the gap to reach net zero.

# 5. Carbon Emissions and Absorption 2024/25

Our gap to net zero (**including** procurement) in 2024/25 was 72,857,729 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e.

Our gap to net zero (**excluding** procurement) in 2024/25 was 18,132,729 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e.

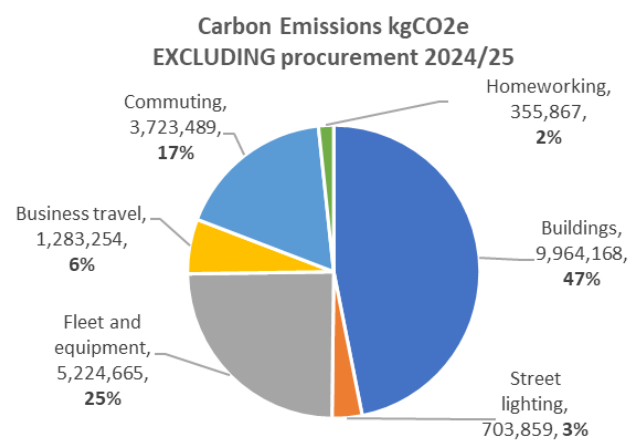
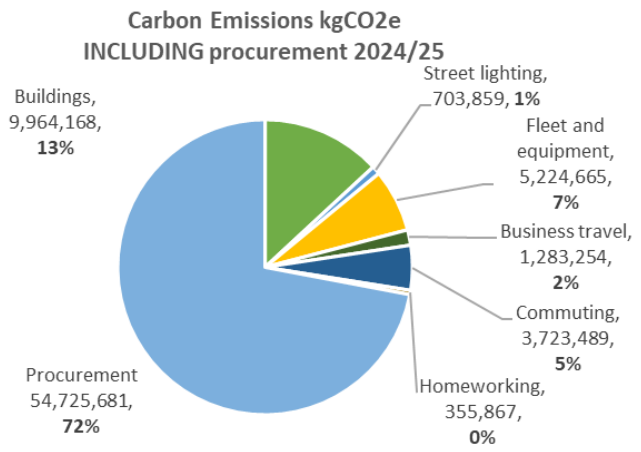


## Carbon Emissions

The first chart opposite shows our carbon emissions over 8 headings and includes procurement emissions (purchases of goods and services).

The methodology of measuring carbon emissions resulting from our procurement processes is imperfect because it is based on how much money we spend. The more we spend the greater the emissions.

As the procurement data can create an imperfect picture, the second chart opposite presents data for the remaining 7 headings after procurement is disregarded.

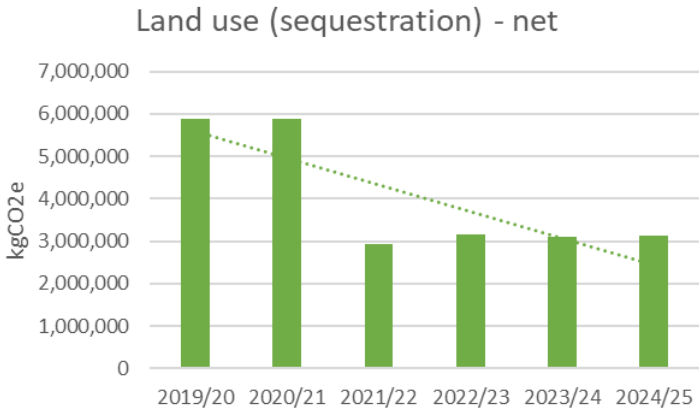


Carbon Absorption

As the chart below shows, carbon absorption levels on Council land have dropped 47% between the 2019/20 baseline year and 2024/25 but increased 1% between 2023/24 and 2024/25.

The reduction since 2019/20 was partly due to changes in the calculation methods, but also as we now own fewer hectares of land. The increase since 2023/24 has occurred as some plots have changed from brownfield land to grassland.

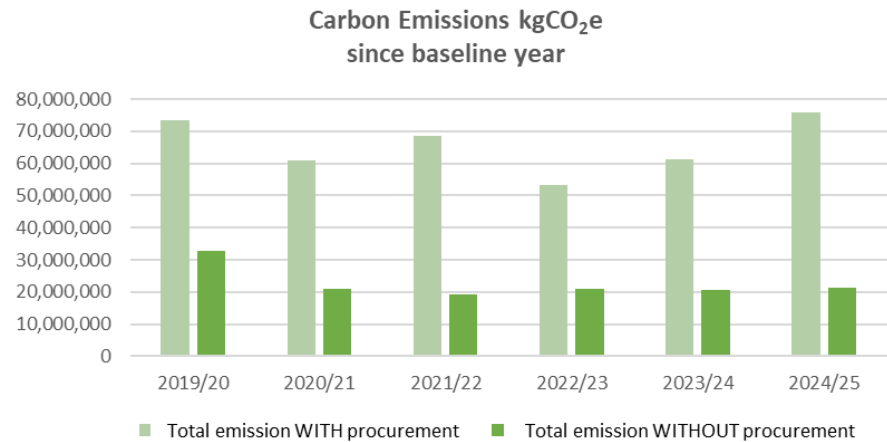
See chapters 11 and 12 for further details on the work done to increase carbon absorption levels on Council land.



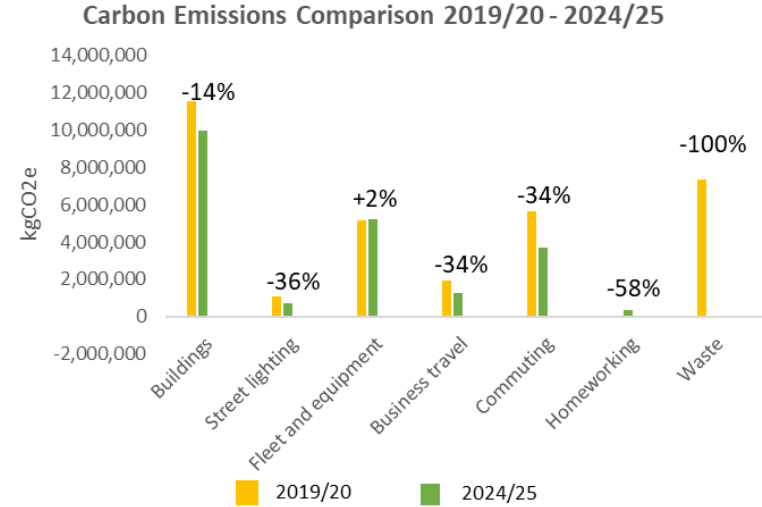
Where are we on the journey of reaching net zero by 2030, and does the 2024/25 data show we are on the right track?

Over the 6 years between 2019/20 and 2024/25, the Council invested £6.8m in the projects in the CNEP, but this more than doubled in value as we also attracted £13.5m in external grants over the same period.

Between 2019/20 and 2024/25, we managed to reduce our carbon emissions by 35% across the fields of buildings and energy, business travel, street lighting, fleet, waste, commuting and working from home.



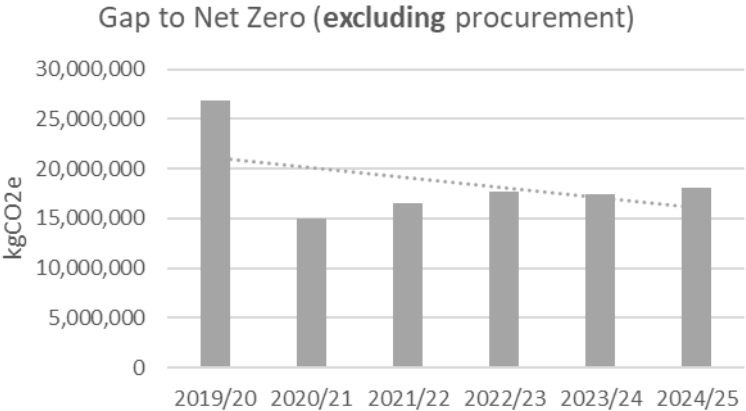
The change since 2019/20 varies according to the individual fields, as shown in the chart below. More information on the reasons behind the change can be found in chapters 6 - 12.



### The Gap to Net Zero

In simple terms, the gap to net zero is the amount of CO<sub>2</sub>e that we need to remove in order to reach our ambition: "Cyngor Gwynedd will be net-zero carbon and ecologically positive by 2030." The total CO<sub>2</sub>e is calculated by deducting the value of the total carbon being absorbed from the total carbon being emitted.

By looking at our carbon emissions and absorption data, **excluding** procurement data, our gap to net zero is 32% less in 2024/25 compared with 2019/20 and 4% higher than in 2023/24.



The net zero gap for 2024/25 is 18,132,729 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e. This is slightly less than the emissions deriving from our buildings, fleet and commuting together. It is also almost 6 times more than the absorption value of our lands.

A substantial drop in emissions and a substantial increase in absorption levels will be required if we are to reach the ambition of being net zero by 2030.



## 6. Buildings and Energy

---

Carbon emissions from buildings and energy in 2024/25 is 49% of the total (excluding procurement), representing a 14% reduction from 2019/20 and an 8% reduction from 2023/24.

Carbon emissions from street lighting in 2024/25 are 3% of the total (excluding procurement), representing a 36% decrease from 2019/20 and a 1% increase from 2023/24.

### What did we say we would do in 2024/25?

#### Short-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2023/24

##### Projects:

1. Aim for long-term benefits when planning construction or building renovations.
2. De-carbonise the Council's energy supply.
3. Use Passivhaus low carbon construction methods in developing our innovative housing pilot scheme.
4. Offer advice and information to Gwynedd residents about the benefits and opportunities of using low carbon building methods when building homes and low carbon heating/energy systems to maintain a home.

5. Set individual room heating regulations to reduce the energy required to heat a building.
6. Upgrade street-lights and traffic signs to use less energy.
7. Improve the energy infrastructure in Gwynedd and north Wales to maintain low carbon energy and transport systems.

##### What did we do?

In reality, each of the above projects have continued beyond the 'short-term' period, either because maintenance work is an ongoing responsibility or because we have seen an increase in the demand for the work.

**Project 1** –The work of improving the fabric of buildings to make them more energy efficient (projects 1, 9 & 14) is ongoing work that has been underway by us as a Council for over a decade. See the information about projects 9 and 14 below for more details.

Our long-term goal is to plan developments to the fabric of buildings by modelling them in the *Passivhaus Planning Package* (PHPP), which is a method of designing buildings that are as efficient as possible in terms of energy.

**Projects 2 and 7** - The Council has continued to increase the amount of electricity we produce through solar panels, which in turn reduces the amount of electricity needs to be purchased through the national grid and reducing carbon emissions. See the report on Project 9 for more information.

During 2023/24 and 2024/25, the Council worked with Ambition North Wales, the ARUP company and local stakeholders to develop a Local Energy Plan. The Local Energy Plan intends to create an integrated low carbon energy system for Gwynedd, improving existing infrastructure which will in turn support all sectors to transform their current energy use. The plan will be presented to the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet in 2025/26, but discussions with regional and national partners continue, in order to agree how the plan can be implemented and funded.

**Project 3** – Passivhaus principles are a consideration as the Council plans new buildings, e.g. Ysgol Bontnewydd. The exact construction methods are agreed on a development-by-development basis. See the report on Project 14 for more details.

**Project 4** - ECO 4 is a plan that is funded by Welsh Government but is administered by the Council. It provides funding for energy efficiency improvements in the home such as a new central heating system, upgrades to the current heating system and/or insulation and/or solar panels. Our tackling poverty officers and energy advisers have been holding face-to-face

information sessions in our communities as well as answering queries via the website or by phone and helping residents to take advantage of the ECO 4 scheme.

Between October 2022 and April 2025, 753 houses in Gwynedd saw an improvement in their energy performance. The EPC (Energy Performance Certificate) changed for the better, with 70 increasing to A, 563 to B and 101 to C. This means that there has been an expenditure of over £10M on houses in Gwynedd since the beginning of ECO 4.

As well as the ECO 4 scheme, during 2024/25, 656 energy vouchers to the value of £24,719 were distributed to residents in need who are on a pre-payment meter. Since the beginning of the scheme in 2022, 5,671 energy vouchers have been shared, which have helped the people of Gwynedd directly.

**Project 5** - We have centralised systems for heat management in buildings, so we do not see the need to move forward with imposing individual room heating regulations at this time. This need may change in future if the Internet of Things project (within the Cyngor Gwynedd Digital Plan 2023-28) demonstrates that there is added value to changing the current system.

**Project 6** – This project to change streetlamps and traffic to LED ones started in 2016/17, and the bulk of this project was completed by the end of 2022/23, leading to a substantial reduction in electricity use and financial costs.

During 2022/23, the Council adopted responsibility for large parts of the A487 around Caernarfon from the North and Mid Wales Trunk Roads Agent, and as a result, many additional street lamps that needed to be changed to LEDs, which led to a further increase in cost and electricity use.

By the end of 2024/25, most of this additional work had been completed, and although an increase of 1.2% was seen in spending on electricity compared to the previous year, the fact that we had installed LED lamps led to a 1% reduction in carbon emissions. Although the emissions from streetlights is very small (3% excluding procurement), those emissions derive from the fact that the electricity which powers them comes from the national grid.

## Medium-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2026/27

### Projects:

8. Save 5% of carbon emissions from buildings by bringing them up to the CIBSE 'good practice' standard.
9. Reduce our carbon emissions by expanding our use of solar panels to create renewable energy.
10. Electrification of building heating systems to reduce carbon emissions.
11. Install EC (*electronically commutated*) ventilation fans in buildings in order to reduce the energy required to run them, compared to the usual fans.

12. Upgrade specialist lighting in leisure centres to reduce energy consumption.

### What did we do?

**Project 8** - Possibly the easiest and most obvious method of reducing emissions from buildings is to reduce the demand and use of energy. The Council has installed a Buildings Management System in over 100 of our buildings, which enables us to take readings and manage energy use remotely. By monitoring this system regularly, it is possible to identify any waste from energy immediately and resolve the problem. This monitoring work saves approximately £250,000-£300,000 per annum, as well as save carbon emissions.

This monitoring work has also shown us that our use of gas has been 10% higher in 2024/25 than in 2023/24, because there were 10% more low temperature days. This increase explains the 8% increase in emissions from buildings during the year. We will continue to be reliant on gas as a heating source until the fabric of our buildings have been adapted, and that they are ready for heat pumps.

Every other project also contributes to the aim of this project of reducing carbon emissions from our buildings.

**Project 9** - Following the Council's decision to invest £2.8m to extend our plans to install PV solar panels, by the end of March 2025, solar panels had been installed on 66 of our sites.

There was some delay in the work programme as it emerged that this work needed to be tied in with any other refurbishment or energy planning work done to buildings. We are also restricted to carry out work to school buildings during school holidays only. For example, it took six weeks over the summer holidays in 2024 to install solar panels at Ysgol Llanbedrog, and there was a need to wait until the summer holidays 2025, before doing further work to install heat pumps. We are also busy remodelling how much electricity is needed for several of our buildings as we measure whether we need to install electric vehicle charging points.

Nevertheless, the work is continuing, with plans already afoot to install more PV panels on 22 sites (schools, care homes and offices) by the end of 2025.

**Project 10** – The Council successfully attracted a significant grant to fund a pilot project to install heating pumps at 3 sites, and the Council's Cabinet agreed to contribute 10% of equivalent costs (£194,535). Clause 1 of installing the heat pumps on school sites has started during the 2024 summer holidays and will be completed during the 2025 summer holidays. Now, heat pumps have been installed in five of our schools. See also the link between this project and project 9.

**Project 11** – Ventilation fans will be installed on 1 school site and 1 care home site as part of the heat pumps project (Project 10).

**Project 12** – The Council's Cabinet agreed to contribute £416,617 towards the running costs of a pilot scheme to install LED lighting at six sites. The work of installing the lights has slipped because there was a need to prioritise time to install heat pumps, but the Energy Unit and Maintenance Unit has collaborated to continue with the work in Ysgol Friars over the summer 2025, with the intention to complete the work by the end of the 2025/26 financial year. The carbon and financial savings will be measured before the value of extending the scheme to replace lighting across the rest of the Council estate is decided.

## Long-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2029/30

### Project:

13. Increase our carbon 'credit' by installing solar farms to produce energy that the Council can use or sell.

### What did we do?

**Project 13** – This project is not currently a priority because the financial costs of connecting to the national grid are so high, and because the Council, under existing data reporting arrangements, cannot claim the 'carbon credit' on any electricity generated. Nevertheless, the Local Energy Plan has identified

opportunities to develop solar farms, and we will continue to discuss how to fund such pilot projects. See also project 9.

## Ongoing Priorities

### Projects:

14. Improve the fabric of Council-owned buildings to make them as energy efficient as possible.
15. Prevent the over-development of fossil fuel energy schemes.
16. Maximise the benefits that come from implementing our energy and heating policies.
17. Equipment used within Council buildings to be as energy efficient as possible.

### What did we do?

**Project 14** - In order to get the biggest benefit from any plans to save energy, such as installing solar panels or heat pumps, it is necessary to improve the fabric of buildings first.

During 2024/25, the Council succeeded to attract a grant of £1.7m through the Welsh Government's Low Carbon Heat grant in order to upgrade the Plas Ogwen residential home in Bethesda, to the EnerPHit standard, namely retrofit Passivhaus. This may be the first residential home of its kind in Britain. The work is expected to lead to a saving of 80% in carbon emissions deriving from heating.

**Project 15** – This matter has been addressed in the creation of the Local Energy Plan (Projects 2 & 7), and also in the development of the Gwynedd Local Development Plan 2024-2039.

**Project 16** – Projects 1-17 contribute to this aim.

**Project 17** – After adopting the Cyngor Gwynedd Digital Plan 2023-28, projects are afoot to save energy, reduce the use of paper and reduce waste. Now, in 2025/26, there is a new agreement in place to provide printing and photocopying machines, which will lead to a reduction in financial costs and carbon emissions.

## Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The above projects contribute to the objectives below:

**Objective 2:** Protecting species and habitats of paramount importance and improving their management

**Objective 3:** Increasing the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and creating new habitats

**Objective 5:** Improving our evidence, understanding and monitoring

See Project 15 above.

## 7. Movement and Transport

---

Carbon emissions from the Council's fleet in 2024/25 are 24% of the total (excluding procurement) which is a 2% decrease from 2019/20 and a 3% increase from 2023/24.

Carbon emissions from buildings and energy in 2024/25 is 17% of the total (excluding procurement), representing a 34% reduction from 2019/20 and a 6% reduction from 2023/24.

Carbon emissions from business travel in 2024/25 are 6% of the total (excluding procurement) which is a 34% decrease from 2019/20 and a 4% increase from 2023/24.

### What did we say we would do in 2024/25?

#### Short-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2023/24

##### Projects:

1. Move away from using fossil fuel vehicles towards a fleet of ULEV (ultra-low emission vehicles) vehicles (cars and vans).
2. Install electric vehicle charging points for Council vehicles.
3. Install electric vehicle charging points for Gwynedd residents.
4. Reduce business travel.

5. Reduce carbon emissions and parking problems in areas that are popular with visitors.

##### What did we do?

**Project 1** – Since adopting our Green Fleet Plan 2023-29 in January 2023, our policy is to buy new electric vehicles (EV) where possible as the current fleet of petrol and diesel cars reach the end of their lifespan. At the end of 2024/25, the Council succeeded to attract a grant of £124,379 from the Welsh Government in order to purchase 11 electric vehicles: 9 small vans and 2 minibuses. We should see financial savings as well as carbon savings as new cars are used during 2025/26.

By the end of 2024/25, 79 electric vehicles and 9 Hybrid vehicles are in the fleet, which is 43% of all the cars and vans we own. We have calculated the electricity use of these vehicles within the fleet emissions total for 2024/25, rather than within the building electric use, as we did in 2023/24. Nevertheless, our electric fleet is responsible for 0.4% of all the Council's fleet emissions, which shows the difference that this change has done to our net zero journey.

**Project 2** – The Council successfully attracted a grant of £406,897 at the end of 2024/25, in order to install 21 charging points on 11 Council sites, as well as 6 batteries on 6 sites which

will be able to store energy being generated by our solar panels, which in turn, could feed the charging points.

By the end of March 2025, there were 52 charging points operational at 11 sites, with a programme of work to install further points over an additional 6 sites having already commenced during 2025/26.

**Project 3** - By the end of 2023/24, the Council owns and manages 38 charging points for the public in 10 locations and 14 additional charging points in 4 Council-owned sites are managed by Transport for Wales. As a Council, we are working with Transport for Wales and Eryri National Park in planning the locations of public charging points. A much higher number of machines have been installed but we are waiting for the electricity connection to be authorised.

A grant of £105,000 was attracted from the ULEV fund to enable us to install charging points during 2024/25. Our ongoing programme to install public charging points continues during 2025/26 and this will be reviewed as we assess the needs of the future.

**Project 4** – As a Council, we hold several internal and public meetings virtually, including all major Council meetings – Full Council, Cabinet, Scrutiny, Planning – significantly reducing the need to travel to workplaces. This approach has resulted in a significant 34% reduction in carbon emissions from business travel since 2019/20. Nevertheless, a small increase of 4% was seen between 2023/24 and 2024/25 as more meetings and site

visits were conducted in personal petrol and diesel cars, rather than via virtual meetings. Since the Council adopted the Hybrid Working Scheme, staff need to work from a work location for 2 days a week (full-time basis), therefore the number of business journeys has increased.

Moving forward, we have started to enable staff to use the Council's electric fleet vehicles, instead of their personal cars. We are also going to correct the accuracy of the 'grey fleet' carbon emissions, or use of personal vehicles to travel on business journeys, to collect information on electric vehicles as well as petrol and diesel.

**Project 5** - One of the great successes of an integrated transport system is the Sherpa'r Wyddfa bus service, which is a network of bus services around the Wyddfa catchment area that increase active travel options to reduce parking problems in popular areas in Eryri. Since the pre-booking system was introduced at the Pen y Pass car park in 2021, and an increased Sherpa'r Wyddfa service, there have only been 2 cases of dangerous parking on Llanberis Pass where the police have been called - an obvious comparison with previous years.

In August 2024, 72,296 people used the Sherpa service, an increase of 79% since August 2023, and this is the first time that the number of passengers exceeded 70,000 in a month.



## Long-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2029/30

### Project:

6. Have low carbon or zero carbon fuel options for the Council's heavy fleet

### What did we do?

**Project 6** - 32% of all Council fleet emissions for 2024/25 derive from vehicles (most are HGVs) which are involved with the work of waste transportation. We are not of the opinion that there are suitable electricity or hydrogen options available on the market at present, which will enable us to move away from the existing diesel vehicles. Nevertheless, converting the fleet from heavy vehicles to use electric or hydrogen is a long-term process, and Council officers are collaborating with Ambition North Wales on their Hydrogen Hub project and with the Welsh Local Government Association, to share new developments and good practice amongst local authorities.

## Ongoing Priorities

### Projects:

7. Reduce carbon emissions through staff commuting habits
8. Encourage active travel among staff – in the interests of health and well-being and to reduce carbon emissions

9. Encourage active travel among residents and visitors to Gwynedd to improve physical and mental well-being and reduce carbon emissions of short car journeys
10. Increase opportunities for community organisations to access EV or ULEV vehicles or use low carbon technology

### What did we do?

**Projects 7 and 8** - The Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board, of which the Council is a member, adopted the Active Travel Charter in 2024/25. The Active Travel Task Group in the Council is leading on work to encourage active travel by trialling various initiatives for staff to change their daily travel habits, and our active travel champions have been encouraging staff to change their travel-to-work habits. An exciting new development was the creation of an app which compares the financial cost and carbon emissions of a bus journey and car journey, and this led to setting a challenge for staff to travel on a bus. A session was held during the Wales Climate Week in November 2024 for staff to trial electric bikes, jointly with Yr Orsaf enterprise from Penygroes, and this has led to many similar sessions in 2025/26.

The Council has a Green Car Scheme and a Green Bike Scheme available to most staff, which are salary sacrifice schemes to lease an electric/hybrid car or a new bike. We have been encouraging staff to take full advantage of these opportunities, holding several open days to pilot electric bikes. A total of 32

staff members have taken advantage of the bicycle scheme and 16 have leased an electric or hybrid car during 2024/25.

**Project 9** – Several long-term projects were in progress during 2024/25 - Safe walking and cycling paths on Penrhos Road, Bangor; new paths and improved access to Ysgol Rhostryfan and Ysgol Treferthyr, Cricieth, as well as minor improvements to other parts of the network. The Council is protecting and developing a network of Lonydd Glas across the county, which offer a total of 31.5 miles of safe walking and cycling paths. The Lôn Las Ogwen path was reopened during the year, after upgrading the structures along it. The public footpaths, rights of way and paths that are a part of the Wales Coast Path network are also being maintained by Cyngor Gwynedd, for the benefit of residents and visitors. See also Projects 5, 7 & 8 above.

**Project 10** – Discussions have commenced during the year between the Council and community energy enterprises in order to investigate the possibility of collaborating on a project to generate renewable energy in car parks. This work will continue in 2025/26.

### Further observations

Cyngor Gwynedd took major steps forward during 2024/25 to expand our fleet of electric vehicles, and this has obviously been successful as only 0.4% of all fleet emissions derive from electric vehicles.

32% of the fleet's emissions derive from heavy waste collection vehicles, therefore, it should be noted that these emissions are recorded under the fleet heading, not under waste. As noted above, currently, there are no viable alternative electricity options to diesel HGV vehicles, and therefore it will be very difficult to reduce the waste fleet emissions further.

Although we have replaced small petrol and diesel cars and vans for electric ones as they reach the end of their lifespan, we have unfortunately been unable to reduce the number of vehicles in our fleet. The increasing demand for services, as well as the need to have a fleet which serves a geographically large county, means that reducing the miles being travelled, is a big challenge. Nevertheless, the work is continuing in 2025/26, in order to rationalise the number of vehicles in our fleet to maintain necessary services whilst also reducing the carbon emissions of our fleet's journeys.

## Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The above projects contribute to the objectives below:

**Objective 2:** Protecting species and habitats of paramount importance and improving their management

One of the positive side effects of increasing the provision of public transport in the Eryri area (Project 5) is that the incidence of irresponsible and dangerous parking has reduced. In turn, this has helped to protect biodiversity on road verges and near locations that support fragile biodiversity.

**Objective 3:** Increasing the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and creating new habitats

Projects 5, 8 and 9 above run alongside the Council's work to maintain public rights of way, and to maintain grounds. Whilst looking after the county's network of 'lonydd glas', cycle and walking paths we have been protecting path and road verges to maintain and enhance biodiversity.

Cyngor Gwynedd is responsible for a Rights of Way network which is approximately 3,800km long and open to pedestrians, horse riders, cyclists, horse and cart and motor vehicles.

## 8. Waste

---

Carbon emissions from Council waste in 2024/25 are 0% of the total (excluding procurement) which is a 100% reduction from 2019/20 and since 2023/24.

### What did we say we would do in 2024/25?

#### Short-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2023/24

##### Projects:

1. Promote a circular economy in order to reduce the number of items being disposed of and reducing carbon emissions in the supply chain from the purchase of new goods
2. Reduce the amount of street waste that is disposed and increase the amount of street waste that is recycled
3. Reduce paper use

##### What did we do?

**Projects 1, 4, 5 and 6** – The Council worked closely with a number of community initiatives on new projects to boost the circular economy in Gwynedd, all funded by Welsh Government. The following projects ran successfully during 2024/25: Sied Werdd with Antur Waunfawr, Gofodau Ffiws and Ar y Lôn with MSparc, and Repair Cafés. As a part of the Ffiws project, the

Revolving Fund has earmarked grant funding of £319,156 to 24 enterprises across Gwynedd. The purpose of the fund is to support enterprises to act in a more cyclical manner, to reuse and/or reduce their waste. A new services was commenced during 2024/25 when a Paint Shed was commenced in 4 recycling centres to re-distribute paint to the public: Llandegai, Pwllheli, Garndolbenmaen and Dolgellau.

**Project 2** – A work programme of installing public recycling bins on popular beaches was completed, with the final ones being installed after completing the redevelopment work in Dinas Dinlle. Work continues to install the bins at our temporary camping sites, Arosfan. We are continually assessing the need to install public recycling bins in sites across the county, therefore we will install bins in the towns of Caernarfon, Pwllheli, Blaenau Ffestiniog and Dolgellau as a part of broader work to 'improve town centres'. As there has been an increase in the bulk of street waste being recycled, by the end of the year it became apparent that we need to take a step back to measure whether we collect the waste in the most efficient way. In 2025/26, we will reassess the waste collection fleet requirements in order to make the best use of our scarce resources.

**Project 3** – One change to our internal working arrangements which has remained since the Covid-19 period is reducing the

use of paper in offices, and a decision not to print papers for meeting, unless there is a reasonable exception for doing so.

During the year, we have been preparing a new five-year contract for printers across the Council's sites, with the numbers reduced. By the end of 2024/25, a new plan and tender had been drawn up, ready for publication, and the new arrangements will substantially reduce the use of paper and save energy.

## Medium-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2026/27

### Project:

4. Reduce the number of items arriving at waste incineration sites by encouraging people to repair and re-use (Repair Cafés)

### What did we do?

See Project 1 above.

## Ongoing Priorities

### Project:

5. Repair and modify equipment that would otherwise be disposed of and incinerated, and sold

6. Reduce food waste by supporting community projects seeking to re-distribute food that would otherwise be discarded

### What did we do?

**Project 5** – See Project 1 above.

**Project 6** - A new Food Grant Fund was opened for 2024/25 to support community schemes which addresses and reduces food waste, redistributes residual food and addresses food poverty and affordability. The fund was financed with a grant of £40,000 from the Welsh Government.

## Further observations

When talking about 'waste', we are referring to waste generated by Gwynedd residents and businesses, as well as the waste that Cyngor Gwynedd itself is responsible for as an organisation.

The emissions under the 'waste' heading derives from waste treatment processes, whilst the emissions deriving from collecting and transporting waste for processing are calculated under the 'fleet' heading. 32% of fleet emissions in 2024/25 derived from waste collection and transportation.

Further changes have been made to the methodology of calculating waste carbon emissions in 2024/25. Now, all waste treatment methods, except for landfill (e.g. recycling,

incineration, anaerobic digestion, etc.) give us a figure of zero. All residual waste from Gwynedd residents and businesses is treated on the Parc Adfer site in Deeside, where it is incinerated to generate energy, therefore no waste is taken to landfill.

We also started to develop a new Waste and Recycling Strategy during 2024/25, and this will be published in 2025/26.

## Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The above projects contribute to the objectives below:

**Objective 1:** Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision-making at all levels

When developing the projects involved in the scheme to boost the circular economy, we consulted continuously with all our community partners, and officers at many levels within the Council have been considering the impact of the projects on biodiversity.

**Objective 2:** Protecting species and habitats of paramount importance and improving their management

**Objective 3:** Increasing the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and creating new habitats

**Objective 4:** Addressing key pressures on species and habitats

Projects 4, 5 and 6 above contribute to objectives 2, 3 and 4 as our food hubs and community gardens have assessed their influence on biodiversity and developed them in a way that will not harm the surrounding environment.

## 9. Governance

---

### What did we say we would do in 2024/25?

#### Short-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2023/24

##### Projects:

1. Share information publicly about the work the Council is doing to reduce carbon emissions to encourage others to change habits
2. Support communities to plan and deliver local solutions to local needs

##### What did we do?

**Project 1** – We regularly share information about projects the Council is involved in through our social media and press releases and share information about opportunities to save energy and money through the Eco4 scheme.

We held local campaigns in specific communities during the year in an attempt to change the behaviour of residents and encourage them to recycle more.

Resource shortages remain a barrier for us to progress with the broader work of influencing and changing the habits of

residents, but this is a matter that we will address as we review our Climate and Nature Emergency Plan. We are also involved in the work of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Service Board to realise their [Well Being Plan](#). One of the 3 Well-being Objectives of the scheme is "We want to work together to support our services and communities to shift towards Net Zero Carbon".

**Project 2** - Our energy saving roadshows share information about the financial support available for residents to adapt their homes, as well as offer information about energy and money-saving methods.

Our other projects as a Council also contribute to helping and influencing residents' habits – Clean and Tidy Communities, circular economy projects such as supporting food hubs, Ffiws/Repair Café (see the 'Waste' chapter for more details).

#### Medium-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2026/27

##### Project:

3. Elected members and staff who:
  - understand the implications of the impact of climate change

- make decisions based on information about the effects
- act in the most positive manner possible towards mitigating the impact of climate change and being ecologically positive

### What did we do?

**Project 3** - The Climate and Nature training e-module was launched at the beginning of 2024/25, and it is regularly promoted to encourage staff and elected members to complete it.

The members of the Council's Climate and Nature Board, i.e. the in-house group that sets a strategic direction and monitors the work's development, receives regular information about relevant matters before they make a decision, including financial decisions.

Substantial progress was seen during the year in the information and news of events being shared with staff and members via our new newsletter. The Climate and Nature section on the intranet, the newsletter and the information being shared through the in-house bulletin and staff Facebook page, are effective ways of sharing information and help change behaviour also.

## Ongoing Priorities

### Project:

4. Encourage staff to develop careers in areas that reduce the impact of climate change or are ecologically positive
5. Review current Council policies and strategies so that reducing carbon emissions or reducing the impact of climate change is a factor in reaching a decision

### What did we do?

**Project 4** – The Council has two schemes that are successful in attracting applicants, an apprenticeship scheme and a professional trainee scheme ('Cynllun Yfory') for graduates. In September 2024, the first Climate Change Professional Trainee commenced in post. Work also commenced to recruit an Ecological Planning Professional Trainee and Energy Apprentice for the summer of 2025.

**Project 5** - During the year, a lot of time was spent developing a new Local Energy Scheme for Gwynedd which will go before the Cabinet in 2025/26, and an EV Vehicle Charging Strategy is also being developed, again to be adopted in 2025/26.



## Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The above projects contribute to the objectives below:

**Objective 1:** Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision-making at all levels

Work has been carried out with Town and Community Councils to inform them of their duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

**Objective 6:** Implementing a governance framework and support for achieving the objectives

The work carried out under projects 3 and 5 contributes to the realisation of Objectives 1 and 6.

## 10. Procurement

---

72% of the Council's carbon emissions during 2024/25 were from our procurement processes, which is a 35% increase from 2019/20 and a 34% increase from 2023/24.

The method of measuring procurement carbon emissions, or the supply chain, is based on spending alone. Simply put, the higher the spending, the greater the emissions. The increasing cost of purchasing goods and services therefore leads to an increase in carbon emissions under the 'procurement' heading. The formula to measure the emissions has also changed since 2023/24, therefore although the increase in spending in a field such as social care is moderate, the increase in the formula leads to a substantial increase in emissions.

The areas where the Council spends most through procurement agreements are: health and social care; food and goods; construction.

### What did we say we would do in 2024/25?

#### Ongoing Priorities

##### Projects:

1. Providing market support, particularly to local providers, to be able to measure the impact of their operations on their carbon footprint

2. Understanding and measuring carbon emissions when realising contracts in the procurement chain

#### What did we do?

**Project 1** - The Council chose to focus on helping businesses providing health and social care in 2024/25 in order to reduce their carbon emissions and to measure the emissions. This will help reduce Gwynedd's emissions as a county and give us an option as a Council to measure the procurement emissions more accurately - based on Carbon Management Plan reports instead of the financial value of the contract. We collaborated with Business Wales to hold on-line workshops for companies, and then they have received one-to-one support from Business Wales to create a Carbon Management Plan.

We made changes to the requirements in the school transport contracts in 2024/25, placing more emphasis on rewarding providers using less polluting vehicles. We also supported the commencement of a pilot 'Vegetables from Wales for Welsh Schools' scheme, bringing local organic food growers together with local schools. We look forward to seeing the development of this project in 2025/26.

**Project 2** - The work under Project 1 above supports providers to be able to measure their carbon emissions more accurately, but in order

to get the best from this, Council officers also need to understand how to support them. To help with this, we reviewed our Sustainable Procurement Policy and developed guidance for staff who commission contracts to supervise how providers report on reducing carbon.

## Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The above projects contribute to the objectives below:

**Objective 5:** Improving our evidence, understanding and monitoring

**Objective 6:** Implementing a governance framework and support for achieving the objectives

The two above projects contribute to these two Objectives, as receiving and monitoring Carbon Management Plans give us evidence of how providers are going to protect biodiversity.

## 10. Land Use

All Council lands (which include 'brownfield' sites that have been constructed) absorbed a value of 3,123,254 kgCO<sub>2e</sub> net of carbon in 2024/25. This is 47% less than in 2019/20 and a 1% increase from 2023/24.

Offsetting the carbon absorbed against our carbon emissions contributes to reducing the gap to net zero.

### What did we say we would do in 2024/25?

#### Medium-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2026/27

##### Projects:

1. Identify the contribution of Council-owned trees to carbon absorption and storage and flood reduction
2. Identify the contribution of Council-owned lands to carbon absorption and storage and flood reduction
3. Establish tree nurseries to grow trees ready for planting
4. Identify opportunities to plant trees as part of the National Forest for Wales initiative

5. Conserve agricultural land in Gwynedd and using it for a competent purpose, and managing afforestation projects

##### What did we do?

**Projects 1 and 7** – Essential maintenance work continued to be carried out on 8 sites of Council-owned woodland, and repairs were carried out in Parc Dudley, Waunfawr, and in ancient woodland in Parc Meurig, Bethesda, which is now safe and open to the public to enjoy.

**Project 2** - Parcels of Council land were identified to convert to wildflower meadows which increases the land's ability to absorb more carbon. Planting wildflower meadows, particularly on road verges, is now ongoing work, and we regularly share information on the advantages of this with residents.

The Welsh Government continues to collaborate with Data Map Wales on an on-line tool which will enable local government to measure the carbon value of lands in their ownership.

The work of identifying lands for their flood reduction potential occurs with the creation of a Flood Risk Management Strategy (see Section 12).

**Projects 3 and 4** - Two small-scale nurseries were established as a part of the Gwynedd Nature Partnership. The purpose of the nurseries is to grow a supply of local trees to plant on public land. The importance of this became apparent after Storm Darragh, when there was a need to replant to replace fallen trees.

The Gwynedd Nature Partnership is partnering with several external organisations to maintain native tree nurseries and trees which are native to Gwynedd. We collaborated with three care homes to promote active gardening, including protecting plant buds for Council use.

**Project 5** - During the year, the Ffermio Bro project was launched, which is a nature-friendly farming programme administered by Llŷn AONB - [Llŷn AONB - Home](#).

**Project 6** - Unfortunately, the demand to deal with an increasing number of trees suffering from Ash Dieback disease is placing further pressures on our scarce resources. However, the team responsible for the work has been able to use the Ezytreev software to keep a detailed record of any tree that has to be felled, including its carbon value. They then collaborate with the Biodiversity Team and community organisations to plant new trees.

**Project 7** – See Project 1 above.

## Ongoing Priorities

### Projects:

6. Controlling Ash Dieback Disease in trees and compensating for any carbon emissions as a result of felling trees
7. Council-owned woods are protected to maximise their potential to absorb carbon and become habitats for nature

What did we do?

## Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The above projects contribute to the objectives below:

**Objective 1:** Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision-making at all levels

**Objective 6:** Implementing a governance framework and support for achieving the objectives

Cyngor Gwynedd leads the work of the Gwynedd Nature Partnership, a collective of organisations and individuals who act to protect and enhance biodiversity in the county. A fundamental operating principle of the Partnership is to consult with communities to plan projects at grass roots level.

**Objective 2:** Protecting species and habitats of paramount importance and improving their management

Projects 1 – 7 contribute to the realisation of this objective.

**Objective 3:** Increasing the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and creating new habitats

Projects 1 – 7 contribute to the realisation of this objective.

**Objective 4:** Addressing key pressures on species and habitats

Projects 1 – 7 contribute to the realisation of this objective.

**Objective 5:** Improving our evidence, understanding and monitoring

The Council has continued to collaborate with the Cofnod recording system which helps us to create a baseline for biodiversity across Gwynedd.

# 11. Ecology

---

What did we say we would do in 2024/25?

Short-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2023/24

**Projects:**

1. Identify the steps we need to take to protect nature's habitats and biodiversity into the future
2. Identify our valuable species and habitats and what measures are needed to protect and restore them

What did we do?

**Project 1** - Work had continued during the year to produce our revised Nature Recovery Plan for the county and for the Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and the plans will be published during 2025/26.

**Project 2** - Alongside developing the Nature Recovery Plan, we have also been using Cofnod processes to map species, and this work continues. We are also in the process of drawing up a Green Infrastructure Assessment as part of the work of drawing up a new Local Development Plan.

Medium-term Priorities 2022/23 – 2026/27

**Projects:**

3. Increase the number of pollinators by conserving habitats or planting new habitats (landfill sites)
4. Support voluntary and community organisations and town and community councils that protect or enhance nature

What did we do?

**Projects 3 and 5** - The work of planting wildflower meadows and new habitats for pollinators continued during 2024/25. The Gwynedd Nature Partnership has created over 50 hectares of wildflower meadows on Council lands, and this is 25% of the national target for the Partnerships across Wales. The work of creating wildflower meadows on road verges is being extended in Meirionnydd, and we will be commissioning work to review the impact of this work on improving local biodiversity.

**Projects 3 and 6** - There are two sites in Gwynedd that used to be landfill sites which have now been converted into [Wild Landfill sites](#) to protect and promote nature. Maintenance and tree planting work was carried out at Llwyn Isaf near Clynnog and Ffridd Rasus near Harlech and both sites have also received

a 'gold standard' from [Restor](#), the international hub for nature recovery. The links with academic organisations have strengthened, which has led to a path to develop 'green careers' and visits by schools.

**Projects 4 & 5** - The Council is leading the work of the Gwynedd Nature Partnership, which is a collection of community organisations, community councils and individuals who work to protect and promote biodiversity in Gwynedd ([Wales Biodiversity Partnership - Gwynedd](#)).

A variety of town and community councils received financial support organisations from the Gwynedd Nature Partnership in 2024/25, and the highlights of the year include improvements to community gardens, improvements to urban green spaces, open days in community orchards, citizen science projects, and community maps.

In addition, the Council held many activities for local residents, and they were very popular. Over 300 came to 'trees and nature' open days at Plas Glyn-y-Weddw, and many beach clearing and seagrass seed collections have been organised for the local community by [Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau Special Area of Conservation \(SAC\)](#).

Information about the work of the Gwynedd Nature Partnership, Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau, Llŷn AONB and Council biodiversity teams are all shared via social media channels regularly, as well as in the Llygad Llŷn and O Dan y Don magazines.

**Project 6** - In addition to the work described under projects 3, 4 and 5, the work of [Welcome to Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau Special Conservation Area website | Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau](#) is essentially important to protect the health of the biodiversity of the Llŷn and Meirionnydd coast. The work done to plant and protect seagrass makes a substantial contribution to carbon absorption, but it is not possible for us as a Council to calculate the value of this within our own carbon absorption statistics at present.

## Ongoing Priorities

### Projects:

5. Nurturing and maintaining Gwynedd residents' interest in ecological issues so that they want to help conserve nature
6. Protecting valuable habitats for nature

### What did we do?

**Project 5** – See Project 4 above.

**Project 6** – See Project 3 above.



## Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The above projects contribute to the objectives below:

**Objective 1:** Engage and support participation and understanding to embed biodiversity throughout decision-making at all levels

**Objective 5:** Improving our evidence, understanding and monitoring

**Objective 6:** Implementing a governance framework and support for achieving the objectives

All the work we undertake as a Council and through the Local Nature Partnership is designed or delivered in collaboration with local organisations, communities or schools.

Projects 1 and 2 also contribute to the above 3 objectives.

**Objective 2:** Protecting species and habitats of paramount importance and improving their management

Projects 1 – 6 contribute to the realisation of this objective.

**Objective 3:** Increasing the resilience of our natural environment by restoring degraded habitats and creating new habitats

Projects 1 – 6 contribute to the realisation of this objective.

**Objective 4:** Addressing key pressures on species and habitats

Projects 1 – 6 contribute to the realisation of this objective.



## CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET



### Report for a meeting of Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet

<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>14 October 2025</b>
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	<b>Councillor R. Medwyn Hughes</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Llŷr Jones, Assistant Head of Economy and Community</b>
<b>Contact Telephone Number:</b>	<b>01286 679219 Ext 2219</b>
<b>Title of Item:</b>	<b>Dinas Dinlle Car Park Management Plan</b>

#### 1 THE DECISION SOUGHT

That Cabinet supports the proposal in the report to proceed with the process for making a permanent off-street parking order in Dinas Dinlle Car Park.

Delegate authority to the Head of Economy and Community in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy and Community and the Head of Legal Services and in accordance with the Regulations to prepare a draft order, publish a Notice of Intention to make the order with a public consultation period, collate and consider all responses, respond to objectors and modify the proposal if necessary and, subject to these processes Make the final Order and publish a Notice of Making an Order.

#### 2 THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION

Cabinet approval is sought to proceed with the legal steps of introducing a permanent Off-street Parking Order for Dinas Dinlle car park, by following the statutory procedure as set out in the Traffic Orders to Local Authorities (Order) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

The Cabinet is requested to approve the intention of making a new order and ensure that the Councils acts in accordance with the relevant regulations and requirements.

#### 3 INTRODUCTION

The Cabinet has already supported the intention of commencing the process for making a permanent off-street parking order at Dinas Dinlle Car Park.

A report on the Dinas Dinlle Car Park Management Plan was submitted to Cabinet on 10th June 2025, which can be found at the link below:

<https://democracy.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/documents/s44914/Item%206%20-%20Dinas%20Dinlle%20Car%20Park%20Management%20Plan.pdf>

At that time, it was agreed to commence a process for making a permanent off-street

parking order in Dinas Dinlle Car Park and to delegate authority to the Head of Economy and Community in consultation with the Cabinet member and the Head of Legal Services to prepare an order that will make the experimental order permanent, and then to give notice of this in the press in accordance with Regulation 22 and 23 of the Regulations. However, following further legal work it is considered that it would be better to prepare a permanent traffic order on its own as the Experimental Order is no longer operational.

This report is presented to Cabinet in order to provide an update on the work, and recommend that a new parking order be created rather than converting the experimental order into a permanent one. As a result, the new Order would be created under Sections 32-36, 124 (1) and Schedule 9 (Part 4) of the Road Traffic Management Act 1984.

The Dinas Dinlle beach car park is within the responsibilities of the Maritime Service, Economy and Community Department. The car park has been established there for many years, and is popular with a range of users, including local residents and visitors to the area. A location plan of the site has been included as Appendix 1.

During the 2018/19 period, the Council considered a list of financial savings to address the financial deficit facing local authorities in Wales at the time. At its meeting on 19 February 2019, the Cabinet gave its approval to proceed to implement the savings schemes list, which included establishing parking fees on Dinas Dinlle beach.

The proposal was discussed with the Community Council in 2019, acknowledging that further details would need to be developed, as well as an opportunity to incorporate improvements to the site. Unfortunately, the development work had to be paused for a substantial period because of the C-19 period and other resulting priorities.

During 2022/23 the Service identified resources to undertake preparatory work for a scheme to upgrade the car park. In 2023, we managed to obtain grant funding from the Welsh Government's Brilliant Basics programme, subject to spending most of the funding during 2023/4. A contractor was appointed to carry out capital work on the site between October 2023 – March 2024, including resurfacing work, adapting the entrances, marking individual parking bays, providing a bus stop, landscaping and upgrading of facilities such as bins, signage, picnic tables, railings and retaining walls.

Since the capital work was completed, further work has been done by the Service, with the intention of developing a long-term management plan for the site.

#### **4 THE RATIONALE AND JUSTIFICATION FOR RECOMMENDING THE DECISION**

The Maritime Service is responsible for managing and supervising many beaches along the Gwynedd coastline. A beach management plan has been developed with the aim of offering public and safe access to beaches and coastal resources for local residents and visitors, and thus facilitate activities to promote the local economy and contribute towards the well-being of our communities.

The plan identifies the main beaches in Aberdaron, Aberdyfi, Barmouth, Abersoch, Cricieth, Morfa Bychan, Pwllheli, Tywyn and Dinas Dinlle. The Maritime Service is responsible for the safety arrangements of beaches in these locations and appoints seasonal beach wardens to implement them.

The features of these main beaches are very varied, as well as the associated infrastructure and facilities. The car parking provision is an important part of the infrastructure – with parking fees payable for the car parks of the main beaches, with Dinas Dinlle as the only exception. When considering possible arrangements for introducing parking fees at Dinas Dinlle, many operational considerations have also been highlighted, and it is considered that there is an opportunity to establish a broader management plan for the site.

a) Introducing Parking Fees at Dinas Dinlle beach car park (Trial Period)

During initial discussions with the members of Llandwrog Community Council in 2019, it became apparent that there were local concerns around the proposal to introduce parking fees at Dinas Dinlle. Such concerns included the detrimental impact on the businesses and residents of the village, highway safety, and the opinion that the beach served a vast area of Gwynedd residents and contributed to health and well-being.

In the Spring 2024, and after completing the physical work on the site, the Service held further discussions with the Local Members and Members of the Community Council to draw up a package for the site. Following these discussions, it was decided to hold a trial period in August 2024 and introduce parking fees. It was felt that conducting a trial period would be advantageous, and for the period to be reviewed and appraised as part of the work to develop permanent management arrangements for the site.

A Traffic Regulation Order (Trial) was arranged for the site, and the trial period was operational between 16 August and 30 September 2024. During this period, the following parking fees were payable between the hours of 0900 - 1700 daily, via payment machines.

Up to 1 hour: Free  
Up to 2 hours: £2.00  
Up to 3 hours: £3.00  
Up to 8 hours: £6.00  
Season Ticket: £25.00

After the trial period, a public consultation was arranged during October and November, inviting feedback from the residents of local businesses, car park users, statutory organisations and local groups.

The Service has reviewed and appraised the trial period, and the main conclusions are summarised below:

i) Managerial and operational considerations

When operating the arrangements of the trial period, feedback from Maritime Service officers noted:

- A delay in receiving and then connecting the payment machines led to the delay of the trial period.

- The electrical connection was lost during the first weekend of the trial period.
- Very wet weather during the last fortnight in August affected the numbers using the car park.
- The decision was made not to implement enforcement arrangements during the trial period, and many users did not pay the parking fee
- Payment machines worked well overall, but arrangements for the first hour being free were unclear on a few occasions
- It was seen that the gravel level within the grasscrete reduced as it settled, and it needed to be replenished regularly.
- The new entrances and layout of the car park worked well, but there were some cases where drivers ignored the 'one way' system within the car park.

ii) Financial considerations

Three payment machines were installed on the site, with payments being made by card or via the 'Pay By Phone' app. An analysis of the parking tickets was produced during the period of 16 August - 30 September, which is noted below:

Machine	Number of tickets	Number of paid tickets	Number of 'free hour' tickets	Number of season tickets	Income collected
Dinas 1 (southern section)	1411	737	671	3	£1824
Dinas 2 (central section)	231	120	109	2	£336
Dinas 3 (northern section)	652	284	367	1	£696
Sub-total	2,294	1141	1,147	6	£2,856
Pay by Phone	371	371	-	-	£727
Total	2,665	1,512	1,147	6	£3,583

Parking tickets to the value of £3,583 were bought during the trial period.

a) Feedback and observations received during the public consultation

As a part of the public consultation, a bespoke questionnaire was prepared, inviting feedback by residents and local businesses, car park users and local organisations. Copies were available on the Council's website; Siop Gwynedd in Caernarfon and Pwllheli; and at Penygroes and Caernarfon libraries. Letters were sent to the residents of nearby businesses, local organisations, and the campaign was promoted in the press and on social media.

A copy of the report 'Review of Dinas Dinlle Car Park' (December 2024) has been included as Appendix 2.

We do not intend to repeat the report's entire content here, however, it is noted:

- That 248 responses were received (including 4 businesses)
- 43.9% of the individuals used Dinas Dinlle car park at least once a week.
- 82.8% of the individuals used the car park for longer than one hour.
- In terms of the experience of using the car park, 19% stated very good, 25% stated good, 28% stated acceptable, 14% stated poor, 8% stated very poor and 3% did not respond.
- 64% believed the parking fees were too high, and 30% believed that the fee level was fine.
- In terms of the site management arrangements, 50% believed that measures should be included for overnight stays in a vehicle; 36% of the opinion that measures should be included to prevent misuse of the blue badge parking spaces; 34% regarding misuse of the 'keep clear' spaces and the entrances; 28% regarding parking outside the parking bays; and 23% regarding misuse of the new bus stop.
- Enquiries were also made about the impact of parking fees on people facing socio-economic disadvantage, and 64% believed that it would have a negative impact on them.

It is considered that the trial period was very useful and offered an operational experience of the arrangements to be introduced, offering an opportunity to reflect on the experience when drawing up long-term proposals. It is also considered that there is an opportunity to develop new management arrangements for the car park, attempting to address the issues that are broader than parking fees alone.

b) Other considerations for managing the Dinas Dinlle beach car park

A combination of carrying out a trial period, feedback from the public engagement work and the operational experience of the Maritime Service has highlighted many aspects that can be incorporated to the long-term management arrangements for Dinas Dinlle beach car park.

The table below attempts to summarise those aspects, offering recommendations for developing new management arrangements:

	Issue	Rationale (Summary)	Recommendation
i	Parking Fees	The Council's Cabinet has already established the principle of introducing parking fees in Dinas Dinlle as part of a savings package to address a budget deficit. The 2024 trial period has shown	To introduce parking fees as a part of the management arrangements

		that it is practically possible. Fees would also generate a source of income to establish an annual maintenance budget.	
ii.	Seasonal fees	There is a seasonal pattern to the use being made of the car park by visitors. The machines are not suitable to be in an open and coastal location during the Winter months.	To introduce seasonal fees between 01 March – 31 October in line with the Council's parking structure.
iii	Locals Ticket / Season Ticket	It must be acknowledged that concerns have been received about the impact of charging fees on the village's businesses; and many locals who use it regularly (and very often promoting their well-being by doing so). In the survey, 65% believed that the fees were too high; and observations were also received in favour of free parking and / or an annual ticket for local residents. It is considered that an option of an annual ticket, at a reasonable cost, is important to maintain the business of the site, particularly by people making regular use of the car park.	To introduce arrangements offering a season ticket at a reasonable fee
iv	First hour for free	50% of the parking tickets were for a period of 1 hour, and it has been popular. The survey shows that the car park is popular with local residents who use it regularly. It is also considered that the hour assists local businesses and reduces the impact on individuals facing a socio-economic disadvantage.	To introduce a free hour as a part of the proposed fees structure.
v	Overnight stays in vehicles	50% of responses received agree that vehicles which park overnight in the car park should be managed. Practically, people can be prohibited from staying in vehicles overnight.	To introduce measures prohibiting people from staying in vehicles overnight.
vi	Payment machines	The 2024 trial arrangements have shown that the machines work – via card or phone app.	To continue with the existing machines to receive payments
vii	Enforcement Arrangements	During the trial period, cases were seen where users did not pay, as the enforcement arrangements were not operational. There is a need to secure enforcement powers and arrangements to ensure suitable management of the car park.	To introduce enforcement arrangements as part of the management arrangements.
viii	To protect parking	Dedicated spaces have been provided, and there is a need to ensure suitable enforcement powers and arrangements to	To introduce enforcement arrangements as



	spaces for blue badges	protect them from misuse.	part of the management arrangements.
ix	Parking beyond the boundaries	Dedicated spaces have been provided, and there is a need to ensure suitable enforcement powers and arrangements to protect them from misuse.	To introduce enforcement arrangements as part of the management arrangements.
x	Protecting the bus stop	A bespoke public transport bus stop has been provided, and there is a need to secure suitable enforcement powers and arrangements to protect it from misuse.	To introduce enforcement arrangements as part of the management arrangements.
xi	Protection of keep clear areas / entrances	The layout of the car park has been designed to meet technical standards. Suitable enforcement powers and arrangements need to be secured to protect them from misuse.	To introduce enforcement arrangements as part of the management arrangements.
xii	Maintenance work	The upgrade plan has improved the condition and appearance of the car park. Maintenance work is required to ensure that the condition does not deteriorate again. Specifically, the use of the car park in 2024 has highlighted the need to ensure that there is a sufficient level of gravel within the grasscrete.	To earmark around 15% of the income for annual maintenance
xiii	Yellow lines	There are seasonal 'No Waiting' restrictions on a section of the main road in Dinas Dinlle, operational from 10am-7pm between 1 June – 30 September. The restrictions have been marked with a yellow line and were repainted in 2023.	None

c) Proposed Parking Fees Structure

On 1 April 2025, changes came into force which led to an increase within the parking fees structure adopted by Cyngor Gwynedd. The parking fees structure places different car parks in bands, based on their features and location.

In accordance with section ii) of the above table, it is recommended that seasonal fees would be suitable for Dinas Dinlle car park. In accordance with the Council's parking structure (Band 3: Seasonal), a fee would be payable between 1 March and 31 October every year.

The main parking fees structure considers the features and locations of individual car parks. It is recommended that the fees structure for the Dinas Dinlle site considers specific circumstances, including

- Concerns that charging high parking fees could lead to vehicles being parked on the nearby narrow roads network – disrupting highway safety and local amenities
- The aim of the recent investment to create conditions which encourages use of the car park and associated facilities
- A historical close connection between the car park and businesses of Dinas Dinlle village
- The car park meets different needs, and arrangements which reflect that are needed.

As a result, it is recommended that a specific fees structure is considered for Dinas Dinlle to be operational from 0900 - 1700 daily, offering relatively short periods up to daily periods, e.g.:

Up to 1 hour: No fee  
 Up to 2 hours: £2.20  
 Up to 4 hours: £4.20  
 Up to 8 hours: £6.00  
 Season Ticket: £30.00

The following structure is recommended specifically for the Dinas Dinlle beach car park to produce an income stream and contribute to the Service's income targets, taking into account the site's features and restrictions.

#### Update on the current situation

The Council has carried out an initial consultation with designated parties, regarding the proposal to make a permanent traffic order on the Dinas Dinlle car park (in accordance with Regulation 6).

Comments have been received from Llandwrog Community Council which notes the importance of any changes to parking in Dinas Dinlle including:

- Free or affordable licences for the local community.
- Clear and timely communication about the locations of parking orders.

No further comments have been received from the statutory organisations during this initial stage.

## **5 NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE**

Subject to Cabinet approval, the next step would be to issue a notice of proposal to make the order inviting comments/objections within a period of not less than 21 days (Regulation 7). All responses would need to be collated and considered, opponents responded, the proposal modified if necessary. Subject to these processes, the Order would then need to be made under Part 3 of the Regulations. Then under Regulation 17 a second notice would need to be published stating that the order had been made.

## **5 ANY CONSULTATIONS HELD BEFORE RECOMMENDING THE DECISION**

Chief Finance Officer:

“I can confirm that there is an income target for Dinas Dinlle Car Park since Cabinet agreed to introduce a fee and is £57,930 for 2025/26. I therefore welcome the decision sought to formalise the arrangements and ensure consistency with the previous budgetary decision.”

Monitoring Officer :

“This report has been the subject of input from the Legal Services. No observations to add in relation to propriety.”

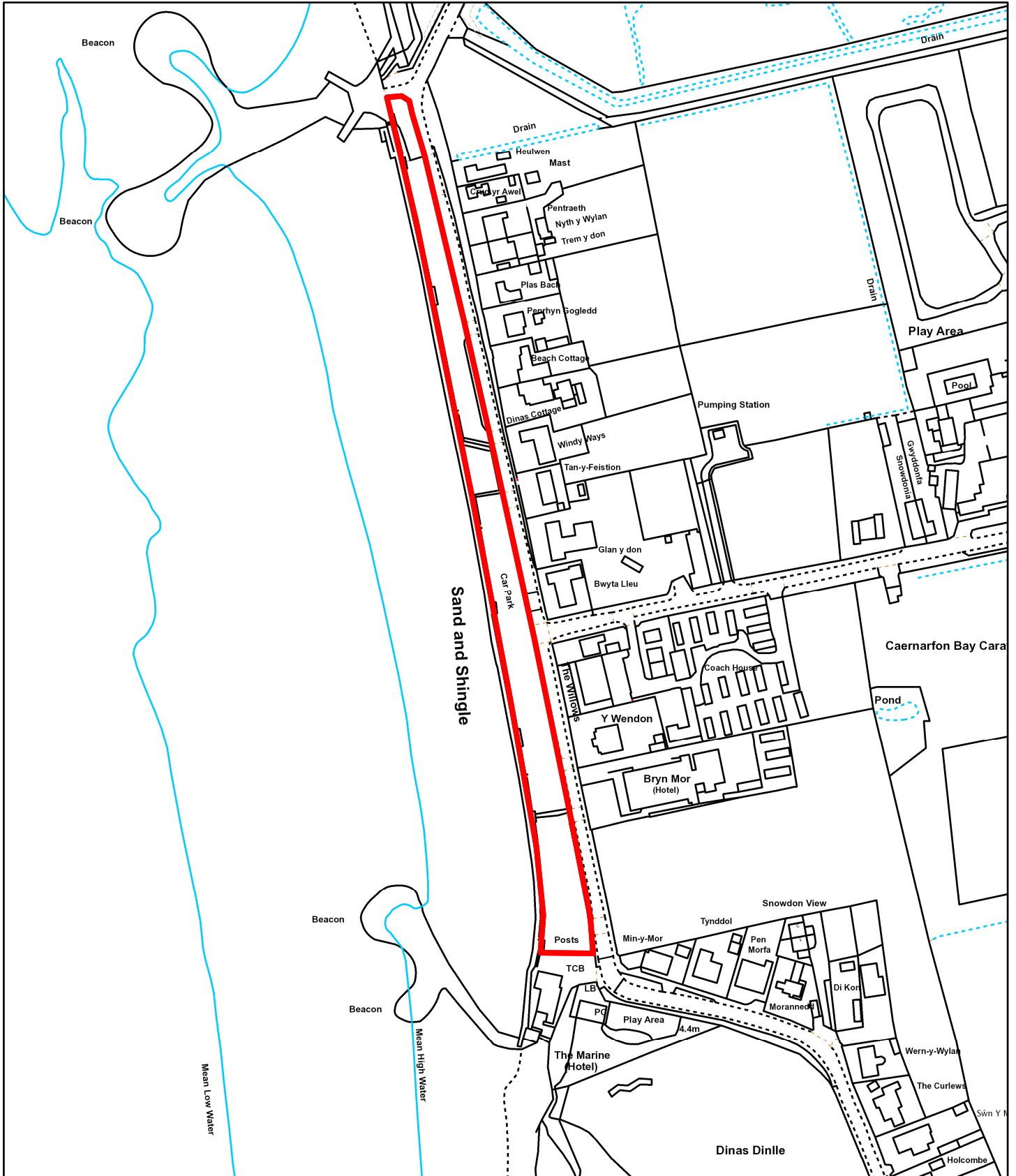
### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Dinas Dinlle beach car park location plan

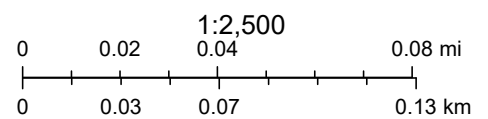
Appendix 2: ‘Dinas Dinlle Car Park Survey’ (December 2024)

Appendix 3: Equality Impact Assessment

# Maes Parcio Dinas Dinlle Car Park



May 28, 2024



MapGwynedd, Gwynedd



# Dinas Dinlle Car Park Survey

Research and Information Service

Cyngor Gwynedd

December 2024

## Contents of the Report

Introduction2

Results3

1. Responses3

1.1 Numbers3

1.2 Questions for the Businesses3

1.3 Questions for the Individuals4

1.4 Questions for Individuals and Businesses7

Conclusions9

Appendix A – Characteristics of respondents10

## List of Tables

Table 1: Number of responses33

Table 2: Visiting during trial period 4

Table 3: How often do you use the car park 4

Table 4: Length of stay44

Table 5: Comments about individuals' experience of using the car park 5

Table 6: Comments on individuals' views of parking fees666

Table 7: Impact of changes to Dinas Dinlle car park on the Welsh language 7

Table 8: Number of full-time and part-time employees per sector8

## List of Figures

Figure 1 : How was your experience of using Dinas Dinlle car park? 5

Figure 2 : What do you think of the parking fees introduced during the trial period? 6

Figure 3: Site management arrangements 7

## Introduction

Earlier this year, improvements were completed to Dinas Dinlle car park including resurfacing, altering the entrance, marking parking spaces, landscaping and upgrading facilities.

During the period of 16 August – 30 September a trial period was arranged by charging the following parking fees between the hours of 0900 – 1700 daily:

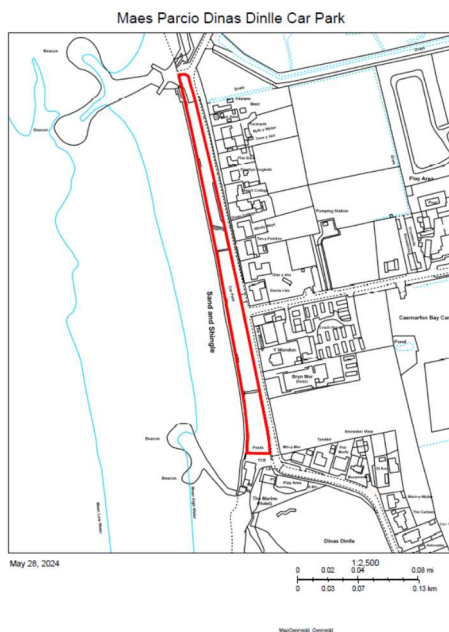
Up to 1 hour: Free

Up to 2 hours: £2.00

Up to 3 hours: £3.00

Up to 8 hours: £6.00

Season Ticket: £25.00



This survey was carried out to gather feedback from car park users, residents and local businesses on the trial period. The results will be considered when formulating future car park management arrangements.

The survey was advertised in press articles, the Council's social media, on the Council's website.

The survey has been analysed and this report has been written by Cyngor Gwynedd's Research and Information Service.



## Results

### 1. Responses

#### 1.1 Numbers

248 responses were received to the survey with 244 of these replying as individuals and 4 responding on behalf of a local business. 17 of the individuals are identified as living outside Gwynedd. The characteristics of the individuals can be seen in **Appendix A**.

**Table 1: Number of responses**

	Number	As a %
As an individual	244	98.4%
As a local business	4	1.6%
	<b>248</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

#### 1.2 Questions for the Businesses

The businesses were asked "How often do your business customers use the car park in Dinas Dinlle?" Two of the businesses reported that their customers used the car park on a very regular basis and the other two noted that their customers occasionally used the car park. Two of the businesses were not located in Dinas Dinlle. Commenting further, the two businesses based in Dinas Dinlle noted that their customers use it on a daily basis and there is nowhere else for them to park.

When asking the businesses for their views on the parking fees their views were mixed. Both businesses based in Dinas Dinlle saw that charging fees would have an impact on their businesses and local people who visit them. Both businesses based in Penrhyndeudraeth were keen to see the fees rise.

The businesses were asked "***During the trial period, what was your opinion on the improvements to the car park and the parking fees on the Welsh language, the opportunities to use it and its status in the community?***" Businesses based in Dinas Dinlle did not comment. The businesses based in Penrhyndeudraeth didn't see that the question applied to charging parking fees.

The businesses were asked "***What do you think the impact of the parking fees would be on socio-economically disadvantaged people?***" Businesses based in Dinas Dinlle did not comment. The businesses based in Penrhyndeudraeth did not see that individuals' priorities were different and those wanting to visit the beach would be happy to pay parking fees.



### 1.3 Questions for the Individuals

The individuals were asked "*Did you go to Dinas Dinlle car park during the trial period?*" 77.0% of them had visited the car park during the trial period.

**Table 2: Visiting during the trial period**

	Number	Percentage
Yes	188	77.0%
No	47	19.3%
Not answered	9	3.7%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

When asked about their use of the car park 43.9% of individuals use Dinas Dinlle car park at least once a week.

**Table 3: How often do you use the car park**

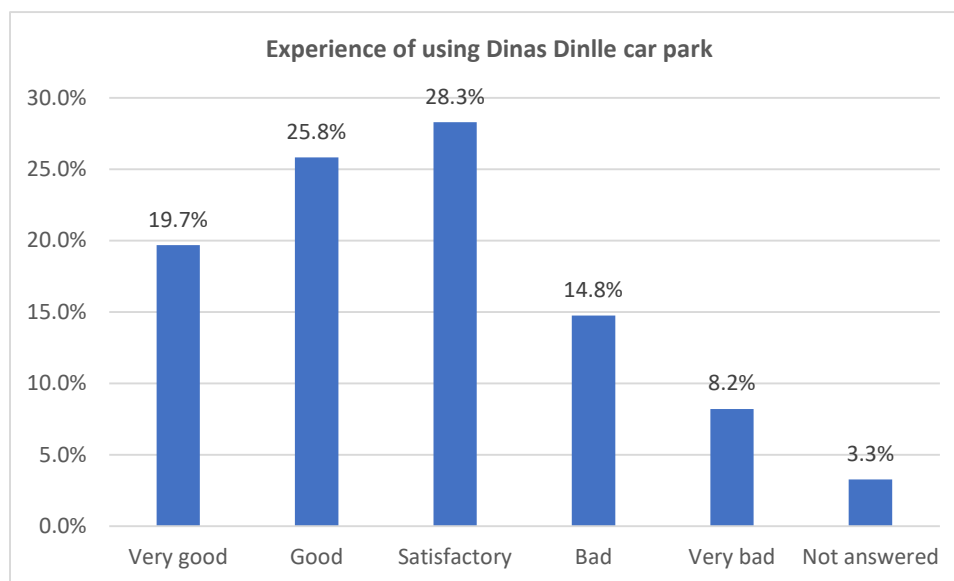
	Number	Percentage
More than once a week	60	24.6%
Once a week	47	19.3%
Occasionally	131	53.7%
Never use the car park	3	1.2%
Not answered	3	1.2%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

When questioning of the individuals "*For how long do you normally use Dinas Dinlle car park?*" 82.8% of them stayed for longer than one hour.

**Table 4: Length of stay**

	Number	Percentage
Up to 1 hour	36	14.8%
Up to 2 hours	115	47.1%
Up to 3 hours	70	28.7%
Up to 8 hours	12	4.9%
More than 8 hours	5	2.0%
Not answered	6	2.5%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

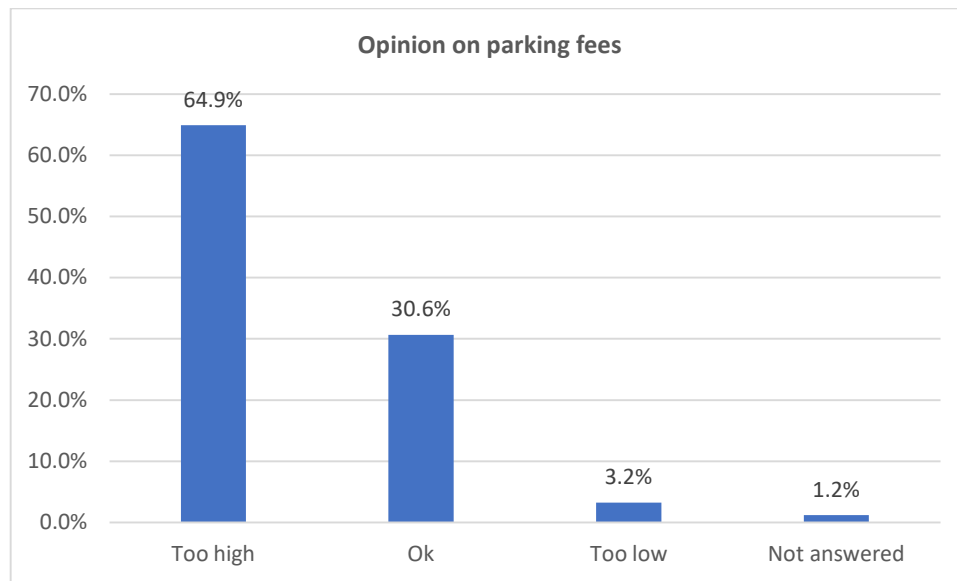
The individuals were asked about their experience of using the car park during the trial period. **Figure 1** indicates their views and **Table 5** shows the comments made by 121 out of the 244.

**Figure 1: How was your experience of using Dinas Dinlle car park?****Table 5: Comments about individuals' experience of using the car park**

	Number	Percentage
Fewer parking spaces now	36	29.8%
Looks much better/more convenient	29	24.0%
Ground uneven and dangerous due to the potholes	17	14.0%
Creating a parking problem on the road	16	13.2%
Not going to use in the future because of the parking fees	12	9.9%
Requires a longer period than a free hour	11	9.1%
Waste of money	10	8.3%
Need to improve the public facilities now too	7	5.8%
Need to consider a discount scheme if using local businesses	6	5.0%
Annual pass required for local residents	4	3.3%
Looked more natural before the improvements	4	3.3%
Need better entrance/exit signs	3	2.5%
Very fair parking scheme	3	2.5%
Lack of parent and child parking / blue badge	2	1.7%
Unloading and loading a car is harder now	2	1.7%
Odd time to run a trial period	2	1.7%
Too easy for campervans to use	2	1.7%
Payment machine not always working	2	1.7%
Not boosting tourism	2	1.7%
Too many dogs on the beach	1	0.8%
Need a cash payment option	1	0.8%
No parking for large vans	1	0.8%

The individuals were asked about their views on the parking fees during the trial. **Figure 2** indicates what their views were and **Table 6** shows the comments 152 out of the 244 made.

**Figure 2 : What do you think of the parking fees introduced during the trial period?**



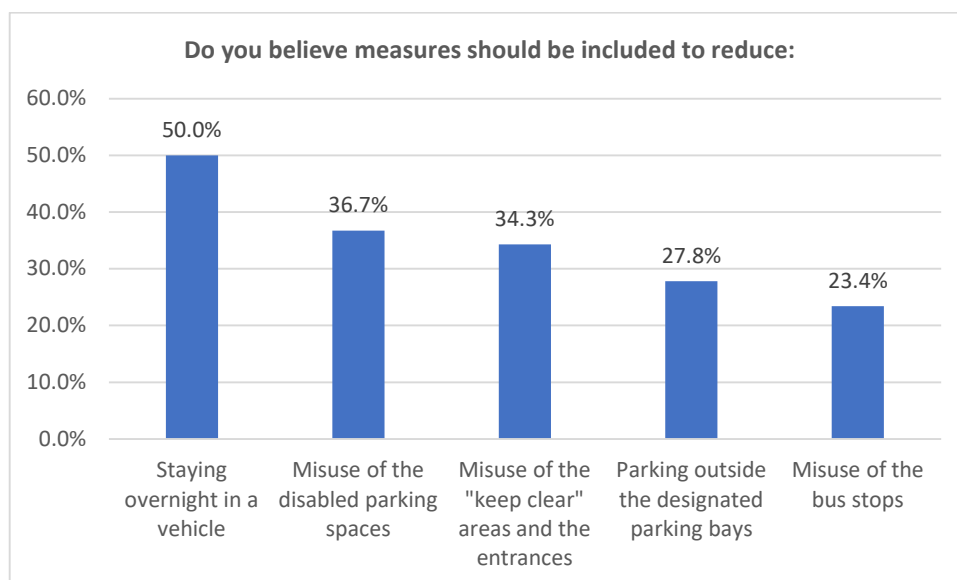
**Table 6: Comments on individuals' views of parking fees**

	Number	Percentage
It should be free to local people	37	24.3%
You should not charge fees at all	37	24.3%
Two hours should be free	26	17.1%
Agree with the new fees	20	13.2%
Businesses suffer	18	11.8%
I don't come here as often	16	10.5%
Need a season ticket which includes all Gwynedd car parks	10	6.6%
Too much parking on the road due to fees	9	5.9%
Car park design is not in keeping with the environment	7	4.6%
The charging period should not be increased e.g. outside the holiday season	6	3.9%
Need to charge fees on those who park overnight	3	2.0%
Car park must be monitored	3	2.0%
Signs need improvement	2	1.3%
The area must be kept clean and tidy if charging fees	2	1.3%

### 1.4 Questions for Individuals and Businesses

As the Council will consider arrangements for the future management of the site it was asked whether steps should be taken to mitigate some issues. Of the 248, 50% agreed there should be measures to stop vehicles staying overnight.

**Figure 3: Site management arrangements**



It was asked what impact the improvements and parking fees could have on the Welsh language and the opportunities for use within the community. 41.9% of respondents believed the changes would cause a neutral effect. Respondents had an opportunity to comment further on this. 58 people commented further, where 24.1% of them thought there was no impact and the remaining 75.9% thought fewer locals / Welsh speakers would visit Dinas Dinlle.

**Table 7: Impact of changes to Dinas Dinlle car park on the Welsh language**

	Number	Percentage
Positive impact	28	11.3%
Some positive impact	27	10.9%
Neutral	104	41.9%
A little negative impact	24	9.7%
Negative impact	60	24.2%
Not answered	5	2.0%
	<b>248</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Similarly, we asked what impact the parking fees would have on socio-economically disadvantaged people. 63.7% thought it would have a negative impact on them. Again, they had the opportunity to comment further, with 102 choosing to do so. Of those, 82.4% thought it was going to be harder for low-income families to have a day at the beach, 9.8% thought there would be no impact and 7.8% thought that families would be able to park in the car parks further along the beach.

**Table 8: Number of full-time and part-time employees per sector**

	Number	Percentage
Positive impact	8	3.2%
Some positive impact	4	1.6%
Neutral	27	10.9%
A little negative impact	49	19.8%
Negative impact	158	63.7%
Not answered	2	0.8%
	<b>248</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Conclusions

In terms of conclusions, the main findings are as follows:

- There were 248 respondents to the survey, 244 individuals and 4 businesses.
- 188 (77.0%) had visited the Dinas Dinlle car park during the trial period.
- 107 (43.9%) reported visiting Dinas Dinlle at least once a week
- Up to 2 hours was the most popular stay in the car park with 115 (47.1%).
- 111 (45.5%) reported having had a good or very good experience using the car park, while 56 (23.0%) reported having had a poor or very bad experience.
- 36 (29.8%) believed there were fewer parking spaces since the car park was adapted.
- 29 (24.0%) thought the car park looked much better and was more convenient.
- 161 (64.9%) thought the parking fees introduced were too high during the trial period.
- 37 (24.3%) believed parking should be free for local people.
- 37 (24.3%) believed the Council should not charge fees at all for parking in the Dinas Dinlle.
- 124 (50.0%) agreed vehicles parking overnight in the car park should be controlled.

## Appendix A – Characteristics of respondents

### Specify your gender

	Number	Percentage
Man / Male	70	28.7%
Woman / Female	144	59.0%
I prefer not to say	30	12.3%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Age

	Number	Percentage
16 – 24 years	6	2.5%
25 - 34 years	37	15.2%
35 - 44 years	43	17.6%
45 - 54 years	46	18.9%
60 - 64 years	52	21.3%
65 - 74 years	27	11.1%
75 - 84 years	4	1.6%
I prefer not to say	29	11.9%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Welsh language ability

	Number	Percentage
Speak, read and write fluently	151	61.9%
Speak, read and write, but not very confidently	17	7.0%
Speaking, reading and writing – learning	27	11.1%
Speak, but don't read or write	7	2.9%
Can't speak or understand Welsh	7	2.9%
Other	15	6.1%
I prefer not to say	20	8.2%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Identity / Nationality

	Number	Percentage
Welsh	163	66.8%
British	31	12.7%
English	18	7.4%
Irish from Northern Ireland	1	0.4%
Scottish	1	0.4%
Other	11	4.5%
I prefer not to say	19	7.8%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Race**

	Number	Percentage
White	203	83.2%
Asian	1	0.4%
Mixed / several ethnic groups	3	1.2%
Other	3	1.2%
I prefer not to say	34	13.9%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Religion**

	Number	Percentage
Christian	86	35.2%
No religion	106	43.4%
Other	9	3.7%
I prefer not to say	43	17.6%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Which of these statements best describes you?**

	Number	Percentage
Heterosexual / Straight	176	72.1%
Gay / lesbian woman	2	0.8%
Gay man	1	0.4%
Bisexual	3	1.2%
Other	10	4.1%
I prefer not to say	52	21.3%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Has your sexual identity changed from when you were born?**

	Number	Percentage
No	184	75.4%
Yes	3	1.2%
I prefer not to say	57	23.4%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Do you consider yourself to be a disabled person?**

	Number	Percentage
Yes	22	9.0%
No	173	70.9%
I prefer not to say	49	20.1%
	<b>244</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



# Assessing the Impact on Equality Characteristics, Welsh and Socio-Economic Disadvantaged

See the *How to Do an Equality Impact Assessment* leaflet for help completing the form here. Please also feel free to contact Delyth Williams, Policy and Equalities Officer on ext. 32708, or [DelythGadlysWilliams@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:DelythGadlysWilliams@gwynedd.llyw.cymru), for further assistance.

The Council is required (under the Equality Act 2010) to consider the impact that a change in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on people with protected equality characteristics. The Council also has additional general duties to ensure fairness and build good relationships. A timely assessment must therefore be made before making a decision on any relevant change (i.e. which has an impact on people with a protected characteristic).

The Council is also required, under the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards (Section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011) to consider the impact that a change in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on opportunities for people to use Welsh and to ensure that Welsh is not treated less favourably than English. This document therefore ensures that these decisions protect and promote the use of Welsh.

From April 1st, 2021, the Council has a duty to pay due attention to addressing socio-economic disadvantage in strategic decisions.

## **I) Details**

### **I.1 What is the name of the policy / service in question?**

The Economy and Community Department intends to establish new management arrangements for the Dinas Dinlle beach car park. As part of these arrangements, it proposes to introduce an Off Street Parking Order including the charging of parking charges on the site

### **I.2 What is the purpose of the policy/service being created or changed? What changes are being considered?**

During its meeting on 19th February 2019, the Cabinet approved a list saving proposals to address a financial gap in its budget. One of the savings was the principle of establishing parking charges at the Dinas Dinlle beach car park. Detailed proposals had not been prepared, and further details would to be develop prior to implementation.

During 2023/24, Gwynedd Council carried out improvements to the Dinas Dinlle car park including resurfacing, changes to the entrances, marking of parking spaces, landscaping and upgrading of facilities. Following the completion of the physical improvements on-site, it was

decided to arrange an experimental period during August and September 2024 during which parking charges would be introduced. The purpose of the experimental period was to test practical aspects of the site, and provide an opportunity to review and evaluate the temporary arrangements, including a public consultation inviting feedback from local residents and businesses, car park users, statutory organisations and local groups.

The proposal which forms the basis of this assessment involves the introduction of an Off-Street Parking Order on the Dinas Dinlle car park, to incorporate the following aspects :

- Introduce seasonal parking charges payable between times 0900 – 1700 daily between 01 March to 31 October each year
- The structure of parking fees would be as follows:
  - Up to 1 hour : None
  - Up to 2 hours : £2.20
  - Up to 4 hours : £4.20
  - Up to 8 hours : £6.00
  - Season ticket : £30.00
- The Order would also introduce measures for site management by :
  - Protect use of designated spaces for blue badges holders only
  - Vehicles to park within parking bay lines
  - Parking prohibited within the public transport bus layby
  - Prohibit people from staying overnight in vehicles on the site
  - Prohibit parking within 'keep clear' areas or near site entrances

Charging an on-site parking fee would create additional income for the Service, and it is proposed to allocate a percentage for annual maintenance costs, thereby safeguarding the investment and new facilities on site.

The introduction of an Off Street Parking Order would follow a statutory process, including a consultation period with relevant organisations, as well as a public consultation period.

### **1.3 Who is responsible for this assessment?**

Llyr B. Jones, Assistant Head of Economy and Community

### **1.4 When did you start the assessment? Which version is this?**

September 2025 – Version 1.3 (Assessment following experimental period)

## **2) Operate**

### **2.1 Who are the stakeholders or partners who will have to work with to make this assessment?**

As part of the experimental period arrangements consultations were arranged with Local Members, Llandwrog Community Council, North Wales Police, Health Board, Fire Service, Ambulance Service, Welsh Government, Natural Resources Wales, Royal Mail, Llandwrog Coastguard and Arfon Access Group

A public consultation was also organised during October and November 2024 inviting feedback from local residents and businesses, car park users and the organisations identified above. Copies were available on the Council's website; Siop Gwynedd in Caernarfon and Pwllheli; and at Penygroes and Caernarfon libraries. Letters were sent to nearby residents and businesses, local organisations, and the campaign was promoted in the press and social media.

### **2.2 What steps have you taken to engage with people with protected characteristics, about the Welsh language or with communities (either because of location or because of need) living with socio-economic disadvantage?**

During initial work, discussions have taken place with Local Members, and representatives of Llandwrog Community Council. During 2023, the Maritime Service introduced arrangements to receive feedback and comments from beach users via a QR Code system.

Following the conduct of an experimental period in 2024, a specific questionnaire was prepared for businesses, residents, consumers and local groups. Feedback and comments were invited from the Access Group and members of the Council's Equality Group.

As part of the questionnaire, views were sought on the impact of the improvements to the car park and parking charges on the Welsh language, the opportunities to use it and its status within the community. They were also asked about the impact of the parking fees on people facing socio-economic disadvantage.

### **2.3 What was the outcome of the engagement?**

A copy of the 'Dinas Dinlle Car Park Survey' report (December 2024) is included as an Appendix.

In terms of conclusions, the main findings are as follows:

- 248 responses received (including 4 businesses)
- 43.9% of individuals used the Dinas Dinlle car park at least once a week
- 82.8% of individuals used the car park for longer than one hour

- In terms of experience of using the car park, 19% very good, 25% good, 28% acceptable, 14% poor, 8% very poor with 3% unresponsive.
- 64% thought the parking fees were too high, and 30% thought the level of fees was right.
- From the point of view of site management arrangements, 50% considered that measures for overnight stays in a vehicle should be included; 36% consider that measures against misuse of parking spaces should be included for blue badges; 34% from misuse of 'keep clear' points and entrances; 28% from parking outside the parking bays; and 23% from misuse of the new bus space.
- They were also asked about the impact of parking fees on people facing socio-economic disadvantage, and 64% believed it would have a negative impact on them.

Of the responses received, 22 individuals identified themselves as disabled:

- 27% used the car park more than once a week; 23% once a week; and 50% occasionally. 23% used the car park for a period of up to 1 hour; 45% up to 2 hours; and 18% up to 3 hours.
- 14% reported that the experience of using the site was very good; 23% said the experience was good; and 45% are acceptable. 18% thought the experience was bad.
- 54% considered that measures were needed to control misuse of parking spaces for blue badge holders

The experimentation period is considered to have been very useful in providing operational experience of the arrangements to be presented, offering an opportunity to reflect on the experience in formulating long-term proposals.

## 2.4 Based on what other evidence are you acting?

The Maritime Service is responsible for managing and overseeing a number of beaches along the Gwynedd coast. A Beach Management Plan has been developed with the aim of providing public and safe access to beaches and coastal resources, for local residents and visitors thereby facilitating activities to support the local economy and contribute to the well-being of our communities.

The Plan recognises 'main beaches' in Abersoch, Morfa Bychan, Tywyn, Aberdaron, Barmouth, Aberdyfi, Criccieth, Pwllheli and Dinas Dinlle. The Maritime Service is responsible for implementing safety measures on these beaches, and appoints seasonal beach wardens for these locations. The provision of car parks is an important part of the infrastructure for these beaches. It is noted that parking charges are payable at the county's main beaches – with Dinas Dinlle being the only exception. The introduction of a parking fee at Dinas Dinlle car park would bring arrangements in line with the other main beaches.

In 2019, the Council's Cabinet considered a list of financial savings to meet a funding gap facing the authority at the time. This was discussed with the Community Council at that time, and it was acknowledged that further details would need to be developed, with an opportunity to incorporate improvements to the site.

During this period, the Maritime Service had received complaints and concerns about the condition of the Dinas Dinlle car park. The walls of the site had eroded with stones falling into

the nearby highway. During 2022/23 the Maritime Service introduced arrangements to receive feedback and comments from beach users through a QR Code system. Comments and feedback were received about the car park stating :

- That the condition of the car park and the overall appearance of the beach are poor
- That the surface of the car park is uneven
- Difficulties accessing the beach

During 2023/24, the Council secured a financial package to improve the quality and layout of the Dinas Dinlle beach car park. This included marking parking bays including ones designated for blue badge holders. The Council proposes to establish long-term management arrangements for the car park to protect the investment and facilities provided. The introduction of a parking fee will be an important part of this, as it will provide an annual income, and enable the Council to earmark specific resources for maintenance.

## 2.5 Are there any gaps in the evidence that need to be gathered?

No specific gaps have been identified. An experimental period was held during August/September 2024 during which on-site parking charges were introduced. Further engagement work was organised in October and November 2024 inviting feedback from residents, local businesses, consumers, organisations and local groups.

## 3) Identifying the Impact

### 3.1 The Council must have due regard to the impact any changes will have on people with equality characteristics below. What is the impact will the new policy/service or proposed changes have on people with these features? It is also necessary to consider the impact on socio-economic disadvantage and on the Welsh language.

Characteristics	What's the impact like?	In what way? What is the evidence?
<b>Race (including nationality)</b>	Negative	Statistics show that some people from an ethnic minority are more likely to be poorer than white British people. That means the introduction of parking fees could have an impact on them. This would not affect people without a car / vehicle. The impact is intended to be mitigated by not charging a parking fee for the first hour.
<b>Disability</b>	Negative	Statistics show that some families with a disabled member are more likely to be poorer than families without a disabled member. That means the introduction of parking fees could have an impact on them. This would not affect people without a car / vehicle; or affect disabled persons with a blue badge due to the spaces provided and will not be charged parking charges. It is noted that not all disabled

		people have a blue badge. The impact is intended to be mitigated by not charging a parking fee for the first hour.
	Positive	Improvements to the car park include designated disabled car spaces, and car park levels are now in line with the ramps to the promenade. Bollards have been installed to guard the ramps from vehicles use and new handrails have been installed. Blue badge holders will not be charged a fee. A new concrete ramp has been installed to the picnic area, and tables for wheelchair users have been installed, and it possible that more people with disabilities will be able to use the facilities.
<b>Sex</b>	Negative	Statistics show that women are more likely to be poorer – particularly women that are single parents. This means that introduction of parking fees could have an effect. The impact is intended to be mitigated by not charging a parking fee for the first hour.
<b>Age</b>	Negative	Statistics show that families with small children are more likely to be poorer. That means the introduction of a fee can have an impact on them. This would not affect families who do not have a car/vehicle. The impact is intended to be mitigated by not charging a parking fee for the first hour.
	Positive	Improved parking and security procedural, and more suitable facilities. Car park levels are now in line with the ramps, and new handrails have been installed.
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	None	No impact has been identified
<b>Religion or belief (or lack thereof)</b>	None	No impact has been identified
<b>Reassignment</b>	None	No impact has been identified
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	None	No impact has been identified
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	None	No impact has been identified
<b>Welsh language</b>	Neutral	Improve local facilities. Consider local businesses that may be affected.
<b>Socio-Economic Disadvantage</b>	Negative	The introduction of parking fees is likely to affect socio-economically disadvantaged individuals. The impact is intended to be mitigated by not charging a parking fee for the first hour. It would not affect those who do not have a car/vehicle.
	Positive	Improve the provision and facilities of the area while promoting leisure opportunities and promoting well-being.

- 3.2 The Council has a duty under the Equality Act 2010 to contribute positively to a fairer society by promoting equality and good relationships in its activities in the areas of age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, transgender, disability, pregnancy, and maternity. The Council must have due regard to how any change affects these duties.**

<b>General Duties of the Equality Act</b>	<b>Does it have an impact?</b>	<b>In what way? What is the evidence?</b>
<b>Get rid of unlawful discrimination, harassment and persecution</b>	No	No impact identified
<b>Promoting equal opportunities</b>	Yes	<p>As shown above, it is possible that the introduction of parking fees could affect those with equality characteristics who are more likely to be poorer.</p> <p>Improvements to the car park offer facilities that are more suitable giving blue badge users specific provisions and thus promoting the same opportunities to use the car park.</p>
<b>Building good relationships</b>	Yes	<p>As shown above, it is possible that the introduction of parking fees could affect those with equality characteristics who are more likely to be poorer.</p> <p>Improvements to the car park offer facilities that are more suitable. The development of a management plan (and parking fees) will strengthen management for the benefit and safety of users; and provides an income stream for future facility maintenance. The car park and adjoining beach area are used by a range of different users, and improved facilities and management could lead to building good relationships between those with different characteristics (e.g. older people, young people and people with disabilities using the area in a safe manner).</p>

- 3.3 How does your proposal ensure that you work in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards (Mesur y Gymraeg (Wales) 2011), to ensure that Welsh is not treated less favourably than English, and that every opportunity is taken to promote the Welsh**

**language (beyond bilingual service delivery) and increase opportunities to use and learn the language in the community?**

The work that will result from the intention will not have a direct positive impact on the Welsh language due to the nature of the work, however, it will be a core focus of the element of communication. The strategy will be implemented bilingually with all associated documents available in both Welsh and English. Pay machines operating in Welsh, and ensure that Welsh is not treated less favourably than English.

**3.4 What other measures or changes could you include to strengthen or change the policy / practice to positively impact people's opportunities to use Welsh, and to reduce or prevent any adverse effects the policy/practice may have on the Welsh language?**

Implementing a trial period will enable the Council to consider the pattern of use of the car park for formulating a long-term management package. We will also consult further and invite comments from users. Any measures or changes can be considered when evaluating the experiment phase. Ensure that any public meetings or consultation documents are provided in Welsh.

**3.5 How does the proposal show that you have given due attention to the need to address disparity from the cause of socio-economic disadvantage? (Note that this is about closing inequality gaps rather than just improving outcomes for everyone).**

Following the experimental period in 2024, specific measures have been incorporated into the proposed arrangements which include

- Dedicated disabled parking spaces are designated within the car park. Parking charges will not be charged on Blue Badge Vehicles
- Short-term users will not have to pay, as a parking fee will not be payable for the first hour
- A local ticket / season ticket is planned at a reasonable price

**3.6 What other measures or changes could you include to strengthen or change the policy / practice to show that you have due regard to the need to reduce unequal outcomes as a result of socio-economic disadvantage, in accordance with the Socio-Economic Act?**

No additional measures have been identified. The Service will monitor the management arrangements for the site in order to respond to matters that may arise.

**3.7 How this proposal meets the requirements of the Generational Well-being Act A future by implementing the five ways of working, and responding to the seven national wellbeing goals including creating a More Equal Wales?**



**(Please provide a summary of your findings if you have already considered this as part of the screening process)**

- Measures that would provide and protect facilities for the long term
- By charging parking fees it will be possible to take action to maintain facilities and prevent problems such as lack of maintenance
- Providing facilities that are in proportion to Gwynedd Council's well-being objectives
- Collaboration with local organisations and groups
- We will also consult further and invite comments from users. Any measures or changes can be considered when evaluating the experiment phase.

**3.8 In order to comply with the Armed Forces act 2022, what is the impact of this proposal on those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, along with their families, in terms of housing and education services?**

No impact identified

**4) Analysing the results**

**4.1 Is the policy therefore likely to have a significant, positive impact on any of the above? What is the reason for this?**

The above identifies advantages arising from the proposal including provision of parking bays for blue badge holders, new or upgraded facilities and improved management of the site.

**4.2 Is the policy therefore likely to have a significant, negative impact on any of the above? What is the reason for this?**

It is possible that the scheme could have an impact on those who are poorer (e.g. families with disabled people, some people from an ethnic minority), but not those without a vehicle. The extent of the impact is dependent on the level of parking fees, and the period(s) of the year in which parking fees would be in effect.

The results of the experiment phase and the comments / feedback from the engagement will be evaluated. This information will be used for formulating long-term proposals for the car park.

**4.3 What should be done?**

Choose one of the following:

Continue with policy / service as it is sound	Yes
Modify the policy to remove any barriers	
Suspend and remove the policy as the harmful effects are too great	
Continue the policy because any adverse effect is justified	

No further action at this time, it is premature to decide, or there's not enough evidence	

**4.4 If continuing with the plan, what steps will you take to reduce or mitigate any negative impacts?**

The Council could ascertain the extent of parking enforcement that is required, and also the frequency of the use of the parking places and the amount of parking income generated. The Council then would be able to determine how much average parking income would be generated during specified periods.

In an effort to mitigate any negative effects, up to 1 hours will be free of charge.

**4.5 If you do not act further to eliminate or reduce negative effects, please explain why here.**

Not applicable

**5) Monitor**

**5.1 What steps will you take to monitor the impact and effectiveness of the policy or service (action plan)?**

While parking fees are already in place at other Gwynedd main beach car parks, arrangements for monitoring the experiment phase will include

- We will invite comments / feedback from users
- Maritime Service officers visit the site regularly (a Beach Warden is also based at Dinas Dinlle beach
- The Maritime Service will undertake a review of the trial period, analysing results and comments / feedback submitted