

Complete Agenda



Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.

This document is also available in Welsh.

CABINET

CYNGOR GWYNEDD

DATE	Tuesday, 10th February, 2026
TIME	1.00 pm
LOCATION	Cyfarfod Aml-leoliad / Hybrid Meeting
CONTACT POINT	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 20 JANUARY			4 - 12
6	PROPOSAL PAPER - YSGOL Y GARREG	Cllr Dewi Jones	Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education	13 - 77
7	SCHOOLS STRATEGY 2026 - 2036	Cllr Dewi Jones	Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education	78 - 159
8	2026/27 BUDGET	Cllr Huw Wyn Jones	Dewi Morgan, Head of Finance	160 - 207
9	PARKING SCHEMES AND FEES	Cllr Craig ab Iago	Gerwyn Jones, Assistant Head of Environment Department	208 - 312
10	PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUND	Cllr R Medwyn Hughes	Llyr B Jones, Assistant Head of Economy and Community	313 - 331
11	EXEMPTION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC The Chair shall propose that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the discussions on the following items due to the likely disclosure of exempt information defined			

	<p>in Paragraph 14 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972: Information relating to the financial business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).</p> <p>There is an acknowledged public interest in openness in relation to the use of public resources and related financial issues. It is also acknowledged that there are occasions, to protect the financial and commercial interests that matters related to such information need to be discussed without being publicised. The report deals specifically with financial and business matters as well as estimated procurement prices and related discussions. Publication of such commercially sensitive information could adversely affect the interests of the bodies and the Council and undermine the confidence of others to share sensitive information for consideration. This would be contrary to the wider public interest of securing the best overall outcome.</p>			
12	TRAWSFYNYDD SCIENCE PARK	Cllr R Medwyn Hughes	<p>Sioned Williams, Head of Economy and Community</p> <p>Nia Bowden, Business Support Manager</p>	

THE CABINET 20 JANUARY 2026

Present -

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

Also present -

Dafydd Gibbard (Chief Executive), Catrin Thomas (Corporate Director), Dylan Owen (Corporate Director), Iwan Evans (Monitoring Officer), Dewi Morgan (Head of Finance Department), Debbie Jones (Assistant Head of Education Services), Robert John Jones (Education Transport Manager), Gerwyn Jones (Assistant Head, Environment Department), Ian Jones (Head of Corporate Services Department), Arwel Evans (Procurement Manager), Miriam Hughes (Procurement Adviser), Eurig Williams (Human Resources Service Manager), Ffion Madog Evans (Assistant Head of Finance Department - Accountancy and Pensions).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor R Medwyn Hughes and Councillor Huw Wyn Jones.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Councillor Nia Jeffreys declared a personal interest in relation to item 6, and she left the meeting.

Councillor Nia Jeffreys declared an interest in relation to item 9. The member did not consider it to be a prejudicial interest, and she 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 16 December 2025 were accepted as a true record.

6. EDUCATION TRANSPORT POLICY (DRAFT)

The report was submitted by Cllr Dewi Jones.

DECISION

Cabinet approval was given to hold a consultation on the Education Transport Policy (Draft).

DISCUSSION

It was emphasised that this Policy was in draft form, as the purpose of bringing the item before the meeting was to seek Cabinet approval to hold a consultation. It was stated that the current Policy had been in place since 2009, and it was noted that it was therefore timely to develop a new policy.

Reference was made to the Empty Seat Scheme, explaining that an empty seat was offered to a learner who was not eligible for free transport, if a seat was available on transport. It was added that legislative requirements now made it more difficult to offer this arrangement.

It was explained that transport had been provided to faith schools in line with the statutory requirement, but that there was no reference to faith schools in the current policy. The (Draft) Policy submitted would offer clarity in terms of the transport offered.

It was highlighted that the Council provided discretionary transport to full-time post-16 learners at present, and details were provided of the (Draft) Policy proposal to provide transport to the nearest catchment area/suitable school, as well as to the nearest college site that provided the course. The proposal was elaborated upon, and it was noted that it did not restrict the learners' options in terms of the courses available to them, but it ensured that transport to the nearest site offering that course would only be offered.

It was noted that the (Draft) Policy also offered more information about dual residency, reiterating that the Authority would provide transport from the main address.

It was emphasised that there was no change to the system of transporting children with Additional Learning Needs in this (Draft) Policy, or to the process of measuring travelling distance to receive free transport.

Reference was made to the two parts in the Policy, noting that there was no change in terms of the statutory requirements to provide education transport that had to be addressed. It was acknowledged that adaptations and changes to the Policy aspects that were discretionary for the Authority, that were being proposed here.

It was stated that this (Draft) Policy would be submitted before the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee following the consultation.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- Clarity was sought on the method of measuring travelling distance and the suitability of the roads and walking paths that learners were expected to use to reach school were mentioned. It was confirmed that the distance was measured through a mapping system (GIS) and that it was therefore consistent for every learner. It was added that there was a system to assess the suitability of roads and paths also, and that transport would be provided if the path was unsuitable. Anyone facing barriers in terms of transport should respond to the consultation, so that those comments could be considered.
- Full support was expressed to the path of this (Draft) Policy, noting that it was a democratic way of adopting the document. The importance of residents responding to this consultation was emphasised.
- Assurances were given that no impacts on the cost-of-living were anticipated as a result of this (Draft) Policy.
- It was noted that the (Draft) Policy did not refer in detail to the arrangements of chaperones for ALN learners as this happened via a Panel, in line with the learners' Individual Development Plan.
- It was asked whether a discussion had been held with the Welsh Government about the Empty Seat Scheme, as it was their guidelines that was forcing the change. It was confirmed that the Government had been consulting on new education transport guidelines, and that the Council had submitted observations in response to that consultation, noting the barriers to offering flexibility in terms of facilitating travel to school. It was added that the Government had not yet reported back on the results of the consultation.

7. PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2026 - 2031

The report was submitted by Cllr Llio Elenid Owen.

DECISION

To accept and approve the Procurement Strategy 2026 – 2031 (Appendix 1).

To grant the Head of Corporate Services the authority to make operational adjustments to the Strategy as the need arises to ensure compliance with statutory guidance (such as the statutory guidance of the Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Act).

DISCUSSION

The report was submitted, detailing the Procurement process, namely the securing of goods, services or work for the Council's services. It was highlighted that it was a key part of the Council's activity.

The importance of the Council having a Procurement Strategy was stated. It was noted that this would be a statutory requirement in the near future, and it ensured that the Council got the best value for public funds and ensured the best quality for the people of Gwynedd.

It was identified that the Council spent around £200 million per year on procurement activities. The need to source the goods, services or work for the best price was emphasised, whilst also ensuring the best quality. It was also highlighted that there was a need to address other objectives, such as decarbonisation and securing social value - the Strategy set the direction and vision to enable this to happen.

Reference was made to the 7 priorities included in the Strategy, highlighting that every priority field had been identified as a key area in the context of procurement in Cyngor Gwynedd. The fields included in the report were listed.

It was confirmed that the Procurement Strategy had been submitted to the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee in October 2025, and the Scrutiny Committee had resolved to accept the Strategy and the report.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- Members gave thanks for the strategy, and it was asked how the Council measured the value of procurement. It was noted that the department had a measure in terms of the local benefit, which was measured regularly through performance challenge arrangements. It was added that the Strategy provided an opportunity to look at other fields across the Council where procurement affected them and develop measures to accompany those priorities. It was highlighted that value for money was a factor here, as well as social value, which included several further measures. It was noted that the Strategy provided an opportunity to measure the value of procurement in various fields across the Council.
- It was asked about the use of Welsh for suppliers, highlighting that this matter had been raised by the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee also. It was stated that legal advice had been received, and that this was being implemented as far as possible. The Welsh language was a requirement in several contracts, so it was noted that the intention was to follow that as far as possible.
- Reference was made to the 7 priorities, questioning whether there was a main priority from the 7 noted. It was stated that the main priority was to *"make the most of the value of the pound in Gwynedd"* as noted on the front

of the Strategy, and it was mentioned that these 7 priorities were unique to Gwynedd.

- It was asked whether any tensions were arising between the priorities. It was stated that tensions were inevitable and something that the procurement category teams had to be cautious of.
- It was asked how the barriers were now being identified and reduced, moving forward. Identifying the contracts likely to be set were mentioned, and then for the companies to be guided through the arrangements, discussing any possible barriers that were likely to arise. It was added that a review was being completed once the tendering process had been completed, in order to assess the support given to the local companies.
- Attention was drawn to the praise that had been received about this procurement process.
- It was reiterated that the main discussion of the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee were comments about the Welsh language in relation to the procurement arrangements.

8. WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY

The report was submitted by Cllr Llio Elenid Owen

DECISION

Resolved:

That the Cabinet adopts the amended Whistleblowing Policy for staff seen in Appendix 1.

That the Whistleblowing Policy for staff is presented to the Governance and Audit Committee at the first opportunity in order to receive observations on the recommended procedure.

To complete a review of the existing arrangements to enable Councillors to raise concerns, including independently where necessary, and that the review is carried out in partnership with the *Protect* organisation and in consultation with Councillors.

DISCUSSION

It was explained that the report summarised the work that had been achieved to review the Policy and whistleblowing arrangements for Council staff. It was stated that the policy strengthened the practical arrangements for identifying the potential causes of whistleblowing and the potential pathways for dealing with those concerns.

It was reported that the next steps, should the Policy be adopted, would be to implement a comprehensive communication plan that would raise awareness of the policy amongst all of the Council's workforce.

It was confirmed that a training plan would also be put in place, which would be tailored for different cohorts of the workforce.

Attention was drawn to the fact that the Governing Bodies of every school were responsible to adopt employment policies, including the Whistleblowing Policy. It was mentioned that the Council had a role when ensuring that the County's schools had a suitable policy and arrangements in place as well.

It was highlighted that a staff Whistleblowing Policy was being submitted before the Cabinet, and reference was made to a decision at the last Response Board meeting, which was the need to look at a Whistleblowing Policy for elected members also.

The decision sought was adapted as a result of the feedback from recent Scrutiny Committees.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- This Policy was welcomed, and the adaptation was supported.
- The support from the Response Board to have separate guidelines for councillors was highlighted, and it was noted that this adaptation would strengthen the protection for councillors.
- It was stated that the Government had published a model policy for school Governors, and that the Council would ask every school to adopt that policy, which was suitable for schools.
- Whistleblowing processes in terms of the general public were mentioned, and it was explained that there was a mechanism in place to receive concerns from the public. It was added that further work was to be done to raise the public's awareness of those arrangements.
- The importance of raising awareness of the Policy was emphasised as well as foster a culture within the Council where staff felt confident to whistleblow.
- It was highlighted that this Policy would be discussed at a session with Council managers and team leaders, and that it was an opportunity to raise awareness and embed that culture.

9. REVENUE BUDGET 2025/26 – END OF NOVEMBER 2025 REVIEW

The report was submitted by Cllr Nia Jeffreys.

DECISION

To approve additional financial support above the contractual payment to Cwmni Byw'n Iach to be funded from the transformation fund, delegating the right to the Cabinet Member for Economy in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance to agree on the amount of the final financial support above the contractual payment with Byw'n Iach at the

end of the financial year. Based on the current review, it is estimated that the value of the support will be £295k.

To approve a transfer of £3.365 million of underspend on corporate budgets to the Council's Financial Strategy Support Fund, to be used at the end of the financial year to fund the overspend faced by the departments.

To approve the financial virements as outlined in Appendix 3 following a review of the 2024/25 Council Tax Premium, with a transfer of £2.089 million from the Financial Strategy Support Fund to the Council Tax Premium Fund.

DISCUSSION

It was expressed that there was a projected £6.5 million overspend in Council departments following the end of November review, which was a small increase from the August projections. It was highlighted that 76% of the overspend was in the adult and children care field, and it was added that 6 departments were overspending.

It was identified that there was an underspend on corporate budgets, which reduced the total overspend projections to £2.3 million.

Reference was made to Appendix 2, which explained the main matters and the fields with substantial differences.

Reference was then made to Appendix 3, which noted that Council tax income and the income from the second home and empty properties premium had been reviewed, following the end of the 2024/25 financial year. The result was that £2 million relevant to the 2024/25 Council Tax Premium was to be transferred from the Financial Strategy Support Fund to the Council Tax Premium Fund.

It was explained that the report had been submitted to the Governance and Audit Committee a week earlier.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- The importance of putting the information in its context was emphasised, as well as identifying the fact that it was not possible to project much of this overspend, particularly in those departments that responded to demand. It was added that there was a need to spend according to the demand, and that the Council had a responsibility to offer these services and protect the people of Gwynedd.
- Attention was drawn to the reality of underfunding Local Government to the people of the County.
- Pride was expressed that the terminology 'budget deficit' was now used in the report instead of 'overspend', which reflected the reality. It was confirmed that work was progressing to seek to make those savings, but that doing the right thing for the people of Gwynedd was the priority.

10. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2025/26 – END OF NOVEMBER REVIEW (30 NOVEMBER 2025 POSITION)

The report was submitted by Cllr Nia Jeffreys.

DECISION

To accept the report on the end of November review (30 November 2025 position) of the capital programme.

To approve the following revision to the Capital Budget, approved on 6 March 2025 and revised on 11 November 2025, from the programme's financing perspective (as shown in part 3.2.3 of the report), that is:

- a decrease of £7,544,000 in the use of borrowing,
- an increase of £2,660,000 in the use of grants and contributions,
- an increase of £103,000 in the use of revenue contributions,
- a decrease of £2,387,000 in the use of the capital reserve
- an increase of £6,364,000 in the use of renewal and other reserves.

DISCUSSION

The report was submitted, noting that it presented the revised capital programme (situation as at 30 November 2025), and to approve adjustments to the relevant financing sources.

Reference was made to part 3.2.2 of the report, which offered an analysis per Department of the £152 million capital programme for the 3 years from 2025/26 - 2027/28.

It was stated that definitive plans were in place to invest £93.7 million in 2025/26 on capital schemes, with £48.2 million, 51% of it, funded through specific grants. It was added that an additional £6 million of proposed spending had been re-profiled from 2025/26 to 2026/27 and 2027/28. It was mentioned that Appendix 2 included the main plans that had slipped since the original budget.

Reference was made to the additional grants that the Council had managed to attract since the last review, which could be seen in part 3.2.4 of the report.

It was mentioned that information about the Council's Capital Prudential Indicators could be seen in Appendix 4, which was a reporting requirement in the CIPFA Prudential Code. It was explained that the Council had complied with its policy on borrowing for capital purposes.

It was highlighted that the report had been submitted to the Governance and Audit Committee a week earlier.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- Attention was drawn to the reliance on grants, and it was noted that it highlighted the shortfall from the Welsh Government in funding Local Government.
- Frustration was expressed that calls for multi-year settlements had not been responded to, and that there was no way of planning ahead as a result of that.

11. SAVINGS OVERVIEW: PROGRESS REPORT ON REALISING SAVINGS SCHEMES

The report was submitted by Cllr Nia Jeffreys.

DECISION

To accept the information in the report and to note the progress towards realising the savings schemes for 2025/26 and previous years.

DISCUSSION

In the 2025/26 Budget report to the Full Council on 6 March 2025, it was reported that £3.5 million worth of savings were profiled for the 2025/26 budget. It was highlighted that this was a combination of £100k in newly-approved savings in 2025, and £3.4 million approved in previous years.

It was identified that there were difficulties to realise savings in some fields. It was stated that the new savings had been separated from the previous savings, therefore the savings relevant to 2025/26 were in Appendix 1 and in Appendix 2.

It was reported that 98% of the historical savings, for the period from the 2015/16 financial year up to the 2025/26 financial year, had been realised. It was noted that this was £33.8 million of the £34.3 million of savings.

It was highlighted that plans to the value of £590,000 remained undelivered, and the majority of them were in the Adults, Health and Well-being Department.

Reference was made to Appendix 2 which shows that new savings schemes to the value of £15.6 million and 81% of the savings had already been realised, and a further 3% were on track to be delivered on time.

It was stated that there were obvious risks to delivering the savings in some fields, particularly in the Adults, Health and Well-being Department and the Environment Department.

It was explained that the value of the savings already approved for 2026/27 onwards was noted in Appendix 3.

Following the announcement that there was a 4.1% floor for the financial settlement to Local Government, it was explained that there was no need to rush to implement savings for 2026/27. It was emphasised that there would be a need

to continue to identify savings for the coming years, and this was likely to be challenging.

It was highlighted that the report had been submitted to the Governance and Audit Committee a week earlier.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- The Cabinet Member expressed astonishment about the savings figure that had been made by the Council to date.

The meeting began at 1:00p.m. and ended at 2:30p.m.

CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET



Report for a meeting of Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet

Date of meeting:	10 February 2026
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Dewi Jones
Contact Officer:	Gwern ap Rhisiart – Head of Education Department
Title of Item:	Proposal Paper - Ysgol Y Garreg

1. THE DECISION SOUGHT

- 1.1 To approve the publication of a statutory notice, allowing a statutory objection period of 28 days in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the guidance of the School Organisation Code 011/2018: on the proposal as follows -
- 1.2 "To close Ysgol Y Garreg on 31 August 2026 and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school from 1 September 2026."
- 1.3 If the proposal would be approved, the Ysgol Cefn Coch catchment area would be extended to include the existing Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area.

2 THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION

- 2.1 Permission is sought to publish a statutory notice on the proposal to address the critical situation at Ysgol Y Garreg. The substantial drop in the number of learners attending Ysgol Y Garreg recently has led to an unsustainable and very vulnerable situation. Based on the PLASC (Pupil Level Annual School Census) January 2026, Ysgol Y Garreg is the smallest school in the county, with only 2 learners from Reception to Year 6 on the register and 0 in the nursery class.
- 2.2 The Education Department is submitting a report to the Cabinet requesting permission to hold a statutory objection period on the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the statutory Welsh Government Code (School Organisation Code 011/2018). The main challenges faced by the school are detailed in this report.

3. INTRODUCTION

The Strategic Context

3.1 The Council has been implementing the 'Excellent Primary Education For The Children Of Gwynedd' strategy since it was adopted by the Full Council in April 2009. At its meeting on 18 December 2018, the Cabinet approved the principles of "Fit for Purpose Education" which now provides a basis to realising the Education Department's vision and develop the system to ensure a high-quality education for the children and young people of Gwynedd for the twenty first century. These principles work towards rationalising age-ranges 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

3.2 In the case of Ysgol Y Garreg, which has been listed as a rural school for the purpose of the code, specific consideration was given to the additional procedural requirements in relation to drawing-up proposals for rural schools when drawing-up this paper.

3.3 The School Organisation Code includes a special procedure in relation to rural schools, establishing a procedural presumption against closure. 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."*

3.4 In addition to the factors that are relevant when developing any proposal, specific assessments must also be undertaken in relation to a proposal of this type. Several assessments were conducted in line with the requirements of the Code, in relation to the options believed that would address the school's situation.

Closure of a school with fewer than 10 registered learners

3.5 Where a school has fewer than 10 registered learners at the January census point (PLASC - Pupil Level Annual School Census), the Code states:

"The 2013 Act permits governing bodies / local authorities to undertake a streamlined procedure to bring about official closure. This consists solely of the issue of the notice of closure – the requirement for general consultation being waived, provided sufficient equivalent school places have been identified which would be reasonably accessible to those pupils actually or potentially displaced."

3.6 Since there were fewer than 10 registered learners at Ysgol Y Garreg (January 2026 PLASC), the School Organisation Code allows the authority to follow a streamlined procedure to close the school. Specifically, the requirement for general consultation is waived, and the only requirement is to issue the statutory notice.

3.7 Following this the 28-day objection period would be held, and there would be a need to consider any objections received before making a final decision. Proposals to close schools with fewer than 10 learners cannot be referred to the Welsh Ministers in accordance with section 54 of the Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Ysgol Y Garreg is a community primary school located in the village of Llanfrothen. The school provides education for learners between the ages of 3 and 11 years old 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 Based on the PLASC figures in January 2026, there are 95% surplus places at the school (Reception to Year 6), therefore the school is operating with a very high level of surplus places. The school has a capacity for 41 learners (R to Yr6). There is capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery Class. With no learners on the register in the Nursery Class, there are 100% surplus places in the Nursery.

4.3 There is a reduction of 88% in the numbers on the register compared to PLASC data from January 2025 when there were 17 learners at the school. When the number of learners drop to very low levels, particularly below 10, the ability to present a broad curriculum for the future is hindered. The low number of learners raises concerns regarding:

- Educational experience and interaction with peers
- Staffing viability and resilience
- Financial sustainability and efficient use of resources
- The ability to satisfy the curriculum's statutory requirements

5 THE EXISTING SITUATION OF YSGOL Y GARREG

5.1 In September 2025, there were 9 learners on the register (Reception to Year 6) with 0 learners in the Nursery Class. During the Autumn term, a substantial drop was seen in the numbers and the PLASC (Pupil Level Annual School Census) on 20 January 2026 shows that there are only 2 learners at the school (Reception to Year 6) with 0 learners in the Nursery Class, a reduction of 78% of learners in the school during one term.

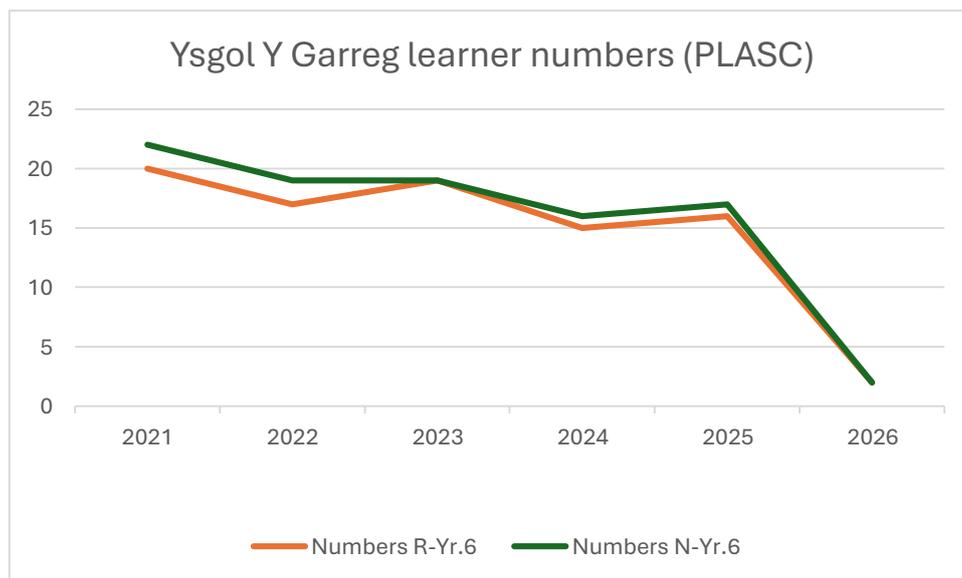
5.2 The changes in the number of learners during the academic year disrupts the usual learner projections modelling, which is based on numbers. Sudden changes in numbers usually take around four years to stabilise, and parents' choice of school impacts how registration figures change from one year to another.

5.3 In accordance with the Schools Organisation Code (Wales) 2018, which makes it a requirement for local authorities to use the most robust information available when planning school places, the January 2026 PLASC census shows that there are no learners of a statutory age in Reception to Year 5 at Ysgol Y Garreg. When drawing-up this report (January 2026), there were no applications for admission to the Reception class at Ysgol Y Garreg for September 2026. Consequently, and in the absence of any robust evidence of new admissions in the near future, it is anticipated that no learners of a statutory age will attend Ysgol Y Garreg in September 2026.

5.4 The historical data from January PLASC numbers below shows that the numbers have reduced drastically and suddenly at Ysgol Y Garreg. This situation comes as a result of Reception to Year 5 learners moving during the 2025 Autumn term from Ysgol Y Garreg to other schools.

Learner numbers at Ysgol Y Garreg (January historical PLASC)									
	Nursery	Reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
2026	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
2025	1	2	0	1	2	3	3	5	17
2024	1	0	1	1	3	2	5	3	16
2023	0	3	1	3	2	5	3	2	19
2022	2	1	3	2	6	3	2	0	19
2021	2	2	2	6	2	2	0	6	22

Data source January PLASC



Main challenges facing the school:

5.5 As a result of the current very low numbers, the school is in a critical situation and is facing numerous increasing challenges, including:

- **Low learner numbers** - The PLASC data in January 2026 shows that there are two full-time learners at the school (Reception to Year 6) and 0 learners in the nursery class.
- **Leadership and staffing** - The existing staffing structure at Ysgol Y Garreg includes an interim headteacher who is responsible for two schools through an informal arrangement, one full time teacher and a part-time teaching assistant that works 0.6 FTE. The current staffing arrangement has offered a short-term solution; however, the very low numbers of learners have contributed to a situation that is challenging in terms of long-term sustainability.
- **High percentage of surplus places** - Based on the figures of January 2026 (Reception to Year 6), there are 95% surplus places at the school (39 in total). The school has capacity for 41 learners (Reception to Year 6) and capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery Class. Therefore, with 0 nursery learners on the register, there are a further 7 surplus places in the nursery also.
- **Very small class sizes and a broad age range** - The learners (Reception to Y6) are educated in one class. The second classroom in the school is not used. There are no learners in Nursery to Year 5 at the school.
- **Projected numbers** - The projections based on the PLASC numbers in January 2026 suggest that there will be no statutory aged learners at the school in September 2026 as there are no learners in the Reception to year 5 classes nor in the Nursery class this year.
- **Catchment area learners** - The GIS data taken in January 2026 shows that only 8% of learners from Ysgol Y Garreg's catchment area choose to attend the school. 92% of the learners in the catchment area choose to attend schools outside of the catchment area.
- **Ysgol Y Garreg receives an additional sum to the core financial allocation** - Ysgol Y Garreg receives an additional amount to the usual allocation via the minimum staffing protection policy (which ensures at least a headteacher and teacher at each school, and a headteacher and a teaching assistant in schools with fewer than 15 full-time learners). The total additional funding for the 2025-26 financial year (based on the numbers in September 2024) was £89,701.
- **Average cost per learner** - The average cost per learner at Ysgol Y Garreg in 2025-26 is £14,621, compared with the county average of £5,780.

6 DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOVERNING BODY OF YSGOL Y GARREG

6.1 In June 2025, the Education Department was informed of concerns regarding the school's staffing situation. The headteacher and governing body were advised by senior officers from the Education Department that urgent action was needed to secure appropriate staffing levels for September 2025.

6.2 After advertising for a permanent teacher post during the summer term, efforts to appoint a teacher for the school before the end of term were unsuccessful. During this period, several learner transfers to nearby schools were recorded, which led to a substantial drop in learner numbers at Ysgol Y Garreg by September 2025.

6.3 Senior Officers from the Education Department visited the school to meet with members of the Governing Body in November 2025, as a result of further transfers of learners from the school during the autumn term. The intention to look at Ysgol Y Garreg's critical situation was noted, as well as possible options that would attempt to respond to the challenges facing the school.

7 SPECIFIC FACTORS WHEN CONSIDERING CLOSING A SCHOOL

Although a process to close a school that has fewer than 10 learners waives the requirement for general consultation, the Schools Organisation Code 011/2018 states that relevant matters included in the Code must be considered. It notes that when considering whether a school closure is appropriate, special attention should be given to the following options:

a. Whether the establishment of multi-site schools might be considered as a means of retaining buildings, or the reasons for not pursuing this option.

With only 2 learners at the school, Ysgol Y Garreg is facing increasing challenges to set a balanced budget as the school receives an allocation based on learner numbers, and this, as well as the protection sum allocated to them will enable them to employ a headteacher and teaching assistant only, based on the numbers of 2 learners. Because of this, Cyngor Gwynedd is of the opinion that consideration cannot be given to the establishment of multi-site schools as a means of keeping the school open.

b. Whether alternatives to closure, such as clustering, collaboration or federation with other schools, might be considered or the reasons for not pursuing these as an alternative.

As clustering, collaboration or federation with other schools would mean continuing with the existing school, and therefore a high likelihood that the current challenges would continue and intensify over the next few years, the Council is of the opinion that making this an option does not address the challenges facing Ysgol Y Garreg now and in the future.

c. Whether the possibility of making fuller use of the existing buildings as a community or educational resource could be explored.

Since Canolfan Gymdeithasol Llanfrothen is located next door to the school, and the local pub, Menter Y Ring (The Brondanw Arms) has received funding to re-open for the benefit of the community, it is not anticipated that another community resource is needed in the area. Nevertheless, if the proposal is implemented, Cyngor Gwynedd has a post-occupancy policy for using former school sites and this policy would be followed when considering the future of the site.

d. The overall effect of closure on the local community (including the loss of school-based facilities which are used by the local community)

At present, no community use is made of the school. A Community Centre is located next door to the school. Cyngor Gwynedd is of the opinion that as the Centre is independent from the school, it is not anticipated that closing the school would have any impact on local community events.

e. How parents' and learners' engagement with the alternative school and any facilities it may offer could be supported.

To mitigate against any potential negative impact on learners, we would encourage discussions between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the parents of learners within the catchment area of Ysgol Y Garreg so that they can take advantage of their facilities and after-school activities, and to encourage collaboration between the school and the community of Llanfrothen.

8 IDENTIFYING OPTIONS

8.1 All of the challenges noted in 5.5 above meant that there was a need to review the school's sustainability for the future, giving consideration to what the Schools Organisation Code 011/2018 notes as examples of possible options that could be worth considering when drawing-up the proposal for a rural school. During discussions with the school's main stakeholders, a list of options for consideration was created for the school. These options were:

- No change - continue with the current situation
- Federalisation with a nearby school
- Close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school.

Other considerations

8.2 Comments were received from the governing body which noted concerns about the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and the impact that this would have on the local education provision and the community of Llanfrothen. They suggested -

"If the Council decides to close the school, I wish to strongly encourage you to consider restructuring the building as a specialist centre for pupils who experience difficulties in settling in at mainstream schools, but who are not eligible for Special Educational Needs Schools."

8.3 The authority was requested to carefully consider the local community and social impact should the school close, and to consider the capacity and suitability of Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school. It was emphasised that there was an opportunity to retain Ysgol Y Garreg as a specialist educational resource, instead of disposing of the asset.

9 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

9.1 In line with the "Excellent Primary Education for the Children of Gwynedd" Strategy, several factors were considered when appraising the options for the situation, specifically:

- Pupil numbers and surplus places
- Class sizes and age ranges
- Leadership and staffing
- The community
- Financial resources
- The Welsh Language
- Geographical factors and transport

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

9.3 No change - continue with the current situation

This option means that there would be no change to the current provision in the Ysgol Y Garreg 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, noted in 5.5, including:

- **Low learner numbers** - Low learner numbers would continue, two Reception - Y6 learners and 0 learners in the Nursery class and substantial surplus places (95% R-Y6 and 96% N-Y6). Projected numbers suggest that no learners of statutory age will attend the school in September 2026.
- **Very small class sizes and broad age range** - There are two classes in Ysgol Y Garreg, and one of these classes is not in use. (January 2026) There are two learners (Reception - Year 6) in one of the classes.
- **Financial resources** - In 2025-26, Ysgol Y Garreg receives a substantial additional protection allocation of £89,701, and the average cost per head for every learner is £14,621; an amount that is higher than the county average of £5,780. As it is not anticipated that this option will lead to an increase in learner numbers, it is not anticipated that this option will affect the budgetary allocation of Ysgol Y Garreg.
- **High percentage of surplus places** - Based on the figures of January 2026 (Reception to Year 6), there are 95% surplus places at the school (39 in total). The school has capacity for 41 learners (Reception to Year 6) and capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery Class. Therefore, with 0 nursery learners on the register, there is 100% surplus places in the nursery also.
- **Average cost per learner** - The average cost per learner at Ysgol Y Garreg in 2025-26 is £14,621, compared with a county average of £5,780.

9.4 Federalisation with a nearby school

The Code notes that federalisation brings particular benefits to rural schools and states that the proposer must therefore show how federalisation has been considered as an option. It has been demonstrated that federalisation could offer advantages to rural schools in some circumstances, specifically strengthening leadership and opportunities to collaborate.

This option would involve establishing a formal collaboration arrangement, between 3 schools, as Ysgol Cefn Coch is already federalised with Ysgol Talsarnau (Ffederasiwn Afon Dwyrdd).

This model would ensure the continued presence of the school at the village of Llanfrothen by means of a collaboration arrangement with nearby schools, led by one headteacher 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 the name, ethos and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings and expertise.

When considering this model, there is a need to assess any potential impact on how the schools in the federation would operate. Whilst noting the challenges facing Ysgol Y Garreg, there would be a need to ensure that such arrangements would offer advantages to all children and young people in the federation by improving the educational provision.

As numbers at Ysgol Y Garreg have reached a critical situation with two learners (Reception-Y6) and 0 learners in the Nursery Class on the register, and as an informal collaboration arrangement already exists with another school, it was anticipated that there were no obvious advantages for other schools from federalising with Ysgol Y Garreg.

There is no clear evidence that federalisation would lead to an increase in numbers.

After weighing up the advantages and disadvantages of federalisation, it was concluded that this option did not respond to the main challenges faced by the school, as noted in 5.5 above, including:

- **Learner numbers and surplus places.** There is no clear evidence that federalisation would lead to an increase in numbers. Consequently, it is anticipated that federalisation would mean that the challenge of low learner numbers (2 Reception - Y6 and 0 Nursery) and substantial surplus places (95% R-Y6 and 96% N-Y6) at Ysgol Y Garreg will continue.
- **Very small class sizes and broad age range.** There are 2 classes in Ysgol Y Garreg, and one of these classes is not in use. (January 2026) There are 2 learners (Reception - Year 6) in one of the classes. As it is not

anticipated that federalisation would lead to an increase in the numbers, it is anticipated that federalisation would not respond to the challenge of very small classes.

- **Financial resources.** In 2025-26, Ysgol Y Garreg is receiving a substantial additional protection allocation of £89,701, and the average cost per head for every learner is £14,621; an amount that is higher than the county average of £5,780. As it is not anticipated that this option will lead to an increase in learner numbers, it is not anticipated that this option will affect the budgetary allocation of Ysgol Y Garreg.

9.5 Close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school

This option would mean closing Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school. Ysgol Cefn Coch is considered the alternative school as this is the school located closest geographically to Ysgol Y Garreg. Ysgol Cefn Coch and Ysgol Y Garreg are in the secondary catchment area of Ysgol Ardudwy. The school is located 2.1 miles from the Ysgol Y Garreg site.

Although Ysgol Cefn Coch is designated as the alternative school for the purposes of the proposal, this does not restrict the choice of parents. Subject to capacity, parents retain the right to express choice of any school in accordance with the Gwynedd schools admissions policy.

Subsequently, it is proposed to extend the Ysgol Cefn Coch catchment area to include the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area for the future.

The rationale behind recommending this proposal as the preferred option is elaborated upon further in Section 11, The preferred option.

10 IMPACT ASSESSMENTS – PRESUMPTION AGAINST THE CLOSURE OF RURAL SCHOOLS

10.1 In addition to the factors that are relevant when developing any proposal, specific assessments must also be undertaken in relation to a proposed proposal of this type. Several assessments were conducted in line with the requirements of the Code, in relation to the options being considered. The full assessments can be seen in **Appendix 2**, and a summary of these assessments can be seen 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 Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to the school.	Neutral - No change Keeps the school and its potential to be a community resource in the village of Llanfrothen.
Federalisation with a nearby school	Neutral/Partly positive - No impact on the provision at Ysgol Y Garreg Opportunity to share good practices between both schools and the possibilities of making better use of resources.	Neutral The learners would continue to be educated as Ysgol Y Garreg and the learners' travel arrangements would remain the same. No learner in the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to the school.	Neutral Possibility of community collaboration between both schools that are part of the federation. Keeps the school as a community resource in the village of Llanfrothen.
Close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as	Partly positive The assessment noted that the standard of education	Negative Transport would need to be provided for Ysgol Y Garreg	Neutral/Partly Negative Leads to the loss of a school at the village of Llanfrothen.

the alternative school	<p>provided at Ysgol Cefn Coch is equivalent to the standard of education provided at Ysgol Y Garreg.</p> <p>As there are more learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch, it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to educate children in larger groups, with age-relevant peers to expand their experiences. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences by teaching the learners of Y Garreg catchment area at Ysgol Cefn Coch.</p>	<p>catchment area learners who wish to attend Ysgol Cefn Coch, in line with Cyngor Gwynedd's Transport policy.</p> <p>Additional transport costs are anticipated - estimated cost, approximately £30,000-£40,000 per year.</p> <p>Some of the learners will need to travel further to school than they currently do.</p> <p>No learner in the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area will need to travel an unreasonable distance to the school.</p>	<p>To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are noted to ensure that the community of Llanfrothen is aware of the activities of the alternative school, and community collaboration will be encouraged between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the community of Llanfrothen, where appropriate.</p> <p>It is noted that a vast proportion of the children who live in the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Cefn Coch, therefore it is concluded that there is an existing link between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the community of Ysgol Y Garreg.</p>
-------------------------------	--	---	--

11. THE PREFERRED OPTION

11.1 Of the options considered, the preferred option for this proposal paper is the option to close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school.

11.2 This option is preferred for the following reasons:

11.3 Learner numbers and surplus places

11.3.1 In January 2026, two learners from Reception - Year 6 and 0 Nursery learners, attended Ysgol Y Garreg. As a result, Ysgol Y Garreg have 39 (95%) surplus places at the school (Reception - Year 6). The school has capacity for 7 learners in the Nursery class also, therefore, with 0 nursery learners on the register, there are a further 7 surplus places in the nursery (100%).

11.3.2 The number of learners at the school has dropped substantially during the past year, from 17 Reception to Yr 6 learners in January 2025, to 2 learners in January 2026, which is an 88% reduction.

11.3.3 According to the projections created in September 2025, it is anticipated that the numbers will remain very low over the next three years, with learner numbers continuing to be below 10. See below the numbers for September 2025 and the projected numbers of Ysgol Y Garreg for 2026-28.

	N	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total R-Yr 6
Numbers September 2025	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	3	9
Projections September 2026	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	6
Projections September 2027	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	4
Projections September 2028	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2

- 11.3.4 In September 2025, 131 learners (Reception - Yr 6) and 15 Nursery learners attended Ysgol Cefn Coch.
- 11.3.5 Ysgol Cefn Coch has capacity for 208 (Reception - Yr 6), which means that Ysgol Cefn Coch has sufficient capacity to receive learners from the Y Garreg catchment area.
- 11.3.6 The Schools Organisation Code 011/2018 notes 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 95% (39 in total) empty places (R-Yr 6) at Ysgol Y Garreg.

11.4 Class sizes and age ranges

- 11.4.1 As seen from the table below, only 1 class is being used at Ysgol Y Garreg. There are two Reception - Yr 6 learners in this class all day.
- 11.4.2 The table shows that there are 7 classes (Nursery - Yr 6) at Ysgol Cefn Coch (January 2026). The average class size at Ysgol Cefn Coch has 21 learners.

School	Year								
	Nursery	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Y Garreg	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Class				A class with 2 learners				
Cefn Coch	16	20	22	21	23	10	12	9	15
	Class 16	Class 20	Class 22	Class 21	Class 23	Class 22		Class 24	

- 11.4.3 If the proposal would be approved, Ysgol Cefn Coch would be the catchment area school for any future learners living in the existing Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area. As a result, they would receive their education in classes with other learners of the same age group, if they attend Ysgol Cefn Coch.

11.5 Geographical factors and transport

- 11.5.1 It is noted in the "Excellent Primary Education for the Children of Gwynedd" Strategy that an attempt should be made to restrict travelling to a maximum of 30 minutes of one-way travel between the home and the school. From implementing the proposal, it is anticipated that all existing learners from the catchment area would be within a reasonable distance (less than 30 minutes of travel), to the alternative school, namely Ysgol Cefn Coch.
- 11.5.2 After assessing the distance of Ysgol Y Garreg from Ysgol Cefn Coch and the safety of walking and cycle paths to the alternative school, it is concluded, as the distance is more than 2 miles and the paths are unsuitable for primary school age children to walk or cycle along, transport would be offered to the learners from the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area to Ysgol Cefn Coch, in line with the County's School Transport Policy. It is anticipated that the transport costs would be around £30,000-£40,000 per year.

11.6 Financial Resources

- 11.6.1 As a result of the very low learner numbers at Ysgol Y Garreg, the learner-based allocation is not sufficient to be able to maintain the school. Consequently, Ysgol Y Garreg receives an additional amount to the

core allocation via the minimum staffing protection policy (which ensures at least a headteacher and teacher at each school, and a headteacher and an assistant in schools with fewer than 15 full-time learners). Additional funding of £89,701 was allocated to Ysgol Y Garreg this year (2025-26), through the Minimum Staffing Protection Policy.

11.6.2 The allocations for Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch for the 2025-26 year, are based on the numbers in September 2024 and the amounts received by the two schools are noted below:

School	Allocation base (September 2024 numbers)			Core allocation	Additional financial allocation (protection)	Total	£ per learner
	N	FP	KS2				
Y Garreg	1	3	13	£150,662	£89,701	£240,371	£14,621
Cefn Coch	21	66	72	£856,802	£0	£856,802	£5,819
Total	22	69	85	£1,007,464	£89,701	£1,097,173	-

11.6.3 The average cost per learner at Ysgol Y Garreg is £14,621, and £5,819 at Ysgol Cefn Coch. The average county-wide cost per learner for 2025-26 is £5,780. This means that the cost per learner at Ysgol Y Garreg is £8,841 higher than the county average for the same period.

11.6.4 A total of £1,097,173 is allocated to the two schools in the 2025-26 financial year. Ysgol Cefn Coch does not receive an additional sum through the minimum staffing protection policy. The school's current learner numbers attract a sufficient budget to maintain appropriate staffing levels.

11.6.5 In terms of revenue costs, should the proposal be implemented, and should the learners of the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area wish to attend Ysgol Cefn Coch, based on the 2026-27 budget (which is based on the learner numbers in September 2025):

- it is estimated that the proposal would create an annual saving of £147,845, less additional transport needs costs (up to £40,000) - which is approximately £107,845 per annum.
- it is anticipated that the core allocation for Ysgol Cefn Coch would increase to £859,000 and the cost per learner would be £5,859.

11.6.6 Any savings in revenue costs would be retained in the Gwynedd Schools budget area.

11.6.7 Note that there are no capital costs associated with the proposal.

11.7 **Leadership and Staffing**

11.7.1 The current staffing structure at Ysgol Y Garreg includes an interim Headteacher in charge who shares her duties between Ysgol Y Garreg and another school via an informal arrangement, along with one full time teacher and one teaching assistant (0.6 FTE).

11.7.2 At Ysgol Cefn Coch, there is a non-contact Headteacher who spends 100% of his time leading the federation of Ysgol Cefn Coch (3.5 days) and Ysgol Talsarnau (1.5 days). There are 6 full-time teachers and 7 assistants, as well as a clerical officer, at the school.

11.8 **The Community**

- 11.8.1 Welsh Government guidance (The Schools Organisation Code) states that a community impact assessment must be held as part of any proposal for school reorganisation. A community impact assessment was carried out on the list of options noted in paragraph 8.1. See the full report in Appendix 2.
- 11.8.2 This assessment shows that there will be some negative impact on the community if the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg is implemented. It is acknowledged that closing the school would lead to the loss of a school in the community of Llanfrothen, however, the assessment notes that a very vast proportion (92%) of the learners who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools. Of the number of learners within the school's catchment area, 13% attend Ysgol Cefn Coch, therefore, it is concluded that there is already some link between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the Ysgol Y Garreg community.
- 11.8.3 Although no community use is made of the Ysgol Y Garreg building, the school is engaged with its community and occasionally uses the community's facilities.
- 11.8.4 Should the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg be realised, every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Cefn Coch. To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are noted to ensure that the community of Y Garreg is aware of the activities of the alternative school, and community collaboration will be encouraged between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the community of Ysgol Y Garreg, where appropriate.
- 11.8.5 Should the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg be realised, it will be essential as part of the process, to encourage discussions between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the parents of Ysgol Y Garreg learners, so that parents and learners can take advantage of their facilities and any after-school activities.

11.9 **The Welsh Language**

- 11.9.1 Welsh Government guidance (Schools Organisation Code) notes that a Welsh language impact assessment must be held as part of any proposal for school reorganisation. See the full report in Appendix 2.
- 11.9.2 The Welsh language impact assessment notes that it is anticipated that the proposal would have a partial impact on some elements in the context of the Welsh language, mainly:
- the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school would mean that the learners of the Y Garreg catchment area would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school.
 - the proposal would mean that the learners would have access to a higher supply in terms of staffing and they would be a part of a larger group of peers of the same age; the proposal could strengthen the opportunities for learners within the classroom.
 - the proposal would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg learners would be more likely to use the Welsh language in informal Welsh contexts with their peers outside school hours.
 - the proposal would mean that fewer parents would be likely to meet daily in the community of Llanfrothen during the school run.
- 11.9.3 Based on the above, from implementing the proposal, it is anticipated that there would be no impact on the learners from the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area's use of Welsh in a formal context at the school. Nevertheless, it is anticipated that there would be more use of Welsh in informal context outside school hours.

11.10 **Quality and Standards of Education**

- 11.10.1 An assessment of the probable impact on the quality and standards of education was carried out on all options. See the full report in Appendix 2.
- 11.10.2 According to the latest Estyn reports, Ysgol Cefn Coch offers a quality and standard education which is equivalent to Ysgol Y Garreg, at least.

- 11.10.3 Ysgol Y Garreg was last inspected by Estyn in 2023 (new inspection framework), and it was noted that 'the teaching standard was consistently good'. Estyn submitted the following as recommendations:
- *Ensure an appropriate level of challenge to support pupils to develop their skills to the best of their ability.*
 - *Provide opportunities for pupils to undertake leadership roles to contribute to the work and wider life of the school.*
- 11.10.4 Ysgol Cefn Coch was last inspected by Estyn in 2018, where it was concluded that the school's current performance against the outcome questions and their provision was Good, and the leadership and care and well-being was Outstanding (previous inspection framework).
- 11.10.5 As there are more learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch, it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to educate children in larger groups, with age-relevant peers to expand their experiences, should the proposal be implemented. Based on this, it is concluded that there would be a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences by teaching the learners of Y Garreg catchment area at Ysgol Cefn Coch.
- 11.10.6 It should be noted that it is not concerns about the quality of the current education at Ysgol Y Garreg that have led to this proposal. Indeed, due to the very low teacher:learner ratio, the children make good progress. However, the main challenges faced by the school and the very low numbers and small class numbers, mean that there are restrictions on the school's ability to provide opportunities for learners to nurture and take advantage of extra-curricular and social experiences and the ability to work together in pairs and groups of peers in the classroom, in line with the curriculum's requirements.

11.11 **Condition and suitability of buildings**

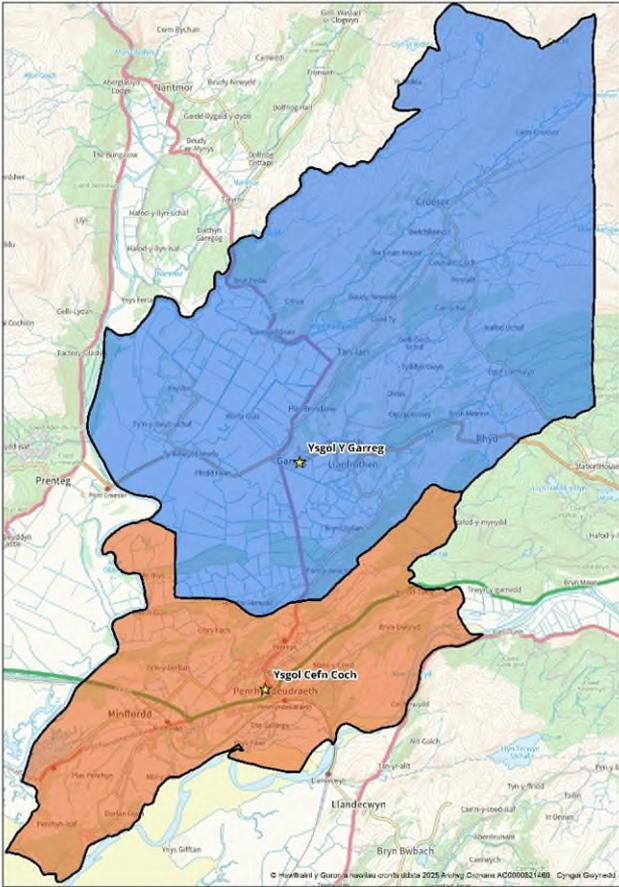
- 11.11.1 The Authority's latest condition assessment notes that the condition of Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch school buildings are noted as being in category 'B'.

12. **IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL**

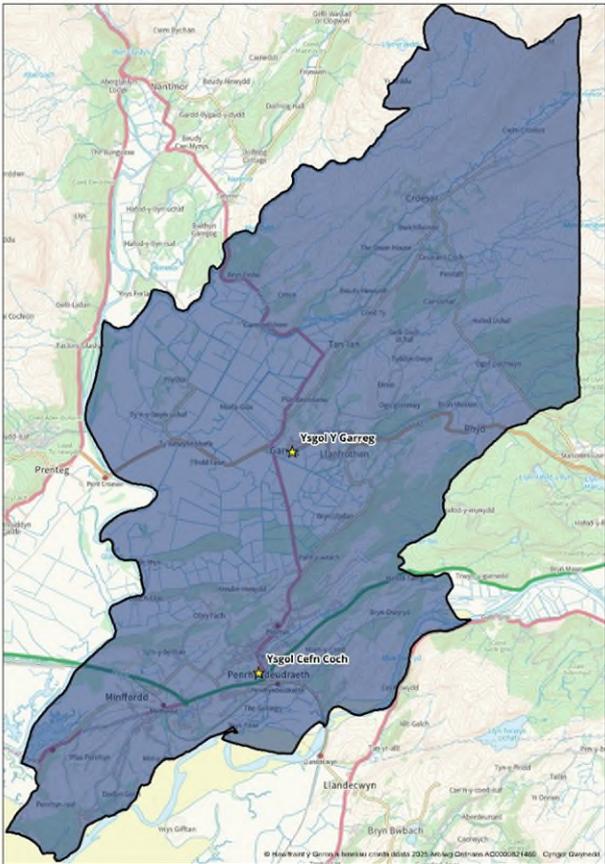
12.1 School admissions catchment areas

- 12.2 Should the proposal be implemented, the Ysgol Cefn Coch catchment area would be adapted to include the current Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area.

Map 1: The current Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch catchment areas



Map 2: Ysgol Cefn Coch catchment area if the proposal is implemented



12.3 Transport

12.4 Should the proposal be implemented, learners living within the catchment area of Ysgol Y Garreg would be offered a place at Ysgol Cefn Coch and would receive transport in accordance with the County's School Transport Policy. It is anticipated that the transport costs would be around £30,000-£40,000 per year.

12.5 Staffing Considerations

12.6 Should the proposal be implemented to close Ysgol Y Garreg on 31 August 2026, staffing implications will lead to redundancies as the positions would end when the school closes. All the school's stakeholders will receive the statutory notice including staff and representatives of the Unions as part of the objection period process. Any redundancies resulting from the proposal will have to comply with the necessary employment law and the Gwynedd Redundancy scheme. Clear and open communication with staff will play a key role in implementing any proposal.

13 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

13.1 School Organisation Code 011/2018

13.2 Any statutory process will be conducted in accordance with Welsh Government Guidelines (School Organisation Code).

13.3 Equality Impact Assessment

13.4 An equality impact assessment was held on the proposal. The full assessment can be found in Appendix 2.

13.5 The assessment gives particular attention to different equality elements such as race, gender, disability, language, religion or belief and age. The assessment notes the current situation and shows that policies and procedures are in place which will ensure that the proposal considers and is in accordance with equal rights.

13.6 Having weighed-up the relevant factors, it is concluded that the proposal is unlikely to have a negative impact on most equality characteristics. We note that there are already measures in place to ensure that there will be no unlawful discrimination or harassment.

13.7 It is anticipated 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.

13.8 By implementing the proposal, Ysgol Y Garreg learners would have a better learning environment, and 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.

13.9 The Council will follow the usual procedures by supporting and monitoring, in order to ensure the compliance of every school with the equality characteristics.

13.10 The Well-being of Future Generations Act

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

13.12 It is acknowledged that should the Cabinet decide to proceed with this proposal, it may result in losing the school in the Llanfrothen community. However, a vast number of the children who live in the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Cefn Coch, therefore, it is concluded that a link already exists between the schools and that school community. Every effort will be made to mitigate any negative impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Cefn Coch. Should the proposal be approved, discussions will take place to discuss the possibility that Ysgol Cefn Coch community activity includes the community, where appropriate.

14 NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

February 2026	Publish a Statutory Notice: Should the Cabinet decide to support the recommendation presented in this report a Statutory Notice will be published. A period of 28 days is granted for anyone to submit an objection to the proposal, namely the 'Objection Period'.
May 2026	Final decision on the proposal: Following the objection period, if objections are received, the Cabinet will discuss the objections report and decide whether the decision should be confirmed or not. If there are no objections, or if all are withdrawn, the Cabinet Member can make the decision.
August 2026	Implementation of the Proposal: Ysgol Y Garreg officially closes, subject to the Cabinet's decision.

15. Appendices

Appendix 1: Options Appraisal Table

Appendix 2: Impact Assessments:

- Assessment of the Likely Impact on the Quality and Standards of Education
- Assessment of the Likely Impact on Travel Arrangements
- Assessment of the Likely Impact on the Community
- Language Impact Assessment
- Composite Impact Assessment

16. Views of the statutory officers

Monitoring Officer:

"The report has been the subject of advice by the Legal Services. I am satisfied of the propriety of the decision sought."

Head of Finance Department:

"It is clear from the evidence contained in this report that the situation at Ysgol y Garreg is no longer sustainable and that decisive action is needed to address the situation. I have no objection to the decision sought"

17. The Local Member's Comments

"Ysgol Y Garreg has been a key part of the community for over a century and has provided excellent education to the children of the area. It is sad that the numbers have fallen to this extent. The two pupils currently at school are in Year 6 and will be transferring to secondary school in September 2026.

Like other parts of Gwynedd and indeed the western world, the number of children has fallen significantly which has consequently affected the number of pupils on the register.

Society has also changed, and for many years now parents have had the right to consider educating their children in a school of their choice.

I believe it is important to thank the staff for their dedication in challenging circumstances, and for providing both pupils with excellent and entertaining educational experiences.

I would like to draw attention to the opinion of the governing body which is set out in the report."

"Should the Council decide to close the school, I would like to strongly encourage you to consider restructuring the building as a specialist centre for pupils who have trouble settling in mainstream schools, but are not eligible for a Special Learning Needs School."

Options Appraisal: Ysgol Y Garreg

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

	No change – Continue with the current situation	Federalisation with a nearby school	Close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school
Learner numbers and surplus places	<p>Very low numbers continue at Ysgol Y Garreg (January 2026 Numbers: 2 learners in Reception – Year 6 and 0 learner in Nursery).</p> <p>Number of surplus places remain very high (39 surplus places (95%) Reception – Year 6; 46 surplus places (96%) Nursery – Year 6).</p> <p>There are two classrooms in Ysgol Y Garreg, one of which is not in use.</p> <p>According to projections no increase in numbers is foreseen.</p>	<p>Very low numbers continue at Ysgol Y Garreg (January 2026 Numbers: 2 learners in Reception – Year 6 and 0 learner in Nursery).</p> <p>Number of surplus places remain very high (39 surplus places (95%) Reception – Year 6; 46 surplus places (96%) Nursery – Year 6).</p> <p>There are two classrooms in Ysgol Y Garreg, one of which is not in use.</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.</p>	<p>Ysgol Cefn Coch’s numbers are stable with 132 Reception – Year 6 learners and 16 Nursery learners on the register (January 2026)</p> <p>A lower percentage of surplus places in the catchment area.</p>

<p>Class size and age range</p>	<p>There is 1 class in Ysgol Y Garreg (January 2026) with 2 learners (Reception – Year 6) and 0 Nursery learners.</p> <p>According to projections no increase in numbers is foreseen.</p> <p>Ysgol Y Garreg’s class sizes are therefore likely to remain very small, with a strong possibility that the age range would be 4 years of more in each class.</p>	<p>There is 1 class in Ysgol Y Garreg (January 2026) with 2 learners (Reception – Year 6) and 0 Nursery learners.</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 Y Garreg’s class sizes are therefore likely to remain very small, with a strong possibility that the age range would be 4 years or more in each class.</p>	<p>Learners to be taught in classes that are more suitable in size. Ysgol Cefn Coch learners are taught in classes of a more suitable size with an average of 21 learners in each class (January 2026).</p> <p>There are 7 classes in Ysgol Cefn Coch, with years 4,5 and 6 sharing two classes.</p>
<p>Financial Resources</p>	<p>Ysgol Y Garreg has received a minimum staffing protection allocation amount of £89,701 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 Y Garreg’s average cost per learner remains high (£14,621) which is based on September 2024 numbers of 17 learners. This is significantly higher than the county average of £5,780.</p>	<p>Ysgol Y Garreg has received a minimum staffing protection allocation amount of £89,701 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 Y Garreg’s average cost per learner remains high (£14,621) which is based on September 2024 numbers of 17 learners. This is significantly higher than the county average of £5,780.</p> <p>An opportunity to make savings by sharing resources and employing staff across the federation when appointing in the future.</p>	<p>Removing a school from the minimum staffing protection 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>Leadership and Staffing</p>	<p>It is anticipated that the challenges in ensuring stable staffing levels at the school would continue.</p> <p>The school will be likely to receive minimum staffing protection to ensure that a head teacher and a teaching assistant can be employed.</p> <p>Projected 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 will be likely to receive minimum staffing protection to ensure that a head teacher and a teaching assistant can be employed.</p> <p>Projected numbers suggest that this will continue.</p> <p>The burden would remain heavy for the headteacher, who is responsible for two schools through an informal arrangement.</p>	<p>The staffing structure of Ysgol Cefn Coch ensures teachers in all classes and allows more non-contact time for the Headteacher.</p> <p>It would lead to the dissolution of Ysgol Y Garreg staff's contracts.</p>
<p>Geographical Factors</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>The school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>The school within a reasonable distance of the homes of learners in the catchment area.</p>	<p>Transport would need to be offered to learners in Ysgol Y Garreg's catchment area, in accordance with the Council's transport policy.</p> <p>Some learners in the catchment area would travel further to school than they would at present.</p> <p>No learner in the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>
<p>The Community</p>	<p>Retain the school and its potential to be a community resource in Llanfrothen.</p>	<p>Possibility of community collaboration between the 2 schools.</p>	<p>The village of Llanfrothen would lose a school.</p>

	<p>Majority of learners from Ysgol Y Garreg'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 Y Garreg.</p>	<p>Retain the school and its potential to be a community resource in Llanfrothen.</p> <p>Majority of learners from Ysgol Y Garreg's catchment area already attend out-of-catchment schools.</p> <p>There is no community of the school outside of school hours.</p> <p>Uncertainty continues regarding the sustainability of education provision at Ysgol Y Garreg.</p>	<p>A wider community where the children and parents can benefit from creating stronger links between 2 neighbouring communities.</p>
The Welsh Language	No change – Learners continue to receive Category 3 Welsh medium education.	No change – Learners continue to receive Category 3 Welsh medium education.	No change – Ysgol Cefn Coch is a Category 3 Welsh medium education school.
Additional comments following a meeting with the Governing Body of Ysgol Y Garreg		<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The suitability of Ysgol Cefn Coch's building, class sizes and the number of staff able to provide for all the learners of Llanfrothen 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of a communal and cultural focal point which has existed for 143 years; a negative impact on the moral and unity of the village <p>Strengths/ Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the building as an educational asset by restructuring it to a specialist centre or wellbeing unit.

**ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON THE QUALITY
AND STANDARDS OF EDUCATION -
YSGOL Y GARREG**

January 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

Ysgol Y Garreg is a community primary school located in the village of Llanfrothen. The school provides education for learners between the ages of 3 and 11 and is a Welsh-medium school, Category 3. There has been a significant reduction in the numbers of learners at Ysgol Y Garreg over the past few years, from 26 pupils in 2016 to 2 pupils today, which causes uncertainty about the future of the school.

In accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code 011/2018, which includes 'Presumption against closing 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 Y Garreg is listed as a 'Rural School'.

The Council is committed to providing education of the best possible quality that will give the County's children the experiences, skills and confidence to develop into bilingual, successful and well-rounded 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 Y Garreg was last inspected by Estyn in 2023 with the new inspection framework. Ysgol Cefn Coch was last inspected by Estyn in 2018. A summary of the last Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch inspections can be found in the table below.

School	Date of inspection	Standards	Well-being and attitudes towards learning	Teaching and learning experiences	Care, support and guidance	Leadership and management
Y Garreg	2023	New inspection framework				
Cefn Coch	2018	Good	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent

3. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- *No change – continue with the current situation*

Note that although the case for change has been established, the 'No change' model has been included in the assessment for comparison purposes.

- *Federalise with a nearby school*

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Llanfrothen through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. Ysgol Y Garreg's governing body would be dissolved, and the school would come under the leadership of one headteacher and the governing body of the federation. 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 federalisation with neighbouring schools was considered, specifically Ysgol Cefn Coch and Ysgol Talsarnau (Afon Dwyrdd Federation).

- *Close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school*

This option would mean closing Ysgol Y Garreg 31 August 2026 and denoting Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school from 1 September 2026.

4. ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY IMPACT ON EDUCATION STANDARDS AND QUALITY

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

OPTION 1: DO NOTHING – CONTINUE WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION

This option would mean no change and Ysgol Y Garreg 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: FEDERALISATION 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 federalisation with a nearby school. The results of the latest Estyn inspections of Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch were strong for indicators of standards. As a result, it is concluded that the effect on standards of federating Ysgol Y Garreg with Ysgol Cefn Coch and Ysgol Talsarnau would be neutral.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	The results of Ysgol Y Garreg's latest Estyn inspection were strong with Ysgol Cefn Coch's report being 'excellent' for indicators of Well-being and attitudes to learning. As a result, it is concluded that the effect on well-being and attitudes to learning from the federating of Ysgol Y Garreg with Cefn Coch and Ysgol Talsarnau would be neutral.	Neutral
Learning and teaching experiences	Ysgol Y Garreg's latest Estyn inspection stated that the school "plans thoroughly to provide beneficial experiences that cover all of the areas of learning and experience." The latest Estyn inspection of Ysgol Cefn Coch stated that "the quality of teaching across the school is good. Staff establish an effective working relationship with the pupils, which fosters a supportive and active learning atmosphere." As a result, it is concluded that the impact on teaching and learning experiences would be neutral.	Neutral
Care, support and guidance	The latest Estyn inspection of Ysgol Y Garreg stated that the school "is a caring and family community that provides care, support and solid guidance to the pupils". Cefn Coch school has been assessed as 'excellent' under the Care, Support and Guidance indicator. 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	The federating model with a nearby school would offer opportunities to strengthen Ysgol Y Garreg'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 criteria 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 Y Garreg would continue. In addition, the Estyn inspection result for Ysgol Y Garreg's 'Standards' was strong, as was the result of Ysgol Cefn Coch's inspection. Based on information here, no impact on learners' standards is anticipated from implementing this option.	Neutral

OPTION 3: CLOSE YSGOL Y GARREG AND DENOTE YSGOL CEFN COCH AS THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

Impact criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	The results of the latest Estyn inspections of Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch were strong for indicators of standards. As a result, it is concluded that the impact on this criteria would be neutral by teaching the learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch.	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	<p>In this case, if the proposal is implemented, it is not anticipated that learners of statutory age at Ysgol Y Garreg on 1 September 2026 would transfer to the alternative school. In the long term, the intention is that implementing this option would have a positive effect on the well-being of learners with attitudes towards learning, as Ysgol Cefn Coch would offer social and extra-curricular opportunities with a range of learners from various age groups.</p> <p>Ysgol Y Garreg School's latest Estyn inspection results were strong with Ysgol Cefn Coch's report being 'excellent' for indicators of Well-being and attitudes to learning. As a result, it is concluded that well-being and attitudes to learning would have a positive or at least a neutral effect of implementing this option.</p>	Neutral / Positive
Learning and teaching experiences	Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch's latest Estyn survey results were strong for the Teaching and Learning Experiences indicator. However, as there are more learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch, it is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to teach children in larger groups and 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 Y Garreg catchment area learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch.	Positive
Care, support and guidance	The latest Estyn inspection of Ysgol Y Garreg stated that the school "is a caring and familial community that provides care, support and solid guidance to the pupils". Cefn Coch school has been assessed as 'excellent' under the Care, Support and Guidance indicator. 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	The results of the latest Estyn surveys of Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch were strong for the Leadership and Management indicators. As a result, it is predicted that the effect of this option on this criteria would be neutral.	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	<p>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.</p> <p>When planning staffing (e.g. the role of the ALN) and the provision map, the demand on schools is challenging, and that becomes more evident when considering the demand on smaller schools. In larger schools the conditions of the additional learning needs coordinator are better, and meeting the statutory requirement is easier as a result. In addition, responding to the needs of the learners is also easier in larger schools as they could perhaps host an intervention group to target specific needs. The provision map is more extensive in larger schools to respond to demand.</p> <p>As a result, since learners would be offered a place in a school with a higher number of learners, it is anticipated that the effect of this option on this criterion would be positive.</p>	Positive

Provision that is at least equivalent to what is available to the learners at the time (including those with ALN)	The Estyn inspection result for Ysgol Y Garreg's 'Standards' was strong, as was the result of Ysgol Cefn Coch's inspection. Based on the information from these surveys, it is anticipated that the effect on the teaching standards of Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch would be neutral. As a result, it is anticipated that the provision at Ysgol Cefn Coch would correspond to what is currently available to the learners at Ysgol Y Garreg, at least.	Neutral
---	---	---------

4. CONCLUSION

This assessment of the likely impact on the quality and standards of education shows that implementing the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school would likely have a positive impact, or at least a neutral impact.

In addition, the assessment indicates that a neutral/partially positive effect is predicted on the quality and standards of education from implementing the federalisation option with a nearby school, it would allow opportunities to share good practices between the sites of the multi-site school, and possibilities of making better use of resources.

Based on the result of the above assessments and comparing Estyn reports, it is concluded that the standard of education provided at Ysgol Cefn Coch corresponds to the standard of education provided at Ysgol Y Garreg. As there are more learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch, 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 Y Garreg catchment area learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch.

As a result, it is anticipated that the likely effect of implementing the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and designate Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school would be neutral/partially positive.

ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS – YSGOL Y GARREG JANUARY 2026

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 learners). 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. The Transport policy can be seen in the parents’ handbook: [Information for parents 2025/26](#)

1.2 Background (Ysgol y Garreg)

Ysgol Y Garreg is a community school located in the village of Llanfrothen, about two miles from Penrhyndeudraeth, providing education for learners aged 3-11 years old. There has been a significant decline in the number of learners at Ysgol y Garreg over recent years. There are 2 learners from Reception to Year 6 and no Nursery learners attending the school.

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

This impact assessment on travel arrangements has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code (0/112018). The code states that any change in school organisation must assess the impact on learners’ travel, including distance, travel time, safety, and transport costs to the authority. This assessment considers all the proposed options, noting the impact on travel arrangements, and ensures compliance with [Cyngor Gwynedd Transport Policy](#) (page 12), ensuring no learner has to travel an unreasonable distance.

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 Y Garreg catchment area.

This option would not have any impact on the current travel arrangements of Ysgol Y Garreg learners, as the learners would continue to be educated at Ysgol Y Garreg. No learner in the Ysgol y Garreg 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 Llanfrothen through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or head teachers and one governing body. The governing body of Ysgol Y Garreg would be dissolved, and the school would be under the leadership of one headteacher and the federation’s 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 federalisation was considered with nearby schools, specifically Ysgol Cefn Coch and Ysgol Talsarnau (Ffederasiwn Afon Dwyrdd).

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

- Close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school

This option would mean closing Ysgol Y Garreg and designating Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school.

Ysgol Cefn Coch is located 2.1 miles from Ysgol Y Garreg. This is the geographically closest school to Ysgol Y Garreg.

This option would have an impact on travel arrangements, as it would be necessary to provide transport (in accordance with Gwynedd's transport policy) if all the learners in Ysgol Y Garreg's catchment area chooses to attend Ysgol Cefn Coch (dependent on parents/guardian's choice of school). It is anticipated there would be additional transport costs between £30,000 - £40,000 per year (estimated cost). Some learners will travel further to school than they would currently. No learner in the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.

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.

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 Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.	£0
Federalisation with a nearby school	Neutral	£0

	<p>The learners would continue to be taught at Ysgol Y Garreg and the learners' travel arrangements would continue in the same way.</p> <p>No learner in the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	
Close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school	<p>Negative</p> <p>Ysgol Cefn Coch is located 2.1 miles from Ysgol Y Garreg. The Authority would need to provide transport for learners in the current catchment area of Ysgol Y Garreg that would wish to attend Ysgol Cefn Coch and live more than 2 miles from the school, in accordance with the Authority's Transport Policy.</p> <p>Having considered current numbers that live in Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area (January 2026), it is anticipated that a 30 seater bus would be required to transport learners that would wish to attend Ysgol Cefn Coch (in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy) It is anticipated that this would be at a cost of between £30,000 - £40,000.</p> <p>No learner in the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p>	£30,000 - £40,000

3. CONCLUSION

It is not anticipated that there would be a negative impact on the travel arrangements from implementing any of the above options (part 2), except for the option to close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school.

Should the option to Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school be implemented, then it is anticipated that there would be an impact on travel arrangements for the children. However, it is not anticipated that any learners in the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area would need to travel an unreasonable distance to school.

Considering the latest learners' numbers (January 2026), it is anticipated that a 30 seat mode of transport vehicle would need to be arranged if all learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Y

Garreg choose to attend Ysgol Cefn Coch (in accordance with Cyngor Gwynedd's transport policy). The transport costs are estimated to be around £30,000 - £40,000 per year.

As a result, it is anticipated that the option to close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school would lead to additional transport costs for the Authority. These costs are estimated to be around £30,000 - £40,000 per year to provide transport should all the learners in Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area choose to attend Ysgol Cefn Coch (in accordance with the choice of the parents/guardians).

ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY – YSGOL Y GARREG (JANUARY 2026)

1. INTRODUCTION

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

1.1 Background

Ysgol Y Garreg is a community school located in the village of Llanfrothen, which is about two miles from Penrhyndeudraeth, and provides education for learners between the ages of 3-11. There has been a significant reduction in the numbers of learners at Ysgol Y Garreg over recent years. By now, January 2026, only 2 Reception to Year 6 learners are on the register, with no learners in the Nursery class.

Due to a significant drop in the numbers of learners attending Ysgol Y Garreg, the situation is now unsustainable and extremely vulnerable. On the basis of PLASC data (Pupil Level Annual School Census) January 2026, Ysgol Y Garreg is the smallest school in the county.

2. THE OPTIONS

The Authority considered and discussed a number of options for the future of Ysgol Y Garreg, including:

- *No change – Continue with the current situation*
- *Federalisation with a nearby school*

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Llanfrothen through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or heads and one governing body. Ysgol Y Garreg's governing body would be dissolved, and the school would come under the leadership of one headteacher and the governing body of the federation. 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 neighbouring schools was considered specifically Ysgol Cefn Coch and Ysgol Talsarnau (Ffederasiwn Afon Dwyrdd).

- *Close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school*

This option meant that Ysgol Y Garreg would close and Ysgol Cefn Coch would be denoted as the alternative school.

3. SUMMARY OF THE CATCHMENT AREA

3.1 The Area

Ysgol Y Garreg is located in the rural village of Llanfrothen, which is about two miles from Penrhyndeudraeth in Gwynedd within the Glaslyn ward. According to the 2021 Census, 1,633 people live in Glaslyn ward.

3.2 The Economy

55.7% of people over 16 years of age within the Glaslyn ward are economically active, and 4% of these are unemployed. 43.4% of people in the same age group are economically inactive with 2.9% of these being ill or disabled for a long period.

The type of industry in which the population is mostly employed is varied in the area, with the highest rate (16.5%) working in the field of Accommodation and Food Service Activities.

According to data from the 'Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation Wales (WIMD 2025)' the employment rate of the Llanfrothen area compared to other areas in Wales gives a rank of 1701 out of 1917 areas. Therefore, the Llanfrothen area is within the 50% least deprived areas in Wales.

3.3 Deprivation

Llanfrothen is ranked 1231 out of the 1,917 Lower Tier Expanded Product Areas in Wales, which puts it in the least deprived 50%.

Each area's overall deprivation ranking is based on its ranking across eight categories of deprivation, including income, employment, health, education, access to services, community safety, physical environment and housing.

It is noted that Llanfrothen is within the 20-30% of the 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, Llanfrothen is within the 20-30% of the most deprived areas in Wales in regard to 'access to services', i.e. deprivation due to people being 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 various 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 Llanfrothen area is positioned in the context of other areas in Wales according to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2025):

Field	Rank in Wales, out of 1917 areas. (1 = most deprived and 1917 = least deprived)	Most deprived % in Wales
Employment	1701	
Income	1342	
Health	1615	
Education	1021	
Housing	284	Within the 10% most deprived
Physical environment	1509	
Access to services	221	Within the 10% most deprived
Community safety	1453	

3.4 The Community

No community use is made of the Ysgol Y Garreg school building.

4. YSGOL Y GARREG AND THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

4.1 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 Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch by Estyn inspectors.

Ysgol Y Garreg

"The school makes good use of the community to expand the provision and opportunities available to pupils."

Source: Estyn Inspection Report, 2023.

Ysgol Cefn Coch

"Pupils contribute extensively to the community and take pride in the opportunity to support activities such as thanksgiving services in the chapel and concerts in the community hall."

Source: Estyn Inspection Report 2018.

4.2 Statistical information of the schools

The table below shows the numbers of learners at Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch. This table also shows the school's capacity and number on the roll in January 2026. All schools teach through the medium of Welsh.

School	Full Capacity (N – Yr6)	Number on register January 2026 (N – Yr6)	Legal Category	Language Category
Y Garreg	48	2	Community School	Welsh Medium, Category 3
Cefn Coch	231	148	Community School	Welsh Medium, Category 3

Source: PLASC census January 2026

4.3 Catchment information and learners choice of schools

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

The latest data (GIS data January 2026) shows that 92% of children who live in the catchment area of Ysgol Y Garreg attend schools outside of 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
Y Garreg	8%	92%	0%
Cefn Coch	78%	22%	16%

Source: GIS Data January 2026

4.4 Summary of the various facilities in the community of Llanfrothen and Penrhyndeudraeth (January 2026)

	Y Garreg	Cefn Coch
Village Hall / Community Centre	✓	✓
Church/Chapel	✓	✓
Public transport	✓	✓
Shop	✓	✓
Cafe/Pub	✓	✓
Post Office		✓
Pharmacy		✓
Library		
Playground/Park		✓
Bank		
Residential Home		
Leisure Centre		
Garage		✓
Tourist Attraction	✓	✓
Cylch Ti a Fi + Cylch Meithrin / Pre-school groups		✓

4.5 Summary of the use of the school buildings outside of usual school hours

A summary of community or extra-curricular use of the local school buildings is below:

	Y Garreg	Cefn Coch
Play groups (School holidays)		✓
Branch of the Urdd		✓
Drama productions		
Voluntary groups		✓
Coffee morning/evenings		✓
Community Auction		
Choir Practice		
Welsh For Adults		
Town Council Meetings/Community Council		
Cylch/Pre-school groups		✓
Clubs/ Sporting activities		✓
After school club		✓
Local interests' group		

Cylch Meithrin Penrhyn is located on the site of Ysgol Cefn Coch and provides early years care and education through the medium of Welsh for pre-school children. The collaboration between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the Cylch means a smooth transition for the children from the Cylch to the nursery class. The Cylch provides places for children between the ages of 2 and 4 and is part of the 2-year-old Childcare scheme where families who live within certain postcodes can receive up to 12.5 hours of free childcare per term after the child has reached the age of two.

The Cylch Meithrin is also part of the Childcare Scheme, which is a scheme that offers up to 30 hours a week of free early years childcare. Children can take advantage of the Childcare Offer from the start of the term following their third birthday until the September after they turn four.

The Cylch Meithrin also provides comprehensive childcare on site from 8:00 to 18:00 from Monday to Friday.

There is no early-years provision at Ysgol Y Garreg, with the exception of the school's Nursery class.

4.6 A summary of activities or groups that the school is regularly involved in:

	Y Garreg	Cefn Coch
Pre-School groups/ Cylch Meithrin/Ti a Fi		✓
Eisteddfodau (Local/County/National)		✓
Branch 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	Location of facilities if the school closes
Y Garreg	No community event is held at Ysgol Y Garreg building at the moment. If the Cabinet decided to proceed with the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg, options for the use of the school building would have to be considered. The local community has various options for hosting any event such as Llanfrothen Social Center and the Brondanw Arms public house (The Ring).

4.8 Distance and travel time to other schools in the catchment area

The table below indicates the distance and travel time between Ysgol Y Garreg and schools in the area. Ysgol Cefn Coch is the closest school to Ysgol Y Garreg. The travel times below take into account the nature of the lanes and roads and the effect that can have on travel time in a rural area.

School	Y Garreg	
Y Garreg	Miles	2.1
	Minutes	6

Source: Google maps 2026

5. ASSESSMENT ON 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 SURRENT SITUATION

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and Wellbeing	As there would be no change to the current provision therefore no impact on health and well-being is anticipated.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As there would be no change to the current provision no impact on public transport provision is anticipated. Any transport required by Ysgol Y Garreg 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 there would be no change to the provision therefore no impact on the current use of the school is anticipated.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	As there would be no change to the provision therefore 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	As there would be no change to the provision therefore no impact is anticipated on how parents choose a school for their children or affect the choice of living in the catchment area.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	As there would be no change to what is currently provided therefore no impact on other local services is anticipated.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	As there would be no change to what is currently being provided, no adverse impact on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	As there would be no change to what is currently provided therefore no impact on the local community is anticipated.	Neutral

OPTION 2: FEDERALISE WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL

Impact criteria	Description	Status of the impact and of the work
Impact on Health and Wellbeing	As federalisation would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg remains open there would be no change to the current provision therefore no impact on health and well-being is anticipated.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As federalisation would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg remains open there is no anticipated impact on the provision of public transport. Any transport required by Ysgol Y Garreg for eligible learners from the catchment area will continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As federalisation would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg remains open, no change to the current use of the school is foreseen.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	As federalisation would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg remains open there is no anticipated 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 federalisation would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg remains 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 catchment area children already attend out-of-catchment schools (92% GIS data January 2026).	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	As federalisation would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg remains open, no impact is anticipated on what is currently being provided, therefore no impact on other local services is anticipated.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	As federalisation would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg remains open, no impact is anticipated on what is currently being provided, therefore no adverse impact on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	As federalisation would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg remains open, no impact is anticipated on what is currently being provided, therefore no impact on the local community is anticipated. However, opportunities are identified for the Llanfrothen community and the Ysgol Cefn Coch community to come together.	Neutral

OPTION 3: CLOSE YSGOL Y GARREG AND DENOTE YSGOL CEFN COCH AS THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

Impact criteria	Description	Status of the impact and of the work
Impact on Health and Wellbeing	<p>Ysgol Cefn Coch is located approximately two miles from Ysgol Y Garreg, and further from the homes of learners in the catchment area, it is not anticipated that Ysgol Y Garreg's catchment area learners would be likely to walk to the alternative school.</p> <p>It is anticipated that being in a larger school such as Ysgol Cefn Coch 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	There is no regular use of the Ysgol Y Garreg building in order to host community events. Llanfrothen Social Center is located next door to the school, so community provision is available.	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	As a high proportion of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area (92% GIS data January 2026), 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 2.1 miles from Ysgol Y Garreg, 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 Y Garreg would have an impact on the wider economy of the community.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	<p>If Ysgol Y Garreg were to close, the nearest school would be located further away from the homes of Ysgol Y Garreg's current catchment area, and from a deprivation point of view - it means that one of the indicators 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>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 Llanfrothen community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the Llanfrothen community is encouraged, where appropriate.</p>	Negative

6. CONCLUSION

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

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

The assessment shows that some negative impact on the community is anticipated if the option to close Ysgol Y Garreg is implemented. It is recognised that closing Ysgol Y Garreg would lead to the loss of a school in the Llanfrothen community, however the assessment stated that a large proportion of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend other schools. Therefore, it is concluded that a link between neighbouring schools and the Ysgol Y Garreg community already exists.

Should the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg come true, every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Cefn Coch. To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Llanfrothen community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the Llanfrothen community is encouraged, where appropriate.

If the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg was implemented, it will be essential as part of the process to encourage discussions between the alternative school (Ysgol Cefn Coch) and the parents/guardians of Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area so that parents and learners can take advantage of their facilities and any after school activities.

In addition, if the Cabinet decided to proceed with the proposed proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg, options for the use of the school building would have to be considered.

LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT – YSGOL Y GARREG (JANUARY 2026)

1. INTRODUCTION

Supporting and developing the ability of Gwynedd’s children to learn and use their language skills is critically important to the county’s education strategies.

1.1 The Situation in Gwynedd

The figures from the 2021 Census show that 66% of people over the age of three are able to speak, read or write in Welsh. The 2021 Census also shows 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 considerable variation in the percentage of Welsh speakers across different wards. At one end of the scale, in wards such as Aberdyfi, Tywyn and Bangor Central, 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 [Gwynedd Council Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022–2032](#) 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 these aims, namely:

1. More nursery/3-year-old children being educated through the medium of Welsh
2. More reception/5-year-old children receiving their education through the medium of Welsh.
3. More children continuing to improve their Welsh skills as they move from one stage of their statutory education to another.
4. More learners studying for Welsh qualifications (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh.
5. More opportunities for learners to use the Welsh language in different contexts within the school.
6. An increase in Welsh-medium education provision for pupils with additional learning needs (“ALN”) (in accordance with the duties set out by the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018).
7. An increase in the number of teaching staff who can teach Welsh (as a subject) and through the medium of Welsh.

1.3 Language Policy

Primary

The aim of the [Language Policy](#) is the same across all of the county’s primary schools, namely to develop every pupil’s ability to be proficient in both languages by the end of Key Stage 2. Welsh is the official language of assessment in the school at the end of the Foundation Phase. In Key Stage 2, pupils’ grasp of Welsh continues to be developed while also giving attention to developing their skills in both languages.

Secondary

In secondary school, every pupil who has reached the required level, namely level 3+ at the end of Key Stage 2, is expected to follow First Language Welsh in Key Stage 3 to ensure appropriate progression and continuity. The hope is that these pupils will be able to study Welsh and English as subjects up to the end of Year 11.

The secondary schools build on the foundation laid in the primary sector by ensuring that every pupil continues to develop their skills in Welsh and English. The County does not categorise secondary schools according to language categories because the expectation is the same in relation to the Language Policy, namely to give all pupils in the County the opportunity to become confidently bilingual.

1.4 One million speakers by 2050

[Cymraeg 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers](#) 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 number of people who speak the language, as well as the use of Welsh

The aims of Cymraeg 2050 include:

	Aim	Target
1.	Increasing the number of Welsh speakers	1 million speakers by 2050
2.	Increasing 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* emphasises the importance of increasing the number of people who speak Welsh, but it also stresses that increasing the daily use of Welsh 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% of fluent Welsh speakers speak Welsh daily.

Source: Cymraeg 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers (2017)

The [Welsh Language and Education \(Wales\) Act 2025](#) provides a statutory framework to strengthen the role of the Welsh language within the education system, supporting the Welsh Government’s target of reaching one million Welsh speakers by 2050.

The Act introduces a new system of school language categories, with a requirement for a minimum percentage of teaching to be delivered through the medium of Welsh. Local authorities and schools will be responsible for planning strategically to increase Welsh-medium provision gradually.

Welsh Ministers have a duty to set a National Framework for Welsh-medium Education, and local authorities must prepare and implement strengthened Welsh in Education Strategic Plans. The levels of the Common European Framework of Reference are used to standardise expectations regarding Welsh language proficiency. The Act also establishes a National Welsh Learning Institute to support Welsh learning for people of all ages. Implementation of the Act will take place gradually between 2025 and 2027.

1.5 Welsh Language Strategy 2022-2032

The Welsh Language Standards placed on Gwynedd Council by the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 set an expectation on the Council to produce a five-year strategy that shows how it intends to promote the Welsh language and facilitate its use across the county [Gwynedd Language Strategy 2023-2033](#) is Gwynedd Council’s latest strategy for the Welsh language. This document sets out specific targets for increasing the number of people who speak the language:

	How will we increase the number of speakers?	How will we measure this at a local level, and throughout the period of the strategy?
1.	Providing 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 to become confident Welsh speakers.	Number of children receiving Welsh-medium education. Number of children receiving support through the Education Department's immersion system.
2.	Providing opportunities for adults to become new speakers through the Council's learner-support schemes and the community provision offered by partners.	Number of Council staff receiving Welsh learning lessons. Provision of community Welsh learning courses.

The Strategy also includes a commitment to increasing the use of the Welsh language in the following areas:

- *Early years language*
- *Language of Learning*
- *Language of work and service*
- *Language of the community*
- *Research and technology*

1.6 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#) requires the public bodies in Wales named in the Act to work towards achieving seven well-being goals, including "A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language."

2. LINGUISTIC PROFILE OF THE GARREG 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 highest ability to speak Welsh is in the Hendre ward (86% speak Welsh), and the lowest is in the Bangor Central area (25.6%).

2.2 Wards

2.2.1 Glaslyn and Penrhyndeudraeth Ward

The catchment area of Ysgol Y Garreg lies within the Glaslyn ward, while the catchment area of Ysgol Cefn Coch lies within the Penrhyndeudraeth ward (Office for National Statistics, 2021). The linguistic profile of these school wards is summarised in the table below:

	Glaslyn	Penrhyndeudraeth	Gwynedd	Cymru
Welsh identity only	934 (57.2%)	1,294 (65.1%)	69,560 (59.3%)	1,715,975 (55.2%)
No Welsh identity	39.3%	30.6%	36.3%	36.7%
3+ year old population	1,592 (100%)	1,937 (100%)	114,308 (100%)	3,018,172 (100%)
Can speak Welsh	1,054 (66.2%)	1,423 (73.5%)	73,560 (64.4%)	538,296 (17.8%)

No Welsh skills	410 (25.8%)	372 (19.2%)	29,977 (26.2%)	2,259,017 (74.8%)
Able to understand only verbal Welsh	109 (6.8%)	111 (5.7%)	8,166 (7.1%)	156,762 (5.2%)
Able to speak Welsh but can't read or write Welsh	83 (5.2%)	95 (4.9%)	6,142 (5.4%)	68,391 (2.3%)
Able to speak and read Welsh but can't write Welsh	36 (2.3%)	43 (2.2%)	3,170 (2.8%)	33,971 (1.1%)
Able to speak, read and write Welsh	927 (58.2%)	1,269 (65.5%)	63,256 (55.3%)	429,313 (14.2%)
Able to write Welsh but can't speak or read Welsh	2 (0.1%)	6 (0.3%)	387 (0.3%)	4,970 (0.2%)
Able to read and write Welsh but can't speak Welsh	5 (0.3%)	15 (0.8%)	1,004 (0.9%)	17,560 (0.6%)
Another combination of Welsh language skills	8 (0.5%)	16 (0.8%)	993 (0.9%)	6,621 (0.2%)

Source: Census 2021, Office for National Statistics

2.3 Ysgol Y Garreg

The table below shows that the majority of learners at Ysgol Y Garreg 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
Y Garreg	52.9%	11.8%	0%	5.9%	23.5%

Source: Percentage of the number of respondents January 2025

2.4 Ysgol Cefn Coch

The linguistic data for the neighbouring schools can be seen 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
Cefn Coch	65%	7%	0%	5.7%	14%

Source: Percentage of the number of respondents January 2025

2.5 After school activities

Here is a summary of what Ysgol Y Garreg and the alternative school (Ysgol Cefn Coch) offer on their school sites.

	Y Garreg	Cefn Coch
Playgroups (school holidays)		✓
Members of the Urdd		✓
Morning/Evening Coffee		✓
Cylch/Nursery		✓
Club/After school club/Sports Activity		✓

It can be seen from the table above that Ysgol Cefn Coch offers a variety of after-school clubs. This means that learners from the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area could benefit from these activities as an additional opportunity to use and develop their Welsh.

2.6 Community Activities

No community use is made of the Ysgol Y Garreg building.

2.7 Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (2022-2032)

Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch operate in line with the objectives of [Gwynedd Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022–2032](#). This includes:

- Ensuring that all pupils in the county possess appropriate linguistic skills in Welsh and English, with that expectation being consistent across all schools.
- Providing suitable provision to enable every pupil to develop into a confident bilingual individual. In this context, schools are expected to continue nurturing the skills of pupils who are Welsh-speaking, and to introduce Welsh to those who are learners.
- Ensuring that all education establishments in the county reflect and reinforce the Language Policy in their administration, social life and pastoral systems, as well as in their curricular provision.

Implementing the proposal would align with the objectives of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022–32.

2.8 Additional Evidence

Ysgol Y Garreg

The 2023 Estyn report states:

“31.3% is the percentage of learners who speak Welsh in the home. They are given beneficial opportunities to develop their oral Welsh skills by working with their peers.”

[Estyn inspection report for Ysgol Y Garreg, January 2023](#)

Ysgol Cefn Coch

The 2018 Estyn report states:

“Ysgol Gynradd Cefn Coch is located in the village of Penrhyndeudraeth in Gwynedd. Welsh is the main medium of work and life at the school. Around 80% of the pupils speak Welsh at home.”

[Estyn Inspection report for Ysgol Cefn Coch, June 2018](#)

3. Assessment of the impact on the Welsh language

3.1 The Options

- *No change – continue with the current situation*

Maintaining the current arrangement would mean that Ysgol Y Garreg would continue 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.

- *Federalisation with a nearby school*

This model would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Llanfrothen through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a head or head teachers and one governing body. The governing body of Ysgol Y Garreg would be revoked, and the school would be under the leadership of one headteacher and the federation's 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 federalisation was considered with nearby schools, specifically Ysgol Cefn Coch and Ysgol Talsarnau (Afon Dwyrdd Federation).

It is not anticipated that federation would have an impact on the Welsh language, as Ysgol Y Garreg would continue, with opportunities to strengthen leadership arrangements and collaboration for the school.

- *Close Ysgol Y Garreg and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school*

This option would mean closing Ysgol Y Garreg and denoting Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school.

The table on the next page contains an assessment of the impact of closing Ysgol Y Garreg and educating learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch on the Welsh language, compared with the current situation. The table also outlines the additional opportunities to strengthen the Welsh language, as well as the mitigation measures for any negative impact that may arise from the proposal.

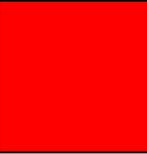
4. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE

This linguistic impact assessment has been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code (011/2018), which stipulates that any change to school organisation must assess the impact on the Welsh language and identify mitigation measures to protect or strengthen its use. The assessment considers the school's formal and informal language, access to Welsh-medium- education, and community use of the Welsh language, ensuring compliance with the statutory principles set out in the Code.

Assessment of the impact on the Welsh Language – Proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and designate Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school

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)
School language (formal)	Ysgol Y Garreg is a Welsh-medium school (Welsh-medium Category 3). As Ysgol Cefn Coch is also a Welsh-medium school (Welsh-medium Category 3), it is concluded that the proposal would not have an impact on the language of the children's education.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
School language (informal)	PLASC statistics from January 2025 show that 52.9% of learners at Ysgol Y Garreg speak Welsh fluently at home, compared with 65% of learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch. As the learners would be taught in larger classes and with more children of the same age group, the proposal could strengthen opportunities for learners to socialise in Welsh with their peers. On that basis, if the proposal were implemented, it is anticipated that learners from the Y Garreg catchment would have more opportunities to use Welsh informally with their peers both inside and outside the classroom, and that the vibrancy of the Welsh language and informal use of the language would be stronger.	Positive	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Access to Welsh medium education	Ysgol Cefn Coch is a Welsh-medium school, like Ysgol Y Garreg. It is therefore not anticipated that the proposal would affect this criterion.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Non-statutory provision	Learners would have access to a higher level of staffing provision and would be part of a larger group of peers of the same age.	Positive	The local authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Cefn Coch could discuss ways of ensuring that learners are able to take part in extracurricular activities.	Positive
Activities before/after school	Ysgol Cefn Coch is a larger school in terms of learner numbers, so peer groups would be bigger. Ysgol Cefn Coch also offers clubs and after-school activities that provide opportunities to use the Welsh language before and after school.	Positive	The Local Authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Cefn Coch could consider any additional opportunities for holding after-school activities, ensuring that arrangements are in place to include learners from the Y Garreg catchment area.	Positive
Use of the Welsh Language in the community	If the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg were implemented, it is anticipated that some elements of community events would be affected. It is expected that there could be some negative impact arising from the proposal, for example because	Negative	The Local Authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Cefn Coch could consider ways of promoting the use of the Welsh language by involving the Y Garreg community in the school's community activities.	Neutral

parents/carers/families would no longer meet daily in the Y Garreg community when dropping off or collecting children from the school.



Part 2 – How the proposal will affect/contribute towards/align with the Welsh Language Standards, language policies, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to the Welsh language

Gwynedd Language Strategy 2023

A summary of the anticipated impact on the Language Strategy's areas of action is set out below:

Early Years Language:

As the Cylch Meithrin is located on the Ysgol Cefn Coch site (the alternative school), the proposal is expected to have a positive impact on early years language provision.

Language of Learning:

Ysgol Y Garreg is a Welsh-medium Category 3 school. As Ysgol Cefn Coch is also a Welsh-medium school (Category 3), it is concluded that the proposal would not have an impact on the language of the children's education.

Language of Work and Service:

It is acknowledged that, if the proposal were implemented, there would be some negative impact on the language as a result of losing the presence of a Welsh-medium Category 3 school in the village of Llanfrothen, which serves the area, and because it would lead to staff redundancies within the school workforce.

However, it is noted that the alternative school (Ysgol Cefn Coch), which would serve the Llanfrothen area if the proposal were implemented, is also a Welsh-medium Category 3 school. It is therefore not anticipated that the proposal would affect the language of work and service provided at the alternative school.

Language of the Community:

If the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg were implemented, it is anticipated that some elements of community events would be affected. It is expected that there could be some negative impact arising from the proposal, for example because parents/carers/families would no longer meet daily in the Llanfrothen community when dropping off or collecting children from the school.

The community-run Brondanw Arms (Y Ring) and Llanfrothen Community Centre are located in the centre of the village for community use. It is likely that mainly Welsh-medium events are held in these venues, therefore children from the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment currently have convenient access to Welsh-medium community events within their local area.

	<p>To mitigate any negative effects, the Local Authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Cefn Coch could consider ways of promoting the use of the Welsh language by involving the Llanfrothen community in the school’s community activities. In addition, if the proposal were implemented, the Authority would need to consider options for the future use of the school building, taking into account any community activities currently held there.</p>
<p>Cymraeg 2050, Welsh Government</p>	<p>Any discussions relating to reorganisation must acknowledge the Welsh Government’s efforts to reach the goal of one million Welsh speakers by 2050.</p> <p>Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch are both Category 3 Welsh-medium primary schools. As a result, if the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and designate Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school were implemented, learners would continue to be educated in a Category 3 Welsh-medium school.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that the proposal would have a negative impact on the Welsh language, mainly because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PLASC statistics from January 2025 show that 52.9% of learners at Ysgol Y Garreg speak Welsh fluently at home, compared with 65% of learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch. - The proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and designate Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school would mean that learners from the Y Garreg catchment would continue to be educated in a Category 3 Welsh-medium school. - As learners would be taught in larger classes with more children of the same age group, it is anticipated that the proposal would strengthen opportunities for learners to socialise in Welsh with a greater number of their peers. <p>Based on the above, if the proposal were implemented, it is anticipated that learners from the Y Garreg catchment would have more opportunities to use Welsh informally with their peers both inside and outside the classroom, and that the vibrancy of the Welsh language and its informal use would be strengthened.</p>
<p>To what extent the proposal would support the targets in the approved Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022–2032)</p>	<p>Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch are Category 3 Welsh-medium primary schools.</p> <p>Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch operate in line with the objectives of Gwynedd Council’s Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022–2032. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that all pupils in the county possess appropriate linguistic skills in Welsh and English, with consistent expectations across all schools. • Providing suitable provision to enable every pupil to develop as a confident bilingual individual. In this context, schools are expected to continue nurturing the skills of pupils who are Welsh-speaking, and to introduce Welsh to those who are learners of the language. • Ensuring that all education establishments in the county reflect and reinforce the Language Policy in their administration, social life and pastoral arrangements, as well as in their curricular provision.

	<p>As a result, if the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and designate Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school were implemented, learners would continue to be educated in a Category 3 Welsh-medium school that operates in line with the objectives and supports the targets of the WESP.</p> <p>Based on the above, it is not anticipated that implementing the proposal would have a negative impact on the achievement of Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of Gwynedd Council’s Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022–2032, namely:</p> <p>Outcome 1: More nursery/3-year-old children receiving Welsh-medium education. Outcome 2: More Reception/5-year-old children receiving Welsh-medium education. Outcome 3: More children continuing to improve their Welsh-language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to the next. Outcome 5: More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts within the school. Outcome 6: An increase in Welsh-medium education provision for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN), in accordance with the duties set out in the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018.</p> <p>As a result, it is concluded that implementing the proposal would align with the objectives of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022–32 and the targets approved within the Plan.</p>
<p>How the proposal would expand or reduce Welsh-medium provision, and in cases where provision would be reduced, explain why it would be reduced</p>	<p>The proposal would mean that a Category 3 Welsh-medium school (Ysgol Y Garreg) would close. However, if the proposal were implemented, learners would be offered a place at an alternative school, which is also a Category 3 Welsh-medium school, namely Ysgol Cefn Coch. Ysgol Cefn Coch has sufficient capacity for learners from both schools.</p>

5. CONCLUSION

Our expectation is that all learners in the county should possess age-appropriate, balanced bilingualism so that they can be full members of the bilingual society of which they are a part. Any reorganisation proposals must fully consider all linguistic impacts. Maintaining and improving the use of Welsh as an educational and social language among children will be a key consideration when developing proposals within the area.

None of the options outlined in section 3 above are anticipated to have a negative impact on the Welsh language.

From the perspective of the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and designate Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school, the proposal is not expected to have a negative impact on the Welsh language, mainly because:

- CYBLD statistics from January 2025 show that 52.9% of learners at Ysgol Y Garreg speak Welsh fluently at home, compared with 65% of learners at Ysgol Cefn Coch.
- The proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg and designate Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school would mean that learners from the Y Garreg catchment would continue to be educated in a Category 3 Welsh-medium school.
- As learners would be taught in larger classes with more children of the same age group, it is anticipated that the proposal would strengthen opportunities for learners to socialise in Welsh with a greater number of their peers.

Ysgol Cefn Coch offers a range of afterschool clubs as well as activities run by local Urdd branches, and local Eisteddfodau are held in the Penrhyndeudraeth area. Promoting collaboration between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the Llanfrothen community to publicise these activities would enrich the Welsh-medium experiences of learners from the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment as they are offered places at the alternative school. Offering a wider range of facilities and activities in the area would provide additional opportunities for learners and their families, giving specific support to those who are disadvantaged. Although it is acknowledged that the school is further from learners' homes, a wider range of activities is available at Cefn Coch. This would contribute positively to their health and wellbeing by increasing opportunities to socialise with a larger group of peers of the same age.

Based on the above, if the proposal were implemented, it is anticipated that learners from the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment would have more opportunities to use the Welsh language informally with their peers both inside and outside the classroom, and that the vibrancy of the Welsh language and its informal use would be strengthened.

Composite Impact Assessment

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 Y Garreg

Author: Gwern ap Rhisiart

Date: January 2026

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?

Approve the publication of a statutory notice, allowing a statutory 28 day objection period in accordance with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code 011/2018, on the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg on 31 August 2026 and to and designate Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school from 1 September 2026.

Permission is requested to publish a statutory notice in order to address the emergency situation at Ysgol Y Garreg. The significant recent decline in the number of learners attending Ysgol Y Garreg has led to an unsustainable and extremely fragile situation. Based on the PLASC (Pupil Level Annual School Census) of January 2026, Ysgol Y Garreg is the smallest school in the county, with only 2 learners from Reception to Year 6 on the register and 0 in the nursery class. As a result, it is therefore likely that the school is facing increasing challenges, including:

- **Low pupil numbers** – PLASC data from January 2026 shows that there are 2 full-time pupils in the school (Reception to Year 6) and 0 pupils in the nursery class.
- **High percentage of empty places** – Based on January 2026 figures (Reception to Year 6), 95% of places in the school are empty (39 in number). The school has capacity for 41 pupils (Reception to Year 6) and capacity for 7 pupils in the Nursery Class. Therefore, with 0 nursery pupils on roll, there are an additional 7 empty places in the nursery.
- **Very small class sizes and wide age range** – The pupils (Reception to Year 6) are taught in one class. The second classroom in the school is empty. There are no pupils in Nursery to Year 5 at the school.
- **Projected numbers** – Projections based on PLASC January 2026 figures suggest that there will be no pupils in the school in September 2026, as there are no pupils in Reception to Year 5 or in the Nursery Class this year.

- **Catchment area pupils** – PLASC January 2026 census shows that only 9% of pupils living in Ysgol Y Garreg’s catchment area choose to attend the school. 91% of catchment pupils choose to attend out-of-catchment schools.
- **Ysgol Y Garreg receives additional funding on top of the core allocation** – Ysgol Y Garreg receives additional funding beyond the standard allocation through the minimum staffing policy (which guarantees at least a headteacher and a teacher in every school, and a headteacher and a teaching assistant in schools with fewer than 15 full-time pupils). The total additional amount during the 2025–26 financial year (based on September 2024 numbers) was £89,701.
- **Average cost per pupil** – The average cost per pupil at Ysgol Y Garreg in 2025–26 is £14,621 compared with the county average of £5,780.
- **Leadership and staffing** – The current staffing structure at Ysgol Y Garreg includes an acting headteacher who is responsible for two schools through an informal arrangement, one full-time teacher, and a temporary teaching assistant (0.6 FTE).

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

- Staff, Governors, learners and Parents/Guardians of Ysgol Y Garreg and Ysgol Cefn Coch.
- If the Cabinet were to decide to support the recommendation presented, a statutory notice would be issued. A 28-day period is then allowed for anyone to submit an objection to the proposal, known as the ‘Objection Period’.
- The Education Department and officers from other departments within Gwynedd Council.

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
Meeting with the Governing Body	25 November 2025	Intention to take a report before the Cabinet, dependent on the school’s numbers following the January 2026 PLASC. The school’s numbers have fallen

<p>Inform parents of the intention to present a report to the Cabinet in February 2026.</p>	<p>January 2026</p>	<p>to only 2 learners, therefore a meeting has been held with the school to discuss possible options that would address the school's current challenges.</p>
--	----------------------------	--

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

	Evidence, Information and Relevant Data	Potential Positive and/or Negative Impact
<p>Race</p>	<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 <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>	<p>No Impact Identified</p>
<p>Disability</p>	<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 will be considered in accordance with the ALN Act, where every child and young person has an Individual Development Plan (IDP).</p>	<p>No Impact Identified</p>
<p>Sex</p>	<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>No Impact Identified</p>

	<i>"... is opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledges that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i>	
Age	<p>Should the proposed proposal be implemented, it is anticipated that the children of Ysgol y Garreg would benefit from having more age-related peers in their class as there are more learners at the alternative school, 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 proposed proposal would mean that people of any age would be treated fairly and according to their need. Ysgol Y Garreg and the alternative school implement an equality policy stating 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>	Positive
Religion and Belief	<p>Ysgol Y Garreg and the alternative school named in the proposed option are community schools.</p> <p>Each school has an Inclusion Policy that would address any discriminatory incident that may arise in the school relating to religion or belief.</p> <p>As a result, it is not anticipated that the proposed option would have an impact on this characteristic.</p>	No Impact Identified
Sexual Orientation	<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,</p>	No Impact Identified

	<p>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 proposed proposal would have an impact on people on the grounds of sexual orientation. Ysgol Y Garreg and the proposed alternative school operate an equality policy which states that the school is: <i>"... is opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledges that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i></p>	
Gender reassignment	<p>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 Y Garreg and the proposed alternative school 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>	No Impact Identified
Marriage and Civil Partnership	<p>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.</p>	No Impact Identified
Pregnancy and Maternity	<p>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.</p>	No Impact Identified
The Welsh Language	<p>The aim of Gwynedd's Education Language Policy is the same for all primary schools in the county. This means that, if the proposed option were implemented, learners from Ysgol Y Garreg would be able to continue receiving their education in Welsh and bilingually in accordance with the Education Language Policy at the alternative school.</p>	Negative/Positive

	<p>No negative impact is anticipated if the proposed option were implemented, and it is likely that the proposal would have a positive effect on the Welsh language as learners from Ysgol Y Garreg would benefit from more opportunities to use Welsh with a wider range of peers in class and socially. The proposed alternative school serves areas that are strongholds of the Welsh language.</p> <p>However, if the proposed option to close Ysgol Y Garreg were realised, 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 expected that there could be some negative impact arising from implementing the proposal, as parents/guardians/families would no longer meet daily in the Llanfrothen community when dropping off/collecting children from the school.</p>	
Socio-economic Considerations	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
Those Who Serve or Who Have Served in the Armed Forces, As Well As Their Families	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.	No Impact Identified
Human Rights	It is not anticipated that implementing the proposal would have an impact on human rights.	No Impact Identified
Other	-	-

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 were to decide to approve the publication of a statutory notice on the proposed option, we would update all assessments following the receipt of any objections during the objection period.

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

We are not aware of any recent 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 option would affect school's statutory duty to protect learners from any discrimination, harassment or victimisation.

The aim is to promote equal opportunities and encourage the proposed alternative school to continue following equality policies and procedures. If the proposed option were implemented, it is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities by being placed in the alternative school, as they would experience learning based on national learning principles, with a variety of approaches including whole-class work, small-group work, paired work and individual work within their specific age range, along with lessons appropriately differentiated for the age range.

As some learners living in Ysgol Y Garreg's catchment area already attend Ysgol Cefn Coch, a link between the school and the community already exists. However, if the proposed option were implemented, opportunities would be promoted for the school to build on its existing connections with the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area.

Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) is a statutory requirement within the Curriculum for Wales framework and is published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021. It is mandatory for all learners aged 3 to 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role in learners' education and is essential for forming and maintaining a range of relationships, all based on mutual trust and respect, which are central to relationships and sexuality education. These relationships are crucial for developing emotional wellbeing, resilience and empathy. Understanding sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality and fairness empowers learners to understand themselves, take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours, and form relationships. If the proposed option were implemented, 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 anticipated that implementing the proposed option would reduce inequality caused by socio-economic disadvantage by ensuring that learners have more experiences and access to a wider range of services and activities in the alternative school. It is expected that learners would receive more equal opportunities as they would experience learning based on national learning principles, with a variety of approaches including whole-class work, small-group work, paired work and individual work within their specific age range, along with lessons appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposed option, learners at Ysgol Y Garreg would have a better learning environment in a school with more learners of the same age, ensuring that they make the most of their education. It is anticipated that learners would benefit from having more age-appropriate peers in a school with a larger number of learners, which would help ensure suitable educational and extracurricular experiences for them, as well as access to a wider range of extracurricular 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 expectation is that all learners in the County possess balanced bilingualism and the relevant skills in order to be full members of the bilingual society of which they are a part. Proposals to change local arrangements will need to give full consideration to all linguistic impacts. Maintaining and increasing the use of Welsh as an educational and social language among learners will be a key consideration when developing the proposal.

The aim of Gwynedd’s Education Language Policy is the same for all primary schools in the County, and every primary school (except one) falls into Category 3 in accordance with the Welsh Government’s school categorisation guidance based on Welsh-medium provision. This means that learners at Ysgol Y Garreg would be able to continue receiving their education in Welsh and bilingually in line with the Education Language Policy at the alternative school, if the proposed option were implemented.

No negative impact is anticipated if the proposed option were implemented, and it is likely that the proposal would have a positive effect on the Welsh language as learners from Ysgol Y Garreg would benefit from more opportunities to use Welsh with a wider range of peers in class and socially.

As can be seen from the table below, a high percentage of learners in 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
Y Garreg	52.9%	11.8%	0%	5.9%	23.5%
Cefn Coch	65%	7%	0%	5.7%	14%
	Fluent Welsh		A Little Welsh		No Welsh

If the proposed option were implemented, it is anticipated that there would be sufficient space in the alternative school for any future learners from the Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area.

The assessment indicates that some negative impact on the community is anticipated if the option to close Ysgol Y Garreg were implemented. It is acknowledged that closing Ysgol Y Garreg would result in the loss of a school in the Llanfrothen community; however, the assessment notes that a significant proportion of children living within the school’s catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Cefn Coch, and therefore it is concluded that a link between Ysgol Cefn Coch and the Ysgol Y Garreg community already exists.

If the proposed option to close Ysgol Y Garreg were realised, every effort would be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and the alternative school. To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Llanfrothen community is aware of the

activities of the alternative school, and community collaboration between the alternative school and the Llanfrothen community would be encouraged where appropriate. In addition, the Local Authority and the Governing Body of the alternative school could consider ways of promoting the use of the Welsh language by involving the Llanfrothen 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 goals of the Act and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it is concluded that the proposal meets the requirements.

It is acknowledged that, if the Cabinet were to decide to proceed with this proposed option, it could lead to the loss of a school within the community. However, a large number of children living within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Cefn Coch, and therefore a link between those schools and the community already exists. Every effort would be made to mitigate any negative impact on the community by encouraging links between the community and the alternative school. If the proposed option were approved, discussions would be held to consider the possibility of the alternative school's community activities including the community where appropriate.

The proposed option would ensure that children in the area are educated on a suitable site and within a natural Welsh-speaking environment, increasing opportunities to socialise and collaborate with others and giving 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:

If the proposed option were implemented, it is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities by being placed in an alternative school, as they would experience learning based on national learning principles, with a variety of approaches including whole-class work, small-group work, paired work and individual work within their specific age range, along with lessons appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposed option, it is anticipated that learners at Ysgol Y Garreg would have a better learning environment in a school with more learners of the same age. This would ensure that they make the most of their education and allow access to a wider range of activities appropriate to their ability level. Learners would benefit from having more age-appropriate peers in a school with a larger number of learners, which would help ensure suitable educational and extracurricular experiences for them, as well as access to a wider range of extracurricular activities.

Significant Negative Impact:

It is acknowledged that the proposed option could have an impact on an organisation within the community and affect 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 usual 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)

Not applicable.

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?

If the Cabinet were to decide to approve the publication of a statutory notice on the proposed option, we would then monitor the response during the objection period to identify any further changes that could be included in order 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 anticipated that implementing the proposed option would reduce inequality caused by socio-economic disadvantage by ensuring that learners have more experiences and access to a wider range of services and activities in the alternative school. Learners would receive more equal opportunities as they would experience learning based on national learning principles, with a variety of approaches including whole-class work, small-group work, paired work and individual work within their specific age range, along with lessons appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposed option, it is anticipated that learners at Ysgol Y Garreg would have a better learning environment in a school with more learners of the same age, ensuring that they make the most of their education. Learners would benefit from having more age-appropriate peers in a school with a larger number of learners, which would help ensure suitable educational and extracurricular experiences for them, as well as access to a wider range of extracurricular 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 option would have a positive effect on the Welsh language, as learners from Ysgol Y Garreg would benefit from more opportunities to use Welsh with a wider range of peers in class and socially.

If the school were to close, the Local Authority and the Governing Bodies of the alternative school could consider ways of promoting the social use of the Welsh language through extracurricular 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 EqIA process is an ongoing one that doesn't end when the policy/practice and EqIA 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:

Action	Dates	Timetable	Lead Responsibility	Add to the Service Plan
Objection Period (Dependent on the Cabinet's decision)	February – March 2026	28 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:

Monitoring and Review Arrangements (including where outcomes will be recorded)	Timeframe and Frequency	Lead Responsibility	Add to the Service Plan
If the proposed option were implemented, we would monitor the impact of the school's closure and strive to assist with any negative effects that may arise as a result of the policy.	Continuous	Education Department	No

CYNGOR GWYNEDD - Report to Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet

Title of Item:	Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036
Cabinet Member:	Clr Dewi Jones, Cabinet Member for Education
Relevant officer:	Gwern ap Rhisiart – Head of Education
Date of meeting:	10 February 2026

1. Decision Sought

- 1.1 That the Cabinet approves the Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036 (**Appendix 1**), and delegates authority to the Cabinet Member for Education, in consultation with the Head of Education, to make insignificant and editorial changes to the Strategy prior to its formal publication, provided that those changes do not materially affect the content, strategic direction, priorities or financial implications of the Strategy.

2. The reason why the Cabinet needs to make the decision

- 2.1 The current Strategy dates back to 2010. Following an extended process of stakeholder engagement, we wish to receive the Cabinet's seal of approval on the content that will underpin the direction of education in Gwynedd over the next decade.

3. Introduction and Rationale

- 3.1 The original Strategy *"Towards 2025": The Future of Education and Training for Children and Young People in Gwynedd Strategic Programme* was published in 2010 in order to set a direction for education and training in Gwynedd until 2025. The new draft Schools Strategy before you builds on the foundations of this Strategic Programme for the next decade up to 2036.

3.2 Background / Introduction

- 3.2.1 The Education Department has produced the Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036 in order to set a clear direction for school provision over the next decade. There have been far-reaching changes in education in Wales in recent years, and the new Strategy responds to national changes such as the Curriculum for Wales and the Additional Learning Needs Legislation and the Education Wales (2028) Tribunal together with increasing expectations on schools, and the need to modernise buildings and resources.
- 3.2.2 Local considerations and drivers influence the education system, and the vision and objectives of the Strategy as well. We need to make sure that we maintain and

support what is good and unique about the education system in Gwynedd, as well as identify opportunities to respond to some of the challenges likely to be faced by the system now, and into the future, such as:

- Ensuring the viability and resilience of our schools when learner numbers decline due to low birth rates.
- Strengthening leadership on all levels and responding to the challenge of recruiting teachers and assistants in our schools.
- Responding to the challenge of maintaining the education system in an unprecedented period of cuts to Local Authority budgets.
- Maintaining and strengthening our education provision to enable the children and young people of Gwynedd to reach their full potential and to develop the qualifications and skills that enable them to live and thrive.
- Maintaining and strengthening the Welsh language in all aspects of school life as a result of the results of the 2021 Census.
- Ensuring excellent wellbeing support services for the children and young people of Gwynedd to help them overcome obstacles and reach their full potential.
- Improving our school estate to ensure the best possible learning environment for our children and young people when we have so many buildings to maintain, and the expectation for the schools estate to be carbon-free over the coming period.

3.2.3 The title of the document has been changed from Education Strategy to Schools Strategy in order to recognise that this document does not cover post-16 provision or the early years. However, it does include the Primary, Secondary and Special sectors, which is the core of the network of schools in Gwynedd.

In compiling it, the Education Department has considered a wide range of relevant policies and factors, such as:

- National: Cymraeg 2050, Curriculum for Wales, ALN Act and the 2018 Tribunal and the 2021 Code, the Equality Act 2010, and the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.
- Local: Council Plan 2023 - 2028, Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan 2022 - 2032, the Council's commitment to Net Zero Carbon, and the Medium Term Financial Plan.

3.2.4 Vision for Education in Gwynedd.

Our vision is to ensure a fair and inclusive education system that meets the needs of all learners in the County, and which gives them the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Family background, location, or personal circumstances should not be an obstacle on life's path or to choosing opportunities.

We aim for a system that:

- nurtures and promotes well-being,
- provides world-class education and training,
- broadens horizons and develops skills relevant to the local, regional, national

and global economy,

- creates firm paths to ensure prosperity for every child and young person in Gwynedd.

3.2.5 The Strategy clearly recognises that the current system contains several weaknesses that can have an adverse impact on the quality of education. These include significant variances between schools in terms of resources and curricular opportunities, recruitment challenges leading to a lack of consistency in teaching, and the vulnerability of smaller schools in relation to leadership and sustainability. These factors can create an inconsistent experience for learners and reduce their chances of reaching their potential.

To respond to these challenges in a positive way, the Strategy sets out a series of clear actions to improve the quality of education and ensure consistency across the county:

1. **Strengthening school leadership**

By promoting leadership models, sharing expertise where appropriate and building the capacity of current and future leaders, the Strategy seeks to create a more resilient system that is less susceptible to the impact of change.

2. **Ensuring a sustainable and effective schools network**

The Strategy considers how the schools network can be organised so that each one can offer a broad curriculum, appropriate support and quality provision, minimising the inconsistencies seen in the current system.

3. **Developing a skilled and bilingual workforce**

By investing in training, promoting staff retention and attracting new teachers, the Strategy addresses the recruitment challenges that weaken the quality of teaching in some settings.

4. **Investing in modern learning environments**

The Strategy prioritises buildings and infrastructure that support contemporary education, reducing the variances in standards between settings and improving learner experiences.

5. **Emphasis on wellbeing, behaviour and inclusion**

By developing a whole-school approach that supports emotional health, positive behaviour management and inclusion, the Strategy builds the foundations that enable learners to thrive.

6. **More cohesive support for schools**

It highlights our new support arrangements which will offer a more rapid and uniform response to challenges, ensuring that effective interventions take place before problems worsen.

- 3.2.6 As a whole, the Strategy responds to the weaknesses of the current system by creating a fairer, more sustainable and more robust system that enables all learners to benefit from the highest quality of education.

4. **Rationale and justification for recommending the decision**

The Cabinet needs to adopt the Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036 in order to ensure that the Council has a current and sound strategic framework to guide school provision over the next decade. The current Strategy dates from 2010 and no longer reflects the current policy, demographic or financial context.

The new Strategy responds directly to:

- significant national changes, including the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales and the Additional Learning Needs regime;
- local challenges such as a reduction in pupil numbers, difficulties recruiting and retaining staff, and significant financial pressure on the school system;
- the need to ensure that the school network is sustainable, resilient and able to provide education of a consistent standard to all learners.

The Strategy sets clear priorities to:

- strengthen the leadership and capacity of schools;
- develop a skilled, bilingual and sustainable workforce;
- improve consistency, inclusion and well-being of learners and staff;
- invest strategically in the school estate and learning environments.

In drawing it up, the Council has engaged with key stakeholders, including headteachers, governors, education staff and children and young people, and the Strategy has been subject to formal scrutiny by the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee. The version presented to the Cabinet reflects the feedback received and strengthens the document in terms of focus, clarity and governance arrangements.

The adoption of the Strategy enables the Council to:

- operate in a coherent and transparent manner over the medium and long term;
- comply with statutory duties, including the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Equality Act 2010;
- provide a clear basis for making strategic decisions in the field of schools.

Delegating authority to the Cabinet Member for Education, in consultation with the Head of the Education Department, to make minor editorial changes before publishing the Strategy ensures that the final document is consistent, clear and suitable for implementation, without affecting its strategic direction or its financial implications.

5. Engagement

- 5.1 When drawing up the Strategy, we took the opportunity to engage with stakeholders in order to receive input and reflect the views and opinions of those who will use and implement the Strategy.

We engaged with Headteachers of Secondary, Primary and Special Schools, the Gwynedd Governors' Forum, as well as the Children and Young People's County Forum, ensuring that a wide range of professional views and learners' voices guide the development of the Strategy.

In addition, an electronic questionnaire was open for a period of eight weeks, giving relevant stakeholders, including schools, governors and education staff, the opportunity to present their comments and opinions on the Strategy.

A total of 19 responses were received, with over half of these coming from school governors, providing valuable qualitative feedback. In general, the responses showed support for the strategic direction of the document, recognising that it responds realistically to the county's demographic, financial and educational challenges, and sets a clear vision for the medium and long term. Key themes were identified such as the sustainability of the school network, the importance of the Welsh language and immersion education, the challenges of the workforce, the wellbeing of pupils, and the need for clear governance arrangements.

A specific engagement exercise was held with young people through the Children and Young People's County Forum to ensure that their experiences and views inform the Strategy. The discussions drew attention to the importance of the Welsh language as a core element of identity and school life, the need for a fair and inclusive learning experience, concerns about teaching arrangements such as the use of temporary teachers and digital learning provision, and a clear expectation that mechanisms for

young people's voice and participation in decisions that affect them should be strengthened. These findings are strongly in line with the main objectives of the Strategy and underline the importance of continuing to engage with young people in its implementation.

In addition, the feedback received through these engagement activities was considered alongside the comments of the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee, in order to refine and complete the Strategy before presenting it to the Cabinet.

Taken together, this engagement has provided a solid evidence base to inform the Cabinet's decisions regarding the implementation of the Strategy.

More details about who we have engaged with can be found in the Composite Impact Assessment at **Appendix 2**. The results of the engagement can be seen at **Appendix 3** – Questionnaire results, and **Appendix 4** – Engagement with the County Children and Young People's Forum.

6. Comments from the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee

- 6.1 On receiving the recommendations of the Members of the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee on 11 December 2025, the Head of Education, together with the Cabinet Member for Education, have carefully considered the full range of comments submitted by the Members when formulating the Strategy. As a result of this scrutiny process, the Education Department has drawn up a revised draft which reflects the feedback received and which significantly strengthens the Strategy in terms of clarity, focus and governance arrangements.

Safeguarding – safeguarding is firmly set as a central priority throughout the Strategy, and is clearly reflected in the values and priority areas. In order to underline its importance, the information relating to safeguarding and well-being has been moved to more prominent positions within the document, ensuring that the duty to safeguard children and young people is clear and core to all aspects of the educational provision.

Poverty and social equity - these principles are rooted in the values that form the basis of the Strategy, with the aim of ensuring that every pupil, regardless of their background or circumstances, receives the support and opportunities to realise their full potential. This area is further supported through a specific project within the Council's Plan 2023 - 2028 which focuses on promoting the wellbeing of children and young people and reducing the costs associated with sending children to school, including work such as conducting an audit in schools and developing a family-friendly cost Charter.

Access to the voice of parents - meaningful engagement with parents has been incorporated by sharing the Strategy with the Governors' Forum, as well as engaging with schools in order to reflect the views of parents, ensuring that their views guide the development and implementation of the Strategy.

Inclusion – inclusion receives specific attention through the Education Department's Inclusion Strategy launched in 2025, which supports the vision of providing a fair and accessible education system that meets the diverse needs of all learners.

The Welsh language - the Welsh language is a cross-cutting theme throughout the Strategy and one of the core values that shapes and guides the development of the education system in Gwynedd, reflecting a continuous commitment to strengthening the language and its use within education and school life.

School staff wellbeing - the importance of staff wellbeing is recognised as a key element of a successful education system, and there is a clear commitment to developing a School Staff Wellbeing Strategy by the next academic year in order to support and maintain the education workforce.

Faith Schools - the important contribution of faith schools to Gwynedd's educational provision is recognised, and the unique role they play in supporting the spiritual, moral and community needs of pupils. When implementing the Strategy, the Council will continue to work constructively with the governing body of faith-based schools and their relevant partners, ensuring that any developments respect their religious character, while fitting in with the wider vision for a fair, inclusive and high-quality education system.

In addition, in accordance with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Committee, a new chapter on Governance has been added to the Strategy. This chapter strengthens accountability, supervision and decision-making arrangements, explaining key roles and responsibilities and ensuring that the governance arrangements are robust, transparent and suitable to support the vision for education in Gwynedd.

7. Composite Impact Assessment

- 7.1 Under the Equality Act 2010 the Council is required 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 to foster good relationships. The Composite Impact Assessment can be found at **Appendix 2**. The Strategy has been prepared taking into account the findings of the assessment which had not identified issues that would outweigh moving forward with the Strategy.

8. Contribution to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

The aim of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

The Act places a well-being duty on public bodies and aims to fulfil the seven well-being goals by following the five ways of working.

The Act places a well-being duty on the Council to carry out sustainable development work by working in alignment with the 'sustainable development principle'. This means that the impact on people in the future must be considered when making decisions.

The Composite Impact Assessment can be found at **Appendix 2**, which sets out exactly how the Strategy meets the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act by implementing the five ways of working, and responds to the 7 national well-being goals.

9. Observations of the Statutory Officers

9.1 Chief Finance Officer

I welcome the Schools Strategy which sets out a clear vision for the school system over the next 10 years, explaining with evidence the envisaged situation, and the challenges the Council faces over the period to ensure that our schools remain sustainable. Schools have a total budget of over £100 million, so adopting a strategy and vision for the area is a key milestone.

9.2 Monitoring Officer

The significance of the adoption of this Strategy for Gwynedd Schools is highlighted in the report. It allows Cabinet to set objectives for its responsibilities in relation to the organisation of schools within the county with a clear vision. The preparation of the Strategy has already received legal input. The steps and engagement that have taken place in the preparation of this document are explained along with the input of the Scrutiny Committee. I am satisfied with the propriety of the decision sought.

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 – 2036

Appendix 2 - Composite Impact Assessment

Appendix 3 - Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036 Questionnaire Results

Appendix 4 - Engaging with the County Children and Young People's Forum

CYNGOR GWYNEDD

SCHOOLS STRATEGY

2026 – 2036



FOREWORD

This Strategy sets a clear direction for the future of our children and young people. Education is the foundation of every successful community, and the decisions we make today shape the opportunities of future generations.

Gwynedd is a unique area, with a mix of rural and urban communities, a strong identity, and a deep commitment to the well-being and success of our learners. Faced with the challenges of demographic change, financial pressures and increasing expectations on schools, there is a need for decisive strategic leadership that can respond responsibly and fairly.

This Strategy sets out our ambition to ensure an education system that is sustainable, inclusive, and that gives all children the best possible opportunities – regardless of their background or where they live. It's not just about structures, it's also about ensuring high standards, supporting our education workforce, and creating a system where every child can succeed. In addition, it gives clear priority to the welfare of children, their safety and their emotional and physical well-being, ensuring that every school is a safe, supportive and respectful place where children can grow and develop without threat or anxiety.

I'm aware of the importance of schools to community life and to the future of the Welsh language. Any change in the education system will be considered with the utmost responsibility, listening to the voices of parents, learners, staff and local communities, and keeping the well-being of Gwynedd's children at the heart of every decision.

This document provides a clear framework for decision-making over the coming years, and I am confident that it will provide a firm foundation for developing an education system that prepares our children and young people to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Cllr. Dewi Jones

Cabinet Member for Education

Cyngor Gwynedd

INTRODUCTION

Giving our children and young people the best possible start is at the root of the Council Plan. Our vision is to create an education system in Gwynedd that addresses the needs of every learner and offers the best opportunities for everyone to reach their full potential.

The purpose of this strategy is to set our ambition for education in Gwynedd over the next decade. Every child has a unique opportunity to have an education, and it is our duty to create a system that enables our children and young people to follow their dreams, develop into individuals who are full of confidence, and achieve anything that they wish.

Over the last few years, we have seen important changes in our education arrangements – such as establishing lifelong schools and developing primary provision. As the numbers of pupils change, there are new opportunities to re-design the education system in a way that is robust, sustainable and prepares them well for the future.

Small schools and schools of all sizes offer valuable experiences, but with the changes in the curriculum, increasing expectations on headteachers and teachers, and the need to manage resources wisely, it is essential to set a clear direction that ensures stability and long-term success. By looking forward with a concrete plan, we can ensure that every school is part of a strong and inclusive education network.

We acknowledge the importance of schools for our rural communities and their key role when nurturing and maintaining the Welsh language. This is why it is important that we work together – parents, staff, learners and communities – to create a future that safeguards these elements and makes them stronger than ever.

This strategy forms the foundation for every other aspect of our education work – from Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion to Digital Learning and promoting the Welsh language. Through this foundation, we will build a sustainable education system that offers learning experiences of the highest quality to all our children and young people.

Gwern ap Rhisiart
Head of Education
Cyngor Gwynedd

What impacts the design of our strategy?

No strategy can stand on its own – it has to comply with a range of national, corporate and educational objectives. Behind these objectives, there are many key local and national policies and documents such as the following;

National

- Cymraeg 2050
- Curriculum for Wales
 - Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) 2018
 - Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales 2021
- Equality Act 2010
 - The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Local

- Council Plan 2023-2028
- Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032
 - Net Zero Carbon/Climate Emergency
 - Medium Term Financial Plan

How does this strategy play a part in the Council Plan?

The strategy plays a prominent part in the Council Plan which sets a clear direction for us as an authority until 2028 and ensures that we achieve the Council's ambition. Tomorrow's Gwynedd highlights how we will ensure the best possible start for our children and young people.

It is noted in the Council Plan that our ambition is to ensure that every pupil taught in Gwynedd:

Is treated equally and fairly, encouraged to treat others equally and fairly, and assurance that their well-being and happiness is a priority for us.

Has an education of the best possible standard including access to a broad range of academic and vocational subjects in order to fulfil the requirements of the new 'Curriculum for Wales'.

Has access to Welsh-medium education throughout their time in education.

Is educated in buildings that are in a good state of repair, and to the best of our ability are safe and fit for purpose.

Has the opportunity to develop into rounded, happy and confident people in the world.

Has tailored support from professional services to meet their additional learning needs.

Has the opportunity for as many pupils as possible to have a nutritious meal at school, free of charge.

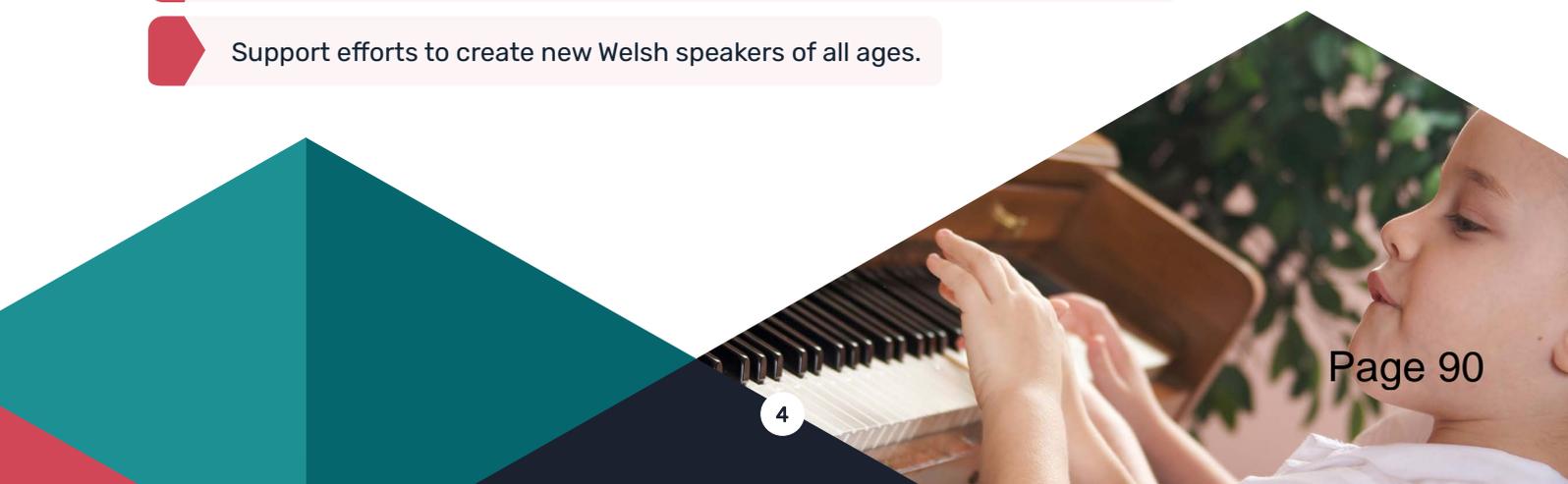
Has access to equipment and technology that promote modern and effective learning.

Has the assurance that suitable facilities and playing fields are available for children and young people in their leisure time.

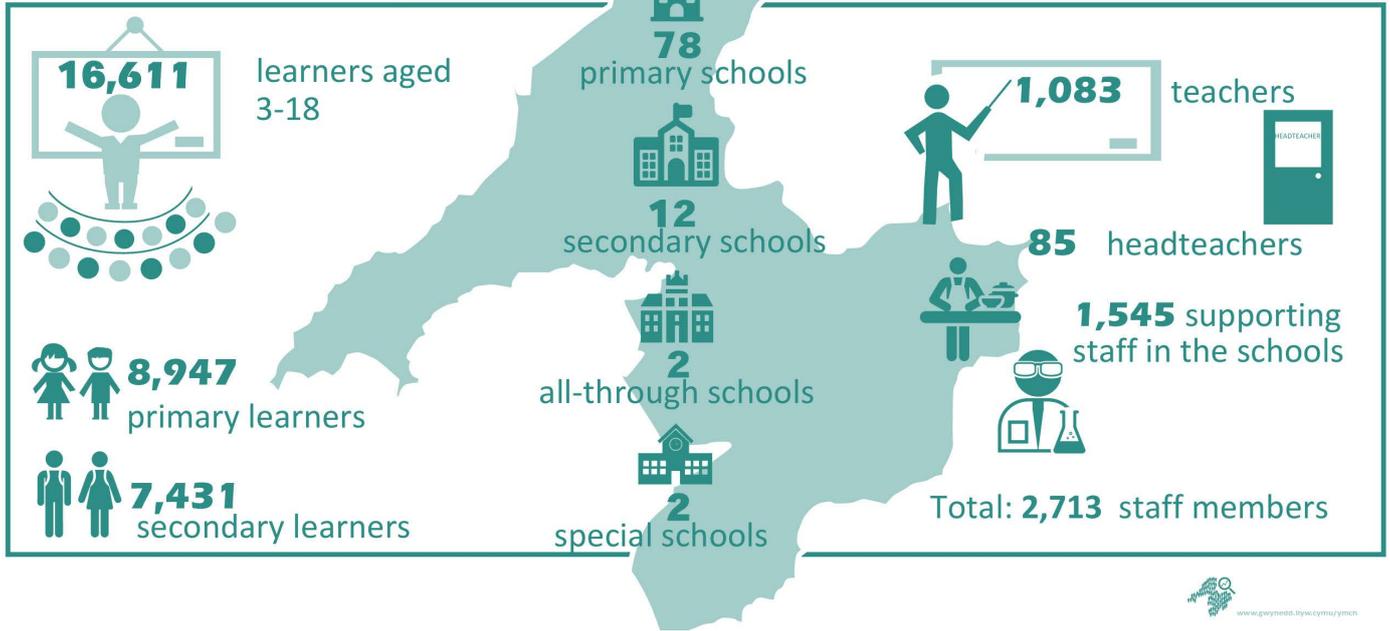
A Welsh Gwynedd highlights how we will promote the growth of the Welsh language in all parts of the county. It is noted in the Council Plan that our ambition is to:

Ensure that every child in Gwynedd can use the Welsh language confidently at school and in their social life.

Support efforts to create new Welsh speakers of all ages.



Education in Gwynedd



What are the four purposes and how would they play a part in our strategy?

The four purposes are the foundation for the new curriculum for Wales and therefore they play a key role in our education strategy here in Gwynedd. The current curriculum is different to the previous curriculum which had stricter guidelines noting what subjects should be taught, with what content and without any defined final aims for the education.

As well as the four purposes for Wales, the traditional school subjects are replaced with Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLEs).

Six Areas of Learning and Experience have replaced traditional subjects, namely:

Science and Technology	Mathematics and Numeracy	Expressive Arts
Humanities	Health and Well-being	Languages, Literacy and Communication

The four purposes are a desire and a final aim for the curriculum planned by Gwynedd schools. The aim of every school curriculum in Gwynedd is to support our learners to become:

ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives

enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play a full part in life and work

ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world

healthy, confident individuals, who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

The **Four Purposes** are integral to our educational ambition, and they are the foundation of the new strategy. Our aim is to empower our schools to design and present a modern, inspirational and ambitious curriculum that ensures that every learner has the opportunity to achieve these purposes.

We welcome the new curriculum as a golden opportunity to re-design the learning experiences of our children and young people. Although such changes bring natural challenges, they also offer a huge possibility to ensure education that is more relevant, creative and inclusive than ever.

Our strategy will play a key part when supporting Gwynedd schools to make the most of this opportunity, ensuring the support, the resources and the confidence that they require to fulfil the Four Purposes – and therefore, enable every child to grow into ambitious learners, confident individuals, enterprising contributors and ethical citizens.

What is our vision for education in Gwynedd?



Our vision is to have a fair education system that addresses the needs of all our learners and ensures that every learner reaches their full potential.

Your background, where you live or your circumstances should not determine your choice or your future path. We want to see a system based on equality that fosters and promotes well-being, provides the highest quality education and training, expanding horizons, nurturing skills that are required in the local economy, regionally, nationally and internationally, to ensure a robust path towards prosperity for every young person.



What are the values that we have used to shape the education system in Gwynedd for the future?

To shape the system for the future we have determined eight core values. Whatever the changes that we will consider for the future, we want to commit to these values:

-  To promote and support our learners' physical health, emotional needs and well-being, ensuring that our schools play a key role when planning and delivering integrated services to children, young people and their families.
-  To offer the best possible learning experiences for our learners, ensuring an exciting and broad curriculum that motivates learning and understanding and leads to improving standards and outcomes for all.
-  To ensure a system that keeps our learners safe and protects them from any abuse.
-  To ensure that children and young people (aged between 0 and 25) who have additional learning needs have access to opportunities and gain experiences that are planned effectively, to allow them to make progress according to their ability.
-  To prepare young people for the world of work – ensuring that they have the correct skills for employment, especially within the local economy.
-  To create a first-class learning environment by improving facilities and buildings, ensuring that schools are designed to respond to the changes in contemporary teaching and educational learning processes and practices, especially using Technology.
-  To develop educational establishments as a hub for public and community services where appropriate.
-  To strengthen the Welsh language as an educational and social medium enabling children and young people to have access to Welsh and bilingual education and training.

1



To promote and support our learners' physical health, emotional needs and well-being, ensuring that our schools play a key role when designing and delivering integrated services for children, young people and their families.

Gwynedd children and young people show strong awareness of the importance of well-being, understanding the challenges that they could face when growing up in a society that changes rapidly. By supporting their physical, emotional and mental well-being, we can empower them to stay healthy, build positive relationships and develop the skills to navigate life changes with confidence.

Good well-being is central to every aspect of a child's life – it fosters resilience, prepares learners to fully engage with their education, and ignites curiosity and a creative mind about the world around them. It offers permanent advantages, such as stronger self-confidence, better social skills, less anxiety and depression, and emotional intelligence development – valuable features that will support them throughout their lives.

A **whole-school** approach of promoting well-being is essential to create a positive environment. By embodying well-being as an integral part of Gwynedd schools' life, we will build a culture where every child and young person are supported to thrive – personally, academically and socially.

This will happen in schools where teachers and staff feel that they are also appreciated and supported. By putting well-being at the root of everything that we do, we can ensure that Gwynedd schools are a place where learners develop into confident, resilient and inspirational individuals, who are ready to fulfil their full potential.



2



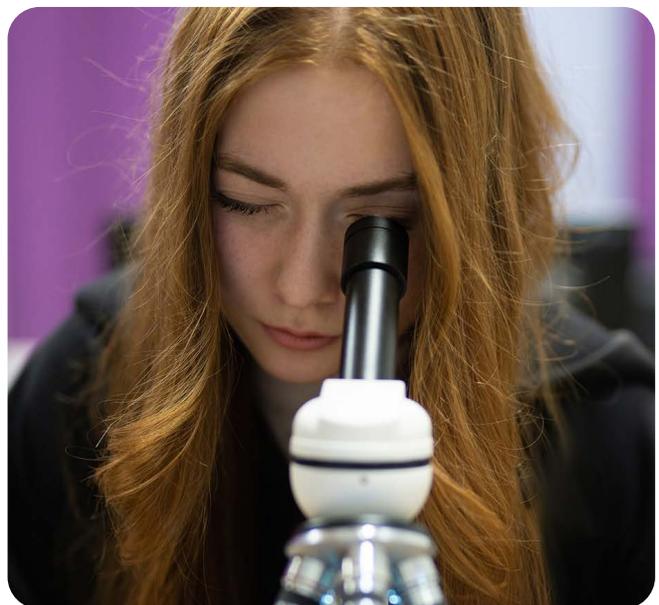
To offer the best possible learning experiences for our learners, ensuring an exciting and broad curriculum that motivates learning and understanding and leads to improving standards and outcomes for all.

Education and training are the foundation to every aspect of children and young peoples' lives – a key fundamental right that can break the cycle of poverty and disadvantage and create new life opportunities. Receiving the highest quality education in modern and suitable establishments gives children and young people an excellent start in life, offering the skills, information and the confidence required to succeed and thrive. This contributes to reducing inequality and nurturing ambition in every learner, regardless of their background.



Although the performance of Gwynedd learners is already amongst the best in Wales, our ambition is to go a step further. We are determined to improve the results for every child and young person, with special focus on the most vulnerable ones and those learners who often face barriers with engaging. Addressing this inequality will be a cornerstone to our strategy.

We will ensure equal access to high-quality education at every stage – from the early years, through primary and secondary education, on to post-16 education, training and the world of work. There will be an integrated system of early years care and education that is strong, sustainable and rooted in the Welsh language, health, childcare and support for families to give every child a strong foundation. Expanding provision such as Flying Start, and the Childcare Offer ensures that our children get the best possible start to their educational journey and their life.

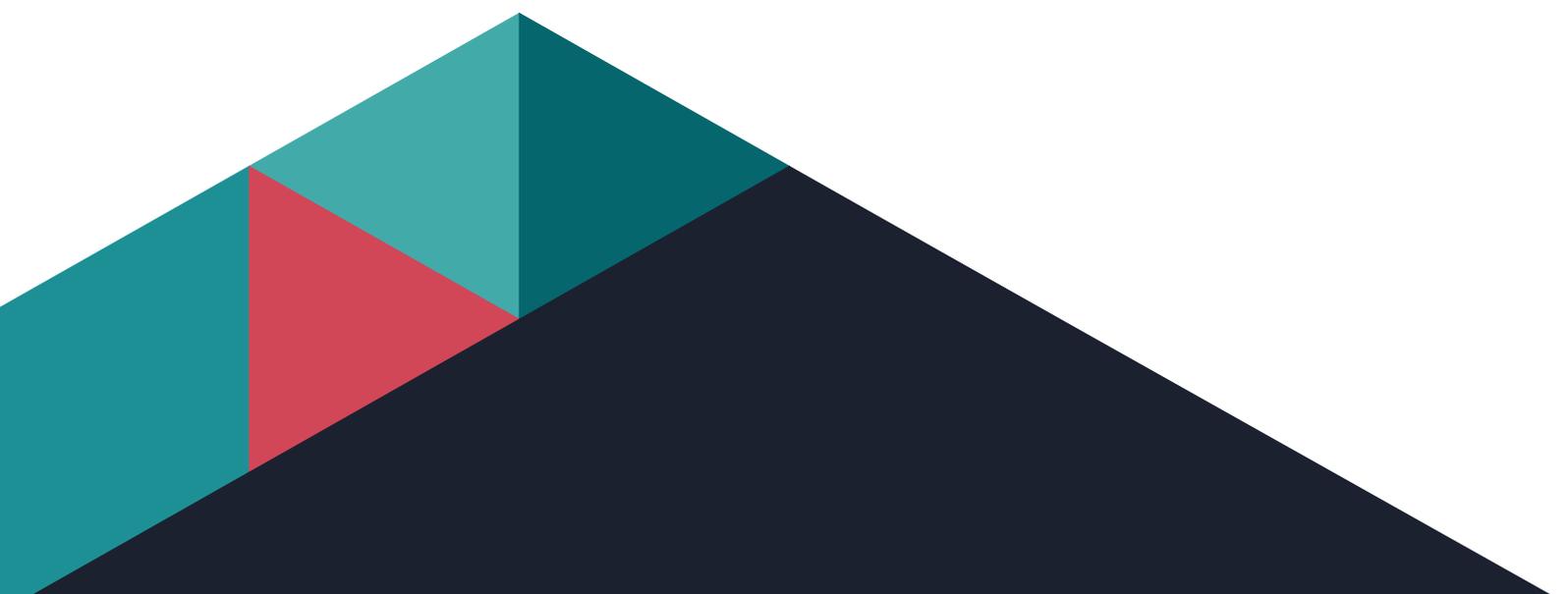


The **Curriculum for Wales** is a unique opportunity to achieve this. With support and vision, our schools can create learning experiences that are truly meaningful and suitable for the 21st century – experiences that nurture information, creativity, emotional resilience and strong ethics. Our responsibility is to ensure that the education workforce receives the training, resources and the support to design an innovative curriculum, assess learners' progress effectively, and offer feedback that drives high-quality learning.

We also wish to see our schools **thriving as teaching establishments**, that they work closely, share expertise and plan improvements jointly. By strengthening this collaboration, we can ensure that strengths are shared across the system, and every member of our education workforce feels confident and are empowered to further raise standards.



Ultimately, our aim is to ensure that **every pupil is given the support and the opportunities to fulfil their full potential** – nurturing ambitious, confident and inspirational young people who are ready for life and work in the future.



3

To ensure a system that keeps our learners safe and protects them from any abuse.

Every local authority, school and college in Wales has a legal and ethical duty to safeguard and promote the well-being of children and young people under 18 years old. Due to their daily and continuous contact with learners, education settings are in a unique situation to notice any signs of abuse, neglect or harm early.

Our aim is to ensure that our schools and colleges receive the guidance, training and full support that they require to keep children safe, to respond effectively when required, and to create positive environments that promote well-being, safety and trust.

By working together as an education community, we can ensure that every child and young person in Gwynedd are not only safeguarded from harm but also get the opportunity to thrive and fully develop in a safe and supportive environment.

4

To ensure that children and young people (aged between 0 and 25) who have additional learning needs have access to opportunities and gain experiences that are planned effectively, to allow them to make progress according to their ability.

In terms of learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN), our clear commitment is to continue to fully implement the requirements of the new Act, alongside the Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion Strategy. The aim of the strategy is to ensure that every child and young person (aged between 0 and 25) with ALN have access to training and education experiences and opportunities that are appropriate and inclusive, enabling them to make progress, develop skills and gain confidence, to fulfil their potential in settings that are suitable to their individual needs.

We are very proud that Gwynedd stands out as the only county in Wales where every staff member of the ALN&I Service supports schools completely bilingually. This ensures that specialist support and advice is available naturally through the medium of Welsh and English, offering a rich linguistic and cultural experience to children, young people and their families.

We also acknowledge that recruiting expert staff – such as bilingual qualified Educational Psychologists, Sensory Impairment Teachers, School Assistants and other experts – is an increasing challenge across Wales and therefore sets a new emphasis on the work of fostering and attracting this skilled workforce locally. Although this is challenging, we see a huge opportunity to invest in our people, develop clear

career pathways, and attract enthusiastic individuals to join the sector, to ensure continuous excellence and sustainability in provision, including in our special schools.

In doing so, our ambition is to ensure that no child or young person in Gwynedd is left behind, and that they get the education and the support they need to thrive and reach their full potential.

5



To prepare young people for the world of work – ensuring that they have the correct skills for employment, especially within the local economy.

It is essential that we ensure clear and effective education pathways for those learners who face additional barriers and challenges – such as Looked-after Children, young people who receive education otherwise than at school (EOTAS), and those eligible for free school meals. Our aim is to open doors for rich learning opportunities and suitable experiences that will enable them to thrive, foster confidence and develop their future wishes.

Developing an integrated model of education is central to this – a model that puts the learner at the centre of the system, ensuring equal access to learning that is carefully planned around their individual needs throughout their educational journey. This will build on the strong culture of inclusion that is already a key feature in our schools in Gwynedd, ensuring that every learner is appreciated, supported and continue to be an active part of the school's life.

At the same time, we are determined to enrich the experiences of the most able and talented learners, extending their academic and creative opportunities to enable them to challenge themselves, develop new skills and reach their true potential.

By combining strong support with challenging and exciting opportunities, our ambition is to ensure that every child and young person in Gwynedd receive the support, and the experiences required to fulfil their dreams and thrive in the future.



6



To create a first-class learning environment by improving facilities and buildings, ensuring that schools are designed to respond to the changes in contemporary teaching and learning educational processes and practices, especially using Technology.

Over the last decade, a significant investment of over £80 million has improved learning facilities in schools across Gwynedd. Despite this, we acknowledge that there is a need to continue to modernise many buildings to ensure that they are completely suitable to support the Curriculum for Wales and learners' needs today and in the future.

Through the Welsh Government's Sustainable Learning Communities Programme, and through further investments from the Council, our aim is to create modern, flexible and innovative schools that offer high-quality learning, sports and outdoor facilities. These environments will support creative and various learning approaches, providing children and young people with the opportunities to thrive in and out of the classroom.

The Gwynedd Digital Education Strategy, adopted in 2021, is key to this vision. By ensuring equal access to high-quality technology, we empower learners and teachers to develop the digital, creative and constructive skills required for the future.

In addition, Cyngor Gwynedd is committed to be net-zero carbon and ecologically positive by 2030. Therefore, when planning new buildings, we will prioritise schools that are environmentally friendly, are efficient in terms of resources and promote a green ethos and active travel.

With a new national investment programme announced in 2023, we will set our priorities for the next nine years. Our ambition is to create a sustainable, modern and eco-friendly school estate that supports first class teaching standards and is able to respond to the County's changing social and demographic needs.



7



To develop educational establishments as a hub for public and community services where appropriate.

Developing educational establishments as a hub for public and community services is essential to foster stronger, more coherent and sustainable communities. Schools and colleges can go beyond their traditional role, by becoming settings that unite people and offer support and extensive opportunities to the whole community.

By working closely with local organisations, businesses and public services, schools and colleges can provide various and meaningful learning experiences that increase skills, expand wishes and strengthen social links.

As learning establishments, schools build partnerships with parents, other schools, universities, businesses and public organisations. Through this collaboration, they can respond flexibly to change, share expertise and innovation when developing new opportunities to learn and grow together.

In this manner, our schools and colleges become central spaces for community life, playing an essential part not only in supporting academic progress, but also in nurturing social cohesion, developing life skills and creating a better future for all.





To strengthen the Welsh language as an educational and social medium enabling children and young people to have access to Welsh and bilingual education and training.



According to the
2021

Census,

70.9% of children
aged 3-4 years

in Gwynedd can speak Welsh
– evidence of the strong
foundation that already
exists in our communities.

Setting this foundation as early as possible is essential to ensure that children are prepared for Welsh and bilingual education in our schools in due course.

It is encouraging that a high proportion of three-year-olds receive nursery education through the medium of Welsh, but we acknowledge that there are recruitment challenges in the field. To maintain the standards and the best opportunities for children to develop their Welsh skills from an early age, there is a need to plan carefully to ensure that our workforce continues to have the necessary language skills and receive opportunities to develop further.

We acknowledge that the same bilingual and Welsh medium opportunities are currently not available in every school, especially the three transitional schools in the county. However, joint plans between these schools and the Education Department are already bearing fruit, and progress can be seen. Time will be needed for the Welsh language to fully embed into these schools, but we are committed to ensure that every learner gets the same opportunity as their peers in Gwynedd. This will continue to be a priority for this Strategy, our Welsh in Education Strategic Plan, and it directly contributes to the national vision of Cymraeg 2050.



97.3%

of

primary teachers

and

86.3%

of

secondary teachers



in Gwynedd are confident to teach through the medium of Welsh – which is a unique
fundamental strength in the county.

Yet again, recruiting Welsh-medium teachers continues to be a challenge, especially in specialist subjects and some specific areas. Retaining and recruiting school assistants is also an increasing challenge.

Our response will be to continue and expand the opportunities for the workforce to develop their Welsh skills, provide training and language lessons to staff, and promote attractive careers through the medium of Welsh in Gwynedd schools. In doing so, we will ensure a future where every learner benefits from education that nurtures their bilingual skills and empowers them to live and work fully through the medium of Welsh and English.

When we reach September 2035, how will we know that this strategy has succeeded to put the needs of all our learners at the centre of our provision and ensure that every learner reaches their full potential?



Our ambition is to give the best possible start in life to every child and young person in Gwynedd. We believe that every child deserves to feel safe, appreciated and to get the necessary support to thrive. We will foster their physical and emotional well-being, protect them from harm, and offer early life experiences enabling them to grow into confident, enthusiastic and creative individuals.



We will ensure that every learner has access to first-class learning opportunities – opportunities that develop their knowledge, skills and values to enable them to reach their full potential. We wish to see our learners grow into responsible global citizens, ready to face the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities that belong to the 21st century. This will mean operationally addressing the gaps in opportunities and inequalities, ensuring that no one is left behind.



We will promote and develop learners' skills further – not only the academic qualifications, but also key life skills such as creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship, resilience and perseverance. We will ensure that every young person in Education, Employment or Training, is supported to follow lively and purposeful pathways that lead them to productive and fulfilling lives.



We will support Gwynedd schools to develop a local curriculum that reflects our history, our language, our culture and our unique environment. This will foster pride in our communities and create a deeper understanding of their responsibilities towards the planet. We will also promote the Welsh language as a central part of our vision, ensuring an equal opportunity for everyone to benefit from, and will be innovative in the way we support latecomers to master the language.



We acknowledge that our staff is our biggest asset. We will respect and empower our teachers and wider education workforce, ensuring their well-being and offering opportunities to develop professionally. This will enable us to create a culture where learning, innovating and supporting each other is central.



The voice of the learner will be at the root of every decision we make. We will actively promote the Rights of the Child, and include children and young people in planning work, monitoring and evaluating the services that impact their lives.



By providing high education standards in modern, flexible and eco-friendly environments, and by using technology creatively to support learning, we will build an education system that prepares our children and young people for life and work in the future. Working in partnership with other departments, agencies and the local community allows us to offer services that are fair, inclusive and offer good value for money.

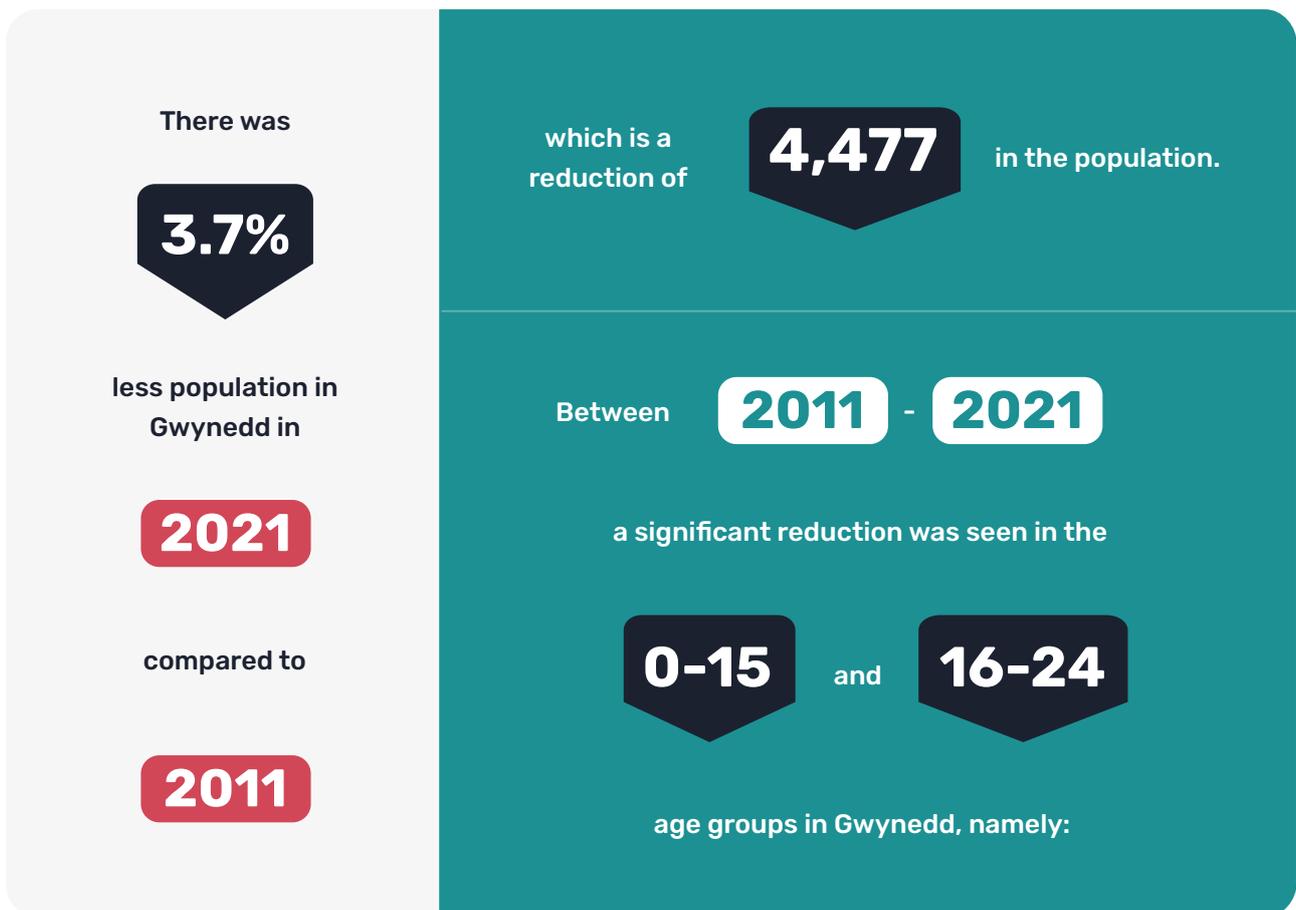


Above all, we will celebrate our learners' successes and appreciate every achievement, big and small. Through collaboration, we can ensure a future where every child and young person in Gwynedd thrives – creating communities that are stronger, more coherent and full of hope for the future.

Why do we need to look at modernising schools here in Gwynedd?



Impact of Demographic Change on the Number of Learners:



Age Group	2021	2011	+/-
0-15 years old	19,423	20,951	-7.3%
16-24 years old	14,260	16,723	-14.7%
All ages	117,397	121,874	-3.7%



Over the same period,
the number of births in
Gwynedd has reduced
by

25%

with a steady decrease every year
between 2012 and 2022 from 1,327
in 2012 to 997 in 2022. For the first
time, we have seen the number of
births in Gwynedd reduce under

1,000 per year.



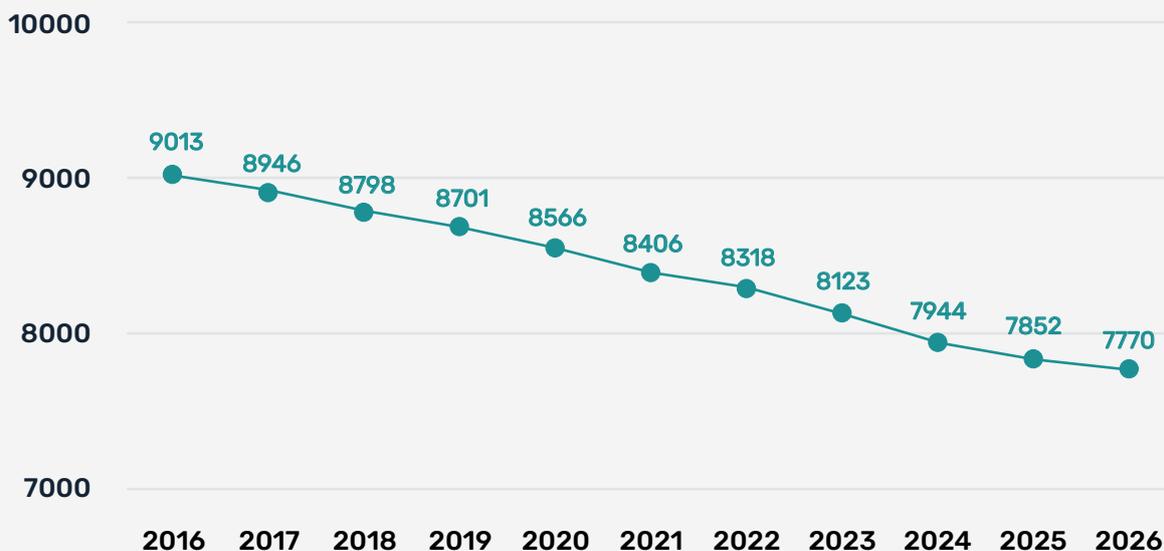
The steady decrease in the number of births in Gwynedd over the last decade has had a clear impact on the number of children in the above age groups, and as a result, has also had an impact on the number of children in our schools. The table below shows the number of learners in Gwynedd primary schools between 2016 and the numbers anticipated by 2026, which is a reduction of 1,243 (-14%):

A reduction of

1,243
(14%)
is anticipated

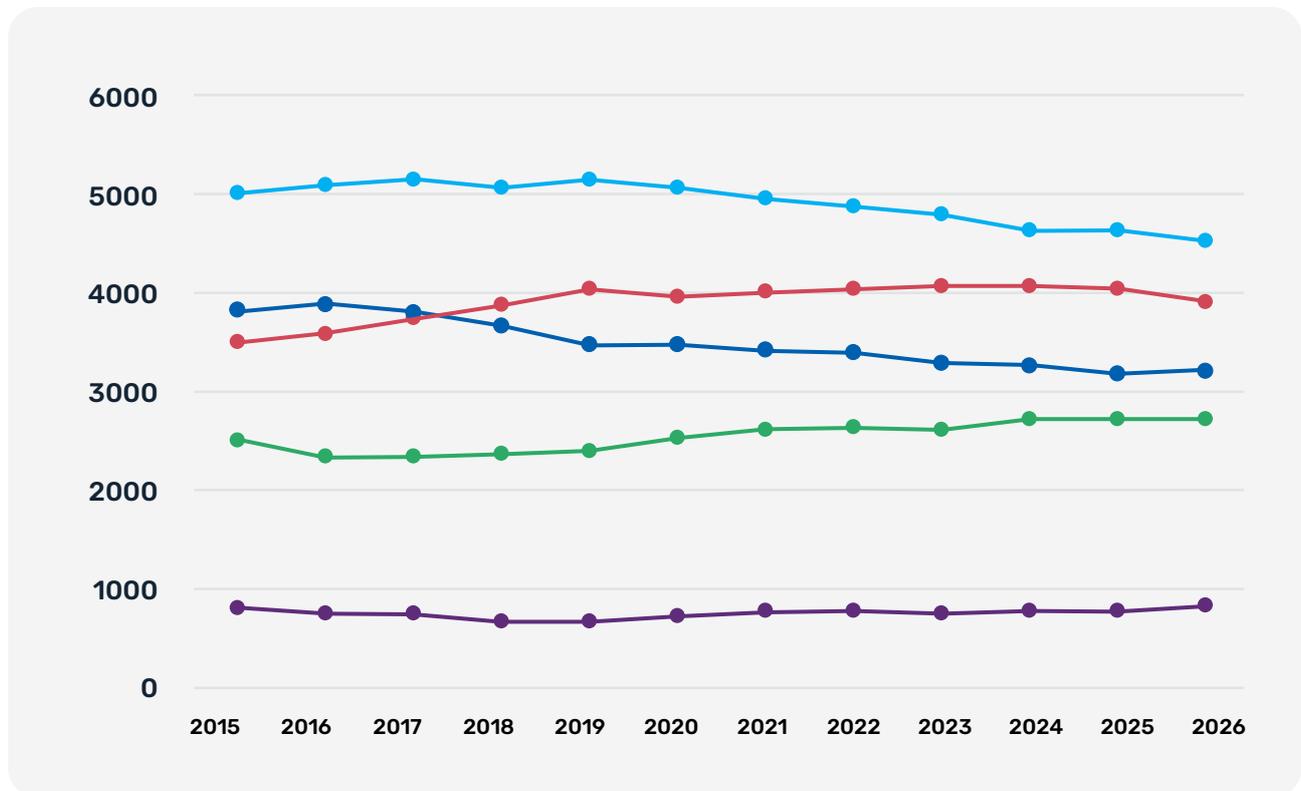
in the numbers of
learners in
Gwynedd primary
schools by

2026



2016-2026 Numbers

Currently, we are seeing the impact of this reduction at its worst in the primary sector in Gwynedd, with the biggest reduction seen in the Foundation Phase as shown in the table below:



We are also aware that the impact of the demographic change and the reduction in the number of children is seen more intensely in some areas and catchment areas in Gwynedd. Given the primary system in its entirety, from the 78 primary schools in Gwynedd, one lifelong school and 5 Ysgol Bro Idris primary sites, there are 25 of them with less than 42 learners.

There are 15 schools in Gwynedd in financial protection, with less than 30 learners, and from those, 6 have less than 20 learners.

The substantial reduction in the number of pupils mean that Gwynedd has high levels of empty spaces in our Primary and Secondary schools. In 2024, 24% of Gwynedd's total capacity was unfilled, namely the highest percentage in Wales. This is equivalent to over 4,700 empty spaces between our Primary and Secondary schools.

Financial Fairness

The Gwynedd school funding system is based on allocation per pupil, which is a fair and transparent way of distributing resources according to the number of learners. However, we acknowledge that this alone is not enough to ensure consistency and fairness for every child, especially in smaller schools or rural areas where the number of pupils is low.

This is the purpose of the protection scheme – a unique mechanism that ensures that every school can maintain the minimum level of staffing to provide high-quality education. Without it, some schools would be in a situation where it was not possible to provide a teacher for a whole class.

Through this scheme, up to

8%

of Gwynedd's children benefit from additional resources,



with a contribution of approximately

£1m

in 2024/25

Currently, 23 primary schools and one lifelong school are part of the scheme, and it is likely that this number will increase over time. This reflects the ongoing deterioration in the number of pupils and means that more schools will rely on this support to ensure high-quality educational provision. Although this is positive for the schools receiving the direct support, it is important to note that the resources are funded by reducing the allocation to the rest of Gwynedd schools.

This situation can lead to clear differences between schools. For example, there is a difference of over

£10,500+

per capita between the allocation of primary schools receiving protection and a school without it, and approximately

£1,500

per capita in the secondary sector.

Three small schools



66

children

6

teachers

Individual school



66

children

2

teachers

In some cases, this leads to situations where three small schools with a total of 66 children can employ 6 teachers, whilst an individual school with the same number of pupils but without protection support would only be able to afford 2 teachers.

We understand that this can be frustrating for headteachers and larger schools, creating a sense of inconsistent work circumstances. This is why we are committed to review and evolve the funding arrangements continuously, with a focus on ensuring:

Consistency and fairness for every child, regardless of the size of their school.

Sustainable support for small schools that are an integral part of our rural communities and contribute significantly to maintaining the Welsh language and local culture.

Transparency and an open dialogue with headteachers and schools of every size to ensure that everyone understands the rationale and the principles behind the allocations.

The protection scheme is therefore a reflection of our commitment to ensure that every child in Gwynedd has the same opportunity to receive high-quality education, but also reminds us of the need to find a fair and meaningful balance when sharing resources across the county. By working together – large and small schools, communities and headteachers – we can ensure a funding system that is fair, sustainable and enables every learner to thrive.

Leadership

Strong and inspiring leadership is essential to ensure a successful future for our children and young people in Gwynedd. While there are many challenges facing the education system at the moment – such as recruitment, leader retention and workload management – we see this as an opportunity to reshape and strengthen the way we support school leaders at all levels.

We recognise that headteachers, senior and middle managers need to be given more non-contact time and support so that they can focus on what matters – leading effectively and inspiring their teams. It is also important for us to make the journey between the role of middle leader and the position of headteacher more attractive, clearly demonstrating the personal and professional development opportunities available.

To ensure robust succession arrangements, we will strengthen the collaboration between the Authority, governors and headteachers. This will include identifying talented individuals early, offering mentoring and development opportunities, and creating clear pathways to leadership. This will enable us to nurture young leaders who are confident, skilled and ready to step up to senior roles when needed.

We are aware that the age profile of our current leaders means that we will need to invest in the next generation of leaders over the next few years. By working proactively and offering opportunities to develop leadership skills, we can ensure continuity and stability for our schools and communities.

Currently, the number of candidates for leadership positions is relatively small. However, we are determined to change this by creating a system that attracts, retains and nurtures world-class leaders, making school leadership in Gwynedd an attractive and valuable career option.

Ultimately, our goal is to build a sustainable leadership ecosystem that offers support, opportunities, and collaboration. This will ensure that every child and young person in Gwynedd benefits from an education that is led by enthusiastic, skilled and ambitious individuals who set high standards and inspire success.



Safeguarding

Safeguarding children and ensuring the well-being of staff is an ongoing priority for us in Gwynedd. Our internal arrangements and the guidance given to schools are robust, creating a strong foundation to ensure a safe and supportive system for all.

We recognise, however, that the size of some schools can create practical challenges. In situations of staff absence or a supply teacher shortage, it can be difficult to maintain the ideal adult-to-child ratio, and sometimes this can mean closing classes or schools for a short period. While challenging, this underlines the importance of proactive planning and developing more resilient systems to ensure safe staffing levels in all schools.

The use of digital systems to record well-being concerns is already excellent practice in the vast majority of our schools. This approach ensures that information is shared quickly and accurately, and enables the Authority to monitor effectively remotely. We recognise that the cost of software can be a barrier for some smaller schools, and therefore there is a clear opportunity for us to consider more sustainable ways of ensuring that all schools benefit from the same support and level of technology.

As well as these practical arrangements, we understand that a positive school culture is the key to ensuring lasting well-being for pupils and staff. Any negative culture, wherever it arises, can have an adverse effect on the entire school community. That is why we are determined to create environments that promote respect, trust and support, ensuring that every child feels safe and valued.

Physical safety requirements are also increasing. Secure access arrangements need to be ensured, infrastructure upgraded and fencing installed where appropriate. While managing so many schools across a large area means budgets are tight, we are determined to prioritise investing in modern and safe infrastructure.

Looking ahead, our ambition is to ensure that every child and young person in Gwynedd can learn in a safe, supportive and inclusive environment, where well-being and safety are at the foundation of everything we do. By strengthening staffing, expanding digital access, promoting a positive culture and upgrading our facilities, we can be confident that our schools will continue to be places where all learners and staff thrive.



School Governance

School governance is an essential element of ensuring effective leadership, robust accountability and a clear strategic overview for the benefit of the standards and outcomes of children and young people in Gwynedd. Governing Bodies play a key role in setting the strategic direction of schools, challenging and supporting leaders and ensuring that decisions are made in the best interests of learners.

Evidence shows that governance in some schools is vulnerable, particularly in terms of capacity, continuity and structural resilience. In some cases, this may limit the ability of Governing Bodies to fully implement their strategic role and offer the appropriate challenge to school leadership.

At the same time, it is important to recognise that a school governor is a voluntary role, and that the commitment, experience and contribution of governors in Gwynedd is significant and of great value to the education system. Their dedication is an important asset to the county and underpins many of the present strengths in schools.

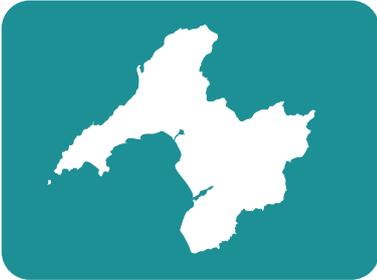
Looking ahead, this strategy will focus on:

- strengthening the resilience and strategic capability of Governing Bodies,
- ensuring supportive arrangements that enable governors to carry out their roles effectively,
- promoting development, training and succession planning to ensure continuity and quality of governance over time.

By strengthening governance, we can better support school leadership, reduce vulnerability, and ensure that high standards of education are maintained for the benefit of all learners in Gwynedd.

Geography

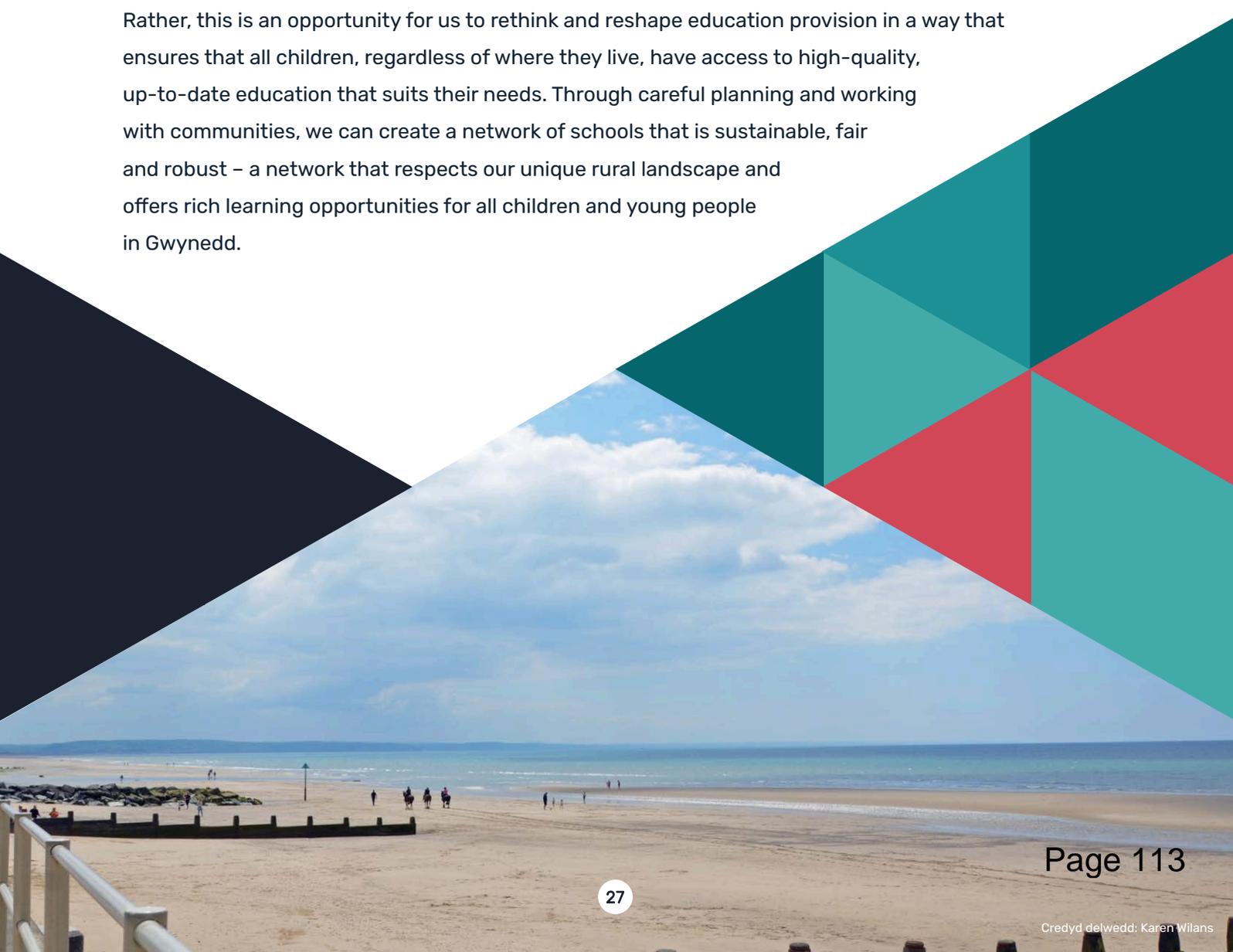
Here in Gwynedd, the close link between our population and our unique countryside creates a special pattern that has a great influence on the education sector. The county is home to vast natural landscapes and strong rural communities, as well as more populous towns such as Bangor and Caernarfon. This mix is part of our character, and offers opportunities and challenges to how we organise and deliver education for our children and young people.



In rural areas, a lower population and dispersed communities can result in a smaller number of children in the school catchment areas. There are even examples of primary schools where there are no longer 10 children living in the catchment area. This change is not just being seen in rural communities – some wards in Bangor and Caernarfon are also experiencing a reduction in the number of children.

We recognise that schools play a central role in rural communities – not only as places of learning, but as centres that foster the Welsh language, culture and social cohesion. However, it is clear that we cannot continue to provide education just as we currently are in communities where there are not enough children to sustain a sustainable system.

Rather, this is an opportunity for us to rethink and reshape education provision in a way that ensures that all children, regardless of where they live, have access to high-quality, up-to-date education that suits their needs. Through careful planning and working with communities, we can create a network of schools that is sustainable, fair and robust – a network that respects our unique rural landscape and offers rich learning opportunities for all children and young people in Gwynedd.



Transport

The provision of education transport is an essential part of the way we support learners in Gwynedd, particularly due to the rural nature of the county and the dispersed distribution of the population. The Council is responsible for organising and funding transport for eligible pupils, ensuring that they are able to travel safely from their homes to the designated school. This includes a variety of transport, from buses to taxis, and pays special attention to those with special educational needs.

In 2024/25, it is anticipated that Gwynedd will invest around £8.5 million in pupil transport – which is 7.25% of the county's Education budget. This is testament to our commitment to ensuring equal access to quality education for all children and young people, regardless of where they live.

We are also aware of the environmental demands and rising costs associated with transportation. That is why we are working to create a more efficient and sustainable system, including planning more cost-effective transport routes, reducing emissions, and promoting alternatives such as walking buses and cycle schemes where feasible.

When making decisions about the future of education provision in Gwynedd, the impact on transport will always be considered as a core part of the process. This ensures that learners not only receive quality education, but also that the system supports a greener, more sustainable future and compatible with our commitment to net zero by 2030.



Standards

It is difficult to directly measure the impact of the structure of our education system on standards, but it is encouraging to see that education standards in Gwynedd are robust, and Estyn reports consistently reflect this across all sectors and school sizes. This is testament to the strength of our schools, to effective leadership and to the dedication of our teaching staff.

However, we recognise that standards are fragile when any weakness appears. In a county like Gwynedd, where there are many smaller organisations, a lack of structural resilience can mean that any change – such as the loss of a subject leader or headteacher – has a significant impact. It is often challenging to find a successor for specialist or senior roles, and this highlights the need to build capacity and plan for succession.

This is the main risk to future standards – not a lack of teaching quality or existing robustness, but a lack of long-term resilience if this is not intentionally formulated.

This challenge is also an opportunity: an opportunity to create a more flexible and collaborative leadership system. By fostering stronger expertise networks between schools, sharing subject leaders and developing shared leadership models, we can ensure that expertise is available to everyone, not just one school. Continuous professional development will be key to preparing more individuals to step into leadership roles, ensuring continuity and stability.

Looking ahead, our strategy will focus on reducing the risk of leadership gaps and on strengthening resilience across the county. Through robust succession plans, ongoing support and a commitment to collaboration, we can ensure that Gwynedd's education standards are not only maintained but also raised further. This will provide reassurance to our communities and parents, and ensure that every child and young person in Gwynedd benefits from the highest quality education.



Catchment Areas and Communities

Each school has its own unique catchment area and community to serve. Since the 1990s, parents have been able to express their right to choose a school for their children, and this has led to an increase in the number of people choosing schools outside their traditional catchment area. There are many reasons for this – from ease of travel, the availability of a pre- or after-school club, and an impression on the quality of learning experiences, to an extended family setting or social network.

As a result, almost every school in Gwynedd now contains a mix of children from its catchment area and neighbouring catchment areas. In some cases, this has led to significant depopulation in certain catchment areas, to the extent that there are not enough local children to sustainably run a school.

Despite this, schools continue to be seen as the heart of Gwynedd's communities. In many villages and communities, the school is often one of the few public institutions that remains operational, and the effort to secure its future is seen as synonymous with safeguarding the future of the whole community. This shows how central schools are to our local identity, to maintaining the Welsh language, and to fostering a sense of belonging and cohesion.

As the connection between families and their catchment areas changes, so does the relationship between schools and their communities. We therefore see an opportunity to redefine the idea of a catchment – not just as an administrative boundary, but as a solid foundation that provides the best learning experiences while focusing on the well-being and success of each child.

Our ambition is to ensure that every school, regardless of location, is part of a sustainable network that reflects its community and offers high-quality education. By doing this, we can ensure not only that Gwynedd's schools continue to thrive, but also that our communities remain alive, strong and ready for the future.



Property

Gwynedd has a high number of schools compared to the numbers of children attending, and this creates a significant demand in terms of the maintenance of the buildings. Nevertheless, it is encouraging to note that the state of our schools' reports are generally positive, reflecting the investment and care work that has taken place over the last few years.

We are aware that inflationary pressures and constraints on revenue budgets are likely to make it difficult to maintain all buildings to the highest standard at all times. However, this is an opportunity for us to examine the issue more strategically and on the long term. Careful planning will enable us to make the most effective use of the resources available, prioritising those projects that bring the greatest benefits to our learners and communities.

Significant investments have already been made – with over £73 million of capital expenditure over the last decade combined with Welsh Government grants such as the community schools grant and the ALN grant. These have improved the infrastructure of many schools, strengthening the learning environment and ensuring more modern facilities. These are clear examples of how capital investment has transformed learning experiences in many communities.

Looking ahead, we must recognise the reality that some new buildings may be more expensive to maintain than the old ones, but the benefits to learning and to the health and well-being of our learners are significant. We will need to be critical of our investment decisions, and that will mean, in some cases, not investing in certain schools over an extended period of time to ensure that resources are focused on the places where they have the greatest impact.

By adopting a long-term planning approach, integrating our use of revenue and capital budgets, and building on the strengths of our current investment programme, we can ensure that our schools continue to offer modern, safe and inspiring environments for our children and young people. This is not just about maintaining buildings, but about creating a sustainable future for our entire education system.



Energy

Energy use plays a key role in the sustainability of our schools, and is an opportunity for us to lead positive change. Wales and Cyngor Gwynedd are committed to reducing our carbon footprint and achieving ambitious environmental targets. In this context, Gwynedd's schools are in a strong position to make an important contribution – not only by reducing their energy use, but also by fostering sustainability awareness and skills among the next generation.

Currently, Gwynedd schools use around

17,000,000 kWh



of energy each year, with a combination of electricity, gas, oil and biomass. This equates to around

3104 tonnes



of carbon emissions – a level that would require around 147,000 trees to be planted each year to offset.



147,000

It is clear that newer and modern schools are already much more efficient – almost twice as good – and that use per pupil is significantly lower in larger schools. This highlights the great opportunity to improve efficiency as we plan for the future.

The positive impact of reducing energy use goes far beyond carbon targets alone. Effective energy management creates more comfortable and healthy learning environments, avoiding rooms that are too cold or too hot, and helping pupils to concentrate and succeed academically. In addition, the financial savings from managing energy wisely free up valuable resources that can be reinvested in what matters most – rich learning experiences, new resources and support for the well-being and development of our children and young people.

There is also a key educational aspect: by implementing energy conservation practices, our schools become living models of responsible behaviour, showing pupils how to live sustainably. This strengthens their understanding of the world around them and empowers them to take positive steps towards a better future.

To deliver on our commitments to reduce our carbon footprint, we will need to consider energy use when strategically planning for the long term. By investing in more efficient buildings, promoting renewable energy, and encouraging a culture of sustainability in all schools, we can create an education system that is responsible, sustainable, and inspires the next generation to do the same.

MODERNISING EDUCATION

In order to plan and manage change effectively, it is essential that we have a clear, robust and practical strategy that sets the direction for the future. This should not be just an administrative document, but rather a roadmap that offers vision and creates momentum for improvement. The strategy must clearly reflect our desire to create a range of schools that offer the highest quality educational experiences, ensuring that they are suitable for today's pupils and flexible enough to respond to the needs of future generations.

We have already set out our core principles, but the next step requires clear and coherent strategic objectives that inform all decisions and investments. These objectives will act as pillars to sustain the modernisation of the education system in Gwynedd, ensuring that all sectors – from early years to secondary and on to post-16 education – move forward with a common purpose.

This means creating a structure where all decisions about schools are based on values such as equality, inclusion, sustainability, and collaboration. It is not only about ensuring modern buildings and suitable resources, but also about fostering an ethos in which strong leadership, high-quality learning, and pupil well-being are placed at the heart of every step.

In practice, such a strategy will define priorities by sector, offer clear solutions to the challenges we face, and put in place mechanisms to monitor progress and measure success. In doing so, we can ensure that modernisation is not a short-term reaction to pressure, but a long-term plan that prepares our schools to thrive in an ever-changing social, economic and environmental context.

Ultimately, a clear and inspiring strategy will give confidence to our communities, provide concrete leadership for our schools, and offer reassurance to our learners that they are part of an education system that is being shaped with their future at the heart of it.



What are the strategic objectives guiding the modernisation of the education system in Gwynedd?

Develop a network of schools that are educationally excellent and resource efficient and sustainable, ensuring a secure future for our education provision in the long term.

Create a pattern of provision that enables all learning settings to offer high-quality education to all their learners, whether as an individual school or as part of a federation or collaborative arrangement with other settings and providers.

Ensure school environments that inspire learners to access a rich and stimulating curriculum, encouraging them to achieve their full potential, alongside a programme of extra-curricular activities that promote health, well-being and personal development.

Develop a modern infrastructure in all schools that supports high-quality education in the 21st century, and enables academic standards to be raised, maintains excellent performance and creates vibrant learning experiences.

Strategically invest in capital and integrate this with plans to rationalise and strengthen provision across the school network, ensuring a flexible and effective response to demand.

Rebuild, remodel, refurbish or modernise schools that are to be maintained in the long-term, so that they meet the highest possible design standards and offer an attractive, up-to-date and effective learning environment.

Contribute positively to wider policy objectives – such as community regeneration, promoting healthy lifestyles, and increasing well-being opportunities – by developing modern and inclusive infrastructure that supports these aims.

Improve the efficiency and quality of provision by reducing the number of empty places to a reasonable level, responding flexibly to demographic changes and supporting parental choices where possible.

Ensure that the infrastructure of our schools is fully accessible, enabling all learners, whatever their individual needs, to access high-quality and equal education.

Develop creative and innovative solutions, whether individual or collaborative, which strengthen the whole education system across Gwynedd and ensure a sustainable future for our learners and communities.

What will be the principles we will follow in order to realise our vision in the primary sector in Gwynedd?

Each school will have enough pupils to ensure sustainable and sound leadership, with leaders who are free to focus on leading and managing effectively, inspiring learners and staff.

All schools will have access to attractive and bespoke outdoor facilities that enhance learning experiences and support physical health, emotional well-being and connection with the environment.

Learning environments of the highest quality will foster the well-being, confidence and progress of all learners, supporting outstanding achievements across a wide range of skills, subjects and curricular experiences.

Schools will be financially sound and operate confidently in the long term, offering stability and certainty without relying on protection schemes or additional budgets.

The schools will be fully inclusive and accessible to all, ensuring equal opportunities for all learners regardless of their background or individual needs.

Modern and state-of-the-art facilities will support creative digital learning, ensuring that all learners develop the skills needed for life and work in the 21st century.



What can we consider to enable this?

1. Strong and sustainable leadership

Prioritise the creation of flexible leadership models, including the sharing of leadership across more than one site, to ensure headteachers and managers have the time and resources to lead effectively.

Develop a succession programme to identify and support future leaders at an early stage, ensuring continuity and innovation.

2. A sustainable and effective school network

Consider the future of all schools supported through the protection scheme, looking at long-term solutions that offer greater stability to communities and pupils.

Where necessary, close some schools, and where possible, consider creating new provision while ensuring fair access for every community.

Ensure that all sites are financially viable, with sufficient pupils and facilities to provide high-quality learning experiences.

3. Modern and inclusive learning environments

Invest in buildings and infrastructure that are contemporary, flexible and suitable for the Curriculum for Wales, including full access to quality digital facilities and outdoor spaces.

Ensure that all sites are fully accessible and offer inclusive experiences to all learners, regardless of their individual needs.

4. Well-being and broad learning opportunities

Foster a culture of care and well-being where the school environment supports physical and emotional health.

Offer a rich curriculum and extracurricular opportunities that inspire learners to reach their potential.

5. Financial and environmental sustainability

Manage resources effectively by integrating capital investments with plans to rationalise the school network, ensuring value for money in the long term.

Reduce energy use and strengthen the ethos of sustainability across all schools, contributing to Gwynedd's commitment to be net zero by 2030.

What will be the principles we will follow in order to realise our vision in the secondary sector in Gwynedd?

Create education sites that are suitable, flexible and viable for the needs of Gwynedd today, and ready to respond to the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Ensure sufficient pupils to enable strong and sustainable leadership, with our leaders free to focus on leadership and inspire, raising standards across the system.

Ensure high-quality learning environments that support the well-being of all learners, fostering progress, attainment and a wide range of skills across the curriculum.

Ensure all learners have access to quality physical and outdoor education facilities, fostering health, physical and emotional well-being while supporting creative learning.

Offer enough pupils in each school to ensure that all subjects are taught by skilled and specialist teachers, providing a rich learning experience for all.

Provide a wide and consistent range of learning opportunities from the beginning to the end of statutory education, providing clear pathways for all learners to reach their potential.

Enable schools to be financially viable, operate sustainably in the long term, and be able to invest in their learners rather than relying on protection schemes.

Create schools that are fully inclusive and accessible to all, celebrating diversity and ensuring equal opportunities for all children and young people.

Develop state-of-the-art facilities that support digital learning, preparing learners to thrive in an ever-changing technological world.

What can we consider to enable this?

1. Strong and sustainable leadership

Prioritise the creation of flexible leadership models to ensure headteachers and managers have the time and resources to lead effectively.

Develop a succession programme to identify and support future leaders at an early stage, ensuring continuity and innovation.

Modernise the school pattern by merging and strengthening, so that fewer more viable schools operate on the same number of sites, ensuring stronger resources and better opportunities for learners.

Ensure that all sites are financially viable, with sufficient pupils and facilities to provide high-quality learning experiences.

Share leadership at different levels across multiple sites, fostering a flexible and collaborative leadership team that shares responsibility and expertise.

Share subject expertise across sites, so that all learners – regardless of the size of their school – have access to teaching from experts.

Move staff between sites rather than learners, reducing the need for children to travel and ensuring continuity and consistency in their educational experience.

2. Modern and inclusive learning environments

Delve deeper into the use of distance learning, including innovative technologies such as VR, to expand the range of GCSE subjects and upgrade learning experiences.

Invest in buildings and infrastructure that are contemporary, flexible and suitable for the Curriculum for Wales, including full access to quality digital facilities and outdoor spaces.

Ensure that all sites are fully accessible and offer inclusive experiences to all learners, regardless of their individual needs.

3. Well-being and broad learning opportunities

Foster a culture of care and well-being where the school environment supports physical and emotional health.

Offer a rich curriculum and extracurricular opportunities that inspire learners to reach their potential.

Ensure that all schools offer inclusive provision, which can respond to the diverse needs of every child and young person, fostering positive behaviour, respect and a culture of care in all school communities.

4. Financial and environmental sustainability

Map and plan budgets over a longer period than a financial year, creating greater clarity, predictability and financial stability for schools and the authority.

Manage resources effectively by integrating capital investments with plans to rationalise the school network, ensuring value for money in the long term.

Reduce energy use and strengthen the ethos of sustainability across all schools, contributing to Gwynedd's commitment to be net zero by 2030.

What will be the principles we will follow in order to realise our vision in the special sector in Gwynedd?

We will ensure that our most vulnerable learners have access to the highest quality educational and care provision, in environments that reflect respect, dignity and care. Our decisions will be guided by the following principles:

Create sufficient appropriate space and resources to provide specialist education and care that meets the full range of learners' needs, ensuring that they are supported to thrive.

Develop warm, safe and caring learning environments that support learners' physical and emotional well-being, building resilience and self-confidence, and create the best possible conditions to improve progress and achievement across a wide range of skills and curriculum areas.

Ensure that all special schools and specialist provision are fully inclusive and accessible to all, giving all children equal opportunity to access high-quality educational experiences regardless of their individual needs.

Invest in modern facilities and digital technology, creating innovative and flexible learning opportunities that support independence, creativity and life skills development.



What can we consider to enable this?

1. Strong and sustainable leadership

Specialist capacity and space planning – ensuring sufficient physical space and resources to meet the growing demand, including space for therapies, individual support and flexible provision. This may include building or modifying purpose-built learning spaces.

Share expertise across sites – develop models where specialist staff (e.g. therapists, ALN teachers, support workers) work across more than one school, sharing knowledge and skills to consistently raise standards across Gwynedd.

Collaborate with the mainstream sector – strengthening links between special schools and primary and secondary schools to facilitate learner involvement in appropriate activities and sharing good practice.

Prioritise the creation of flexible leadership models to ensure headteachers and managers have the time and resources to lead effectively.

Develop a succession programme to identify and support future leaders at an early stage, ensuring continuity and innovation.

Invest in leadership and succession plan – ensure that every special school has a strong leadership team, with opportunities to develop new leaders through mentoring, training and networks across Gwynedd.

Strategically plan for a sustainable workforce – attracting and retaining specialist staff through the provision of ongoing training, well-being support and attractive career options, including opportunities to develop further expertise in the field.

2. Modern and inclusive learning environments

Use digital technology and distance learning – widening access to digital resources, innovative approaches (e.g. VR, interactive apps) and communication support to enable all learners to access up-to-date learning experiences, whatever their needs.

3. Well-being and broad learning opportunities

Foster a culture of care and well-being where the school environment supports physical and emotional health.

Access to community and health resources – strengthening partnerships with health, social care and third sector services to offer integrated provision that supports learners and their families.

Accessibility and sustainable energy – ensuring that all special school buildings are fully accessible to all, and in line with eco and net zero standards, creating modern, healthy and green learning environments.



IDENTIFYING GWYNEDD SCHOOLS

In the face of constant change in our society and population, we have a unique opportunity here in Gwynedd to reshape the future of our school network for the benefit of all children and young people. Our ambition is to ensure that every school is a place where learners are inspired, supported and empowered to achieve their full potential, while remaining at the core of their local communities. Through regular and transparent review, we can make wise evidence-based decisions, invest wisely in our schools, and create modern, inclusive, and sustainable learning environments fit for the 21st Century and future generations.

How will we come to a decision on whether the future of a school or catchment area needs to be reviewed?

Before considering the future of any particular school or catchment, we must look carefully at a wide range of factors. At the beginning of each calendar year, we will undertake a comprehensive review of the educational situation in Gwynedd. This gives us the flexibility to keep the programme current and sensitive to changes in education policies, while ensuring that we continue to meet the needs of an ever-changing society. In the current climate, where the number of learners is falling significantly in some areas, this approach is even more essential to ensure that our decisions are fair, transparent and sustainable for the future.

Who will consider the current situation of the schools?

The panel will include Education Officers along with representatives from Headteachers and Governors of Gwynedd schools. There will be Officers from other Council departments including Finance, Property and Economy.

What will be considered before reviewing a school or catchment?

Each school is evaluated against a set of evidence-based criteria, which allow for an assessment of the school's operational viability, and decisions to be made based on each school's relative investment need.

This will enable us to objectively set a programme for the strategic review of the school network and invest in the modernisation of the school estate in a transparent and fair manner.

Each school will be put in a category in terms of viability, to confirm the position for that school. A summary of the viability assessment shall form the basis for identifying modernisation projects and rationalisation proposals within the overall programme.

A viability assessment and conclusion for each school will be based on mainstream provision and other modes of provision such as early years, additional learning needs, behaviour and post-16 will be informed by separate strategies.

What will be the criteria that will be used by the review panel?

Quality and Standards in Education:

Prioritising high standards for all learners through clear measures and Estyn inspections. Where additional support is needed, that will be a trigger to strengthen provision to ensure excellent learning experiences for all.

Leadership:

Ensure strong and sustainable leadership, with our leaders free to lead and possess the appropriate skills and qualifications to lead schools to long-term success.

Number of Pupils:

Maintain pupil numbers that enable sustainable and effective provision, ensuring that all schools have the capacity to maintain robust staffing structures and a rich learning environment.

Trends in Pupils:

Analyse longer-term patterns to ensure we plan proactively, responding promptly to changes and protecting learning opportunities for all children.

Projected Number of Pupils:

Ensure long-term planning by anticipating demographic trends, so that each school can remain viable and relevant to its community in the years to come.

Empty Places:

Using spaces efficiently to ensure resources are used wisely, creating a network of schools that is sustainable and able to offer high-quality learning experiences.

Financial Viability:

Strengthen the financial stability of schools, ensuring that they are able to operate effectively within a national funding framework and plan confidently for the future.

Condition of School Buildings:

Invest in buildings that are safe, comfortable and suitable to create an engaging learning environment that inspires children and young people.

Suitability of School Buildings:

Ensure that school buildings and sites are fully suitable for the Curriculum for Wales and are a valuable resource for the wider community.

Collaborative Funding/Regeneration Opportunities:

Welcome partnerships and engage with external funding to strengthen schools, support community regeneration, and promote healthy and sustainable lifestyles.

What guidance and legislation will we follow when reviewing the future of a school or catchment area?

Any transformational change to the school estate depends on the following:

School Organisation Code (2018) – statutory guidance setting out the Local Authority's responsibilities in relation to school reorganisation and the formal requirements for regulated changes.

The Federation of Maintained Schools in Wales – statutory guidance on the establishment of school federations and the relevant governance arrangements.

The Welsh Government's Sustainable Learning Communities Programme – a national capital investment programme that provides collaborative funding opportunities through a formal business case process.

Local Authority Capital Programme – a five-year funding plan that defines the resources available to schools and the Education Department.

The Democratic Decision-Making Process – Cyngor Gwynedd's formal process for deciding on school organisation proposals; the County Council is the final decision-making body.

The Education Act 1996 and the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 – the statutory framework that sets out legal duties in relation to the organisation of schools.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – to require any change to promote sustainable development and contribute to national well-being goals.

The Children and Young Persons (Wales) Act 2004 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) – ensuring that children's rights and welfare are central to all decisions.

Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Code (2021) – ensure that any new arrangement complies with learners' rights and provision with ALN.

Local Planning and Policy Guidance – including a local development plan and any guidance on sustainability and environment that may affect school sites.



Assessing 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 will be implemented based on a number of legislations.

- **Equality Act 2010.** The Act places a duty on public organisations to give due attention to the impact of any new (or amended) policy, procedure or plan, etc. on persons with protected characteristics. We are required to
 - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act.
 - promote 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 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 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.

Composite Impact Assessment

Author: Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education

Date: 21/01/26

Version: 2

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 aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the policy or practice?

The original Strategic Programme Strategy "Towards 2025": The Future of Education and Training for Children and Young People in Gwynedd was published in 2010 to set a direction for education and training in Gwynedd up to 2025. The new draft Schools Strategy before us builds on the foundations of this Strategic Programme for the next decade up to 2036.

The new Strategy plays a prominent role in the Council Plan, which sets a clear direction for us as an authority up to 2028, and ensures that we deliver on the Council's ambition. 'Gwynedd Yfory' (Tomorrow's Gwynedd) highlights how we will ensure the best possible start for our children and young people.

The Education Department has produced the Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026-2036 to set a clear direction for the schools' provision over the next decade. It must be acknowledged that there have been far-reaching changes in education in Wales over recent years, and the new Strategy responds to national changes such as the Curriculum for Wales and the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act (2018) along with increasing expectations on schools, and the need to modernise buildings and resources.

To shape the system for the future we have determined eight core values. Regardless of the changes that we will consider in future, we are committed to these values:

- 1) Offering the best possible learning experiences for our learners, ensuring an engaging and broad curriculum that motivates learning and understanding and leads to improving standards and outcomes for all.
- 2) Promoting and supporting our learners' physical health, emotional needs and well-being, ensuring that our schools play a key role when designing and delivering integrated services for children, young people and their families.
- 3) Ensuring that children and young people (aged between 0 and 25) who have additional learning needs have access to opportunities and gain experiences that are planned effectively, to allow them to make progress according to their ability.
- 4) Ensuring a system that keeps our learners safe and protects them from any abuse.
- 5) Preparing young people for the world of work – making sure that they have the right skills for employment, especially within the local economy.
- 6) Creating a first-class learning environment by improving facilities and buildings, ensuring that schools are designed to respond to the changes in contemporary teaching and learning processes and practices, particularly in the use of Technology.
- 7) Developing educational establishments as a hub for public and community services where appropriate.
- 8) Strengthening the Welsh language as an educational and social medium enabling children and young people to access Welsh and bilingual education and training.

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

Pupils

Parents

Headteachers

Governors

Education Staff

STEP 2 - Engagement Data and Impact Assessment

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

Yes. A firm and proportionate effort has been made to comply with the duty to engage, and sufficient relevant information has been gathered to enable the Council to move forward.

An engagement questionnaire was carried out on the Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036, which was widely shared with key stakeholders across the education sector, including schools, governing bodies, education staff and strategic planning groups. 19 responses were received, with over half of these from school governors, providing valuable qualitative input from stakeholders with a direct understanding of the school system and its strategic challenges.

In general, the results of the questionnaire show clear support for the strategic direction of the document. It was recognised that the Strategy responds realistically to the county's demographic, financial and educational challenges, and sets a clear vision for planning school provision in the medium and long term. There was particularly strong support for the emphasis on the Welsh language and bilingualism.

A number of key themes were identified through the responses, including:

- the sustainability of the school network and the need to review the provision in order to ensure efficient use of resources;
- concerns about the potential impact of structural changes on local communities and the use of the Welsh language outside the classroom;
- strong support for Welsh language education and immersion education, together with an expectation of clear arrangements to monitor pupils' linguistic progress;
- the challenges of the education workforce, particularly workload, recruitment and retention of staff, with recognition that a sustainable workforce is essential to the success of the Strategy;
- the importance of pupils' well-being and ensuring a positive educational experience as central considerations in any change;
- the need for a clear action framework, robust arrangements for governance and monitoring, and assurance that the Strategy will remain a live document.

In addition, direct engagement with young people was carried out through the County Children and Young People's Forum. Their views were strongly in line with the main objectives of the Strategy, especially in terms of promoting the Welsh language, ensuring a fair and inclusive educational experience, supporting well-being, and strengthening mechanisms for the voice and participation of young people.

Together, these engagement activities have provided a solid, balanced and relevant evidence base, which shows general support for the Strategy's vision and enables the Council to move forward with confidence to implement it.

Details of engagement. Note any consultation or engagement you have conducted or intend to conduct.

Action	Dates	Information
Primary and Special Catchment Advisory Group	February 2025	Discussion on the main themes of the Strategy and agreement to proceed with the development of the Strategy.
Secondary Strategic Planning Group	February 2025	Discussion on the main themes of the Strategy and agreement to proceed with the development of the Strategy.

Meeting with Education Department Staff	March 2025	Discussion on the main themes of the Strategy and agreement to proceed with the development of the Strategy.
Meeting with the County Children and Young People's Forum	March 2025	Discussion on the main themes of the Strategy and agreement to proceed with the development of the Strategy.
Meeting with Education Department Staff	November 2025	Presentation of the Draft Strategy
Secondary Strategic Planning Group	December 2025	Presentation of the Draft Strategy
Primary and Special Catchment Advisory Group	December 2025	Presentation of the Draft Strategy
Meeting with the County Children and Young People's Forum	December 2025	Presentation of the Draft Strategy
Meeting with Gwynedd Governors' Forum	December 2025	Presentation of the Draft Strategy
Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee	December 2025	Presentation of the Draft Strategy

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

	<p>Evidence, Information and Relevant Data</p>	<p>Potential Positive and/or Negative Impact</p>
<p>Race</p>	<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 sets out anti-bullying guidelines and procedures based on factors such as race in the school.</p> <p>All schools have their own anti-bullying policies to safeguard children with certain equality characteristics.</p> <p>In addition, the Equality policy implemented by Gwynedd primary schools states that the schools “... oppose all forms of prejudice and discrimination and recognise that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives.”</p> <p>To shape the system for the future we have determined eight core values. Number 1 (see question 2) states that we will aim to improve outcomes for our most vulnerable learners, and groups of learners who often face barriers to engaging with education.</p>	<p>Positive</p>

<p>Disability</p>	<p>To shape the system for the future we have determined eight core values. Number 1 (see question 2) aims to improve outcomes for our most vulnerable learners, and groups of learners who often face barriers to engaging with education. As regards children and young people with Additional Learning Needs, number 3 (see question 2) states that we will ensure that children and young people with additional learning needs have access to opportunities and gain experiences that have been planned effectively to enable them to progress according to their ability.</p> <p>The Strategy sets out that we will ensure that the infrastructure of our schools is fully accessible, enabling all learners, regardless of their individual needs, to access high quality and equal education.</p> <p>We will continue to implement the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs and the Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018, as well as the Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion Strategy. The aim of the ALN&I Strategy is to ensure that children and young people (aged between the ages of 0 and 25) who have additional learning benefit from education opportunities and experiences that have been appropriately planned for them, to enable them to progress and achieve their potential in</p>	<p>Positive</p>
--------------------------	---	-----------------

	<p>education settings that are suitable for their needs.</p> <p>It is anticipated that number 2 of our values (see question 2) will also contribute positively to this feature by incorporating good well-being into Gwynedd's schools; creating a supportive atmosphere where children and young people are encouraged to achieve their personal and academic potential, where they thrive, learn and develop emotionally, with the support of teachers and staff who operate in a culture that values their well-being. Ensuring that regular physical activity is a lifelong practice will be a vehicle to improve the health of children and young people now and as they become older, contributing to improved overall happiness and resilience.</p>	
Gender		Premature to identify any impact at this point
Age	Our vision is to ensure a fair and inclusive education system that meets the needs of all learners in the County, and gives them the opportunity to reach their full potential.	Positive
Religion and Belief	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 sets out anti-bullying guidelines and procedures based on factors such as race in the school.	Positive

	<p>All schools have their own anti-bullying policies to safeguard children with certain equality characteristics.</p> <p>In addition, the Equality policy implemented by Gwynedd primary schools states that the schools “... oppose all forms of prejudice and discrimination and recognise that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives.”</p> <p>To shape the system for the future we have determined eight core values. Number 1 (see question 2) states that we will aim to improve outcomes for our most vulnerable learners, and groups of learners who often face barriers to engaging with education.</p>	
<p>Sexual Orientation</p>	<p>Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales framework and is published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and is mandatory for all learners between the ages of 3 and 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role in learners’ education and plays a vital role in forming and maintaining a range of relationships, all based on mutual trust and respect, which is the foundation of RSE. These relationships are critical to developing emotional well-being, resilience, and empathy. An understanding of sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality and equity empowers learners to understand themselves, take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours and form relationships.</p>	<p>Positive</p>

Gender reassignment	The Equality policy implemented by Gwynedd schools states that the schools "... oppose all forms of prejudice and discrimination and recognise that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."	Positive
Marriage and Civil Partnership		Premature to identify any impact at this point
Pregnancy and Maternity		Premature to identify any impact at this point
The Welsh Language	<p>To shape the system for the future we have determined eight core values. It is anticipated that number 8 in the Draft Strategy (Strengthening the Welsh Language as an educational and social medium and enabling children and young people to access Welsh and bilingual education and training) will contribute positively to this aim by ensuring that all children and young people benefit from first-class Welsh and bilingual education provision, as well as access to specialist support and services through the medium of Welsh that enable them to succeed, thrive, and realise their aspirations for the future.</p> <p>It is anticipated that this will also contribute to supporting staff to improve their Welsh language skills or to boost their confidence to use the language as well as promoting the benefits of Welsh and bilingual education among parents. In addition, this will promote</p>	Positive

	employment through the medium of Welsh in Gwynedd schools and within the Education Department.	
Socio-economic Considerations	<p>To shape the system for the future we have determined eight core values. It is anticipated that number 1 (see question 2) will contribute positively to this aim by ensuring that all children and young people have access to the highest possible quality education and training that enable them to thrive and achieve their potential.</p> <p>Further expansion of the existing Flying Start provision areas and the childcare offer will ensure the best start for children from the early years onwards and will contribute positively to this aim by ensuring access to childcare and early years services for families in deprived areas of the county.</p> <p>We also recognise the impact of the increase in current costs of living, including the increasing costs of everyday materials such as school uniform, food, transport and stationery, impacting the well-being of children, young people and families. The free school meals scheme for all primary learners will be of great help to families in reducing socio-economic disadvantage, and the commitment to re-examine the costs of sending children to school with a view to reducing them is also likely to reduce socio-economic disadvantage.</p>	Positive

Those Who Serve or Who Have Served in the Armed Forces, As Well As Their Families	Our vision is to have a fair education system that meets the needs of all our learners and ensures that every individual learner is reaching their full potential.	Positive
Human Rights	Our vision is to have a fair education system that meets the needs of all our learners and ensures that every individual learner is reaching their full potential.	Positive

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

There are no data or information gaps. A thorough engagement exercise was carried out with stakeholders to gather a wide range of views and feedback. This has ensured that sufficient evidence and understanding are available, and that the new Strategy reflects and effectively meets the needs of stakeholders.

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

There may be additional pressure on schools and teachers if there are insufficient resources or support to implement the Strategy.

8. What does the proposal include to demonstrate you have given due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (to promote equal 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?

To shape the system for the future we have set out eight core values (see question 2). It is anticipated that number 1 “Offering the best possible learning experiences for our learners ensuring an engaging and broad curriculum that will stimulate learning and understanding and lead to improved standards and outcomes for all” will positively impact this duty by ensuring that all children and young people can access the highest possible quality education and training that enables them to thrive and achieve their potential.

It is anticipated that number 8, “Strengthening the Welsh Language as an educational and social medium and enabling children and young people to access to Welsh and bilingual education and training” will positively impact this duty by ensuring that all children and young people can fully benefit from the Welsh and bilingual provision found in Gwynedd schools.

Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales framework and is published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and is mandatory for all learners aged 3 to 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role to play in learners' education and is essential to form and maintain a range of relationships, all based on mutual trust and respect, at the core of relationships and sexuality education. These relationships are critical to developing emotional well-being, resilience, and empathy. An understanding of sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality and equity empowers learners to understand themselves, take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours and form relationships.

It is anticipated that number 2 of the values in the draft Strategy “Promoting and supporting the physical health, needs and emotional wellbeing of our learners, ensuring that our schools play a key role in the planning and delivery of integrated services for children, young people and their families” will contribute to fostering good relationships as the children and young people of Gwynedd are aware of the importance of well-being, and are aware of the various problems they often face in terms of staying safe, staying healthy, managing relationships, and dealing with the challenges of growing up in such a changing society.

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.)

In order to shape the education system for the future, we have set out eight core values. It is anticipated that number 1 “Offering the best possible learning experiences for our learners ensuring an engaging and broad curriculum that will stimulate learning and understanding and lead to improved standards and outcomes for all” will positively impact this duty by ensuring that all children and young people can access the highest possible quality education and training that enables them to thrive and achieve their potential. Further expansion of the existing Flying Start provision areas and the childcare offer will ensure the best start for children from the early years onwards and will contribute positively to this aim by ensuring access to childcare and early years services for families in deprived areas of the county.

We also recognise the impact of the increase in current costs of living, including the increasing costs of everyday materials such as school uniform, food, transport and stationery, impacting the well-being of children, young people and families. The free school meals scheme for all primary learners will be of great help to families in reducing socio-economic disadvantage, and the commitment to re-examine the costs of sending children to school with a view to reducing them is also likely to reduce socio-economic disadvantage.

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?

To shape the system for the future we have determined eight core values. It is anticipated that number 8 “Strengthening the Welsh Language as an educational and social medium and enabling children and young people to access Welsh and bilingual education and training”, will contribute positively to this aim by ensuring that all children and young people benefit from first-class Welsh and bilingual education provision, as well as access to specialist support and services through the medium of Welsh that enable them to succeed, thrive, and realise their aspirations for the future.

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?

Well-being Goals:

A prosperous Wales - This draft Strategy is intended to be of benefit to all children and young people in Gwynedd. It will seek to address some challenges that the system is likely to face now and, in the future, such as:

- Maintaining and strengthening our education and training provision to enable children and young people in Gwynedd to reach their full potential and to develop the qualifications and skills that enable them to live and thrive.
- Maintaining and strengthening the Welsh language in all aspects of the school's life and communities served in light of the 2021 Census results.
- Ensuring excellent well-being support services for children and young people in Gwynedd to help them to overcome barriers and reach their full potential.
- Strengthening leadership on all levels and responding to the challenge of recruiting teachers and assistants in our schools.
- Ensuring the viability and resilience of our schools when there is a reduction in the number of learners as a result of low birth rates, an ageing population and rural depopulation. Improving our school estate to ensure the best possible learning environment for our children and young people when we have so many buildings to maintain, and an expectation for the school estate to be zero carbon over the next period.
- Responding to the challenge of maintaining the education system in an unprecedented period of cuts to Local Authority budgets.

A resilient Wales - The draft Strategy contributes positively to this aim through the values, number 6 in particular "Creating a first-class learning environment by improving facilities and buildings, and to ensure that schools are designed to respond to changes in contemporary teaching and learning practices and processes, particularly in the use of Technology". The purpose of this is to try and ensure that Gwynedd's schools offer a safe, inspiring and sustainable learning environment of the highest quality for learners and teachers in the county, and that they are organisations that have a strong link with their communities.

A healthier Wales - The draft Strategy contributes positively to this aim through the values, in particular number 2, “Promoting and supporting the physical health, needs and emotional well-being of our learners, ensuring that our schools play a key role in the planning and delivery of integrated services for children, young people and their families”. The purpose of this is to ensure that every child and young person in Gwynedd is ready to learn and can fully benefit from the education and training available, and can easily access support to improve their emotional, mental and physical well-being.

A more equal Wales - The draft Strategy contributes positively to this aim through the values, in particular number 1, “Offering the best possible learning experiences for our learners, ensuring an engaging and broad curriculum that motivates learning and understanding and leads to improved standards and outcomes for all”. The purpose of this is to try and ensure that all children and young people can access the highest possible quality education and training that enable them to thrive and achieve their potential.

A Wales of cohesive communities - The draft Strategy contributes positively to this aim through the values, in particular number 6 “Creating a first-class learning environment by improving facilities and buildings, and to ensure that schools are designed to respond to changes in contemporary teaching and learning practices and processes, particularly in the use of Technology”. The purpose of this is to try and ensure that Gwynedd's schools offer a safe, inspiring and sustainable learning environment of the highest quality for learners and teachers in the county, and that they are organisations that have a strong link with their communities.

A Wales of vibrant culture where the Welsh language thrives - The draft Strategy contributes positively to this aim through the values, in particular number 8, “Strengthening the Welsh language as an educational and social medium and enable children and young people to access Welsh and bilingual education and training”. The purpose of this is to seek to ensure that all children and young people benefit from the provision of first-class Welsh and bilingual education, as well as access to specialist support and services through the medium of Welsh that enable them to succeed, thrive, and realise their aspirations for the future.

A globally responsible Wales - It is not anticipated that the proposal is likely to have an impact on this goal.

5 ways of working:

Long-term - The Strategy sets out a long-term vision that will set the direction for education and training in Gwynedd up to 2035.

Prevention - This draft Strategy is intended to be of benefit to all children and young people in Gwynedd. It will seek to address some challenges that the system is likely to face now and, in the future, such as:

- Maintaining and strengthening our education and training provision to enable children and young people in Gwynedd to reach their full potential and to develop the qualifications and skills that enable them to live and thrive.
- Maintaining and strengthening the Welsh language in all aspects of the school's life and communities served in light of the 2021 Census results.
- Ensuring excellent well-being support services for children and young people in Gwynedd to assist them to overcome barriers and reach their full potential
- Strengthening leadership on all levels and responding to the challenge of recruiting teachers and assistants in our schools.
- Ensuring the viability and resilience of our schools when there is a reduction in the number of learners as a result of low birth rates, an ageing population and rural depopulation.
- Improving our school estate to ensure the best possible learning environment for our children and young people when we have so many buildings to maintain, and an expectation for the school estate to be zero carbon over the next period.
- Responding to the challenge of maintaining the education system in an unprecedented period of cuts to the budgets of Local Authorities.

Integration - This draft Strategy is intended to be of benefit to all children and young people in Gwynedd. It will seek to address some challenges that the system is likely to face now and, in the future, such as:

Collaboration - During February 2025, the Education Department held discussions with the Headteachers of Secondary, Primary and Special Schools on the draft vision and objectives for the new Schools' Strategy.

Involvement - During February 2025, the Education Department held discussions with the Headteachers of Primary, Secondary and Special Schools on the draft vision and objectives for the new Schools' Strategy. In addition, engagement sessions have been arranged with the Headteachers of Primary, Secondary and Special Schools, including a meeting with the County Young People's Forum and Gwynedd Governors' Forum. The Impact Assessment will be updated following these sessions.

Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act, the 7 aims of the Well-being Act have been considered and it is concluded that no negative impacts are anticipated to arise from the Strategy. The aim of the Strategy and its fundamental intention is to have an education system that puts the needs of all our learners at the heart of our provision, by

maintaining and strengthening our education and training provision to enable Gwynedd's children and young people to reach their full potential and to develop the qualifications and skills that enable them to live and thrive.

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.

What action will be taken to comply with the General Equality Duty, Human Rights and Welsh language legislation and the Socio-Economic Duty in relation to procurement and/or partnerships?

Procurement:

Not applicable at this time.

Partnership:

Not applicable at this time.

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?

Significant Positive Impact:

Although it is early days, it is anticipated that the Strategy is likely to have a positive impact on the equality characteristics (see question 5). We will update the Impact Assessment as the direction of the work becomes clearer.

Significant Negative Impact:

Although it is early days, it is not anticipated at this time that the Strategy will have a negative impact on any of the characteristics.

14. Any intentional negative impact and why it is believed that there is justification for operating in this way should be explained (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).

Not applicable at this time.

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

No.

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?

Premature to identify any measures at this point.

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?

Premature to identify any measures at this point.

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?

Our aim is to ensure that all learners have the support and opportunities to achieve their full potential – nurturing ambitious, confident and inspiring young people who are ready for life and work in the future.

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:

Continuing with the policy or practice in its current form.

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

The EqIA process is an ongoing one that doesn't end when the policy/practice and EqIA 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:

Action	Date	Timetable	Lead Responsibility
To present the Draft Strategy to the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee	December 2025	December 2025	Head of Education
Present the Draft Strategy to the Cabinet	February 2026	February 2026	Head of Education

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:

Monitoring and Review Arrangements (including where outcomes will be recorded)	Timeframe and Frequency	Lead Responsibility
Strategy Review	Every 5 years	Head of Education

Appendix 3

Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036 questionnaire results

1. Introduction

This report presents an analysis of the responses received to the engagement questionnaire on the Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036. Its purpose is to provide the Cabinet with a clear, balanced and transparent picture of the nature of the responses, the level of representation, and the main themes raised, in order to inform strategic decisions about the development and implementation of the Strategy.

2. Background to the Engagement

The engagement was carried out as an integral part of the process of formulating a Schools Strategy for the next decade. The questionnaire was targeted at a wide range of stakeholders, including schools, governing bodies and education staff. The engagement was widely promoted across the education sector, including through the Primary and Special Catchment Advisory Group, the Secondary Strategic Planning Group, Education Department Staff, Gwynedd School Heads as well as the Gwynedd Governors' Forum.

3. Size of Responses and Representation

19 responses to the questionnaire were received. The profile of the respondents is as follows:

- **9 School governors**
- **4 Primary school representatives**
- **6 responses in the "Other" category**, including individuals or organisations such as education staff.

Over half of the responses have come from governors, who are stakeholders with a direct understanding of the education system and the strategic implications of the Strategy.

However, it is important to put these numbers in context. Gwynedd's schools estate consists of 94 schools, along with hundreds of governors, thousands of staff and extensive local communities. The responses are most useful as qualitative evidence.

4. Overall Impression of the Strategy

The responses show support for the strategic direction of the document. Respondents acknowledge:

- That the Strategy realistically reflects the demographic, financial and educational challenges facing the county.
- That a clear vision be set for the planning of school provision in the medium and long term.
- That the emphasis on the Welsh language and bilingualism is appropriate and consistent with Gwynedd's identity and aspirations.

At the same time, it is noted that the document is fairly high-level at times.

5. Key Themes

5.1 Sustainability of the School Network

The sustainability of the school network is a clear theme:

- An understanding is expressed of the need to review the current provision, particularly where pupil numbers are low.
- There is support for the principle of reorganisation, including the merger or closure of schools, to ensure efficient use of resources.

However, concern is expressed regarding:

- The potential impact of school closures on local communities.
- Implications for community cohesion and the use of Welsh outside the classroom.

5.2 The Welsh Language and Immersion Education

There is very strong support for the Strategy in terms of:

- Confirming Welsh education as the mainstream of education in the county.
- Developing and strengthening the provision of immersive education.

At the same time, there is a demand for:

- Clear arrangements to monitor and evaluate pupils' linguistic progress.
- Assurance that schools will receive appropriate practical support, training and resources to realise the linguistic ambitions of the Strategy.

5.3 The Education Workforce

Concerns about the workforce are a cross-cutting theme:

- Concern about workload, staff recruitment and retention.
- Recognising that the success of the Strategy depends on a skilled, supportive and sustainable workforce.

While the Strategy recognises these issues at a strategic level, there is a demand for practical action to support staff.

5.4 Pupil Welfare and Educational Experience

Respondents emphasise that:

- Pupils' welfare is a central consideration in any structural change.
- School size and pastoral provision are key factors in the planning of the school network.

There is a clear expectation that learners' educational experience and emotional welfare will be central to all decisions.

5.5 Implementation, Governance and Monitoring

There is a clear demand for:

- A detailed framework for action, with clear steps, timetables and responsibilities.
- Robust arrangements for monitoring, reviewing and evaluating the progress of the Strategy.
- Assurance that the Strategy will remain a live document capable of responding to changes in circumstances.

6. Conclusion

The engagement has provided useful feedback on the direction of the Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036. Although the number of responses is relatively low given the size of the school estate and the degree of engagement, the responses identify consistent and relevant themes.

In summary, the feedback underlines:

- Overall support for the strategic direction of the document.
- The need to balance financial and strategic sustainability with community sensitivity.
- The importance of the Welsh language, the welfare of the workforce and pupils as core pillars of the Strategy.
- A clear expectation for clarity, transparency and collaboration when moving to implementation.

The Schools Strategy is generally seen as a robust, ambitious and forward-looking document, with broad support for its vision and emphasis on quality, welfare and the Welsh language. At the same time, the responses underline that the success of the Strategy depends heavily on clear action.

This analysis should be regarded as supporting evidence to assist the Cabinet in making informed decisions on the future of school provision in Gwynedd.

Appendix 4

Engaging with the County Children and Young People's Forum – December 2025

As part of the development of Gwynedd's new Schools Strategy, we engaged with young people to ensure that their experiences and perspectives informed the strategic objectives.

While many of the comments stem from specific situations within individual schools, the findings reflect wider issues relevant to the implementation of the Strategy across the county.

Discussions were held with young people in order to understand their experiences and views on current education arrangements.

1. The Welsh Language and Identity

Pride was expressed in the Welsh language and its central role in school and community life. Young people were keen to see more natural and relevant opportunities to use the Welsh language. Young people emphasised the importance of the Welsh language as a core element of their educational experience.

2. Digital Learning

The importance of technology as part of modern learning was recognised. In relation to A Level provision, it was noted that hybrid lessons were considered as a potential solution to challenges relating to missing subjects, however, concerns were expressed about the fairness and consistency of the learning experience of these arrangements.

3. Delivering a Fair, Accessible and Inclusive Curriculum

Concerns were noted about the GCSE subject selection system, with some learners expressing a feeling that organisational constraints lead to missing opportunities to study elective subjects.

4. Supply Teachers

Concerns were expressed about the quality and consistency of teaching provision, particularly in relation to supply teacher arrangements. A question was asked about how supply teachers are chosen, with a perception among young people that the standard of teaching varies and, in some cases, is lower than expected. This underlines the importance of ensuring robust processes to maintain high standards and provide a safe and stable learning environment.

5. Length of lessons

Young people asked about the length each lesson, as well as who decides on the timetable and size of each class. They wanted to understand how and why these decisions are made, and how they affect their learning experience at school.

6. Voice and Participation of Young People

Young people stressed the need for their voices to be heard and taken seriously in decisions that affect them. There was a clear desire for more opportunities to influence school life, the curriculum and local decisions.

Although the discussions focused on specific experiences, the findings of engagement with young people in Gwynedd show strong alignment with the main themes of the Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026-2036.

In particular, the importance of:

- promoting and strengthening the Welsh language across educational experiences,
- ensuring safety, respect and a sense of belonging within schools,
- supporting young people's well-being through democratic participation mechanisms, including the role of school councils and other ways of ensuring that young people's voice influences decisions that affect them.

These findings underline the importance of continuing to meaningfully engage with young people in the future implementation and monitoring of the Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036.

Meeting: Cabinet

Date: 10 February 2026

Cabinet Member: Councillor Huw Wyn Jones, Cabinet Member for Finance

Subject: 2026/27 Budget

Contact Officer: Dewi Morgan, Head of Finance

2026/27 BUDGET

Decision Sought

Recommend to the Council (at its meeting on 5 March 2026) that:

1. A budget of £379,866,050 should be set for 2026/27, to be funded by £264,009,390 of Government Grant and £115,856,660 of Council Tax income (which is an increase of 5.32%).
 2. A capital programme of £40,179,430 in 2026/27 should be established, to be funded from the sources set out in Appendix 4 of the report.
-

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council must set a balanced budget for 2026/27.
- 1.2 This budget is set at a time when Welsh local authorities continue to face financial challenges, where the addition to the settlement does not meet the increase in demand for services.
- 1.3 Cyngor Gwynedd has received a grant increase for 2026/27 of 4.1%, equivalent to a £10.4m increase in external funding. In addition, a further £5.4m has been included to reflect the transfer of responsibilities to the settlement, which is also included in the grant.
- 1.4 By 2026/27, our spending would need to be increased by £23.3m to "stand still" (details are in part 3 below). This includes £9.9m to meet pressures on service budgets (details of the individual 'bids' are in Appendix 2).

- 1.5 It is seen in this report that there are demand pressures on services, as well as inflationary pressures. The 2026/27 budget seeks to protect the services the Council provides to the people of Gwynedd and recommends an 5.32% increase in Council Tax to achieve that objective this year. Forecasts suggest there will be further pressure in aiming to set a balanced budget for 2027/28.
- 1.6 The draft budget has been considered by a majority of Council members at a briefing session on the financial situation held on 27 January 2026 and scrutinised by the Governance and Audit Committee on 3 February. The role of the Cabinet is to recommend a balanced and appropriate budget to the Council meeting on 5 March for 2026/27.
- 1.7 The 2026/27 budget includes savings identified when setting the 2024/25 and 2025/26 budget.
- 1.8 This year we propose to establish a capital programme worth £40.2m in 2026/27, as set out in Appendix 4.
- 1.9 The full Council are required to consider the budget and set Council Tax for 2026/27 based on the issues identified in the following report. This detailed report sets out the factors influencing the proposed revenue budget for 2026/27 and outlines the main changes since 2025/26.

2. WELSH GOVERNMENT GRANT

2.1 The Welsh Government has announced the final local authority funding settlement for 2026/27 as follows:

Revenue Support Grant 2025/26 – 2026/27	Total Welsh Authorities £	Cyngor Gwynedd £
2025/26 Government Grant	6,273,340,560	253,588,760
2026/27 Government Grant	6,555,644,540	264,009,390
Increase £	282,303,980	10,420,630
Increase %	4.5%	4.1%

Further details of the final settlement can be found here –

[Local government revenue and capital settlement: final 2026 to 2027 | GOV.WALES](#)

2.2 Official Welsh Government figures in the table above show that Cyngor Gwynedd is receiving a grant increase of £10.4m by next year (after adjusting the relative 2026/27 figure to reflect changes to the taxbase and transfers to the settlement), which is a 4.1% increase, while the average across Wales is 4.5%.

2.3 Several factors feed into the local government grant allocation formula, such as the county's population, the number of pupils in our schools, and the number of income support claimants.

3. COUNCIL REVENUE EXPENDITURE – 2026/27

3.1 The increase in expenditure required to "stand still" in 2026/27 is set out in the table below.

Additional Expenditure Requirements

	£	£
Base Budget		356,815,330
Staff Salary Inflation	8,298,980	
Reduction Employer Pension Contribution	(3,364,290)	
Other Inflation (suppliers)	6,075,390	
Levies (Fire, ENPA, NRW & CJC)	528,810	
Demography	(846,000)	
Bids – Pressures on Services	9,910,580	
Long Term Empty Dwellings Premium Increase	893,700	
Various Budget Adjustments	(328,460)	
Interest on Balances	(89,090)	
2025/26 Settlement Funding Floor	(1,571,530)	
Reversing 2025/26 NI Employer Grant	3,632,950	
Transfers to the Settlement	163,820	
Net total of increases		<u>23,304,860</u>
Total 2026/27 spending requirements before savings		<u>380,120,190</u>

3.2 Base Budget 2025/26

Although the net expenditure for 2025/26 was £357m, it is important to note that the Council's actual expenditure is £608m, because we receive a host of specific grants worth £167m and charge an overall income of £84m for services we provide.

3.3 Salary Inflation £8.3m

An agreement was reached on workforce pay (apart from teachers) for April 2025 to March 2026 by agreeing an increase 3.2%. In line with most other local authorities, we had budgeted prudently for a 3.5% increase, with the final agreement a little less than what had been budgeted for.

This budget sets aside the objective of an increase in the 2026/27 pay agreement of 4% for teachers and 3.4% for the remaining workforce (teachers from September 2026, remaining workforce from April 2026).

3.4 Reduction Employer Pension Contribution (£3.4m)

Reduction in employer pension contribution resulting from the three-annual re-valuation.

3.5 Other Inflation £6.1m

This is a 'net' amount which includes provision for a range of changes dependent on the rate of inflation in a number of specific areas. The main areas where increases are seen are:

- Independent Residential Care Homes £1.4m
- Non-residential Care £1.5m:
 - Supported Housing £916k,
 - Domiciliary Care £301k,
 - Other services £281k
- Energy (Electricity and Gas) £692k
- Increase in other prices:
 - Insurance £177k
 - Property rates £150k

3.6 Levies £529k

The levies paid to the relevant bodies will increase as follows between 2025/26 and 2026/27:

- | | |
|---|-------|
| • North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority | £458k |
| • Eryri National Park Authority | £44k |
| • Natural Resources Wales (Special Levies) | £7k |
| • North Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) | £20k |

The net increase of £458k to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority levy is equivalent to an increase of 0.42% in council tax.

3.7 Demography (£846k)

Due to a reduction in pupil numbers in schools within secondary (£659k) and primary (£637k), whilst there is an increase in pupil numbers within the special schools £450k.

3.8 Pressures on Services £9.9m

Appendix 2 contains details of each individual request for additional expenditure arising from pressures on the services.

It is recommended that bids worth £9.9m for additional permanent resources submitted by Council departments to meet inevitable pressures on their services are approved.

All departments are asked to identify any expenditure the Council must deliver to ensure continuity of basic service. The procedure here is not for desirable new developments, but rather for the continuation of existing basic services.

An element of these applications of course manifests itself as we review the current year's spending patterns. Others are the result of issues arising where spending is necessary to protect outcomes for the public, or to meet statutory requirements. There is also an element of central government creating pressures and expectations, followed by the Council having to cope with the knock-on effects.

The items presented in Appendix 2 have been thoroughly challenged by the Leadership Team before being recommended for Cabinet approval. Furthermore, a summary of these spending requests were presented at the Budget Seminar held on 27 January 2026.

3.9 Increase in the Premium Rate for Long Term Empty Dwellings £894k

At its meeting on 4 December 2025, the Full Council decided to raise a premium of 150% on homes that have been empty for 12 months or more. Based on the current data, an additional Council Tax yield of £894k is forecasted, with this income being earmarked for housing programmes, community schemes and to deal with the increased challenges of collecting the Premium.

3.10 2025/26 Settlement Funding Floor (£1.6m)

Following the late final settlement for 2025/26, it was decided to use the budget to fund one-off service bids for 2025/26 and risk provision. This budget can be released when preparing the 2026/27 budget.

3.11 Reversing 2025/26 National Insurance Employer Grant £3.6m

The 2025/26 Budget was set on the basis that the Government would partially fund the additional cost arising from increase to the National Insurance threshold and rate paid by the employer. Grant funding was received in 2025/26 and additional budget was provided as part of the 2026/27 settlement; therefore, the grant income target can be reversed.

3.12 Various Budget Adjustments (£418k)

A total reflecting a significant number of adjustments to different budgets across the Council. This includes the impact of an increase in interest receipts of (£90k) in returns in investing balances and the Council's cash flow, and reduced costs of (£329k) due to other budgetary considerations.

4. EXISTING SAVINGS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN APPROVED

4.1 Cyngor Gwynedd has delivered £47m of savings plans since 2015/16.

4.2 On 20 February 2024, the Cabinet approved a programme of savings worth £5.2m for the budget of 2024/25 onwards. The profile of this programme is seen in Appendix 3, which shows that £343,090 of these savings are profiled for 2025/26. £5.2m in its entirety was actioned in the 2024/25 budget, with subsequent year savings being bridged by funds/reserves. Therefore, the 2025/26 and 2026/27 savings do not assist in reducing the budgetary gap in those years.

4.3 Furthermore, there are savings plans worth £320k, arising from previous savings programmes to be removed from departmental budgets this year. As in previous years, savings provision has been earmarked to deal with situations where savings slip; the value of the provision this year is £66k, therefore £254k of savings is available to help reduce the 2026/27 gap.

4.4 The value of these savings by department is summarised in the following table.

Savings that have already been programmed	
	£
Adults, Health and Wellbeing Department	143,090
Environment Department	200,000
Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	91,000
Education Department	98,500
Corporate Services Department	50,000
Saving schemes approved in 2025/26 profiled in 2026/27	81,000
Subtotal	663,590
Less: Savings Provision	(66,360)
Existing Planned Savings 2026/27	597,230

5. FUNDING GAP 2026/27 AND COUNCIL TAX

5.1 Part 3 above shows that the Council's spending requirements (before savings and cuts are removed) for 2026/27 are £380.1m. Part 2 noted that the grant from the Welsh Government will be £264m.

5.2 As explained in part 4 above, there are a total of £254k of savings and cuts to be utilised to reduce the funding gap.

Establishing the 2026/27 Budget	
	£
2025/26 Base Budget	356,815,330
Additional Expenditure Requirements	<u>23,304,860</u>
2026/27 Expenditure Requirements before Savings	380,120,190
less Welsh Government Revenue Grant Income	<u>(264,009,390)</u>
Funding Gap from Council Tax and further savings	<u>116,110,800</u>

5.3 That means there is a residual gap of £116m that needs to be filled.

5.4 Furthermore, £254k of savings previously approved for 2026/27 (see Section 4 above), are available and will contribute towards addressing the budgetary deficit.

Funding Gap from Council Tax and Savings	116,100,800
Less Existing Savings already approved	(254,140)
Funding Gap from Council Tax	<u>115,856,660</u>

5.5 Further details on the savings and cuts are found in Appendix 3.

5.6 It is recommended that the remainder of the gap is to be greeted through Council Tax. Increasing the Tax on individual dwellings by 5.32% will generate £115,856,660 of income, and this would be sufficient to fill the gap.

5.7 This will be £7.4m of additional Council Tax income compared to the 2025/26 budget. That equates to a Council Tax increase of £101.48 for properties in Band D, or £1.95 a week. The tax levied by the Police and Crime Commissioner (an increase of 7.01% for 2026/27) and the community councils (various %) will of course be in addition to this.

5.8 Background information and the context for setting the Tax level is set out in Appendix 6.

- 5.9 If Council members wanted a less than 5.32% increase in the level of Tax, then fewer permanent resources would have to be committed to deal with the pressures on services, there would be a need to find savings and cuts, or a combination of both.
- 5.10 The choice between maintaining services and taxation is always a difficult one. For 2026/27 it is expected that the proposal to raise the tax by 5.32% to meet the pressures on services while setting a balanced budget will be a similar level to most authorities in north Wales.

6. CONCLUSIONS / BUDGET 2026/27

- 6.1 This report and the appendices set out the factors that should be considered when establishing the 2026/27 budget and historic savings will still have to be harvested and the level of tax will need to be raised to set a balanced budget.
- 6.2 It is recommended that revenues of £380.1m be spent, having added £23.3m, which includes the provision of £9.9m to address demand for services.
- 6.3 Having received a grant from Welsh Government of £264m, relying on £254k of savings. The level of Council Tax will need to increase by 5.32% to generate £115.9m of income to close the 2026/27 funding gap.

Balanced budget for 2026/27	
	£
2026/27 Expenditure Requirements before Savings	380,120,190
2026/27 Savings Total	<u>(254,140)</u>
2026/27 Budget	<u>379,866,050</u>
To be funded from -	
Grant Income	264,009,390
Council Tax (yield after raising 5.32%)	<u>115,856,660</u>
2026/27 Budget	<u>379,866,050</u>

- 6.4 This will involve setting a net budget of **£379,866,050**. A breakdown of the budget per service is given in Appendix 1.

7. CAPITAL

- 7.1 The 2019/20 onwards asset strategy was established by the Council on 7 March 2019. On 11 July 2024 the strategy was revised and approved by the Council with the period extended to 2033/34. It is incorporated as part of the Capital Programme, and we are adding to that by 2026/27. Details of the current capital programme can be found in Appendix 4.
- 7.2 The two tables shown in Appendix 4 reflect the capital requirements, together with the funding, for setting the 2026/27 to 2028/29 capital budget, to establish a total programme worth £40,179,430 in 2026/27, to be funded from the sources analysed in Appendix 4.
- 7.3 The table in Appendix 4 states that £500k is available annually for the funding of capital bids. For 2026/27, there is £840k worth of capital bids to be funded, (as detailed in Appendix 2b), using uncommitted resources to fund the difference.

8. LONGER TERM STRATEGY

- 8.1 Welsh Government has reached an agreement with Plaid Cymru to set a budget for 2026/27. The Senedd elections are in May 2026, and since we do not know who will form the government after that, we have no forecasts for a local government settlement for the following years.
- 8.2 In considering the increased demand for services on the Council, in the face of shrinking provision because of cuts, there will need to be an early, fundamental consideration of what the Council can provide and how. As can be seen in Appendix 3, savings and cuts plans have been programmed for 2026/27 but work will commence immediately after setting the budget for 2026/27 on updating a Medium-Term Financial Plan that recognises the situation as envisaged.

9. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS AND VARIOUS ASSESSMENTS

- 9.1 The current level of the Council's general balances is £7.9m. Given the increased pressures expected on the Council's budgets over the next few years, it is considered that this level of balances will be appropriate to reserve for practical cash flow and unexpected expenditure. Information on the balances and reserves is presented in Appendix 7.
- 9.2 Appendix 5, 'Addressing the Schools Budget in 2026/27', explains the position of the Gwynedd schools' budget.
- 9.3 In determining a budget, Cabinet and Council must consider the impact of their decisions in terms of equality, in line with the statutory duties placed on the Council through the Equality Act 2010. Appendix 8 deals specifically with the duty, including the statutory finance officer's comments on the whole Budget in terms of equality. The assessment confirms that there will be a positive overall impact from the continuity of services that are considered a priority for protection and funding to the additional level of demand, and it is not believed that any negative impacts will be significant.
- 9.4 The Council complies with the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the recommendations in the report are based and developed in accordance with the statutory duty on the Council under Section 3 to undertake sustainable development in all its activities. As usual, more detailed information about the Well-being Act and relevant conclusions is provided at Appendix 9.
- 9.5 The statutory finance officer must express a view on the robustness of the estimates. An appropriate risk assessment and confirmation is presented at Appendix 10.
-

Views of the local member

Not a local issue

Views of statutory officers

Monitoring Officer:

Although it is for the full Council to make a final decision on the Budget and Council Tax it is the responsibility of Cabinet to recommend this. It is important that Cabinet gives a clear recommendation on its spending plans and the draft budget and this report provides this. Once the Council has agreed the funding sources, then Cabinet will be responsible for the spending and prioritisation within that budget.

Head of Finance:

I have worked with the Cabinet Member to prepare this report and confirm the contents. Having considered all the risks outlined in Appendix 10 to the report, and the mitigation, I consider that the Council's Budget for 2026/27 is robust, adequate, and achievable.

APPENDICES

- 1 Proposed Budgets
- 2 Summary of Bids
- 2a Permanent Revenue Bids
- 2b Capital Bids
- 3 Savings and Cuts
- 4 Capital
- 5 Dealing with the Schools Budget in 2026/27
- 6 Council Tax
- 7 Balances
- 8 Assessing the Impact on Protected Characteristics, the Welsh Language and Socio-Economic Disadvantage
- 9 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- 10 The Statutory Finance Officer's Statement on the Robustness of Estimates

APPENDIX 1 - BUDGET SUMMARY

PROPOSED BUDGETS BY DEPARTMENT 2025/26												
	Base Budget 2025/26	Pay, NI and Pension Inflation	Other Inflation	Demography	Transfer to the Settlement	NI Grant Income Target Adjustment	Pressure on Services	2025/26 Settlement Floor Funding	Present Savings	Long Term Empty Dwellings Premium Increase	Various Adjustments	Base Budget 2026/27
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
DEPARTMENTS												
Central Education	20,908	103	293	0	0	0	2,114	0	(99)	0	(110)	23,209
Schools' Budget	100,846	3,158	612	(846)	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	103,820
Economy and Community	4,909	92	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(6)	5,075
Adults, Health and Wellbeing	82,365	355	2,839	0	0	0	3,326	0	(143)	0	136	88,878
Business Service and Care Commissioning	3,133	30	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(18)	3,159
Children and Supporting Families	25,984	300	370	0	0	0	791	0	0	0	0	27,445
Highways, Engineering and YGC	17,676	201	(82)	0	0	0	180	0	(91)	0	(100)	17,784
Environment	18,028	146	96	0	0	0	152	0	(200)	0	7	18,229
Housing and Property	9,727	105	279	0	0	0	2,000	0	0	0	(12)	12,099
Corporate Management Team and Legal	2,831	20	4	0	0	0	619	0	0	0	(5)	3,469
Corporate Services	8,085	167	(6)	0	0	0	439	0	(50)	0	21	8,656
Finance	9,167	96	19	0	0	0	221	0	0	0	(2)	9,501
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	303,659	4,773	4,518	(846)	0	0	9,842	0	(583)	0	(39)	321,324
Corporate and Capital Matters	56,944	162	2,086	0	164	3,633	68	(1,572)	(14)	894	(379)	61,986
TOTAL GROSS	360,603	4,935	6,604	(846)	164	3,633	9,910	(1,572)	(597)	894	(418)	383,310
Less Community Council Precepts	(3,444)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(3,444)
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	357,159	4,935	6,604	(846)	164	3,633	9,910	(1,572)	(597)	894	(418)	379,866
Balances and Specific Reserves	(343)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	343	0	0	0
NET EXPENDITURE TOTAL =	356,816	4,935	6,604	(846)	164	3,633	9,910	(1,572)	(254)	894	(418)	379,866
Financed By:-												
Grant	248,390											264,009
Council Tax	108,426											115,857
Total Income	356,816											379,866

APPENDIX 2 - SUMMARY OF BIDS

	Bids	Permanent (£)	Capital (£)
Group A	Additional resources to cover the true cost of providing existing services, dealing with historical overspend which is beyond the department's ability to resolve and/or additional pressures in 2026/27 due to increases in cost and demand	7,554,920	
Group B	Matters which the Cabinet have already decided to support during the year and has therefore pre-empted the bidding process	1,302,840	
Group C	New matters for 2026/27	1,052,820	
Capital 1	Ysgol y Faenol - funding to increase parking space for the use of the school and community centre		300,000
Capital 2	(Cist Gwynedd) Community Support Fund		150,000
Capital 3	Construction of a flood defence wall along the River Beuno, Bontnewydd. 15% contribution towards grant (£2.5m scheme)		70,000
Capital 4	Funding to fund adaptations to Council Headquarters to comply with well-being and equality requirements		90,000
Capital 5	Digital Transformation Board – digital accounts for the workforce - One-off spending on digital equipment/resources		230,010
		9,910,580	840,010

APPENDIX 2a - PERMANENT REVENUE BIDS 2026/27

Group	Title of Bid	Recommended permanent sum (£)
A	Additional resources to cover the true cost of providing existing services, dealing with historical overspend which is beyond the department's ability to resolve and/or additional pressures in 2026/27 due to increases in cost and demand	
1A	Increase in school transport charges (school buses)	664,000
2A	Free Breakfast Programme – Primary Schools	90,000
3A	Compensating for reductions in Youth Service Support Grant to protect existing provision	66,090
4A	Increased cost of IT Systems (Planning, cloud and specialist helpline)	112,430
5A	Funding for the role of the Assistant Head of Transport post as temporary funding has expired	101,810
6A	Increase in the costs of receiving income via card payments	191,450
7A	Funding for roles relating to filing systems on a permanent basis as temporary funding has expired	69,390
8A	Increase in volume of older people's cases (OT, Safeguarding, Risk Assessment)	161,060
9A	Increasing the budget for Mental Health residential care as a result of increased demand	1,126,850
10A	Increasing the budget for Supported Accommodation for Adults with Disabilities to live independently – increase in the number of individuals requiring support	1,092,350
11A	Supporting and caring for more individuals with learning disabilities as they turn 18	277,000
12A	Increased staff resources across all Care Homes to respond to national standards of care	464,000
13A	Reduction in income from Salary Sacrifice schemes	15,000
14A	Funding on a permanent basis for the role of an e-learning officer to lead on mandatory training modules as temporary funding has expired	53,370
15A	Continue to fund an Occupational Health post as temporary funding has expired	49,510
16A	Additional responsibilities in a number of roles due to new statutory requirements relating to children	70,790
17A	Funding for additional workers following the admission of Asylum Seekers without parents as part of the National Transfer Scheme	120,000
18A	Family Support – children in care who remain at home with their families (new statute)	320,000
19A	Funding an increase in contributions towards the costs of the North Wales Adoption Service	60,000
20A	Contributions to collaborative cases between Derwen and the Health Board and costs of specialist medical and legal services in cases within the Children's sector	250,000
21A	Land Maintenance – increased costs of opening graves due to new statutory health and safety requirements and reduced income due to the loss of external contracts over several years	180,000
22A	Increasing the Coroner's service to 3.5 days per week	19,820
23A	Essential Maintenance to Council buildings such as schools, care homes, libraries and leisure centres	2,000,000
		7,554,920
B	Matters which the Cabinet have already decided to support during the year and has therefore pre-empted the bidding process	
1B	Establishment of the Gwynedd Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion service and the Pupil Referral Units – Restructuring of the Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion	437,430
2B	Funding for Safeguarding Champion role	49,510
3B	Increase in care fees for third sector organisations to support individuals with Learning Disabilities	231,400
4B	Additional safeguarding costs relating to the Our Bravery Brought Justice response plan	584,500
		1,302,840

C New matters for 2026/27		
1C	Increase the Special Schools Budget to match our statutory duties	252,000
2C	Increasing the Additional Learning Needs budget of mainstream schools	563,000
3C	Gwynedd Schools Welsh Language Charter Co-ordinator - fund on a full-time basis rather than part-time as present	41,840
4C	Administering random testing (alcohol and drugs)	10,000
5C	Social Media Content Officer to promote key messages and share timely information with the public	56,990
6C	Scrutiny / Welsh Language Officer to address increased demand in work programmes	45,830
7C	Digital accounts for the frontline workforce out in the field	68,160
8C	Continue to fund contribution to Mantell Gwynedd after temporary funding has expired	15,000
		1,052,820
	Total	9,910,580

APPENDIX 2b - CAPITAL BIDS

CAPITAL BIDS 2026/27		
Bid	Title of Bid	Recommended sum (£)
Capital 1	Ysgol y Faenol - funding to increase parking space for school use and users of Canolfan Penrhosgarnedd to mitigate safety risks following increasing school capacity	300,000
Capital 2	Community Support Fund (Cist Gwynedd) within the Economy and Community Department which supports voluntary groups to develop projects in local communities	150,000
Capital 3	Funding for the Highways, Engineering and YGC Department to build a flood defence wall along the River Beuno, Bontnewydd. The funding is a 15% contribution towards a grant which is part of a £2.5m scheme. It will contribute directly to flood risk mitigation along Dol Beuno and surrounding estates.	70,000
Capital 4	Funding to fund adaptations to the Council Headquarters. The modifications will enable the Council to respond to requirements in the area of well-being and equality and to comply with the workplace regulations such as the Health, Safety and Well-being (1992) and the Equality Act (2010)	90,000
Capital 5	Digital Transformation Board – The one-off funding on digital equipment will address operational barriers that arise on a daily basis and ensure access to digital accounts such as digital systems and training for the Council's workforce and reduce reliance on 'paper' processes	230,010
		840,010

APPENDIX 3

SAVINGS AND CUTS

1. Cyngor Gwynedd has realised £47m of savings schemes since 2015/16.
2. Once again this year as in previous years the grant from the Welsh Government was not sufficient to meet inflation, and as the pressure continues in various areas such as adult care, waste and homelessness, substantial savings was required to be found.
3. Two savings scheme worth £91,000 from the Highways, Engineering and YGC Department, one scheme worth £98,500 from the Education Department and one scheme worth £50,000 from the Corporate Services Department, which derive from previous savings programmes which relate to 2026/27. In addition to this there are £81,000 worth of saving schemes that have been approved in 2025/26 but are profiled in 2026/27.

The schemes have already been approved by the Council, and is therefore not the subject of a decision this year. It has also followed a proper statutory process, see below for information.

Savings	Total £
Combine the sewerage and private drains work with another service within the Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	56,000
Reduce the Fleet Service resource within the Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	35,000
Reducing provision following GwE being dissolved	98,500
Reduce the resource within the Print Room	50,000
Saving schemes approved in 2025/26 profiled in 2026/27	81,000
TOTAL	320,500

4. On 20 February 2024, the Cabinet approved £5.2m worth of savings and cuts for the 2024/25 budget onwards, which came into effect in line with the profile below, with £343,090 profiled for 2026/27. The whole £5.2m was implemented in setting the 2024/25 budget and therefore the 2025/26 and 2026/27 savings do not help to reduce the financial gap in those years.

SAVINGS AND CUTS SCHEMES PROFILE 2024/25 ONWARDS

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	2026/27 £	Total £
Savings and Cuts profile	1,965,760	2,860,300	343,090	5,169,000

5. Due to the current economic climate, it is inevitable that Local Authorities must continue to look at savings and cuts to help the financial situation. Following the announcement of the financial settlement for 2026/27, the outlook is now less critical than originally anticipated. Although Gwynedd ranks 20 of the 22 Councils, the announcement of a floor of 4.1% means that there is no immediate need to implement savings for 2026/27, but savings for subsequent years will need to continue to be identified which are likely to be much more challenging. The savings will be subject to a report during 2026/27.

6. Therefore, in summary, the following savings and cuts have been profiled to be realised in 2026/27:

	£
25/26 savings profiled to 26/27	320,500
24/25 savings and cuts profiled to 25/26	343,090
TOTAL	663,590

CAPITAL

1. Whilst local authority revenue budgets face constraints, capital budgets are also under pressure, and there are revenue implications for capital expenditure which is not funded by specific grants.
2. A proposed programme for schemes for the next three years is set out below:

CAPITAL PROGRAMME			
	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Council Schemes :			
Sustainable Communities for Learning Schemes	8,218	3,451	0
Industrial Units	1,407	122	0
Levelling Up and Shared Prosperity Fund Schemes	4,917	708	0
Maritime and Leisure Schemes	2,322	1,215	1,650
Adults' and Children's Homes/Centres	3,464	700	0
Highways, Bridges and Municipal	3,641	1,300	1,006
Coastal Flood Protection	760	2,998	0
Environment and Waste Schemes	1,911	60	60
Housing Schemes/Strategy	4,967	3,860	3,860
Property Schemes	244	194	194
Departmental Vehicles	6,532	1,879	244
Digital Equipment	785	1,249	976
Other Schemes	511	712	362
Capital Bids (Unallocated)	500	500	500
PROGRAMME TOTAL	40,179	18,948	8,852

3. The programme will be funded as follows:

CAPITAL PROGRAMME FUNDING			
	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Supported Borrowing	4,063	4,063	4,063
Other Borrowing	5,123	362	362
Grants and Contributions	14,410	4,878	2,547
Capital Receipts	0	0	0
Departmental and Corporate Revenue	0	0	0
Capital Fund	9,076	4,350	-670
Renewals and Other Funds	7,507	5,295	2,550
PROGRAMME FUNDING TOTAL	40,179	18,948	8,852

4. The asset strategy from 2019/20 was approved by the Council on 7 March 2019. On 11 July 2024 the strategy was revised and approved by the full Council with the period extended to 2033/34. It is incorporated as part of the Capital Programme.

5. The profiles for the schemes was established by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Heads of Department and is dependent on the scheme requirements and the resources available.
6. The above tables therefore reflect the general capital requirements and funding for setting the 2026/27 to 2028/29 budget, whilst the individual scheme details were established by the Council in the 10 year asset strategy, 2024/25 to 2033/34.
7. The 2026/27 Supported Borrowing and General Capital Grant figure in the financial settlement from Welsh Government is higher than anticipated when the asset strategy was established. I have adjusted the programme accordingly.
8. Therefore, the full Council is asked to establish a total programme worth £40,179,430 for 2026/27, to be funded from the sources noted in the table in part 3 above.

APPENDIX 5

DEALING WITH THE SCHOOLS' BUDGET IN 2026/27

- 1. Background:** There will be a normal increase in the Gwynedd schools' quantum this year, as the Council (unlike some local authorities) funds inflation, pay increments, and demography.
- 2. Pay Inflation:** The schools' budget will increase by **£3.4m** for inflationary pay increases. This will cover the cost of teachers' 4% pay increase for the 5 months April – August, which is the full year effect of the September 2025 pay agreement, and the cost of an estimated further increase of 3% for the September 2026 pay agreement (for the 7 months September 2026 – March 2027). The increase in non-teaching staff costs for April 2025 and an estimate of 3% for April 2026 is also included.
- 3. Other Inflation:** The schools' budget will increase by **£599k** for other inflationary increases, mainly increases in energy costs.
- 4. Non-teaching Staff Pension:** There will be a 3% decrease in employer pension contribution rate from April 2026, resulting in a decreased cost of (£455k).
- 5. Staff Pay Increments:** £562k will be added towards the budget for 2026/27 to deal with increments and a reduction of (£340k) for staff turnover.
- 6. Demography (pupil numbers):** The schools' budget will reduce this year due to the usual "demography" adjustments, resulting from changes in pupil numbers. The actual number of pupils in September 2025 will be used to calculate 2026/27 allocations. The situation varies from school to school, but overall, the impact of decreasing pupil numbers means that the schools' budget will reduce (£846k), which includes a reduction of (£637k) for the Primary sector, a reduction of (£659k) for the Secondary sector, and an increase of £450k for special schools. Individual schools will expect an increase / decrease in their allocations proportionate to the change in pupil numbers in the schools.
- 7. Bids Recommended for Approval:** The bids section (Appendix 2) of this report shows that there is a recommendation to agree to fund permanent 'bids' for the Education Department for 2026/27 totalling **£2,158k**, which includes funding school transport and additional learning needs and integration.
- 8. Savings and Cuts:** Following implementing cuts totalling £1.966m in 2023/24 and 2024/25, there are no plans to implement further savings on schools in 2026/27.

9. **Education Specific Grants:** It appears that specific grants from Welsh Government will continue in Education in 2026/27 following the same distribution method as 2025/26.
10. **Overall Conclusion:** Having taken all the above factors into account, the schools' budget will be higher in 2026/27 than in 2025/26.

APPENDIX 6

COUNCIL TAX

1. It is a key decision for Full Council members to make, in light of the considerations presented in this report, to establish the exact level of Council Tax increase for 2026/27. The key to this is achieving an appropriate balance between the need to spend on services for the most vulnerable in our society, and the tax increase that is suitable to be levied on the residents of Gwynedd.
2. In the historical assumptions made in our medium-term financial strategy, we used a figure of 5% as an estimate of the average increase in Wales. However, the level that has had to be raised has varied annually, largely to reflect the gap that existed as a result of the Welsh Government grant settlement.
3. The increase seen in Cyngor Gwynedd Tax, and the average increase across Wales, since 2016/17 is set out below:

Year	Cyngor Gwynedd	Wales
2025/26	8.66%	7.1%
2024/25	9.54%	7.8%
2023/24	4.95%	5.5%
2022/23	2.95%	2.2%
2021/22	3.7%	3.6%
2020/21	3.9%	4.6%
2019/20	5.8%	6.2%
2018/19	4.8%	4.9%
2017/18	2.8%	3.0%
2016/17	4.0%	3.6%

In 2025/26 Cyngor Gwynedd's Band D Council Tax level was £1,907 while the average tax level for Welsh counties was £1,747.

More information is found in this document: [Council Tax levels: April 2025 to March 2026 | GOV.WALES](#)

4. This year, it is recommended that the tax be raised by 5.32% for 2026/27. That would generate £115m of tax (compared to £108m in 2025/26), which includes £9.9m of Premium yield. That would equate to a Council Tax increase of £101.48 for a Band D property, or £1.95 a week. The tax charged by the Police and Crime Commissioner (an increase of 7.01% for 2026/27) and the community councils (% variable) will of course be in addition to this.

5. Over 8,335 homes in Gwynedd receive some element of support towards their Council Tax through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme, and over 61% of Gwynedd properties are in bands below band D. In addition, there are a wide range of statutory exemptions and discounts available, which are related to the status of the property.
6. We do not yet know exactly what the average increase will be across Wales in 2026/27, but the latest information is that there will be quite a wide range across Wales. The proposal to raise the tax by 5.32% is consistent with the situation across north Wales. Every additional 1% tax would adjust the financial gap we would need to find by around £1,100,040. Therefore, 3.5% would mean adjusting the financial gap by approximately £3,850,150 whilst 5% would involve adjusting the financial gap by approximately £5,500,210.
7. The choice between maintaining services and taxation remains a difficult one, of course, and it is up to all members to take stock and arrive at the balance that they consider appropriate. However, further to informal discussions at members' forums, **a Council Tax increase of 5.32% is recommended, which would be a weekly increase of £1.95 or £101.48 annually, with a Band D tax of £2,008.97 for 2026/27.**

COUNCIL TAX PREMIUM PRODUCTS ON EMPTY PROPERTIES AND SECOND HOMES

8. At the Full Council meeting on 4 December 2025, it was decided to continue with the premium of 150% on second homes and increase the premium on properties that have been empty for 12 months or more from 100% to 150% for 2026/27. It is estimated that the Council will receive £9.9m of income in 2026/27 from the premium, which is an increase of £0.9m. £6.9m of the money has been allocated to a fund to implement the Housing Action Plan, which will aim to provide housing for young people in our communities, and £3m to the homelessness budget.
9. All income must be incorporated and related expenditure met in the 2026/27 budget.

APPENDIX 7

BALANCES

1. Local authorities need a prudent level of 'working capital' to maintain adequate cash flow and meet unforeseen expenditure. It is projected that the Council will have general balances of about £7.9m at the end of this financial year, representing around 1.3% of the Council's gross revenue expenditure.
2. We have noted, on more than one occasion, that due to the turbulent circumstances we will be facing in the years ahead, it is appropriate to keep sums in reserve in order to deal with problems that could arise.
3. Nothing has happened in the meantime to change this opinion, as the demand for care, homelessness and waste services continues, the risk also continues. Therefore, the need to ensure that we have appropriate balances to deal with any financial shock is still relevant.
4. **The Council has a number of specific reserves** established to meet specific expenditure needs. These are also part of the Council's budget, of course, and have been scrutinised annually. Attention was given to the specific reserves by the Cabinet on 13 May 2025 and the Governance and Audit Committee on 22 May 2025, when it was approved to transfer £3.775 million from various reserves to the Transformation Reserve, and also de-committed £375,000 from the Transformation Reserve to finance the Council's priorities and fund one-off bids for the future. I review the level of these reserves continually, and **the intention is to conduct another review by May 2026**, to consider how much scope there will be for the Council to change its priorities within these reserves.
5. In their report "Meeting the Financial Challenges facing Local Authorities in Wales" (2014), the **Wales Audit stated** (in paragraph 1.8):

*"Councils can use reserves to help them to balance their budgets where savings plans do not achieve the expected results or where income is less than anticipated. However, **financing recurrent expenditure from reserves would not normally be appropriate**. A prudent level of useable reserves is a key element of financial stability; the minimum appropriate level will vary dependent on an authority's known and potential liabilities and its spending plans. There are signs that a few councils are over-relying on general reserves to deal with budget shortfalls, rather than seeking more sustainable approaches, which often involve making unpopular decisions."*

6. This message was reinforced by Audit Wales, which reported in October 2020 on the financial sustainability of Welsh local authorities. While Gwynedd Council's usable

reserves are in the upper quartile of the range of Welsh local authorities (in terms of the size of their usable reserves), **Audit Wales' opinion is that:**

“(9) some councils were much better placed than others to weather a financial challenge such as the pandemic. This is most clearly illustrated by the varying levels of usable revenue reserves held by councils” and (18) that “the level of usable reserves available to a council is one of the key indicators of financial resilience and sustainability”.

A copy of the report can be found here:

[Financial Sustainability of Local Government as a Result of the COVID-19 Pandemic \(wao.gov.uk\)](https://wao.gov.uk)

More recently, in September 2025 in their report “Strategic Management of Balances and Reserves” on the strategic management of balances and reserves of the Council, Audit Wales' view was that the Council has clear and structured governance arrangements for managing its reserves. A key strength is the ongoing 'harvesting' process, which reviews reserves at several points throughout the year.

A copy of the report can be found here:

[Gwynedd Council – Strategic Management of Balances and Reserves](#)

7. I am convinced that the Council’s use of balances is a totally appropriate action.
8. The Council’s balances has been a key instrument. As the Council will have balances of about £7.9 million, we will have kept the bulk of the balances in reserve again, so they are available to 'bridge' the financial position if required.

APPENDIX 8

Assessing the Impact on Protected Characteristics, the Welsh Language and Socio-Economic Disadvantage

The Council is required (under the Equality Act 2010) to consider the effect any change in policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), has on people with protected equality characteristics. The Council also has a general duty to ensure fairness and foster good relations. A timely Equality Impact Assessment must be undertaken before making any decision on any relevant change (i.e. which has an effect on people with protected characteristics).

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 effect of a change in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), in its 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 the Welsh language.

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

1) Details

1.1. What is the name of the policy / service in question?

The Council's Budget for 2026/27.

1.2 What is the purpose of the policy / service that is being created or amended? What changes are being considered?

Setting an annual budget is a statutory requirement for the Council, as well as being a key step in maintaining good financial stewardship.

1.3 Who is responsible for this assessment?

Dewi Morgan, Head of Finance.

1.4 When did you commence the assessment? Which version is this?

March 2025, when considering the Council's financial outlook for the period 2026/27 to 2028/29 immediately following the establishment of the 2025/26 Budget.

The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan was approved by Cabinet on 16 September 2025 – this plan identified a significant gap that would need to be filled by a combination of Council Tax increases and cuts if the settlement remained with little increase, as was being suggested at the time.

Detailed work commenced on 24 November 2025, the date of the announcement of the provisional local government revenue and capital settlement: 2026 to 2027.

Following the announcement of the financial settlement for 2026/27, the outlook is now less critical than originally anticipated. Although Gwynedd ranks 20 of the 22 Councils, the announcement of a floor of 4.1% means that there is no need to rush to implement savings for 2026/27, but savings for subsequent years will need to continue to be identified which are likely to be much more challenging. Each of the individual savings' schemes will be subject to an equality impact assessment.

2) Action

2.1 Who are the stakeholders or partners you need to work with to undertake this assessment?

A number of actions have been taken when preparing this budget:

- Discussions between service accountants and senior officers in the departments to consider bids and savings plans.
- All Council members invited to a budget seminar on 27 January 2026.
- Close collaboration between the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors, and finance officers in the consideration of bids.
- Cabinet Members have had the opportunity to express their views on the assessment of bids.
- Governance and Audit Committee has the opportunity to scrutinise the budget on 3 February.
- Cabinet to consider the draft budget on 10 February and make a recommendation to the Full Council.
- Full Council to set budget for 2026/27 and set Council Tax rate on 5 March.

2.2 What measures have you taken to engage with people with equality characteristics, regarding the Welsh language or with communities (either of place or of need) that live with socio-economic disadvantage?

The budget outlined here seeks to continue to provide appropriate outcomes for all residents of the county. The increase in Government funding this year is not sufficient to meet demand

for services as well as inflation, therefore in order to set a balanced budget there is a need to raise council tax and look for financial savings.

Every savings plan that is in the programme for implementation has been subject to an Equality Impact Assessment at the time it was introduced. It is recognised that there is potential for an impact that would disproportionately affect those with protected characteristics, but where possible the departments that own the savings have proposed efficiency savings plans rather than cuts. In addition, the individual savings plans have been subject to appropriate impact assessments that support the financial decisions presented here.

2.3 What was the result of the engagement?

There has not been a consultation process.

2.4 On the basis of what other evidence are you operating?

The 2026/27 budget is framed on an "incremental" principle. That is, the 2025/26 budget will be used as a base budget, making a number of adjustments before arriving at a draft budget for 2026/27:

- Staff Pay Inflation
- Other Inflation (suppliers)
- Increase in levies
- Adjustments to reflect changes in demography
- Financial bids to address service pressures
- Technical adjustments to the budget
- Increase or decrease in borrowing and interest costs on balances
- Realising savings that have already been agreed
- Additional savings that must be introduced

All of the financial bids and savings plans have been subject to equality impact assessments themselves.

In planning our budgets for the continuity of Council services, our accountants have taken account of equality at all levels, using data and evidence on demographics and trends when planning at a strategic level. Similarly (but more specifically) in reaching a decision on individual savings plans, the heads of Council departments have analysed the impact of plans on services and monitored the impact appropriately.

As well as meeting inflationary pressures, all services have the right to submit a request for resource if they consider that an additional budget is needed to ensure that services continue. The amounts shown under the heading "pressures on services" recognize that the Council provides adequate funding to ensure that our financial arrangements do not adversely affect the level of services provided. Full details can be found in Appendix 2 and shows that a significant part of the total permanent revenue bids go to social care.

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

No

3) Identifying the Impact

3.1 The Council must give due regard to the effect any changes will have on people with the equality characteristics noted below. What impact will the new policy/service or the proposed changes in the policy or service have on people with these characteristics?

Characteristics	What type of impact?*	In what way? What is the evidence?
Race (including nationality)	Positive	The fundamentals of our budget, and the system that leads up to it, is to have a positive impact on the lives of the people of Gwynedd.
Disability	Positive	The bidding process detailed in Appendix 2 includes additional expenditure on social services and delaying or eliminating savings in this area.
Sex	Positive	The fundamentals of our budget, and the system that leads up to it, is to have a positive impact on the lives of the people of Gwynedd.
Age	Positive	The recommended budget includes a significant increase in the budget of the Adults, Health and Well-being Department.
Sexual orientation	Positive	The fundamentals of our budget, and the system that leads up to it, is to have a positive impact on the lives of the people of Gwynedd.
Religion or belief (or non-belief)	Positive	The fundamentals of our budget, and the system that leads up to it, is to have a positive impact on the lives of the people of Gwynedd.
Gender reassignment	Positive	The fundamentals of our budget, and the system that leads up to it, is to have a positive impact on the lives of the people of Gwynedd.
Pregnancy and maternity	Positive	The fundamentals of our budget, and the system that leads up to it, is to have a positive impact on the lives of the people of Gwynedd.
Marriage and civil partnership	Positive	The fundamentals of our budget, and the system that leads up to it, is to have a positive impact on the lives of the people of Gwynedd.

<p>The Welsh language</p>	<p>Positive</p>	<p>The Council's budget includes ensuring that resources have been put in place to support fully bilingual services.</p> <p>The Council's Corporate Plan is the Council's main policy document and includes a number of schemes that promote the Welsh language. The budget is being drawn up to implement that policy.</p> <p>In drawing up the budget, particular attention was given to the Well-being of Future Generations Act, including the seven well-being goals. That includes addressing the sixth aim, 'Culture and the Welsh Language'.</p>
<p>Socio-Economic Disadvantage</p>	<p>Positive</p>	<p>The nature of the Council's services means that the pressures on services address socio-economic inequality since the measures recommended to deal with pressures on services take this into account.</p> <p>The Council's budgets, and in particular the successful bids, are designed to ensure that the authority can continue to direct resources to reduce discrimination on the grounds of socio-economic disadvantage.</p> <p>Any increase in the Council Tax rate is a financial pressure on the people of Gwynedd, but over 8,100 receive some support towards their Council Tax through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. Elected members will come to a decision on the appropriate balance to be found between council tax increases and the need to provide services to the people of Gwynedd.</p>

3.2 The Council has a duty under the 2010 Equality Act to contribute positively to a fairer society by promoting equality and good relations in its activities regarding the following characteristics – age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, gender reassignment, disability and pregnancy and maternity. The Council must give due attention to the way any change affects these duties.

General Duties of the Equality Act	Does it have an impact?*	In what way? What is the evidence?
Abolishing illegal discrimination, harassment and victimisation	No	It is believed that none of the effects mentioned in 3.1 will lead to discrimination, harassment, or victimisation.
Promoting equal opportunities	Positive	Setting the budget is based on considerable work over a number of years of ensuring that a budget is in place that reflects the needs and requirements of the people of Gwynedd.
Encouraging good relationships	Neutral	The budget is set within clear boundaries, and the balance of successful bids and savings responds to the real pressures on services.

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 you seize every opportunity to promote the Welsh language (beyond providing services bilingually) and increase opportunities to use and learn the language in the community?

The Council's Plan is the Council's main policy document and includes a number of schemes that promote the Welsh language. The Cyngor Gwynedd Plan for 2023-28 was adopted by the Full Council on 2 March 2023 and reviewed in March 2024 and in March 2025. The budget is being drawn up to implement that policy.

This year, in drawing up the 2026/27 Budget, the Council had to consider the practicality of savings that had previously been identified as savings to be removed from departmental budgets and had already been approved in previous years. The statutory processes included the completion of an equality assessment which includes a question about impact on the Welsh language. When decisions about savings were discussed in the 2020/21 Budget report, it was concluded that **no impact** had been identified on the Welsh language but that there is a need to monitor this on implementation.

When preparing the Budget reports annually since 2021/2022, consideration is given to the intended impact of these budgets on the Welsh language. In line with practice an equality assessment has been completed which includes a question about the impact on the Welsh language. This procedure continues for 2026/27.

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 the Welsh language, and to reduce or prevent any adverse effects that the policy / practice may have on the Welsh language?

This is a financial policy, and we believe that the current policy achieves the best of our legal and statutory capacity in that regard in terms of having a positive impact on the language.

3.5 How does the proposal show that you have had due regard to the need to address inequality caused by socio-economic disadvantage? (Note that this is about closing inequality gaps rather than just improving outcomes for everyone)?

The establishment of the Council's budget is the result of specific actions that take account of the previous year's base budget and the steps that then need to be taken to reflect adjustments that need to be considered to deal with budget pressures for the following year. In addition, the budgetary position of all Council services is subject to detailed review three times a year, to identify any areas where action is needed to deal with underspends or overspends – particularly if budgets are not sufficient to deal with pressures on services. The nature of the Council's services means that the pressures on services reduce socio-economic inequality as the measures to deal with pressures on services take this into account.

Some of the bids recommended to be funded include several specifically designed to reduce inequality caused by socio-economic disadvantage. These are detailed in Appendix 2.

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

The requests for additional expenditure to deal with service pressures ("bids") have been the subject of detailed assessments by a number of officers and members and we are therefore confident that all steps that are practically possible to reduce socio-economic disadvantage in drawing up the budget have been taken.

4) Analysing the Results

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

There will be an overall positive impact from the continuation of services that were seen as priorities to be protected and funded to meet the additional level of demand.

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

Any increase in Council Tax will have an impact on the financial position of the people of Gwynedd, and a higher increase than usual is recommended this year, which is necessary to ensure that the Council's financial position remains sustainable for the future.

4.3 What should be done?

Choose one of the following:

Continue with the policy / service as it is robust	✓
Adapt the policy to delete any barriers	
Suspend and delete the policy as the detrimental impacts are too big	
Continue with the policy as any detrimental impact can be justified	
No further action at this time because it is too soon to decide, or there is insufficient evidence	

4.4 If continuing with the project, what steps will you take to reduce or mitigate any negative impacts?

Departments will work to ensure that they mitigate any negative impacts.

4.5 If you are not taking any further action to delete or reduce the negative impacts, explain why here.

Elected members will come to a decision on the appropriate balance to be found between council tax increases and the need to provide services for the people of Gwynedd.

5) Monitoring

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

It will be necessary for the Full Council to decide annually on the setting of the budget and tax rate.

The savings will be challenged at the Performance Challenge Meetings three times a year and reported to the relevant Scrutiny Committee as part of individual Cabinet Members' performance reports. In addition, a Savings Overview report will be presented to Cabinet and to the Governance and Audit Committee three times a year.

APPENDIX 9

WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

1. The work of planning and preparing the recommendations has taken place in the context of the above Act's requirements. Although the recommendations derive from difficult financial choices, the Council has acted on the basis of the principle of acting in a way that addresses the statutory duty in Section 3 to undertake sustainable development and achieve the Council's Well-being Objectives. This is addressed by identifying and evaluating options for savings, but also by making decisions and choices from the perspective of providing sufficient resources in order to support an appropriate level of services.
2. This budget reflects the following five ways of working the Council is required to consider when applying sustainable development.
 - Looking to the long term - The budget plans for the future, by identifying the needs and demand for services not only in 2026/27, but in the future, and takes a strategic approach to ensure services are sustainable.
 - Understanding issues and preventing them – The budget process facilitates an understanding of the financial position, so that issues can be tackled at the source. Also, the series of Members' Workshops have aided an understanding of the financial strategy.
 - Taking an integrated approach – Cyngor Gwynedd's policies and budgeting practices, and this year's budget proposals, have been considered from the perspective of all well-being goals.
 - Working in a collaborative way – Where better services can be provided by collaboration and working with partners, the budget process and savings strategy encourages this, internally and externally, where that is more sustainable.
 - Including the population in decisions – Part of the budget process included engagement with residents, customers, and partners.
3. Main conclusions for the 2026/27 budget regarding the 7 well-being goals:
 - Prosperous – Neutral (add to the resources of services that put an end to poverty)
 - Resilient - Positive (prudential long-term approach to funding services and enable the Council's Plan)
 - Healthier – Positive (funding additional 'care' service requirements)
 - More Equal - Positive (taxing in order to fund 'welfare' services)
 - Cohesive Communities – Neutral (continue to fund services that protect people)
 - Culture and Language – Positive (by funding bilingual services)
 - Globally Responsible – Neutral (continue to fund digital, environmental, and cooperative projects)

4. Regarding specific financial savings schemes, as part of the corporate and departmental savings regime in previous years when the savings schemes were approved, where appropriate there was a specific well-being assessment for each individual scheme.
5. Generally, coupled with the Council's Plan and Well-being Objectives, this budget supports the Council to realise strategic objectives

APPENDIX 10

THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER'S STATEMENT ON THE ROBUSTNESS OF ESTIMATES

1. This statement is provided in accordance with Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, which requires the Council's Chief Financial Officer to report to Members on:
 - The robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the Council's budget calculations.
 - The adequacy of the proposed financial reserves.
2. Members are required to have regard to this report when considering the budget and council tax for the forthcoming financial year.
3. Appendix 7 outlines the position of the balances and reserves, while this statement confirms the robustness of the budgetary estimates underpinning the budget.
4. The budget estimates are based on assumptions about future expenditure and income and inevitably include an element of risk from assumptions. The impact of this risk can be mitigated through contingency plans, contingency budgets, and financial reserves.

Economic context

5. A revised Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) was adopted by the Cabinet on 16 September 2025, setting out the financial outlook for the 3-year period commencing on 1 April 2026. The estimates within the MTFP were based on the latest available forecasts on the change in income the Council will receive over the period (through Government Grant and Council Tax), and the additional expenditure requirements over the same period.
6. When adopting the revised MTFP, there was a lack of clarity regarding the increase of Aggregate External Finance ("settlement") for 2026/27. On the one hand, it was noted that an addition to the public sector budget from the Westminster government last year was a first step towards addressing the impact of underinvestment over a decade or more. On the other hand, a warning was issued that the Government in Cardiff cannot increase public spending under the current economic circumstances.

7. However, following a budget deal between the Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru, Cyngor Gwynedd has received a 4.1% increase in its settlement for 2026/27 after the base for 2025/26 was adjusted when drawing up the settlement. The Council is therefore in a stronger position in 2026/27 than originally envisaged, although the increase in settlement as a percentage is the second lowest in Wales before considering the funding floor that was put in place.
8. There are elections to the Senedd in May 2026 and there remains significant uncertainty in future Welsh Government funding beyond 2026/27.

History of financial management

9. Over the past two financial years, the Council has been unable to keep within its budget. The revenue budget review at the end of November 2025 predicted that Council departments would overspend £5.3 million by the end of the 2025/26 financial year, as follows:

Departments	£'000
Adults, Health and Well-being	3,062
Children and Families	1,856
Highways, Engineering and YGC	492
Environment	685
Housing and Property	248
Other Departments	(1,012)
Total 2025/26 Forecasted Overspend	5,331

10. The Medium-Term Financial Plan included a detailed programme of work to address the financial situation faced by the Council.
11. The MTFP reflects the expected continuation of demand-led pressures, particularly in social care and homelessness prevention. These continue to be modelled using trend data.

12. In their report *Financial Sustainability Review – Cyngor Gwynedd*, Audit Wales noted "Overall we found that there was a significant increase in the number of Council departments overspending in the last two financial years, and it has developed arrangements to review its budgets. It is yet to set out how it will address future funding gaps."
13. Work has been carried out to look closely at the overspending in the areas of social care (which represent 76% of all overspending), and that work is ongoing.
14. This budget is therefore being presented in a context where the Council has been unable to provide services within its budget, particularly in the areas of high demand.

Compliance with the codes and standards

15. Despite this, the Council has a proven track record of being able to demonstrate compliance with financial standards and codes, with prompt reporting and robust internal controls. However, independent work has been undertaken by CIPFA to review the Council's long-term financial resilience as well as compliance with the CIPFA Financial Management Code.

Robustness of estimates

Inflation

16. Overall inflation has remained above the Bank of England's target of 2% during 2025/26 and independent forecasts received show that inflation rates are expected to remain that way in 2026/27. Based on the Bank of England's forecasts and the independent advice obtained from Arlingclose, our independent treasury management advisors who have reviewed the BoE's assumptions, we believe overall inflation will remain between 2% and 3% on average during the year.
17. The pay agreement outlook included in the budget reflects the latest forecasts. Based on recent trends and the economic outlook, a projected 2026/27 increase of a 4% pay deal for teachers and 3.4% for the remaining workforce have been included in the budget. I am satisfied that prudential estimates of inflation levels have been used.

Income assumptions

18. The budget is based on achieving a specific increase in income from fees equivalent to the increase in applicable costs.
19. As usual, inflation has been added to the income targets from fees and charges for Council services and in the majority of cases it is expected that the individual fees will be increased in line with inflation in accordance with the Financial Procedure Rules. Where fees do not increase in line with inflation, I am satisfied that robust arrangements are in place to reach a conclusion at an appropriate level, including consultation with the Finance Department.
20. If demand for Council services falls, and income targets are not achieved, that can lead to overspending on departmental budgets. The actual budget situation will need to be closely monitored during the year and, if necessary, spending cut back to match the drop in income. That will not be possible with some large corporate budgets, where income estimates have to be set at a prudent level.

Grant assumptions

21. The Council receives a range of individual grants and I am satisfied that there are generally appropriate arrangements within the authority to deal with grants, but a few areas have been addressed by the Council's internal auditors where there is room for improvement. Should the Council receive an additional settlement grant during the year, or after this budget has been passed, appropriate governance arrangements are in place within the Council Constitution to reach a decision on its use.
22. However, there are risks associated with the large number of specific grants from the Welsh Government and other bodies that support a proportion of the Council's spending. We have received significant specific grants in social care in recent financial years, with associated commitments, which makes fiscal planning difficult. Generally, the associated expenditure will have to finish when a grant expires, but the terms of a contract may mean that expenditure cannot be cut as quickly as the grant, or that there are redundancy costs to fund. Furthermore, funded activity may be so important to achieving the Council's own priorities, that the Council decides to continue with the expenditure.

Savings Risk

23. On 20 February 2024, Cabinet approved £5.2m worth of savings for the 2024/25 budget onwards. The programme profile is shown in Appendix 3 of the budget report, which shows that £343,090 worth of savings have been profiled for 2026/27. The whole £5.2m was implemented in the 2024/25 budget, with subsequent years' savings being bridged from funds. Therefore, the savings of 2025/26 and 2026/27 do not help reduce the financial gap in those years.
24. Two savings scheme worth £91,000 from the Highways, Engineering and YGC Department, one scheme worth £98,500 from the Education Department and one scheme worth £50,000 from the Corporate Services Department, which derive from previous savings programmes which relate to 2026/27.
25. In addition to this there are £81,000 worth of saving schemes that have been approved in 2025/26 but are profiled in 2026/27.
26. Some Council departments have a history of inability to deliver on their savings plans and that presents a significant risk to long-term financial sustainability. I believe this is the biggest risk in setting this budget. In line with the usual procedure, we will mitigate the risk by ensuring that departments and Cabinet members have ownership of the savings schemes, and regularly monitor the relevant progress. The budget also includes a strategy of providing 10% of the value of new savings schemes over the lifespan of the programme to deal with situations where there is slippage in savings programmes.

Interest Rate Risks

27. Interest rates can affect the revenue budget through interest earned – i.e. an increase in the interest rate would mean more income. In line with the Council's Investment Strategy, the budget does not depend on overly high returns. Interest rates are expected to continue to fall steadily in the 2026/27 financial year. However, due to a combination of changes in interest rates and cash available for investment, we anticipate receiving over £89k more interest in 2026/27 than in 2025/26.

Adequacy of reserves

28. The latest audited Statement of Accounts for Cyngor Gwynedd showed that the overall level of earmarked reserves on the balance sheet date (31 March 2025) was £110.8 million, up from £101.8 million on 31 March 2024. The reserves include the Council's Financial Strategy Fund which is in place to be available to deal with overspending within departments. It is anticipated that there will be around £18 million in this fund on 1 April 2026 which I consider to be a sufficient level for 2026/27.
29. Further, Cyngor Gwynedd has £7.9 million of general funds which are reserved for true crisis situations. I deem this level to be adequate for the production of the 2026/27 budget but the level will be reviewed further early in the financial year.
30. Audit Wales published their report *Strategic Management of Balances and Reserves – Cyngor Gwynedd* in September 2025; the report was considered by the Council's Governance and Audit Committee on 11 September 2025.
31. The work had been completed during May and June 2025 detailing year-end figures for 2024/25. The report concluded that "Cyngor Gwynedd has clear and structured governance arrangements for managing its reserves. The Council Chief Finance Officer regularly advises members and officers on reserve levels and usage. A key strength is the Council's ongoing "harvesting" process, which reviews reserves at multiple points throughout the year. However, there is no formal strategy or framework to guide decisions on reserve levels, which could help ensure that reserves are used effectively and provide assurance that they're consistently aligned with the Council's objectives".
32. In response to the report, I have committed to develop a reserves strategy – to set a direction by adopting a strategy to ensure clarity on the use of reserves – by 31 March 2026.

Views of the Statutory Finance Officer

Having considered all the risks set out above and mitigations, I consider the budgets to be robust, adequate, and achievable.

CYNGOR GWYNEDD – Report to Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet



Item title:	Parking Schemes and Fees
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Craig Ab Iago, Cabinet Member for Environment
Reporting Officer:	Gerwyn Jones, Assistant Head, Environment Department
Meeting date:	10th February 2026

1. Resolution Sought:

- 1.1 To approve and enable the Parking Service to proceed with the realisation of two savings plans which required further consideration before a final decision is reached, namely:
 - 1.1.1 Short stay car park enforcement hours extended from 10:00 to 16:30 to 9:00 to 17:00.
 - 1.1.2 Adjustment to Band 2 Long Stay Fee Structure.
- 1.2 To approve a new parking order that harmonises current arrangements and includes the above changes.

2. The reason why Cabinet needs to make the decision:

- 2.1 To update the parking strategy so that plans already due can be implemented, and to ensure that the Department is able to achieve the expected income level.
- 2.2 It must be recognised that parking can be an emotive issue and that proposals for parking management can stimulate strong feelings from a personal and local perspective. However, the county wide picture must be looked at and the implementation of the plans is inevitable for financial viability in this challenging time in terms of the authority's budgets.
- 2.3 As the current income target already includes the increase that would result from the implementation of the interventions referred to in 1.1.1 and 1.1.2, if these are not introduced, this will result in a deficit of approximately £238,000 (£78,000+£160,000).
- 2.4 It is essential that the parking orders in place are accurate, current and consistent. This is the legal basis for charging, monitoring, enforcing and managing the pay and display car parks.
- 2.5 It would be our intention to proceed with the preparations to implement the changes from 1st April 2026.

3. Introduction

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet Members with an update on the feedback received following the statutory consultation periods in relation to savings schemes 1.1.1 (Extension of Parking Charge Payment Hours) and 1.1.2 (Modification to Band 2 Long Stay Charge Structure), together with a summary of the consideration given to the comments submitted.

In line with the Cabinet's direction in October 2024 to proceed with the statutory Consultation periods, we are now in a position to provide Cabinet Members with a formal update on the feedback received.

- 3.2 The plans in question stem from the wider work undertaken by the Council to respond to the ongoing challenging financial situation, where services across the organisation have had to identify savings measures and increase income in order to contribute to closing a significant budget gap. The initial package of proposals was presented to Cabinet Members in a report on 15 October 2024, which clearly stated that the Council's parking fee income target had increased significantly as a result of compounded annual inflation. See **Appendix A** for a copy of the Report entitled 'Parking Schemes and Fees'.
- 3.3 The original report highlighted that actual parking income for 2023/24 was around £2.1 million, which is around £590,000 below the target at the time. It was also predicted that if the arrangements continued unchanged, the underachievement would increase to over £870,000 in 2024/25. As a result, a series of savings plans and fee increase proposals were introduced in order to reduce this gap.
- 3.4 As part of this package, plans were approved by Cabinet, with these aiming to generate around £57,000 of additional income per annum by increasing Pen y Gwryd parking charges and increasing annual and local parking ticket prices. These plans came into effect in April 2025.
- 3.5 In addition to these specific plans, it was agreed in the original report to increase all parking charges by 40% from April 2025, with the intention of generating up to £800,000 of additional income per year. This change has been in effect since the beginning of the current financial year.
- 3.6 The following table provides an update on the status of the plans so far:

Scheme Title	Objective Total Additional Income	Update
Increase parking charges at Pen y Gwryd	£40,000	Cabinet Members approved – Operational since 01/04/2025
Increase the price of an Annual and Local Car Park Pass by £5 per annum	£17,000	Cabinet Members approved – Operational since 01/04/2025
Increase fees for all Environment car parks	£800,000	Cabinet Members approved – Operational since 01/04/2025
Adaptation to Band 2 Long Stay Fee Structure	£160,000	Cabinet members approved and enabled to proceed but further consideration needed following consultation period
Extension of Enforced Parking Hours in Council Short Stay Car Parks	£78,000	Cabinet members approved and enabled to proceed but further consideration needed following consultation period
Total:	£1,095,000	

3.7 As you can see, some of these plans were implemented last year, and since then, the remaining plans have been the basis for further consultation.

3.8 Schemes 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 above form a further stage of the same financial package. Plan 1.1.1 (Extend Charging Hours for Short Stay Car Parks) is estimated to contribute around £78,000 per annum, while scheme 1.1.2 (Adjustment to Band 2 Long Stay Charge Structure) envisages an additional income of around £160,000 per annum. Together, these schemes contribute around £238,000 of additional income and are a key part of the effort to ensure the financial viability of the Parking Service.

3.9 Together, all of these measures have been designed to meet an annual income target of around £2.9 million, which continues to increase annually in line with inflation, and significantly reduces the pressure on the Council's budget.

4. Background / Context of the plans

4.1 The Environment Department has reviewed short-stay car park enforcement arrangements and notes that the reduction in enforcement hours introduced in 2021 – from the original recommendation of 09:00 to 17:00 to the current hours of 10:00 to 16:30 – has resulted in a significant loss of income. Based on car park occupancy data before 10:00 and after 16:30, it is estimated that the Council loses around £78,000 a year. As a result, the Department recommends extending the enforcement hours back to 09:00 to 17:00 for Band 1 and 2 short-stay car parks in order to improve compliance and restore income.

- 4.2 In addition, the Council has reviewed the Band 2 long-stay car park fee structure following a number of complaints from users. When the new structure was introduced in 2021, the options were reduced to two fees, £5 for 12 hours and £10 for 24 hours – but concerns were expressed that this was not suitable for shorter stays or affordable for local consumers. In response to this feedback, fees of £1 for 2 hours and £2 for 4 hours have been added, but these changes have affected the original income forecasts. After reviewing the situation, it is recommended that the current fee of £1.40 for 2 hours be removed altogether and increase the current 4 hour fee from £2.80 to £3.50. According to recent financial modelling, these adjustments could generate around £160,000 of additional gross income.
- 4.3 Given the financial situation and the need to ensure the sustainability of the service, it is recommended that Cabinet Members approve the implementation of the two schemes: extending the enforcement hours in short-stay car parks to 09:00 to 17:00 and adjusting the Band 2 long-stay fee structure as set out above.

5. New Parking Order

- 5.1 In addition to the work on the savings plans, the Environment Department has produced a new Off Street Parking Order (i.e. car parks under the control of the Council). The original order was created in 1997 and a number of small and varied orders have been made since then, resulting in complex arrangements over time.
- 5.2 The new order harmonises the existing arrangements into one clear and understandable document, and the changes resulting from the savings plans are incorporated into it. A copy of the new Off Street Parking Order is included as **Appendix B** to this report.
- 5.3 The new order incorporating the above plans has gone through the full statutory consultation process, in accordance with the relevant legal requirements. The consultation was carried out with the ongoing support and advice of the Legal Department, ensuring that the proposed arrangements were legally sound and met all formal requirements before being submitted to Cabinet for approval.

6. Summary of feedback received

- 6.1 The consultation process commenced, with the initial phase taking place on 06/11/2025, when copies of the new order, the relevant annexes and the covering letter were shared with North Wales Police, the Freight Transport Association, the Road Transport Association, the Chief Officer of the NHS Trust, Fire and Rescue Authority, Local Members in the areas affected by the changes, and Community or Town Councils in those areas. The consultation period was open until 28/11/2025.
- 6.2 It was decided to proceed to the second consultation period, and a copy of the new order, annexes and notice of intent were placed in a prominent place in the affected car parks on 20/12/2025, and on the Council's website. Copies were also available in the libraries and at Siop Gwynedd. He arranged for the Legal Department to advertise the relevant information in the newspapers. Consultation period closed on 26/01/2026.

6.3 A wide range of comments were received during the consultation periods. The main themes included concerns about the impact of extending enforced hours on local consumers and businesses, as well as comments on the affordability and flexibility of the long-stay fee structure.

6.4 It is also noted that some of the comments submitted during the consultation period relate to parking charges in general or the Council's parking policy more broadly rather than responding directly to the proposed changes in question. In addition, some comments were submitted following a misunderstanding about the nature and scope of the specific proposals under consultation. Where appropriate, the situation was explained to the authors, and that communication is recorded in **Appendix C**. However, due consideration has been given to all comments received as part of a transparent and comprehensive consultation process.

7. Consideration of the feedback

7.1 Full and detailed consideration was given to all feedback received. While the comments reflect understandable concerns, particularly from a local perspective, the overall assessment shows that the proposed plans are reasonable, proportionate and necessary. This is in the context that the overall 40% fee increase introduced to the parking and display fees on the 1st April 2025 did not result in any unfavourable feedback or reaction.

7.2 Failure to implement these plans would undermine the service's ability to meet its income targets and increase the financial pressure on the Council more broadly.

7.3 Although some respondents to the consultation suggested that exceptions should be made or that some areas should be treated differently from others, it was concluded that this is neither practical nor fair. Such an approach would undermine the principles of consistency, fairness and transparency, and create a difficult precedent to maintain across the County.

See **Appendix C** for a summary of the feedback received.

8. Financial context

8.1 Parking charges are an important income stream for the Council and contribute significantly to the Parking Service's budget. The annual income target from parking charges is currently around £2.9 million, with this target continuing to increase annually in line with inflation.

8.2 As a result of the ongoing financial pressures and the need to meet this increased income target, a 40% increase in parking fees was implemented in April 2025. The schemes that have already been implemented, together with the two schemes now under consideration by Cabinet Members today, form a coherent package of measures designed to meet the income target and ensure the financial sustainability of the service.

9. Conclusion

- 9.1 The proposed changes are an essential part of a package of measures that have been put in place to ensure the financial viability of the Parking Service and a fair contribution to closing the funding gap.
- 9.2 While the Council remains sensitive to the impact of changes on local communities, it is not possible to make exceptions or treat some areas differently from others without undermining the policy coherence and financial objectives of the service.
- 9.3 The feedback received and the consideration given to it will be noted, and Cabinet Members will be asked to support proceeding with the implementation of the new order which includes plans 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 in line with the proposals outlined.

10. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

- 10.1 While we are not increasing all the fees this time, the proposal to adjust the parking charges should be in line with the seven well-being goals of the Act:

Prosperous Wales: By carefully managing parking charges, the council can support economic growth by encouraging people to use local facilities and services, generating revenue that can be reinvested in infrastructure improvements.

A resilient Wales: Higher parking charges can encourage people to use public transport, reduce car use, and consequently reduce carbon emissions. This helps protect the environment and contributes to a more resilient community in the face of climate change.

A healthier Wales: It can encourage alternatives to travelling by car, such as walking, cycling, or using public transport, promote exercise and reduce air pollution, contributing positively to public health.

A more equal Wales: The policy must consider the impact on different socio-economic groups. It should be ensured that any increase in fees disproportionately affects low-income individuals and that affordable transport options remain available.

We will also promote the annual and local parking tickets available at reasonable prices. Many residents and people who need to use our car parks on a daily basis are taking the opportunity to purchase a ticket which is proving to be value for money.

A Wales of cohesive communities: Properly managed parking policies can improve the vitality of town centres by reducing congestion and making areas more accessible and pleasant for residents and visitors alike.

Wales is globally responsible: By taking action to reduce reliance on cars, the council can contribute to global efforts to combat climate change, reflecting a commitment to global sustainability.

A Wales with a vibrant culture where the Welsh language thrives: Parking strategies should also consider their impact on access to cultural events and venues, ensuring that the Welsh language and Welsh culture are promoted and preserved.

10.2 The proposal to charge parking charges should be in line with the five modes of operation set out in the Act:

- We **involve** residents and service users by receiving feedback. This includes requests, complaints, comments and other input from the public, users and potential users of our car parks on an ongoing basis.
- We are **collaborating** with the other key stakeholders. This includes Other Local Authorities, North Wales Police, Snowdonia National Park, Welsh Government and Transport for Wales.

At an operational level we are working with 10 other Local Authorities in Wales as members of PPCC (Welsh Penalty Processing Partnership) to support enforcement action by dealing with challenges, charges and processing all penalty payment notices issued.

At a strategic level we provide input into the development of the Regional Transport Plan through the Corporate Joint Committee.

- We are looking to **prevent** problems from arising or worsening in the future by working closely with the other key stakeholders. The aim is to optimise the use of the car parks to facilitate access and support resilient communities and a thriving and successful local economy.
- We consider the **long-term** through the Regional Transport Plan and the work of the Joint Corporate Committee. This includes considering how parking strategy and parking fee structure can positively influence travel preferences and behaviours. A programme is in place to locate charging points for electric cars in our car parks. It is possible to pay for parking in car parks through an App which is a reflection of technical changes as well as how customers want to pay for parking. This mode of payment is increasingly popular.
- The nature and the scope of work requires **integration** with other public bodies which include other Local Authorities, North Wales Police, Snowdonia National Park and Welsh Government.

We view the relationship between the on-street and off-street parking provision as one integrated package with the intention of meeting the expectations and aspirations of different stakeholders when these sometimes conflict.

The Scrutiny Committee should ensure that the decision to charge parking charges is made with a holistic view, taking into account not only the immediate financial benefits but also the long-term effects on the well-being of current and future generations.

11. Impact on Characteristics of Equality, Welsh Language and Socio-Economic Duty

- 11.1 The Service has already considered, and recognises the need for impact assessments (e.g. Language and Equality), and assessments will be developed and used during the consultation process engaging with our communities on specific points and for updating the Well-being Assessments.

Next Steps

If Cabinet approves the decisions, the Environment Department will proceed with the implementation arrangements, including directing the legal department to advertise a notice of intent, and ensuring that the changes come into force on 1 April 2026.

12. Statutory Officers' Comments

Chief Finance Officer

I can confirm that the income target for car parks increases annually with the rate of inflation to reflect the increase in the Council's costs, and this does pose a challenge to the service. In addition, implementing historical savings plans that are outlined in the report also create an additional challenge. I welcome the efforts of the Environment Department to address this situation

Monitoring Officer

As stated in the report, a consultation was carried out on the proposals contained in the decision sought. I am satisfied that the report deals appropriately with the responses in proposing the decision

Attachment List:

Appendix A – Copy of Cabinet Report October 2024

Appendix B – Copy of the Off Street Parking Order 2026

Appendix C – Summary of feedback and responses

Annex D – Equality Assessment

CYNGOR GWYNEDD - Report to Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet

Title of item:	Parking Fees and Schemes
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Dafydd Meurig, Cabinet Member for the Environment Department
Relevant officer:	Gerwyn Jones, Assistant Head of Environment Department
Date of meeting:	15 th October 2024

1. Decision Sought:

- 1.1 To approve and enable the Parking Service to proceed with the realisation of two savings schemes approved by the Council's Cabinet in 2023/24, namely:
- 1.1.1 Increase Pen y Gwryd parking fees from £2.00 for half a day and £4.00 for a full day to £4.00 for 6 hours and £8.00 for 12 hours.
 - 1.1.2 Increase the price of an Annual Parking Ticket from £140 to £145 per year and the price of a Local Parking Ticket from £70 to £75 per year.
- 1.2 To approve and enable the Parking Service to proceed with realising two savings schemes requiring further consideration before reaching a final decision in 2024/25, namely:
- 1.2.1 Extend the enforcement hours of short stay car parks from 10:00 to 16:30 to 9:00 to 17:00.
 - 1.2.2 Adjustment to Band 2 Long Stay Fee Structure in accordance with what you see in Appendix A.
- 1.3 To agree on a 40% increase in all parking fees to meet income targets and address a significant shortfall in budgets.
- 1.4 Should Cabinet Members decide to approve the savings plans set out within 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2 and the proposed increase to the parking fee structure in point 1.3, there will be a 10 day standstill period before the matter is able to be transferred to the Council's Legal Department in order to carry out a statutory consultation period in accordance with the Local Authority Traffic Orders Regulations - Regulation 25 (England and Wales).
- 1.5 As part of the consultation period, there will be an essential requirement for the Council to advertise the proposed changes in the local newspapers as well as display the information (including the new fees) in a prominent position in the car parks that will be affected.
- 1.6 I note that it is not statutorily required to carry out a consultation process for plan 1.1.2.

1.7 Our intention would be to proceed with the preparations in order to implement all the changes from 1st April 2025.

2. The reason why the Cabinet needs to make the decision:

2.1 To update the parking strategy and offer appropriate solutions in order to meet the sufficient level of income that is expected from the Department.

2.2 It must be recognized that parking can be a contentious issue and that proposals for parking management can provoke strong feelings from a personal and local perspective. However, all options must be looked at and a review of the arrangements is inevitable in terms of financial sustainability in this challenging period in terms of the authority's budgets.

3. Introduction

3.1 It is inevitable for the Council to realise significant savings and cuts together with increasing the level of Council tax to address the severe financial deficit in the budgets.

3.2 Services across the Council submitted savings schemes that were equivalent to 20% of their budgets in a bid to alleviate the extremely challenging fiscal situation facing us.

3.3 Some of these schemes were accepted last year, and since then, all remaining schemes have formed the basis of internal discussions and workshops.

Savings Schemes 2023/24

3.4 Below are two of the schemes submitted by the Parking Service that have received approval from the Council's Cabinet in 2023/24 along with the first phase of the Council's savings and cuts proposals. However, and considering that the subject is contentious, the Council's Leadership Team we feel it appropriate to present the schemes before the Scrutiny Committee and then the Council's Cabinet members for their approval.

Title of Scheme	Estimated Total of additional income
Increasing Pen y Gwryd parking fees	£40,000
Increasing the price of Annual and Local Car Park Permit by £5 per annum	£17,000
Total:	£57,000

Savings Schemes 2024/25

- 3.5 Below are two of the schemes submitted by the Parking Service that require further consideration and approval from Council Cabinet Members to enable the service to proceed with the arrangements and initiate the realisation of potential income increases:

Title of Scheme	Estimated Total of Additional Income
Adjustment to Band 2 Long Stay Fee Structure	£160,000
Extension of Parking Enforcement Hours at Council Short Stay	£78,000
Total:	£238,000

Budget Deficit

- 3.6 Composite inflation is added on the parking fee income target at the start of each financial year. A significant increase in the target means that income generated no longer reaches the set target. As a result, it creates the impression of significant cost overspend in service budgets.
- 3.7 It is anticipated that increasing parking fees by 40% would be sufficient to address the expected inflation increase until the 2028-2029 financial year.

4. Background / Context

- 4.1 A Parking Task Group was established in July 2019 to undertake a comprehensive review of the operational parking strategy and consider its suitability and relevance to the needs of the Council and the needs of our communities today.
- 4.2 The Task Group consisted of four local members at the time, Councillor Angela Russell; Councillor Annwen Hughes; Councillor Kevin Morris Jones and Councillor Gethin Glyn Williams who worked constructively with Dafydd Wyn Williams, Head of the Environment Department and other officers from the Department.
- 4.3 The Council's parking policies and procedures had remained virtually the same since 2015 so we took the opportunity to recommend improvements that fitted in with the local economy and maximised the use of software that is now available. Reviewing the arrangements was also inevitable in terms of financial sustainability in terms of the authority's budgets to ensure that our practical management arrangements are effective and efficient.
- 4.4 A comprehensive report was submitted to the Communities Scrutiny Committee in December 2020 proposing appropriate recommendations for solving most of the issues. Subsequently, a final report was presented before the Cabinet Members in February 2021 with the following recommendations being approved:

1. Adopt a New Parking Fee Structure based on the following bands:

Band	Criteria
Band 1	Sub-regional Centre and the Urban Retail Centres (Providing the best range of services, employment opportunities and access to public transport)
Band 2	Retail and Local Service Centres (providing for the essential service needs of their own population and the nearby rural catchment areas, together with some employment and retail opportunities. They have a good degree of accessibility via public transport to the higher ranked Centres)
Band 3	Seasonal Car Parks

2. Review the parking offer over the Christmas period.
3. No changes to the Blue Badge Scheme.
4. No changes to the Resident Parking Scheme.
5. Strengthen the Parking Enforcement Team.

4.5 The recommendations listed above have been implemented.

5. Rationale and justification for recommending the decision

Savings Schemes

5.1 As mentioned above, at the turn of 2023, services across the Council submitted savings schemes equivalent to 20% of their budgets in a bid to alleviate the extremely challenging fiscal situation that we face.

5.2 This report focuses on the following four schemes:

- Increase Pen y Gwryd parking fees
- Increase the price of an Annual and Local Car Park Permit by £5 per annum
- Adjustment to Band 2 Long Stay Fee Structure
- Extension of Parking Enforcement Hours at Council Short Stay Car Parks

Increase Pen y Gwryd parking fees

5.3 The Council has a pay and display parking provision in the Pen y Gwryd area. Unlike Council car parks, this parking provision is parallel to the highway and is therefore governed by an on-street parking order.

- 5.4 The same fees have existed at the location for years, at £2.00 for half a day and £4.00 for a full day. Looking at the remaining fees across the County, we feel it is reasonable and timely to increase the current fees to £4.00 for 6 hours and £8.00 for 12 hours.
- 5.5 We anticipate that this change could generate an additional £40,000(Gross).
- 5.6 We will of course look at the practical side of implementing the changes, including the introduction of alternative payment options that are in addition to the traditional cash-based payment method.

Increase the price of an Annual and Local Car Park Permit by £5 per annum

- 5.7 The Council offers an annual parking permit which enables permit-holders to park in any long-stay car park throughout the County with no time limit.
- 5.8 The cost of the annual parking permit increased from £125 to £140 a year in 2021 in line with a recommendation from the parking strategy review. Previously, prices had not increased since 2015.
- 5.9 The Council also offers a local parking permit for residents without a designated parking space to use a long-stay car park that is close to their homes. The cost of the local parking permit increased from £60 to £70 a year in 2021 as recommended by the parking strategy review. Previously, prices had not increased since 2015.
- 5.10 Implementing the price increase as included in corporate savings schemes would see the price of an Annual Parking Permit increase from £140 to £145 per annum and Local Parking Permit price of £70 to £75 per annum.
- 5.11 We feel these permits would continue to offer value for money after the fee increase – see below for a breakdown based on the proposed new fees:

	Monthly Cost	Daily Cost
Annual Parking Permit	£12.08	£0.40
Local Parking Permit	£6.25	£0.21

- 5.12 We recommend that the Council's Cabinet Members enable the Parking Service to proceed to realise two savings plans **Increase Pen y Gwryd parking fees** and **Increase the price of an Annual and Local Car Park Permit by £5 per annum** which have been previously approved.

Extension of Parking Enforcement Hours at Council Short Stay Car Parks

- 5.13 Council Cabinet Members approved a new parking fee structure in 2021 and presented an amendment to the recommendation by asking the Council to reduce the enforcement time of short-stay car parks. It was changed from 9:00 - 17:00 to 10:00 - 16:30.

- 5.14 The original recommendation to introduce enforcement hours of 9:00 – 17:00 had already been shortened from 8:00 – 18:00.
- 5.15 The final decision by Cabinet Members was to further shorten the hours to 10:00 -16:30. The changes came into force in May 2021 with the understanding that the Environment Department would monitor income levels very closely.
- 5.16 Although it is very difficult to approximate the true financial impact of the arrangements, the parking trends before 10:00 and after 16:30 recommend that we lean towards the worst-case scenario in terms of projected income loss, namely £78,000.
- 5.17 We feel that we are now in a position where it is inevitable to propose extending the enforcement hours in band 1 and 2 short stay car parks to 9:00 – 17:00.

Adjustment to Band 2 Long Stay Fee Structure

- 5.18 Despite receiving approval and consulting in accordance with the procedure, several complaints were received regarding the new fees. The vast majority of the complaints referred to the cost to park in long-stay car parks within band 2 where a decision had been made to reduce the number of options to just two fees – £5 for 12 hours and £10 for 24 hours.
- 5.19 Concerns were raised that the new fees would not be affordable for local people nor would they meet the needs of people who would want to use the car parks for a period of less than 12 hours.
- 5.20 Full consideration was given to the feedback received after the new fees came into force. As a result, it was decided to introduce two new fees in addition to the two existing fees of £1 for 2 hours and £2 for 4 hours.
- 5.21 The new fee structure in its original form was expected to address the Council's budget. Of course, the figures were calculated based on the original enforcement hours and fees without taking into account the changes subsequently introduced.
- 5.22 Given that long-stay car parks are in question here, we now recommend to dispose of the fee of £1.00 for 2 hours and increase the fee for 4 hours from £2.00 to £2.50.
- 5.23 By using the same model as was previously used to estimate the income and by issuing a fee that is a minimum of £2.50, we envisage that this change could generate an additional £160,000 (Gross).
- 5.24 A copy of the proposed fees structure can be seen in **Appendix A**.
- 5.25 We recommend that the Council's Cabinet Members approve and enable the Parking Service to proceed to realise two savings plans **Extension of Parking Enforcement Hours at Council Short Stay Car Parks and Adjustment to Band 2 Long Stay Fee Structure**

Budget Overspending

- 5.26 The Council's parking strategy, which includes our fee structure for the Council's pay and display car parks is reviewed every five years or so.
- 5.27 The income target that the service needs to meet through parking fees increases annually in line with inflation. Composite inflation is added to the parking fee income target at the start of each financial year.
- 5.28 We confirm that an income target for the current financial year 2024-25 includes inflation as well as the additional income totals stemming from the savings schemes proposed by the service.
- 5.29 Below is a summary of the income targets from 2021-22:

	Cyllideb
2021/22	£2,381,880
2022/23	£2,506,260
2023/24	£2,690,350
2024/25	£2,937,020

- 5.30 The total income generated by parking fees in the 2023-24 financial year was around £2.1 million which is approximately £590k short of the target.
- 5.31 Should the parking fee structure and the number of people using the car parks remain the same this year, it is predicted that the service would underperform by over £870,000. By approving the above saving schemes, it would be possible to reduce this total to £730,000.
- 5.32 To try to keep up with the annual income target, given that fees do not increase annually, the only way to do this is by increasing use. The surplus is now unrealistic in terms of how much increase in use would be needed to satisfy this, given that some of our busiest car parks will be full or close to full already during peak periods.
- 5.33 The fact that the Council's parking fee structure has remained the same since 2021, and the income target that needs to be met continues to increase, means that the service's budgets appeared to be significantly overspending against the target.
- 5.34 We recommend that the Council's Cabinet Members approve and enable the Parking Service to increase all parking fees by 40% in order to meet the sufficient level of income expected from the Department.

Communities Scrutiny Committee

- 5.35 A report was submitted to the Communities Scrutiny Committee on 12th September 2024 presenting the schemes and the Department's recommendation to increase all parking

fees by 40% for their consideration. All the issues and the possible impact on the County's residents and communities were discussed. The Committee decided;

1. Consideration should be given to increasing parking fees annually or every two years taking into account the inflation situation;
2. The enforcement arrangements in the short stay car parks should not be modified due to the impact on the local economy.
3. Consideration should be given to increasing fees further in car parks in specific tourist areas such as Pen y Gwryd.
4. Consider increasing the fees for Stop sites annually.

5.36 While the discussion during the meeting were extremely valuable, we must outline the reasons why their implementation may not be feasible at present.

5.37 **Increasing parking fees annually or every two years:** While an annual or biennial increase in parking fees to reflect inflation is a practical suggestion, we are mindful of the need to strike a balance between generating necessary revenue and supporting our residents and local businesses. Increasing parking fees incrementally could help ensure that the Council's services remain adequately funded without placing an undue burden on the public all at once.

In order to achieve this, we can consider a phased approach to increasing the fees taking into account inflation, while being sensitive to the financial pressures our communities are currently facing. This would provide an opportunity to gradually raise funds for essential services without negatively affecting the number of visitors to the town center or local businesses who are still recovering from recent economic challenges. Such an approach could allow the Council to better manage its financial position, supporting long-term sustainability while responding to public concerns.

It is also crucial to remind the Cabinet of the ongoing financial challenges facing the Council and the urgent need to reach the income targets for this financial year.

5.38 **Maintain current enforcement arrangements in the short-stay car parks:** The recommendation to maintain the existing enforcement arrangements in short-stay car parks to protect the local economy is understood. However, the current enforcement regime, while effective, does not generate the revenue needed to meet our financial targets.

It is also important to note that the Parking Service already has arrangements in place with some local schools, allowing parents to park in Council car parks for short periods during school drop-off and pick-up times. This initiative has been well-received and helps to manage congestion around schools while ensuring car park spaces remain available for general use throughout the day. We are happy to discuss this option further with other schools or stakeholders who may be interested.

While we appreciate the need to support the local economy, any relaxation of enforcement measures could reduce our ability to meet the income target for this financial year, further straining the Council's financial situation.

- 5.39 **Increasing Fees in Tourist Area Car Parks such as Pen y Gwryd:** The recommendation to increase parking fees in tourist areas is understandable. However, it is important to recognise that Gwynedd residents also use these car parks, not just tourists. Whether for leisure, local activities or other purposes, many residents visit tourist areas such as Pen y Gwryd and similar areas, which means that they too would have to pay the higher fees.

Imposing an increase in fees in these areas alone could place an additional financial burden on our residents, who are already facing the pressure of rising living costs. A careful balance must be struck to ensure that the parking fees are fair and do not disproportionately affect local communities. In addition, a sudden increase in the fees could reduce the number of visitors, having a negative impact on tourism — which is a vital economic driver for Gwynedd.

Considering the rising costs that tourists already face in terms of travel and accommodation, further increases in parking fees could make other locations more attractive. Therefore, a more measured approach is recommended which ensures that fees are appropriate and competitive to maintain the appeal of Gwynedd as a destination, while ensuring fairness for local residents who also use these facilities.

- 5.40 **Increasing Fees Annually at the Arosfan Sites:** Any increase in fees for the Arosfan sites should be considered carefully. These sites, which are used by residents and tourists alike, are part of a pilot scheme which has been in operation since January 2024. It is key to reach an appropriate balance between calculating a fee which ensures that the scheme is sustainable and a fee which is affordable in order to attract motor home owners to use the facilities, rather than parking on parts of the public highway or residential streets overnight.
- 5.41 **Council's Financial Situation and Need to Meet Income Targets:** It is essential to remind the Cabinet of the Council's significant financial challenges. The Council is facing a substantial budget shortfall, and revenue from parking fees and enforcement is one of the key areas that can help mitigate this deficit. Failing to meet the income targets set for this financial year could lead to reductions in essential public services, affecting both residents and the local economy.

The financial pressures facing the Council are further heightened by rising costs in service delivery, inflation, and reduced central government funding. Therefore, while the recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee are understandable, we must prioritise generating sufficient income to ensure the continued provision of vital services.

6. Next Steps

- 6.1 We are alert to the fact that we are facing very challenging times and it is inevitable that the Parking Service, like other services, must contribute towards closing the financial deficit in the Council's budgets.

Savings Schemes

- 6.2 In response to the Council's current financial situation, it is intended to proceed with the savings schemes approved by the Cabinet in 2023/24, namely 1) Increasing parking fees

at Pen y Gwryd and 2) Increasing the price of the annual parking permit and the local parking permit to £5 a year.

- 6.3 We have presented the savings plans that require further consideration, namely 1) Modification to the Band 2 Long Stay Fee Structure and 2) Extending Enforcement Hours in the Council's Short Stay Parking Areas and request Cabinet Members to enable the service to proceed with the arrangements and start realising the increase in potential income as soon as possible. Due to the considerations associated with this it is a process of approximately 3 months to implement changes in the fees following approval.

Budget Overspending

- 6.4 Parking fees generate significant income for the Council. However, we must face the fact that the current fee structure is no longer suitable to meet the income target.
- 6.5 Based on the current fee structure and should the use of our car parks remain the same, we project that increasing all fees would generate the following income levels;

	Total Annual Additional Income (Estimate)
Increase all fees by 40%	£800,000

- 6.6 To meet the income target set for this year, we anticipate we would need to increase all fees by 40%.
- 6.7 **Appendix B** shows the existing fee structure with 40% additions.
- 6.8 **Appendix C** shows the proposed fee structure with 40% additions.
- 6.9 If expected inflation increases until the 2028-29 financial year is to be met, it is estimated that all fees would need to be increased by **40%**.
- 6.10 The following options provide a way to alleviate such a significant impact on our parking fee structure:
- Reduce the income target expected from parking fees.
 - Freeze the inflation rate between reviews so that the income target does not increase annually.
 - Increase parking fees annually rather than every 5 years (on average).
- 6.11 These options offer advantages in terms of assisting the service to meet a target that is more achievable. However, it is important to be alert to the fact that the knock on effect of these options would require the Council to address the financial deficit in an alternative way.
- 6.12 The Parking Service regularly monitors how customers pay for parking, be that via pay and display machines or mobile app. This continuous monitoring allows us to understand customer preferences and trends, ensuring we can adapt our services to effectively meet their needs.

- 6.13 During 2023-24, 55% of all parking payments were made through the mobile phone App (Paybyphone) and the remaining 45% were made through the pay and display machines.
- 6.14 By evaluating the use of different payment methods, we can identify opportunities to streamline operations and reduce costs. For example, if there is a significant shift towards digital payments via an app, we could consider reducing the number of payment machines, resulting in savings on maintenance and operating costs. On the other hand, if payment machines continue to be popular, ensuring that they are up-to-date and easy to use would be essential.
- 6.15 While progress has been made, especially considering these on a percentage basis, which may look significant, it is necessary to consider this in terms of costs. These should also be considered in the context of other costs associated with transport including fuel, maintenance and insurance. The Annual and Local tickets reflect value for money and are very attractive especially for the residents of Gwynedd.
- 6.16 The package of changes that is being presented and recommended offers a solution to the significant shortfall that already exists in the Service's budget. Based on the feedback from the Scrutiny Committee, and considering that it has been 5 years since the last comprehensive review, it may be timely to undertake a full review of the fee structure of our car parks from scratch. This will be able to take into account the range of factors that have changed during the period since 2019 which include travel patterns, the Council declaring a Climate Emergency, changes in capacity and the use of alternative methods of paying for services rather than cash and technical developments.
- 6.17 Ultimately, our goal is to offer customers the best possible service in a way that is easy to use and cost-effective. By making informed decisions based on the data we collect, we can make the Parking Service more efficient, improve the customer experience, and save the Council money, contributing to the overall efficiency and sustainability of the service.

7. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

- 7.1 The proposal to increase parking fees should align with the Act's seven well-being goals:

A prosperous Wales: By carefully managing parking fees, the council can support economic growth by encouraging people to use local facilities and services, generating revenue that can be reinvested in infrastructure improvements.

A resilient Wales: Higher parking fees can encourage people to use public transport, reduce car use, and consequently reduce carbon emissions. This helps protect the environment and contributes to a more resilient community in the face of climate change.

A healthier Wales: It can encourage alternatives to car travel, such as walking, cycling, or using public transport, promoting exercise and reducing air pollution, contributing positively to public health.

A more equal Wales: The policy must consider the impact on different socio-economic groups. It should be ensured that any fee increases do not disproportionately affect low-income individuals and that affordable transport options are still available.

We will also promote the annual and local parking permits available at reasonable prices. Many residents and people who need to use our car parks on a daily basis take the opportunity to purchase a permit that provides value for money.

A Wales of cohesive communities: Properly managed parking policies can improve the vitality of town centres by reducing congestion and making areas more accessible and desirable to residents and visitors alike.

A globally responsible Wales: By taking steps to reduce reliance on cars, the council can contribute to global efforts to combat climate change, reflecting a commitment to global sustainability.

A Wales with a vibrant culture and a thriving Welsh language: Parking strategies should also consider their impact on access to cultural events and venues, ensuring that the Welsh language and Welsh culture are promoted and retained.

7.2 The proposal to increase parking fees should align with the five modes of working set out in the Act:

- We **include** residents and service users by receiving feedback. This includes requests, complaints, comments and other input from the public, users and potential users of our car parks on an ongoing basis.
- We are **working closely** with the other key stakeholders. This includes Other Local Authorities, North Wales Police, Eryri National Park, Welsh Government and Transport for Wales.

At an operational level we are working with 10 other Local Authorities in Wales as members of WPPP (Welsh Penalty Processing Partnership) to support the enforcement operation by dealing with challenges, charges and processing all penalty payment notices served.

At a strategic level we provide input into the development of the Regional Transport Plan through the Corporate Joint Committee.

- We are looking to **prevent** problems from arising or worsening in the future by working closely with the other key stakeholders. The aim is to optimise the use of the car parks to facilitate access and support resilient communities and a successful and thriving local economy.
- We are considering the **long-term** through the Regional Transport Plan and the work of the Corporate Joint Committee. This includes considering how parking strategy and parking fee structure can positively influence travel preferences and behaviours. A programme is in place to locate charging points for electric cars in our car parks. It is possible to pay for parking in car parks through an App which is a reflection in technical changes as well as how customers want to pay for parking. This mode of payment is increasingly popular.

- The nature of the work involves a need to **integrate** with other public bodies including other Local Authorities, North Wales Police, Eryri National Park and the Welsh Government.

We consider the relationship between on-street and off-street parking provision as one integrated package with a view to meeting the different expectations and aspirations of stakeholders when these sometimes conflict.

The Scrutiny Committee should ensure that the decision to increase parking fees is made with a holistic view, considering not only the immediate financial benefits but also the long-term impacts on the well-being of current and future generations.

8. Impact on Equality Characteristics, the Welsh Language and the Socio-Economic Duty

8.1 The Service has already considered and recognises the need for impact assessments (e.g. Language and Equality), and assessments will be developed and used during the consultation process engaging with our communities on specific points and for updating the Well-being Assessments.

8.2 See the first version of the equality assessment in Appendix D.

9. Recommendations

9.1 That Cabinet Members gives its approval to the recommendations of the report.

9.2 That the Cabinet Members authorise the Head of Department to carry out a statutory process in order for the new fees to become operational from 1st April 2025.

10. Views of the Statutory Officers

Chief Finance Officer

The Revenue Budget Report 2024/25 – End of August 2024 Review which is a separate item on the programme of this Cabinet meeting highlights the prospects for the Council's financial position by the end of the current financial year. It can be seen in that report that the outlook for the deficit in parking income has increased to £824k. As is the process of setting a budget, inflation is added to the income budget annually and if the fees do not increase correspondingly a gap will be created which will increase from one year to the next, as seen in the above report. There is a risk that increasing the income target through saving schemes as well as inflation could create an untenable situation if there is no prospect of the actual income meeting the target.

I therefore welcome the efforts of the Environment Department to take decisive steps to deal with the situation."

1.1 Monitoring Officer

List of Appendices:

Appendix A - Proposed fee structure.

Appendix B – Current fee structure with 40% increase

Appendix C – Proposed fee structure with 40% increase

Appendix D – Equality Assessment

Atodiad A - Appendix A

Present fee Structure	
Band 2 - Summer	Long Stay
Up to 2 hours	£1.00
Up to 4 hours	£2.00
Up to 12 hours	£5.00
Up to 24 hours	£10.00
Band 2 - Winter	Long Stay
Up to 2 hours	£1.00
Up to 4 hours	£2.00
Up to 12 hours	£3.00
Up to 24 hours	£6.00

Proposed Fee Structure	
Band 2 - Summer	Long Stay
Up to 4 hours	£2.50
Up to 12 hours	£5.00
Up to 24 hours	£10.00
Band 2 - Winter	Long Stay
Up to 4 hours	£2.50
Up to 12 hours	£3.00
Up to 24 hours	£6.00

Atodiad B - Appendix B

Present Fee Structure

Band 1	Short Stay
Up to 1 Hour	£1.00
Up to 2 Hours	£2.00
Up to 3 Hours	£3.00
Band 1	Long Stay
Up to 4 Hours	£2.00
Up to 8 Hours	£3.00
Up to 12 Hours	£4.00
Up to 24 Hours	£5.00

Fee Structure with additional 40%

Band 1	Short Stay
Up to 1 Hour	£1.40
Up to 2 Hours	£2.80
Up to 3 Hours	£4.20
Band 1	Long Stay
Up to 4 Hours	£2.80
Up to 8 Hours	£4.20
Up to 12 Hours	£5.60
Up to 24 Hours	£7.00

Band 2 - Summer	Short Stay
Up to 1 Hour	£1.00
Up to 2 Hours	£2.00
Up to 3 Hours	£3.00
Band 2 - Winter	Short Stay
Up to 1 Hour	£1.00
Up to 2 Hours	£2.00
Up to 3 Hours	£3.00
Band 2 - Summer	Long Stay
Up to 2 Hour	£1.00
Up to 4 Hours	£2.00
Up to 12 Hours	£5.00
Up to 24 Hours	£10.00
Band 2 - Winter	Long Stay
Up to 2 Hour	£1.00
Up to 4 Hours	£2.00
Up to 12 Hours	£3.00
Up to 24 Hours	£6.00

Band 2 - Summer	Short Stay
Up to 1 Hour	£1.40
Up to 2 Hours	£2.80
Up to 3 Hours	£4.20
Band 2 - Winter	Short Stay
Up to 1 Hour	£1.40
Up to 2 Hours	£2.80
Up to 3 Hours	£4.20
Band 2 - Summer	Long Stay
Up to 2 Hour	£1.40
Up to 4 Hours	£2.80
Up to 12 Hours	£7.00
Up to 24 Hours	£14.00
Band 2 - Winter	Long Stay
Up to 2 Hour	£1.40
Up to 4 Hours	£2.80
Up to 12 Hours	£4.20
Up to 24 Hours	£8.40

Band 3	Long Stay
Up to 6 Hours	£3.00
Up to 12 Hours	£4.00
Up to 24 Hours	£5.00

Band 3	Long Stay
Up to 6 Hours	£4.20
Up to 12 Hours	£5.60
Up to 24 Hours	£7.00

Atodiad C - Appendix C

Strwythur ffioedd arfaethedig

Band 1	Arhosiad Byr
Hyd at 1 Awr	£1.00
Hyd at 2 Awr	£2.00
Hyd at 3 Awr	£3.00
Band 1	Arhosiad Hir
Hyd at 4 Awr	£2.00
Hyd at 8 Awr	£3.00
Hyd at 12 Awr	£4.00
Hyd at 24 Awr	£5.00

Strwythur ffioedd arfaethedig gyda 40% wedi ychwanegu

Band 1	Arhosiad Byr
Hyd at 1 Awr	£1.40
Hyd at 2 Awr	£2.80
Hyd at 3 Awr	£4.20
Band 1	Arhosiad Hir
Hyd at 4 Awr	£2.80
Hyd at 8 Awr	£4.20
Hyd at 12 Awr	£5.60
Hyd at 24 Awr	£7.00

Band 2 - Haf	Arhosiad Byr
Hyd at 1 Awr	£1.00
Hyd at 2 Awr	£2.00
Hyd at 3 Awr	£3.00
Band 2 - Gaeaf	Arhosiad Byr
Hyd at 1 Awr	£1.00
Hyd at 2 Awr	£2.00
Hyd at 3 Awr	£3.00
Band 2 - Haf	Arhosiad Hir
Hyd at 4 Awr	£2.50
Hyd at 12 Awr	£5.00
Hyd at 24 Awr	£10.00
Band 2 - Gaeaf	Arhosiad Hir
Hyd at 4 Awr	£2.50
Hyd at 12 Awr	£3.00
Hyd at 24 Awr	£6.00

Band 2 - Haf	Arhosiad Byr
Hyd at 1 Awr	£1.40
Hyd at 2 Awr	£2.80
Hyd at 3 Awr	£4.20
Band 2 - Gaeaf	Arhosiad Byr
Hyd at 1 Awr	£1.40
Hyd at 2 Awr	£2.80
Hyd at 3 Awr	£4.20
Band 2 - Haf	Arhosiad Hir
Hyd at 4 Awr	£3.50
Hyd at 12 Awr	£7.00
Hyd at 24 Awr	£14.00
Band 2 - Gaeaf	Arhosiad Hir
Hyd at 4 Awr	£3.50
Hyd at 12 Awr	£4.20
Hyd at 24 Awr	£8.40

Band 3	Arhosiad Hir
Hyd at 6 Awr	£3.00
Hyd at 12 Awr	£4.00
Hyd at 24 Awr	£5.00

Band 3	Arhosiad Hir
Hyd at 6 Awr	£4.20
Hyd at 12 Awr	£5.60
Hyd at 24 Awr	£7.00

“charging days”, means those days which are as specified at each parking place respectively;

“charging period”, means on all charging days the period as specified at each parking place and in Schedules 1 and 2 to this Order as varied from time to time;

“Coach” means a public service vehicle as defined in Section 1 of the Public Passenger Vehicles Act 1981;

“Coach fee” means the fee or charge payable as termed “buses” at the parking place as specified in Schedules 1 to 3 of this Order;

“Council” means Gwynedd Council or its successor authority and includes any parking services contractors or authorised agent appointed by or acting on behalf of the Council for the purposes of any function under the provisions of this Order;

“daily charge” means the charge imposed by the Council for parking in a parking place on any one day and for a specified period of time as is identified in the scale of charges specified in Schedule 2 to this Order or in a variation notice and as advertised at the parking place;

"Disabled Person's Badge" means a badge issued by any Local Authority in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Exemptions for Disabled Persons) (Wales) Regulations 2000 as amended or a badge having effect under those regulations as if it were a Disabled Person's Badge under the Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) (Wales) Regulations 2000 as amended;

“Disabled persons vehicle”: has the same meaning as in the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Exemptions for Disabled Persons) (Wales) Regulations 2000 as amended. It applies to any vehicle displaying a valid disabled persons badge where the badge owner is in attendance as a passenger or as the driver when the vehicle is parked;

“driver” means the person driving the vehicle at the time it was left in the parking place;

“electric motor-cycle” means a motor-cycle powered only by electricity and charged by an external source;

“electric motor-cycle charging bay” means a parking bay which has been marked and signed exclusively for the use of an electric motor-cycle whilst that motor-cycle is being charged by means of an electric motor-cycle charging point;

“electric motor-cycle charging point” means a purpose built unit designed specifically for charging electric motor-cycles;

“electric vehicle” means

(i) a vehicle powered only by electricity. The vehicle is charged by an external power source and incorporates regenerative braking. or

(ii) a vehicle which combines a battery, electric drive motor and an internal combustion engine (ICE) and the ability to charge the battery from an external power source. The vehicle can be driven by the ICE, the electric drive motor or both together;

“electric vehicle charging bay” means a parking bay which has been marked and signed exclusively for the use of an electric vehicle whilst that vehicle is being charged by means of an electric vehicle charging point;

“electric vehicle charging point” means a purpose built unit designed specifically for charging electric vehicles;

“electric vehicle fee” means the fee or charge payable at the parking place as specified in Schedules 1 to 3 of this Order;

“expiry time” is the time indicated on the Pay and Display ticket, or the time indicated when using an alternative approved method of payment and is the time by which the vehicle must leave the parking place;

“fee” means the fees or charges applicable at that parking place for the appropriate class of vehicle specified in Schedules 1 to 3 of this Order;

“Gwynedd Parking Ticket” means a ticket obtained from the Council and allows a vehicle to park on those long stay car parks as specified in this Order and on the website. The Gwynedd Parking Ticket can also be used for up to 2 hours, using a disc clock, in those short stay car parks specified

in this Order, but can only be used once in a 24 hour period, for Gwynedd Parking Ticket holders who are 60+ on day of ticket purchase;

“Local Parking Ticket” means a ticket obtained from the Council by Gwynedd residents and allows a vehicle to park at ONE **long stay** car park near the residents home as specified on the Parking Ticket;

“light goods vehicle” means a vehicle which is constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of goods or burden of any description, the overall height of which does not exceed 1.85 metres and the unladen weight of which does not exceed 2540 kilograms and is not drawing a trailer;

“motor-cycle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle with less than four wheels and the term motor-cycle shall be deemed to refer to the terms “solo motor-cycle and motor-cycle with side car”;

“motor-cycle with side car” means a mechanically propelled vehicle not being a solo motor-cycle;

“motor car” means a motor vehicle as defined in section 136(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (not being a goods vehicle or a public service vehicle) and not drawing a trailer;

“motorhome” means a licensed vehicle classed as a motorhome, by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency;

“owner” in relation to a vehicle means the person who is recorded as the registered keeper by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency on the date on which the vehicle was parked in the parking place in question;

“park” and “parked” refer to the stopping of a vehicle and it remaining at rest for some time whether or not the driver is still in the vehicle and a vehicle shall be deemed to be parked for any period in the same parking place or parking bay (as the case may be) if any part of it is below the vehicle or the vehicle’s load (if any) whether or not the vehicle is moved during that period;

“Park and Phone” means a method of payment of the parking charge involving registration of payment by phone or electronic means and, on first use, registration of the relevant registration number of the vehicle, location of the parking place, credit or debit card details or any such other

details as the Council may from time to time require which is accepted by the Council as a valid method of payment for the relevant time of use of the parking place;

“parking bay” means an area of a parking place, which is provided for the leaving of a vehicle of a class specified and indicated by markings on the surface of the parking place or as individually signed or otherwise indicated by signs in the parking place;

“parking permit” means any type of permit or virtual parking permit of a type and design issued by the Council for the purpose of authorising parking;

"parking place" means an area of land shown on the plans in Schedule 4 and as specified in Schedules 1, 2 and 3 provided by the Council pursuant to Section 32 or 35 of the 1984 Act for the purpose of parking of vehicles and not closed (in part or in whole) by a notice erected thereon by authority of the Council;

“pay and display ticket” means a ticket issued by a ticket machine located in the parking place in which the vehicle has been parked or issued by a an authorised person nominated by the Council on payment of a charge and valid for a parking period as advertised at that parking place and specified in Schedules 1 and 2 to this Order as amended from time to time and must be displayed on the vehicle in the relevant position;

“Penalty Charge” means the charge set by the Council under Section 77 of part 6 and schedule 9 of the 2004 Act, which is to be paid to the Council following the issue of a Penalty Charge Notice and within the period notified on the Penalty Charge Notice , from the date of issue of that notice;

“penalty charge notice” means a notice issued or served by a person authorised by the Council pursuant to the provisions of part 6 of the 2004 Act;

“plans” means the plans in Schedule 4 to this Order and which identify the parking places affected by this Order;

“relevant position” means

(a) in respect of a vehicle displaying a valid disabled person’s badge -

- (i) in the case of a vehicle fitted with a dashboard or fascia panel, the badge is exhibited thereon so that Part 1 (the front of the badge), is legible from outside the vehicle; or
 - (ii) in the case of a vehicle not fitted with a dashboard or fascia panel, the badge is exhibited in a conspicuous position on the vehicle so that Part 1 of the badge is legible from outside the vehicle.
- (b) in respect of a vehicle displaying a pay and display ticket or parking permit -
- (i) the ticket or parking permit is exhibited on the inside surface of the windscreen or in a clearly visible position so that it is facing forwards and can be easily seen and read from the front or side of the vehicle; or
 - (ii) in the case of a vehicle that is not fitted with a transparent windscreen, the ticket or parking permit is exhibited on the front of the vehicle facing forwards and clearly visible; or

“resident” means a person who is a permanent resident of the County of Gwynedd;

“resident fee” means the fee or charge payable at the parking place as specified in Schedules 1 to 3 of this Order;

“resident parking permit” means a parking permit or virtual parking permit issued by the Council to a resident for the purpose of authorising parking;

“standard fee” means the fee or charge payable at the parking place as specified in Schedules 1 to 3 of this Order;

“Solo motor-cycle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle with fewer than 3 wheels;

“Staff parking permit” means a parking permit or virtual parking permit issued by the Council, in accordance with the provisions of this Order, to a member of staff for the parking of a vehicle in the corresponding parking places named in the Schedules to this order;

“ticket machine” means an apparatus of a type and design approved by the appropriate Minister for the purpose of the 1984 Act, being apparatus designed to indicate the time by a clock and to issue parking tickets which show that a payment has been made of an amount or for a period

specified thereon and which specify the date and, either the time of such payment, or the expiry time of the parking period for which payment has been made;

“trailer” means a means a wheeled non powered attachment, that is attached to the vehicle when parked or is in an adjacent bay with the vehicle registration plate attached with the meaning assigned them in section 136 of the 1984 act;

“vehicle” for the purpose of this Order means any motor car, motor-cycle, electric motor car or electric motorcycle or other mechanically propelled automobile and trailer. Whether or not the vehicle is in a fit state for use on roads and includes any chassis or body with or without wheels appearing to form part of such vehicle and any load carried by and anything attached to such a vehicle. Where required, the vehicle must have a valid MOT and be taxed in accordance with legislation;

“virtual parking permit” means an electronic record of parking ticket, parking permit or dispensation issued and confirmed by the Council to exempt a vehicle from a restriction or to make payment other than on site covered in the provisions of this order, under the terms applicable at the time of issue. A virtual parking permit may be obtained by any of the methods provided from time to time by the Council and to be valid must be registered on an account in an electronic database approved by the Council with an indication that the parking permit has been issued and validated in accordance with Council procedures.

3. Except where the context requires otherwise, any reference in this Order to a numbered Article shall be construed as a reference to the Article bearing that number in this Order. Any reference in this Order to a Schedule is a reference to a Schedule to this Order.
4. Any reference in this Order to any enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as amended, applied, consolidated, re-enacted by or as having effect by virtue of any subsequent enactment.
5. Unless the context otherwise requires, words denoting the singular shall include the plural and vice versa and words denoting the persons shall include either gender, bodies corporate, unincorporated associations and partnerships.

6. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the Interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

PART 2

DESIGNATION AND USE OF PARKING PLACES

Designation

7. Each area of land specified as shown on the plans in Schedule 4 to this Order and listed in Schedules 1 and 3 to this Order may be used, subject to the provisions of this Order, as a place to park vehicles of such classes, in such positions, on such days, during such hours, for such period and on payment of such fees and charges as are advertised at each parking place and as are specified in the Schedules 1, 2 and 3 to this Order (as varied from time to time).

Class and position of vehicle

8. Where by notice at a parking place, and in terms of this Order a parking place, or any parking bay within the parking place, is described as available for vehicles of a specified class or vehicles to be parked in a specified location, no person shall cause or permit a vehicle to be parked in that parking place or in any parking bay within the parking place,
- (i) unless it is of the specified class.
 - (ii) that is parked beyond the parking bay markings
 - (iii) in a position other than that specified; or
 - (iv) for a purpose other than provided for in this Order.

Classes of vehicle

9. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to be parked in a parking bay unless it is a motor vehicle, a motor-cycle, a vehicle displaying a valid disabled person's badge in a relevant position, or a class specifically prescribed in the Schedules to this Order or as advertised at a parking place.

Position of vehicle

10. If parking bays are marked out in a parking place the driver of a vehicle shall ensure that it is not parked beyond the parking bay markings and shall not permit it to wait in that parking place unless it is so positioned.
11. If parking bays are not marked out in a parking place the driver of a vehicle shall ensure that it is positioned so that it does not obstruct other vehicles using the parking place, the free flow of traffic circulating within the parking place and the entrances to and exits from the parking place. In such cases the driver must adhere to any instructions from an authorised officer.

Disabled person's parking bays

12. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to be parked in a parking bay marked for disabled persons unless the vehicle displays a valid disabled person's badge in the relevant position and

immediately before or immediately after the act of parking the vehicle has been or is about to be used by the person(s) in respect of whom the disabled person's badge has been issued.

Permit parking.

13. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to park in a parking place provided for parking permit holders unless the vehicle is displaying a valid parking permit for that time and that parking place or has a valid virtual parking permit.

Electric motor-cycle charging bays

14. No person shall cause or permit a motorcycle to be parked in an area marked as an electric motor-cycle parking bay unless the motor-cycle is an electric motor-cycle which is connected to an electric motor-cycle charging point by means of a connecting lead for the purpose of recharging the batteries of the electric motor-cycle and must be charging.

Electric vehicle charging bay

15. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to be parked in an area marked as an electric vehicle parking bay unless the vehicle is an electric vehicle which is connected to an electric vehicle charging point by means of a connecting lead for the purpose of recharging the batteries of the electric vehicle and the vehicle must be charging.

Staff Parking Permit parking.

16. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to park in a parking place provided for staff parking permit holders unless the vehicle is displaying a valid parking permit for that time and that parking place or has a valid virtual parking permit.

Motor-cycle parking bays

17. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to park in a parking bay marked for motor-cycles unless the vehicle is a motor-cycle.

Hours of operation and maximum period of stay

18. Where in the Schedules to this Order and as advertised on site at the parking place a parking place or in any parking bay within the parking place is described as being in operation on specified days, during specified hours or for a maximum period of stay, no person shall cause or permit a vehicle to be parked in that parking place or in any parking bay within the parking place on any day, during such hours or for any period other or longer than those specified.

Period of no return

19. Where in the Schedules to this Order and by notice at a parking place, a parking place is described as having a period within which a vehicle may not return to the parking place, no person shall cause or permit a vehicle to be parked again in that parking place on any day, during such hours within which the vehicle is excluded from waiting in the parking place.

Power to close or suspend parking places

20. Nothing in this Order shall prevent the Council by notice, sign or barrier displayed or erected in a parking place:
- (i) from closing a parking place or any part thereof for any period; and/or
 - (ii) from setting aside a parking place or any part or parts thereof on all days or on certain days or during certain parts of days for use only by particular vehicles or organisations.
21. Any authorised person closing or suspending the use of a parking place or any part thereof shall thereupon place or cause to be placed in or adjacent to that parking place or that part thereof a notice or traffic sign indicating that of that parking place or that part thereof is closed or the use is suspended and that parking by vehicles is prohibited.
22. No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to be parked in a parking place or any part thereof during such periods that the parking place or that part thereof is closed or the use is suspended or during such period as there is in or adjacent thereto a notice or traffic sign indicating the closure or suspension placed by or on behalf of the Council.

Sale of Goods

23. No person shall in a parking place without the express written permission of the Council, use a vehicle, in connection with the sale of any article, including the vehicle itself, to any person in or near the parking place or in connection with the selling or offering for hire of skill or services in any other capacity.

Parked with engine running

24. No person shall in a parking place continue to run the engine when the vehicle is in the parking space and shall not start the engine except when about to change the position of the vehicle in or to depart from the parking place.

Parked causing an obstruction

25. No person shall in a parking place park the vehicle in such a manner or place where it causes an obstruction to any other users of the parking place.

PART 3 CHARGES FOR PARKING

Payment

26. No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to be parked in a parking place without arranging for the daily fee or charge (if any) to be paid in accordance with the scale of fees and charges as specified in Schedule 2 or Schedule 3 or a variation notice and as advertised at the parking place. Schedules 2 and 4 to this Order describes the charges relevant at the making of this order.

Means of payment

27. The daily charges referred to in the preceding Article shall be payable in the manner as specified in the following Article and as advertised at that parking place.

Pay and display parking places

28. The person in charge of a vehicle, upon parking the vehicle in a parking bay, shall immediately

(i) arrange for the purchase of a pay and display ticket from a ticket machine situated at that parking place at the level of charge and for the period required in accordance with the scale of charges specified in Schedule 2 or a variation notice and as advertised at that parking place. or

(ii) make arrangements to pay the daily charge through an alternative approved method of payment at the level of daily charge and for the period required in accordance with the scale of charges specified in Schedule 2 or a variation notice and as advertised at that parking place.

Display of ticket

29. Save for payment by an alternative approved method of payment, once a vehicle has been parked within a pay and display parking place the person in charge of the vehicle shall ensure that:

(i) a valid pay and display ticket has been obtained to cover the entire period that the vehicle is parked in the parking place, and

(ii) the valid pay and display ticket is displayed in the relevant position on the vehicle in respect of which it was issued at all times the vehicle is parked.

Validity of pay and display tickets

30. A pay and display ticket is not transferable from one vehicle to another and on transfer the pay and display ticket ceases to be valid.

31. A pay and display ticket is valid only in the parking place in which it was issued. This is defined by the reference code of the ticket machine located in that parking place printed on the pay and display ticket. In all cases pay and display tickets shall only be valid for the period for which payment was made.

Expiry of parking period

32. The expiry of the period for which the daily charge has been paid shall be:-

(i) where a pay and display ticket has been purchased, when the time shown on the clock of the issuing ticket machine is later than the expiry time shown on the pay and display ticket displayed, or

(ii) where an alternative approved method of payment has been used, when the period for which payment has been made and recorded has been exceeded.

No pay and display ticket displayed

33. If at any time while a vehicle is parked in a parking place, no pay and display ticket is displayed on that vehicle in the relevant position and in accordance with the provisions of this order, it shall be deemed that the charge has not been paid unless an alternative approved method of payment has been used which is still valid.
34. If at the time when a vehicle is parked during the charging hours in a parking place and the nearest ticket machine in that parking place is out of order, then a ticket shall be obtained from another ticket machine within the same parking place (where provided) or as directed in the parking place.
35. Where no valid pay and display ticket can be obtained from a ticket machine within a parking place, the fee must be paid via the Phone App.
- 35A No person shall cause or permit a vehicle or motor cycle to park in a parking place unless the vehicle/motor cycle is displaying a valid pay and display ticket (as mentioned above) or any other authorised permit as mentioned in this Order.

Parking permits

36. Parking permits are available from the Council at the appropriate fee, for a vehicle of a specific class and for a specific parking place subject to conditions determined by the Council.
37. A parking permit is only valid in the parking place(s) in respect of which it was issued, for the vehicle in respect of which it was issued and up to the date of expiry shown on the parking permit.
38. The driver shall abide by the terms stipulated by the Council for the use of the parking permit.

Display of parking permit

39. Save for Article 45 a parking permit shall be displayed in the relevant position on the vehicle in respect of which it was issued at all times during which the vehicle is parked in the parking place.

Restriction on removal

40. When a pay and display ticket or parking permit has been exhibited on a vehicle in the relevant position no person shall remove the pay and display ticket or parking permit from the vehicle until the vehicle is removed from the parking place.

PART 4

EXEMPTIONS

Exemption from daily charge

40A

No daily charge shall be payable in respect of a vehicle parked displaying in a relevant position a parking permit valid for that parking place.

Absence of Ticket machine

41. If at the time when a vehicle is parked in a parking place during the charging hours there is no ticket machine at the parking place, or all the ticket machines at that parking place carry notices placed upon them by a person duly authorised by the Council indicating that they are out of order, the driver of that vehicle shall be exempt from purchasing a pay and display ticket.

Payment by alternative approved method of payment

42. Where arrangements to pay the daily charge have been made through an alternative approved method of payment and no pay and display ticket is produced by following the process, the driver of a vehicle shall be exempt from the requirement to display such a ticket.

PART 5

RELOCATION, REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF VEHICLES

Emergencies

43. An authorised person or a police officer in uniform may, using such measures as are appropriate, move or cause to be moved in the case of an emergency to any place he/she thinks fit, any vehicle parked in a parking place.

Contraventions in suspended parking place

44. An authorised person may, using such measures as are appropriate, move or cause to be moved to any place he/she thinks fit, any vehicle parked in a parking place which has been closed or suspended in whole or in part by the Council and the cost of movement or removal and safe keeping shall be the liability of the owner of the vehicle.

Safe keeping

45. Any person removing a vehicle from a parking place under the provisions of this Order shall make such arrangements as may be reasonably necessary to provide for the safe keeping of the vehicle.

Disposal of vehicles abandoned in parking places

46. The Council may sell or otherwise dispose of, in accordance with current legislation, a vehicle which has been, or could at any time be, removed from a parking place if the vehicle appears to have been abandoned.

PART 6

CONTRAVENTION AND PENALTY CHARGE

Contravention

47. Save for the provisions in Part 7, if a vehicle is parked in a parking place without complying with the requirements of this Order, a contravention shall have occurred, and a penalty charge shall be payable. A penalty charge notice may then be issued and served and/or the vehicle may be

removed from its location. All enforcement action shall be in terms of legislation and subsequent amendments.

Restriction on removal of notices

48. Any notice, including a penalty charge notice, fixed to a vehicle in accordance with this Order shall not be removed or interfered with except by or under the authority of:
- (i) the Owner, or person in charge of, the vehicle.
 - (ii) the Council for the parking place in which the vehicle in question was found.

Indications as Evidence

49. The particulars given in any notice served on a vehicle in accordance with the provisions of this Order shall be treated as evidence in any proceedings relating to failure to pay the penalty charge.

PART 7

LIABILITY AND OTHER PROVISIONS

Liability

50. The Council accepts no liability for the loss or damage to vehicles or other property left in any of the parking places to which this Order applies save for that arising from the negligence of the Council.

Validity

51. If a court, the Department for Transport, The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's or The Traffic Penalty Tribunal Service, declares any part of this Order to be invalid or un-enforceable, such declaration shall not invalidate the remainder of the Order.

Tax and Insurance

52. Any person who causes or permits any vehicle to wait in a parking place without the vehicle being licensed in pursuance of the provisions of the Vehicles Excise and Registration Act 1994 and without a current policy of insurance in relation to the use of the vehicle by the driver such as complies with the requirements of Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1972 shall be liable to prosecution.

Driving within a parking place

53. Where in a parking place signs are erected, or surface markings are laid for the purpose of
- (i) indicating the entrance to or exit from the parking place, or
 - (ii) indicating that a vehicle using the parking place shall proceed in a specified direction within the parking place,
- any person who drives or permits to be driven any vehicle
- (i) so that it enters the parking place otherwise than by an entrance or leaves the parking place otherwise than by an exit, so indicated, or

(ii) in a direction other than so specified shall be liable to prosecution.

54. Any person who, without with the permission of a person authorised by the Council in that behalf, drives or permits to be driven any vehicle in a parking place for any purpose other than the purpose of leaving that vehicle in the parking place in accordance with the provisions of this Order or for the purpose of departing from the parking place shall be liable to prosecution.

Wilful damage

55. Any person who with intent to defraud interferes with a ticket machine or operates or attempts to operate it by the insertion of objects other than undamaged and unaltered coins of legal tender and of the appropriate denomination, shall be liable to prosecution.

56. No person shall cause damage to any Council equipment, signing or lighting installations or other installations within the parking place or to any part of the fabric of the parking place and any person doing so shall be liable to prosecution.

Domestic purposes

57. Save for Article 22 to this Order in respect of section (i) of this Article, any person who uses any part of the parking place or any vehicle parked in a parking place

- (i) for sleeping or eating or camping or cooking, or
- (ii) for the purpose of servicing or washing any vehicle or part thereof other than is reasonably necessary to enable the vehicle to depart from the parking place, or
- (iii) for the playing or participating in any sport or recreation in the parking place, or
- (iv) for the purpose of teaching learner drivers, shall be liable to prosecution.

Behaviour

58. Any person who wilfully sounds any horn or any other similar instrument on a vehicle except when about to change the position of the vehicle in or to depart from the parking place shall be liable to prosecution.

59. Any person who in a parking place shouts or otherwise makes any loud noise to the disturbance or annoyance of users of the parking place or residents or premises in the neighbourhood shall be liable to prosecution.

60. Any person who in a parking place uses any threatening, abusive or insulting language, gesture or conduct with intent to put any person in fear or so as to occasion a breach of the peace or whereby a breach of the peace is likely to be occasioned shall be liable to prosecution.

Other activities

61. Any person who in a parking place

- (i) erects or causes or permits to be erected any skip, tent, booth, stand, building or other structure without the written consent of the Council, or

- (ii) lights or causes to be lit any fire,
 - (iii) conducts activities that do not relate directly to the parking of a vehicle in the parking place under the terms of use of the parking place
- shall be liable to prosecution.

PART 8

REVOCATIONS

Revocations

62. All Off-street parking places Orders or parts of Off-street parking places Orders made by the Council, including amendments and any other Orders and Regulations of whatever nature relating only to the off-street parking places in Schedules 1 and 2 within this Order and under the jurisdiction of the Council made before the introduction of this Order are hereby revoked and replaced by this Order. This Order does not alter or amend those parking places not mentioned in this order.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of Gwynedd Council this day of2026

The Common Seal of

GWYNEDD COUNCIL was hereunto
affixed in the presence of

its authorised signatory:

DATED:

Gwynedd Council (Off Street Parking Places) (Consolidated) Order 2026

Iwan G. Evans,
Head of Legal Services,
Gwynedd Council.
(Reference: 2442521.drj)

This is the Schedule 1 referred to in The Council of Gwynedd (Off-Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2026.

SCHEDULE 1 – PAYMENT PARKING PLACES

Name of Parking Place and Plan Number	Position in which vehicles may wait	Authorised classes of vehicle which can be parked in the Parking Place	Days and hours of operation of controls in the Parking Place	Maximum period for which vehicles may wait in the Parking Place
1	2		4	5
Main Car Park, Aberdovey Gwynedd LL35 0EA Plan GW001	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Penhelyg Car Park, Aberdovey, Gwynedd LL35 0NB Plan GW002	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Black Patch Car Park, Barmouth. Gwynedd LL42 1LY Plan GW003	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders buses	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day

	by an authorised person.	Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	
Main Car Park Barmouth. Gwynedd LL42 1NF Plan GW004	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
North End Car Park, Barmouth. Gwynedd LL42 1BX Plan GW005	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders No Motorhomes- Height Barrier in place	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day
Talbot Square Car Park, Barmouth. Gwynedd LL42 1LY Plan GW006	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All days No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
Jubilee Road Car Park, Barmouth. Gwynedd	Wholly within a parking bay where	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle	All days All hours	09:00 – 17:00

LL42 1EF Plan GW007	such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	(Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
The Green Car Park Y Bala Gwynedd LL23 7NG Plan GW008	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Buses Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Plasey Street Car Park, (short stay) Y Bala Gwynedd LL23 7SW Plan GW009	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
Plasey Street Car Park, (long stay) Y Bala Gwynedd LL23 7SW Plan GW009	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day

Glanrafon Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1LH Plan GW010	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
Canondy Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1DT Plan GW011	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
Plas Llwyd Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1UB Plan GW012	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
James Street Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1YG Plan GW013	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day

	authorised person.	Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	
Castle Hill Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1LP Plan GW014	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome Goods vehicles are permitted to cross the parking place for loading and unloading purposes only in the access / service road.	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Minafon Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1LA Plan GW014	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Kyffin Square Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1LA Plan GW014	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day

<p>Colwyn Bank Car Park, Beddgelert Gwynedd LL55 4UY Plan GW015</p>	<p>Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.</p>	<p>Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders</p> <p>No Motorhomes- Height Barrier in place</p>	<p>All days All hours</p>	<p>24 hours Carried over to next day</p> <p>Seasonal Car Park – fees payable between 1st March to 31st October</p>
<p>Cae Star Car Park, Bethesda Gwynedd LL57 3AN Plan GW016</p>	<p>Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.</p>	<p>Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders</p> <p>Motorhome</p>	<p>All days</p> <p>No parking Midnight to 8am</p>	<p>09:00 – 17:00</p>
<p>Diffwys Car Park, (short stay) Blaenau Ffestiniog Gwynedd LL41 3ES Plan GW017</p>	<p>Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.</p>	<p>Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle</p> <p>Motorhome</p>	<p>All days All hours</p> <p>No parking Midnight to 8am</p>	<p>09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)</p>
<p>Diffwys Car Park, (long stay) Blaenau Ffestiniog Gwynedd LL41 3ES Plan GW017</p>	<p>Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an</p>	<p>Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders</p> <p>Motorhome</p>	<p>All days All hours</p>	<p>24 hours Carried over to next day</p>

	authorised person.		No parking Midnight to 8am	
Station Car Park, Blaenau Ffestiniog Gwynedd LL41 3ES Plan GW018	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Buses Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Poolside MSCP (short stay) Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1NN Plan GW019 (All areas except levels 2 and 3)	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle All vehicles to be of a height not exceeding 2 metres and not exceeding 1.5 tonnes unladen weight.	All days 07.00-19.00	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
Poolside MSCP Car Park, (long stay) Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1NN Plan GW019 (Level 2 & 3 only)	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders All vehicles to be of a height not exceeding 2 metres and not exceeding 1.5 tonnes unladen weight.	All days 07.00-19.00	24 hours Carried over to next day
Glan Mor Uchaf Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SY Plan GW020	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle	All days All hours	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum period 3 hours)

	marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	
Greengate Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1RB Plan GW021	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
Y Galeri, Victoria Dock Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SQ Plan GW022	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	08:00 – 18:00
Victoria Dock Surface Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SQ Plan GW023	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle No Motorhomes – height barrier	Public Parking is Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays only. All hours	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
Victoria Dock MSCP Car Park,	Wholly within a parking	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle	Mon - Fri All Hours	

Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SQ Plan GW023	bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders	Gwynedd Council Staff Parking Only Closed Sat - Sun	
Balacava Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1AR Plan GW024	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Shell Site Victoria Dock Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SQ Plan GW025	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Buses Motorhome	All days All hours 8am – midnight And Overnight 4pm to 10am in designated bays only	24 hours Carried over to next day Max stay 2 subsequent nights and no return within 7 days.
Justice Centre Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd	Wholly within a parking bay where	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day

LL55 2DF Plan GW026	such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	
Aberistedd Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0EN Plan GW027	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day Seasonal Car Park – fees payable between 1 st March to 31 st October
Y Maes (front) Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0HS Plan GW028	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours 8am to midnight	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
Y Maes (rear) and overall Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0HS Plan GW028	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day

		<p>Motorhome</p> <p>8am to midnight</p> <p>And</p> <p>Overnight 4pm to 10am in designated bays only</p> <p>Buses</p> <p>All days All hours</p>	<p>Max stay 2 subsequent nights and no return within 7 days.</p> <p>24 hours Carried over to next day</p>
<p>Morannedd Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0HT Plan GW029</p>	<p>Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.</p>	<p>Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders</p> <p>No Motorhomes- Height Barrier in place</p>	<p>All days All hours</p> <p>24 hours Carried over to next day</p>
<p>Rhodfa'r Mor Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0HT Plan GW029</p>	<p>Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.</p>	<p>Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders</p> <p>Motorhome</p>	<p>All days All hours</p> <p>No parking Midnight to 8am</p> <p>24 hours Carried over to next day</p>
<p>Marian Mawr Car Park, Dolgellau Gwynedd LL40 1DL</p>	<p>Wholly within a parking bay where such bays</p>	<p>Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle</p>	<p>All days All hours</p> <p>09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)</p>

Plan GW030	are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	
Marian Cefn Car Park, Dolgellau Gwynedd LL40 1UU Plan GW030	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome Buses	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day 24 hours Carried over to next day
Beach Road Car Park, Fairebourne Gwynedd LL38 2EJ Plan GW031	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Embankment Car Park, Fairebourne Gwynedd LL38 2DZ Plan GW032	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day

	by an authorised person.	Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	
Bron y Graig (lower) Car Park, Harlech Gwynedd LL46 2SR Plan GW033	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum duration of 3 hours)
Bron y Graig (Upper) Car Park, Harlech Gwynedd LL46 2SR Plan GW034	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Min y Don Car Park, Harlech Gwynedd LL46 2UG Plan GW035	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Buses Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day

Glan Llyn Car Park, Llanberis Gwynedd LL55 4BY Plan GW036	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours – carried over to next day
Lakeside Car Park, Llanberis, Gwynedd LL55 4TY Plan GW037	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Beach Car Park, Llandanwg Gwynedd LL46 2SD Plan GW038	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Heol y Parc Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9AR Plan GW039	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle	All days All hours	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)

	authorised person.	Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	
Lombard Street Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9AP Plan GW040	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders No Motorhomes- Height Barrier in place	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day
Borth y Gest Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9TS Plan GW041	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day Seasonal Car Park – fees payable between 1 st March to 31 st October
Llyn Bach Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9DD Plan GW042	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders No Motorhomes- Height Barrier in place	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day
Station Yard Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9HX Plan GW043	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day

	marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Valid Parking permit holders Buses Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	
Y Maes Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5HA Plan GW044	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
North Quay Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5YR Plan GW045	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)
Penlan (short stay) Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5DH Plan GW046	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)

Penlan (long stay) Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5DH Plan GW046	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Traeth y De Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5PG Plan GW047	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day Seasonal Car Park – fees payable between 1 st March to 31 st October
Penmount Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5HU Plan GW048	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day
Black Lion Tavern Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5LE Plan GW049	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day

	marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	No parking Midnight to 8am	
Cardiff Road Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5NF Plan GW050	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders No Motorhomes- Height Barrier in place	All days All hours	24 hours Carried over to next day
Rhodfa'r Mor Car Park, Tywyn Gwynedd LL36 0DE Plan GW051	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Valid Parking permit holders Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	24 hours Carried over to next day Seasonal Car Park – fees payable between 1 st March to 31 st October
North Road, Car Park Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5YR Plan GW052	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motorhome Parking only	All days 8 am to midnight And Overnight 4pm to 10am in designated bays only	Max stay 2 subsequent nights and no return

				within 7 days.
Storiel Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1DT Plan GW053	Wholly within a parking bay where such bays are marked or as directed by an authorised person.	Motor car Motor-cycle Disabled person's vehicle Light goods vehicle Electric vehicle Electric motor-cycle Motorhome	All days All hours No parking Midnight to 8am	09:00 – 17:00 (Maximum stay period of 3 hours)

This is the Schedule 2 referred to in The Council of Gwynedd (Off-Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2026.

SCHEDULE 2 – OFF STREET PARKING PLACES TABLE OF TARIFFS

Name of Parking Place and Plan number	Charging Period (days and hours when charges will be made)	Scale of Charges
1	2	3
<p>All car parks</p>	<p>All days All Hours</p>	<p>Blue Badge holders may park free of charge in both designated disabled bays and general bays.</p> <p>Electric Vehicles may park free of charge when parked in an EV charging bay (non rapid charger) and using the charging points to charge the vehicle. Electric vehicles must not park in an EV bay unless charging. If an electric vehicle is parked in general bays, the standard parking fees apply.</p> <p>Where a rapid charging EV bay is available as stated in the schedule there is a maximum 90 minute stay.</p> <p>Electric vehicles displaying a Gwynedd annual parking permit must not park in an EV bay for longer than a 90 minute stay.</p> <p>The Gwynedd Annual Parking permit can be used on those long stay car parks as specified in the schedule and on the website. The Gwynedd annual parking permit can also be used for up to 2 hours, using a disc clock, in those short stay car parks specified in this schedule, but only once in a 24 hour period, for Gwynedd Parking Ticket holders who are 60+ on day of ticket purchase.</p> <p>The Local Parking Ticket allows you to park at ONE long stay car park near your home.</p>

		<p>Where Motorhome parking is permitted. Motorhomes parking over two bays must buy two tickets at standard fee price.</p> <p>Winter fees conclude on February 28, except in leap years when they end on February 29.</p>
<p>Main Car Park, Aberdovey Gwynedd LL35 OEA Plan GW001</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October) All Hours</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February) All Hours</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Electric vehicle fast charging available</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Penhelyg Car Park, Aberdovey, Gwynedd LL35 ONB Plan GW002</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October) All Hours</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February) All Hours</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p>

	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Black Patch Car Park, Barmouth. Gwynedd LL42 1LY Plan GW003	Summer (1 st March – 28 th February) All Hours	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February) All Hours	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)
	Buses	Up to 4 hours - £3.50 4 hours up to 24 hours - £5.50
	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Main Car Park Barmouth. Gwynedd LL42 1NF Plan GW004	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October) All Hours	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February) All Hours	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)
	Electric vehicle fast and rapid charging available	
	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
North End Car Park, Barmouth. Gwynedd	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October) All Hours	

LL42 1BX Plan GW005	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February) All Hours	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)
	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Talbot Square Car Park, Barmouth. Gwynedd LL42 1LY Plan GW006	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October)	
	Standard fee	Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February)	
	Standard fee	Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60
Jubilee Road Car Park, Barmouth. Gwynedd LL42 1EF Plan GW007	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October)	
	Standard fee	Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February)	
	Standard fee	Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60
The Green Car Park Y Bala Gwynedd	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October)	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85

<p>LL23 7NG Plan GW008</p>	<p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Electric vehicle rapid charging available</p> <p>Buses</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.50 4 hours up to 24 hours - £5.50</p> <p>Free of Charge</p>
<p>Plasey Street Car Park, (short stay) Y Bala Gwynedd LL23 7SW Plan GW009</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p>
<p>Plasey Street Car Park, (long stay) Y Bala Gwynedd LL23 7SW Plan GW009</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85</p>

	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day) Free of daily charge
Glanrafon Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1LH Plan GW010	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.40 Up to 2 hours - £2.80 Up to 3 hours - £4.20</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.40 Up to 2 hours - £2.80 Up to 3 hours - £4.20</p>
Canondy Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1DT Plan GW011	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.40 Up to 2 hours - £2.80 Up to 3 hours - £4.20</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.40 Up to 2 hours - £2.80 Up to 3 hours - £4.20</p>
Plas Llwyd Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1UB Plan GW012	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.40 Up to 2 hours - £2.80 Up to 3 hours - £4.20</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.40 Up to 2 hours - £2.80 Up to 3 hours - £4.20</p>

James Street Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1YG Plan GW013	<p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £2.80 Up to 8 hours - £4.20 Up to 12 hours - £5.60 Up to 24 hours - £7.00 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
Castle Hill Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1LP Plan GW014	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £2.80 Up to 8 hours - £4.20 Up to 12 hours - £5.60 Up to 24 hours - £7.00 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £2.80 Up to 8 hours - £4.20 Up to 12 hours - £5.60 Up to 24 hours - £7.00 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
Minafon Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1LA Plan GW014	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £2.80 Up to 8 hours - £4.20 Up to 12 hours - £5.60 Up to 24 hours - £7.00 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £2.80 Up to 8 hours - £4.20 Up to 12 hours - £5.60 Up to 24 hours - £7.00 (carried over to following day)</p>

	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Kyffin Square Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1LA Plan GW014	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October)	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £2.80 Up to 8 hours - £4.20 Up to 12 hours - £5.60 Up to 24 hours - £7.00 (carried over to following day)
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February)	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £2.80 Up to 8 hours - £4.20 Up to 12 hours - £5.60 Up to 24 hours - £7.00 (carried over to following day)
	Electric vehicle fast and rapid charging available	
	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Colwyn Bank Car Park, Beddgelert Gwynedd LL55 4UY Plan GW015	Seasonal (1 st March – 31 st October)	Up to 6 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to the following day)
	Standard fee	
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February)	Free of daily charge (seasonal car park)
	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Cae Star Car Park, Bethesda Gwynedd LL57 3AN Plan GW016	Standard fee	Up to 1 hour - £1.40 Up to 2 hours - £2.80 Up to 3 hours - £4.20
	Valid Gwynedd Parking Ticket	Free of daily charge
Diffwys Car Park, (short stay) Blaenau Ffestiniog Gwynedd	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October)	
	Standard fee	Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10

LL41 3ES Plan GW017	<p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p>
Diffwys Car Park, (long stay) Blaenau Ffestiniog Gwynedd LL41 3ES Plan GW017	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Electric vehicle fast charging available TFW rapid charging available</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
Station Car Park, (long stay) Blaenau Ffestiniog Gwynedd LL41 3ES Plan GW018	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p>

	<p>Buses</p> <p>Valid Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.50 4 hours up to 24 hours - £5.50</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Poolside MSCP (short stay) Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1NN Plan GW019</p> <p>(All areas except levels 2 and 3)</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October) Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February) Standard fee</p> <p>Motor-Cycles</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>No charge if parked in a designated motor-cycle parking bay otherwise standard fee applies.</p>
<p>Poolside MSCP Car Park, (long stay) Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1NN Plan GW019</p> <p>(Level 2 & 3 only)</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October) Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February) Standard fee</p> <p>Motor-Cycles</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70</p> <p>No charge if parked in a designated motor-cycle parking bay otherwise standard fee applies.</p> <p>Free of charge</p>
<p>Glan Mor Uchaf Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SY</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October) Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p>

Plan GW020	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February) Standard fee	Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60
Greengate Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1RB Plan GW021	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October) Standard fee Winter (1 st November – 28 th February) Standard fee	Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60 Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60
Y Galeri, Victoria Dock Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SQ Plan GW022	Standard fee Valid Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Up to 1 hour - £1.00 Up to 2 hours - £2.00 Up to 3 hours - £3.00 Up to 4 hours - £4.00 Over 4 hours - £7.00 No max stay period Council permits not accepted
Victoria Dock Surface Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SQ Plan GW023	Standard fee Fees payable on Saturdays, Sundays and bank Holidays only.	Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60
Victoria Dock MSCP (including outside area) Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SQ Plan GW023	Gwynedd Council staff permit parking only	
Balaclava Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1AR Plan GW024	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October) Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15

	<p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Shell Site Victoria Dock Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SQ Plan GW025</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October) Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February) Standard fee</p> <p>Buses</p> <p>Motorhomes Overnight (4pm to 10am) (All Year)</p> <p>Electric vehicle fast charging available</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.50 4 hours up to 24 hours - £5.50</p> <p>£16.50</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Justice Centre Car Park, Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 2DF Plan GW026</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p>

	<p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Aberysteddd Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0EN Plan GW027</p>	<p>Seasonal (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 6 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Y Maes (front) Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0HS Plan GW028</p>	<p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>(Maximum stay period of 3 hours)</p>
<p>Y Maes (rear) and overall Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0HS Plan GW028</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60</p>

	<p>Buses</p> <p>Motorhomes Overnight (4pm to 10am) (All Year)</p> <p>Valid Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.50 4 hours up to 24 hours - £5.50</p> <p>£16.50</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Morannedd Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0HT Plan GW029</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Rhodfa'r Mor Car Park, Criccieth Gwynedd LL52 0HT Plan GW029</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60</p>

	Valid Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day) Free of daily charge
Marian Mawr Car Park, Dolgellau Gwynedd LL40 1DL Plan GW030	Standard fee Gwynedd Parking Ticket 1 st Nov to 28 th Feb only	Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60 Free of daily charge
Marian Cefn Car Park, Dolgellau Gwynedd LL40 1UU Plan GW030	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October) Standard fee Winter (1 st November – 28 th February) Standard fee Valid Gwynedd Parking Ticket (All Year) Buses Electric vehicle fast charging available TFW rapid charging available Valid Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day) Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day) Free of daily charge Up to 4 hours - £3.50 4 hours up to 24 hours - £5.50 Free of daily charge
Beach Road Car Park, Fairebourne	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October)	

<p>Gwynedd LL38 2EJ Plan GW031</p>	<p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (Carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Embankment Car Park, Fairebourne Gwynedd LL38 2DZ Plan GW032</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Bron y Graig (lower) Car Park, Harlech Gwynedd LL46 2SR Plan GW033</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10</p>

	Electric vehicle fast charging available	Up to 3 hours - £4.60
Bron y Graig (Upper) Car Park, Harlech Gwynedd LL46 2SR Plan GW034	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October)	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (Carried over to the following day)
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February)	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)
	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Min y Don Car Park, Harlech Gwynedd LL46 2UG Plan GW035	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October)	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £7.70 Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (Carried over to the following day)
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February)	
	Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)
	Buses	Up to 4 hours - £3.50 4 hours up to 24 hours - £5.50
	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge

	<p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 24 hours - £15.40 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.85 Up to 12 hours - £4.60 Up to 24 hours - £9.25 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Heol y Parc Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9AR Plan GW039</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p>
<p>Lombard Street Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9AP Plan GW040</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>

<p>Borth y Gest Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9TS Plan GW041</p>	<p>Seasonal (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Valid Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 6 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Llyn Bach Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9DD Plan GW042</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Station Yard Car Park, Porthmadog Gwynedd LL49 9HX Plan GW043</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Electric vehicle fast and rapid charging available</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p>

	<p>Buses</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.50 4 hours up to 24 hours - £5.50</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Y Maes Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5HA Plan GW044</p>	<p>Seasonal (1st March – 31st October) Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February) Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p>
<p>North Quay Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5YR Plan GW045</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October) Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February) Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p>
<p>Penlan (short stay) Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5DH Plan GW046</p>	<p>Seasonal (1st March – 31st October) Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February) Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p> <p>Up to 1 hour - £1.55 Up to 2 hours - £3.10 Up to 3 hours - £4.60</p>
<p>Penlan (long stay) Car Park, Pwllheli</p>	<p>Summer (1st March – 31st October) Standard fee</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10</p>

<p>Gwynedd LL53 5DH Plan GW046</p>	<p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Valid Gwynedd Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Traeth y De Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5PG Plan GW047</p>	<p>Seasonal (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Valid Local Parking Ticket (All Year)</p>	<p>Up to 6 hours - £4.20 Up to 12 hours - £5.60 Up to 24 hours - £7.00 (carried over to the following day)</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p> <p>Free of daily charge</p>
<p>Penmount Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5HU Plan GW048</p>	<p>Seasonal (1st March – 31st October)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Winter (1st November – 28th February)</p> <p>Standard fee</p> <p>Electric vehicle fast charging available</p>	<p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p> <p>Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)</p>

	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Black Lion Tavern Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5LE Plan GW049	Summer (1 st March – 31 st October) Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)
	Winter (1 st October – 31 st March) Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)
	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Cardiff Road Car Park, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5NF Plan GW050	Seasonal (1 st March – 31 st October) Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)
	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February) Standard fee	Up to 4 hours - £3.10 Up to 8 hours - £4.60 Up to 12 hours - £6.15 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to following day)
	Electric vehicle rapid charging available Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
Rhodfa'r Mor Car Park, Tywyn Gwynedd LL36 0DE Plan GW051	Seasonal (1 st March – 31 st October) Standard fee	Up to 6 hours - £4.20 Up to 12 hours - £5.60 Up to 24 hours - £7.70 (carried over to the following day)

	Winter (1 st November – 28 th February)	Free of daily charge
	Valid Gwynedd or Local Parking Ticket (All Year)	Free of daily charge
North Road, Car Park Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5YR Plan GW052	Motorhomes Overnight in designated bays only (4pm to 10am) (All Year)	£16.50
Storiel Car Park, Bangor Gwynedd LL57 1DT Plan GW053	Standard fee	Up to 1 hour - £1.40 Up to 2 hours - £2.80 Up to 3 hours - £4.20

This is the Schedule 3 referred to in The Council of Gwynedd (Off-Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2025.

SCHEDULE 3 – PERMIT FEES AND CHARGES

Fee Type	Locations Covered	Fees
Staff Permit	Mon – Fri only at Victoria Dock MSCP Caernarfon Penrallt MSCP Caernarvon Ffordd Y Cob Pwllheli Penarlag Dolgellau	Free
Gwynedd Parking ticket	As shown in Schedule 2	6 Months £72.50 12 months £145.00
Local parking ticket	As shown in Schedule 2	12 Months £75.00

This is the Schedule 4 referred to in The Council of Gwynedd (Off-Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2025.

SCHEDULE 4 – PLANS OF PARKING PLACES



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio'r Prif, Aberdyfi, LL35 0EA - Main Car Park, Aberdovey, LL35 0EA

Hawffraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW001** Plan Number

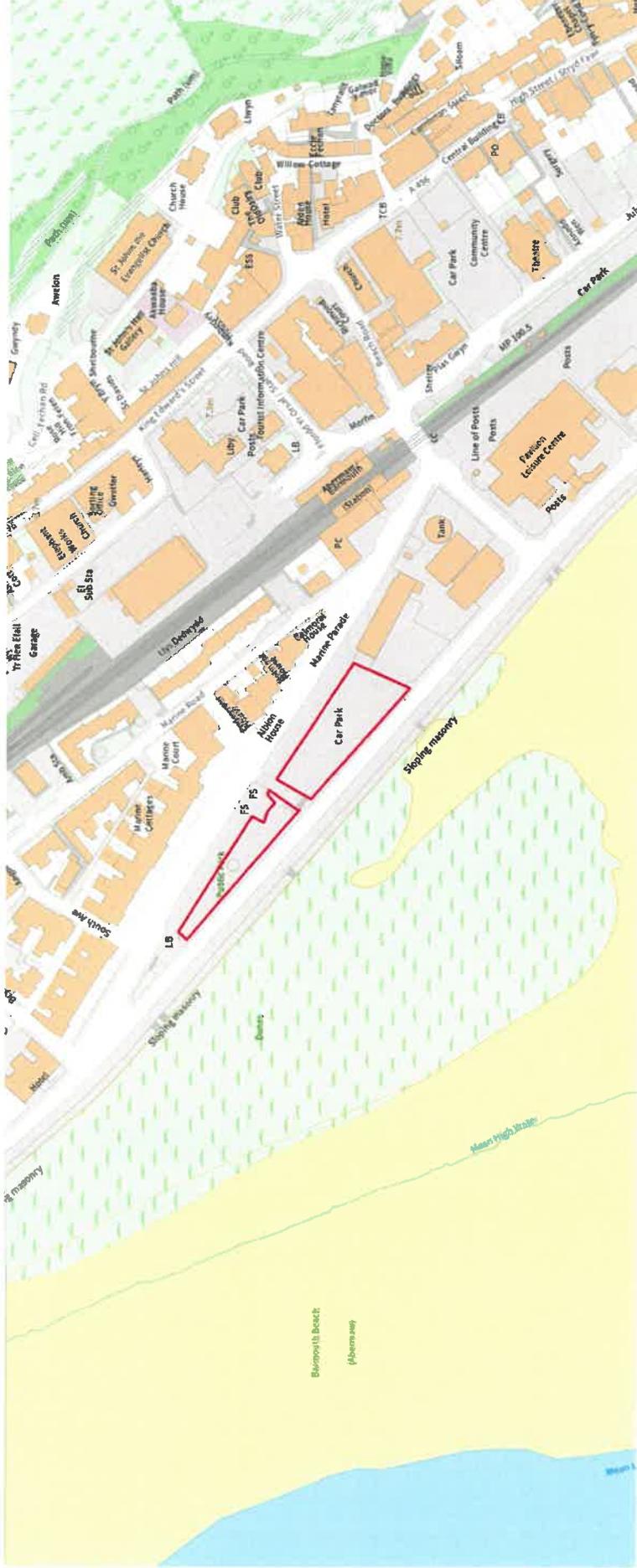


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Black Patch, Abermaw, LL42 1LY - Black Patch Car Park, Barmouth, LL42 1LY

Hawfrant y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun GW003 Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Y Prif, Abermaw, LL42 1NF - The Main Car Park, Barmouth, LL42 1NF

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW004** Plan Number

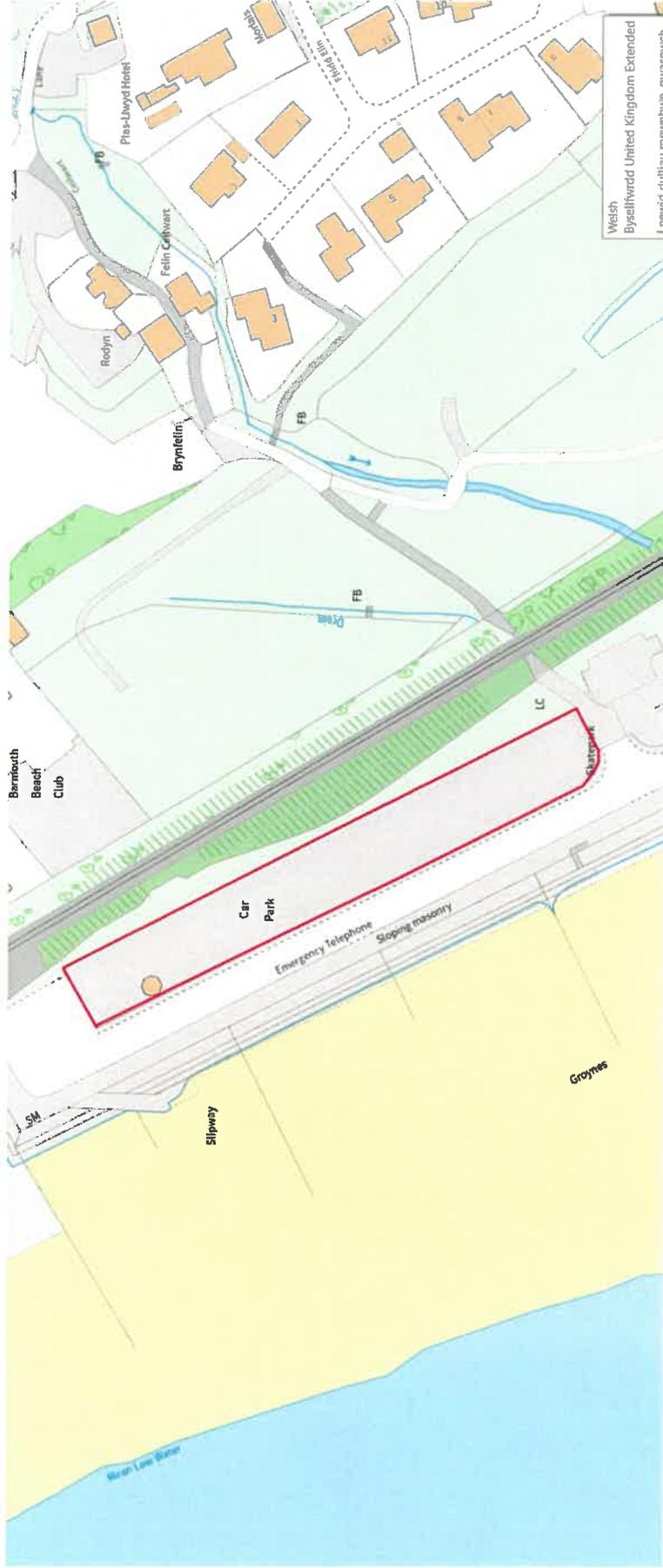


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Pen y Gogledd, Abermaw, LL42 1BX - North End Car Park, Barmouth, LL42 1BX

Hawffraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW005** Plan Number

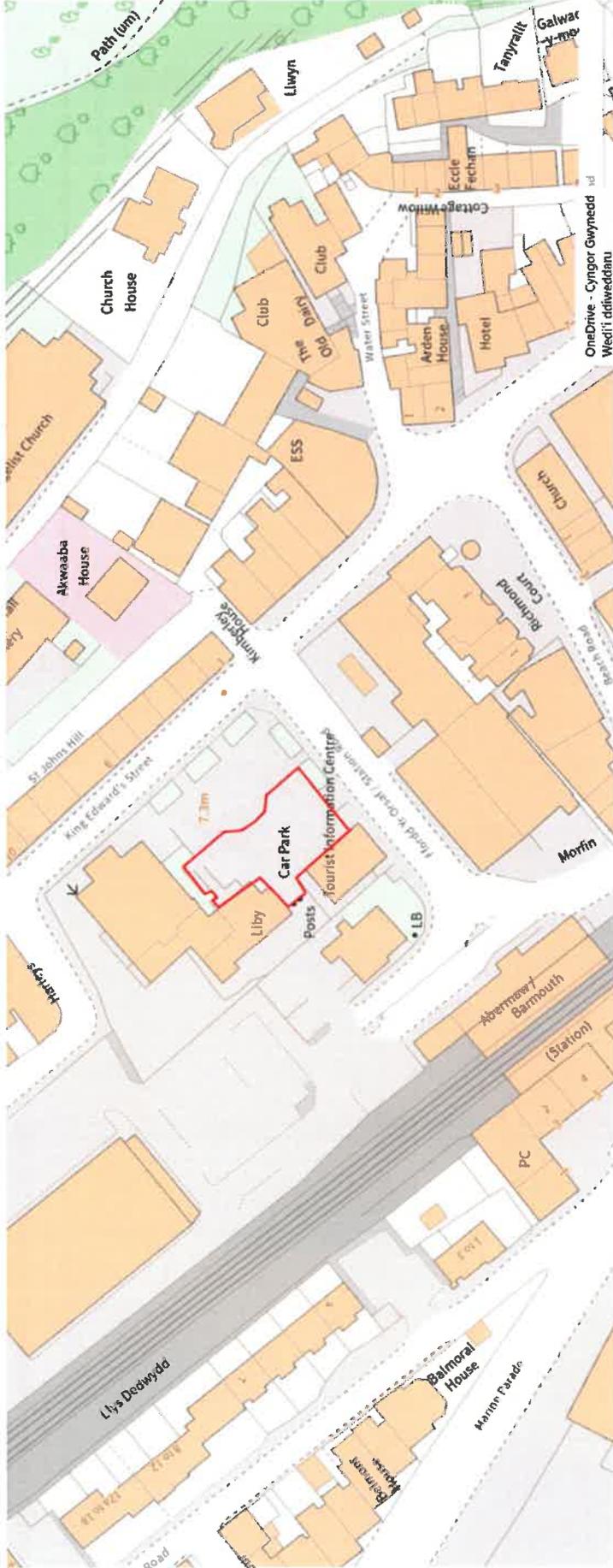


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Sgwâr Talbot, Abermaw, LL42 1LY - Talbot Square Car Park, Barmouth, LL42 1LY

Hawifraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW006** Plan Number

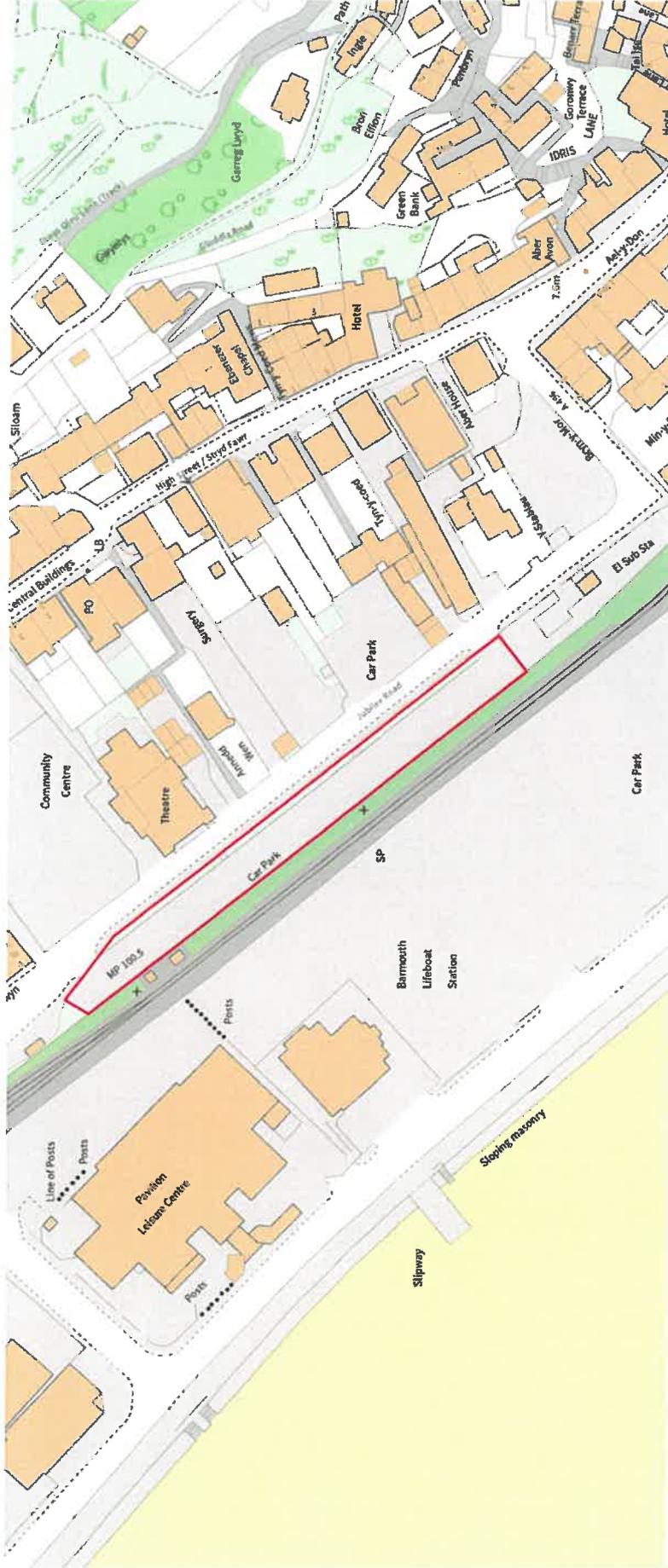


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Ffordd Jiwbilli, Abermaw, LL42 1EF - Jubilee Road Car Park, Barmouth, LL42 1EF

Hawffraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW007** Plan Number

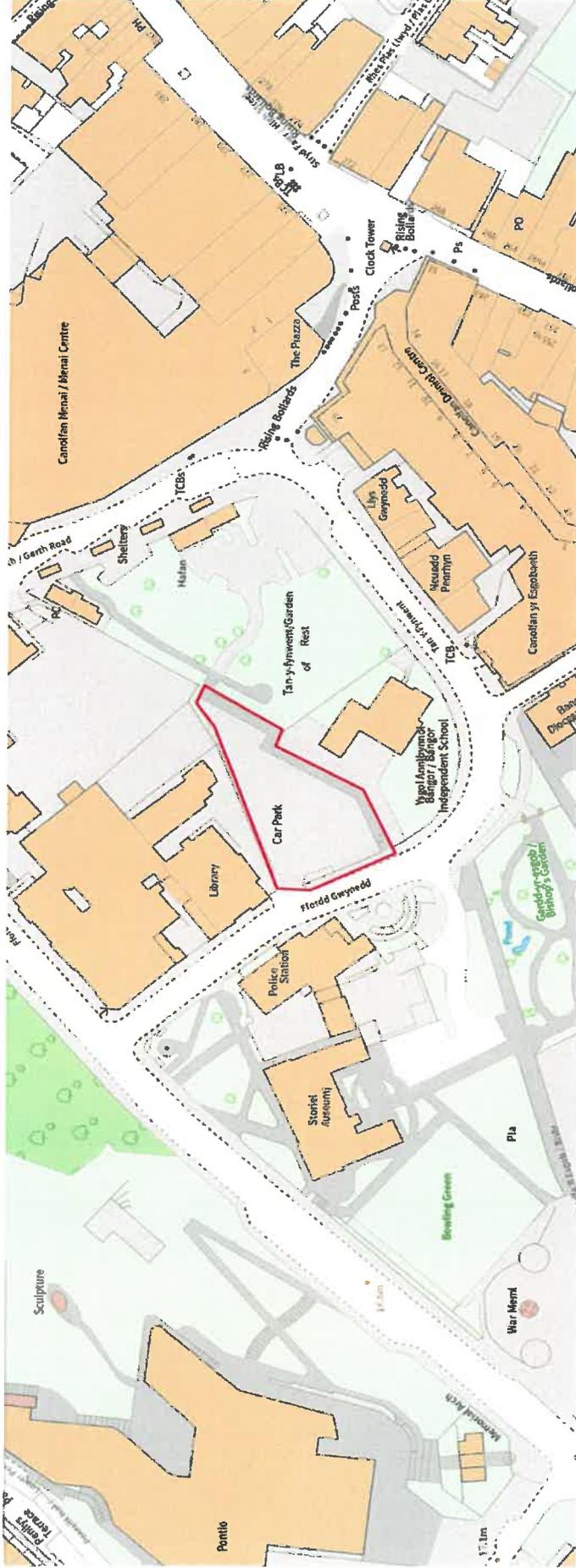


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Canondy, Bangor, LL57 1DT - Canondy Car Park, Bangor, LL57 1DT

Hawifraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun GW011 Plan Number

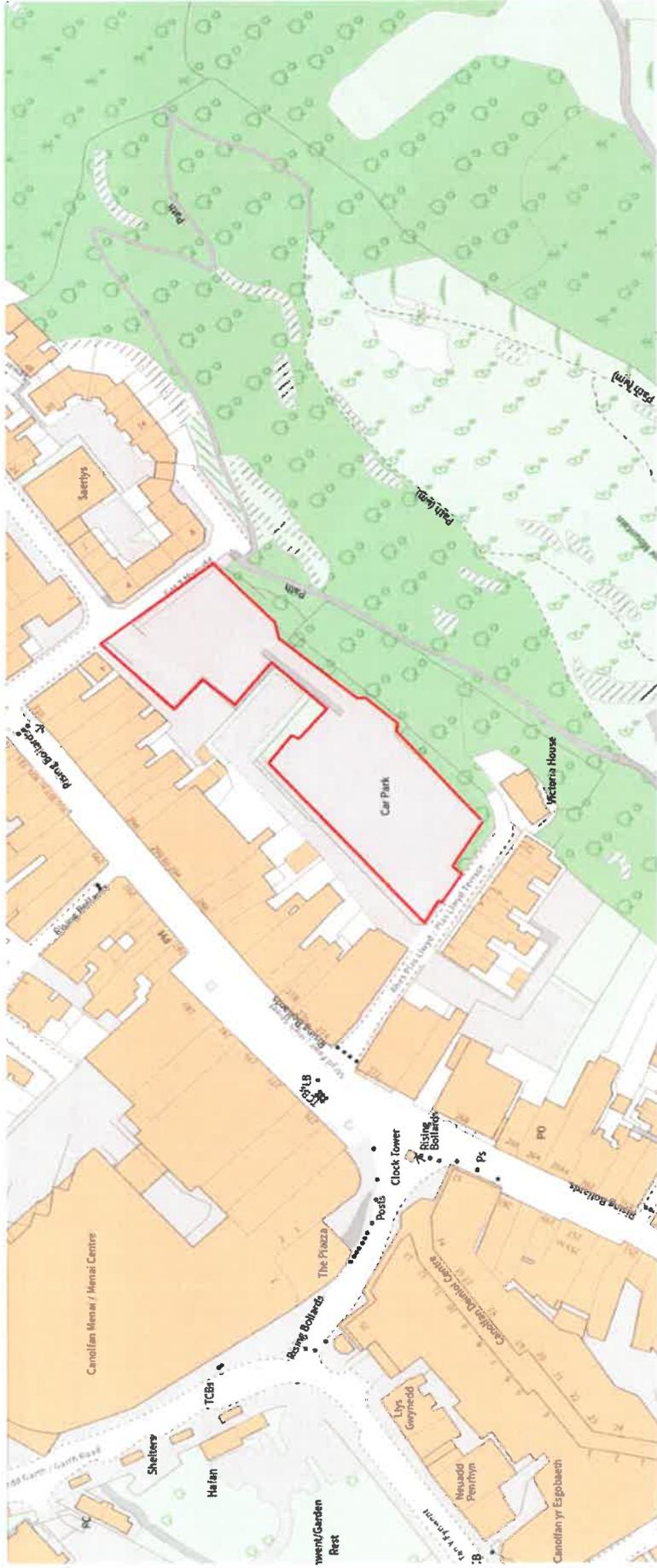


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Plas Llwyd, Bangor, LL57 1UB - Plas Llwyd Car Park, Bangor, LL57 1UB

Hawfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW012** Plan Number

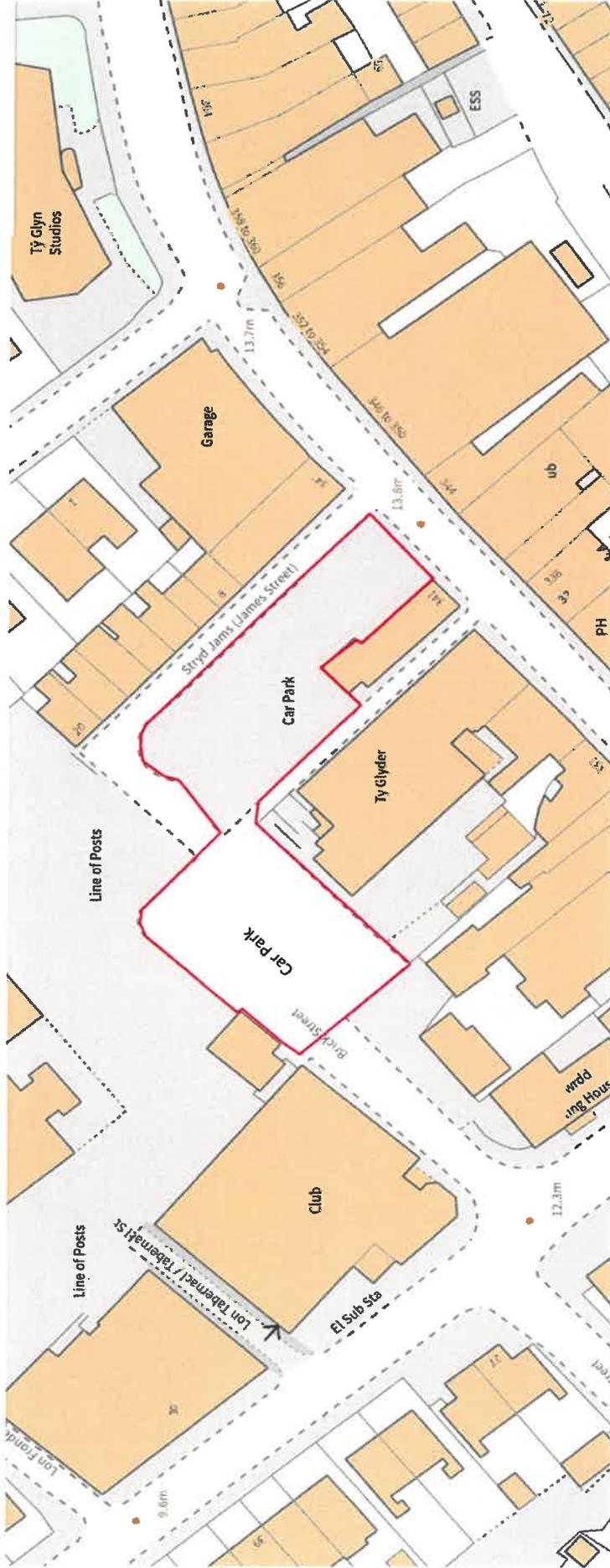


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Stryd Jams, Bangor, LL57 1YG - James Street Car Park, Bangor, LL57 1YG

Hawifraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun GW013 Plan Number

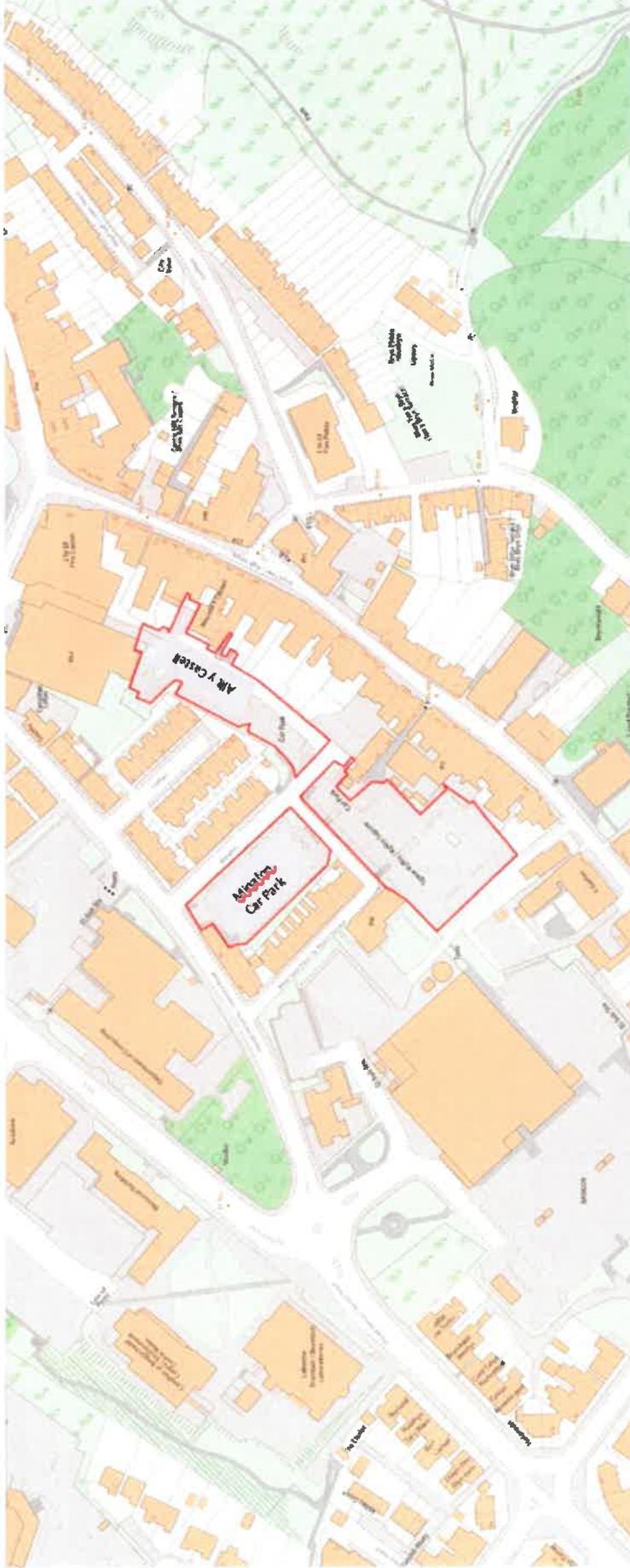


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Meysydd Parcio Allt y Castell LL57 1LP, Minafon LL57 1LA, Bangor - Castle Hill LL57 1LP, Minafon LL57 1LA and Kiffin Square LL57 1LA Car Parks,
Bangor

Hawfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW014** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:

Maes Parcio Cae Star, Stryd Ogwen, Bethesda, LL57 3AN - Cae Star Car Park, Ogwen Street, Bethesda, LL57 3AN

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW016** Plan Number

Maes Parcio Cae Star, Bethesda, LL57 3AN - Cae Star Car Park, Bethesda, LL57 3AN

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW016** Plan Number

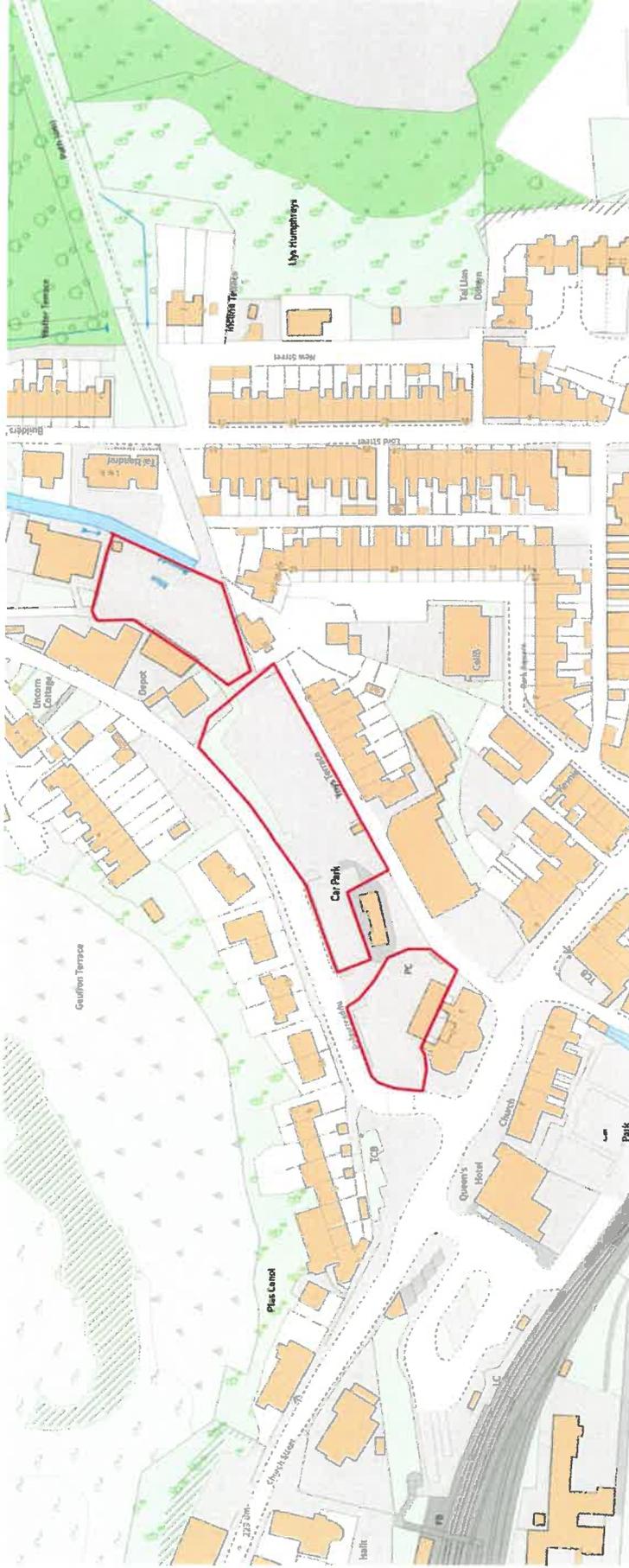


Gorchymyn Cynghor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Diffwys, Blaenau Ffestiniog, LL41 3ES - Diffwys Car Park, Blaenau Ffestiniog, LL41 3ES

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW017** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Yr Orsaf, Blaenau Ffestiniog, LL41 3ES - Station Car Park, Blaenau Ffestiniog, LL41 3ES

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW018** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcïo Aml lawr Penllyn, Caernarfon, LL55 1NN – Poolside Multi Storey Car Park, Caernarfon, LL55 1NN

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun GW019 Plan Number

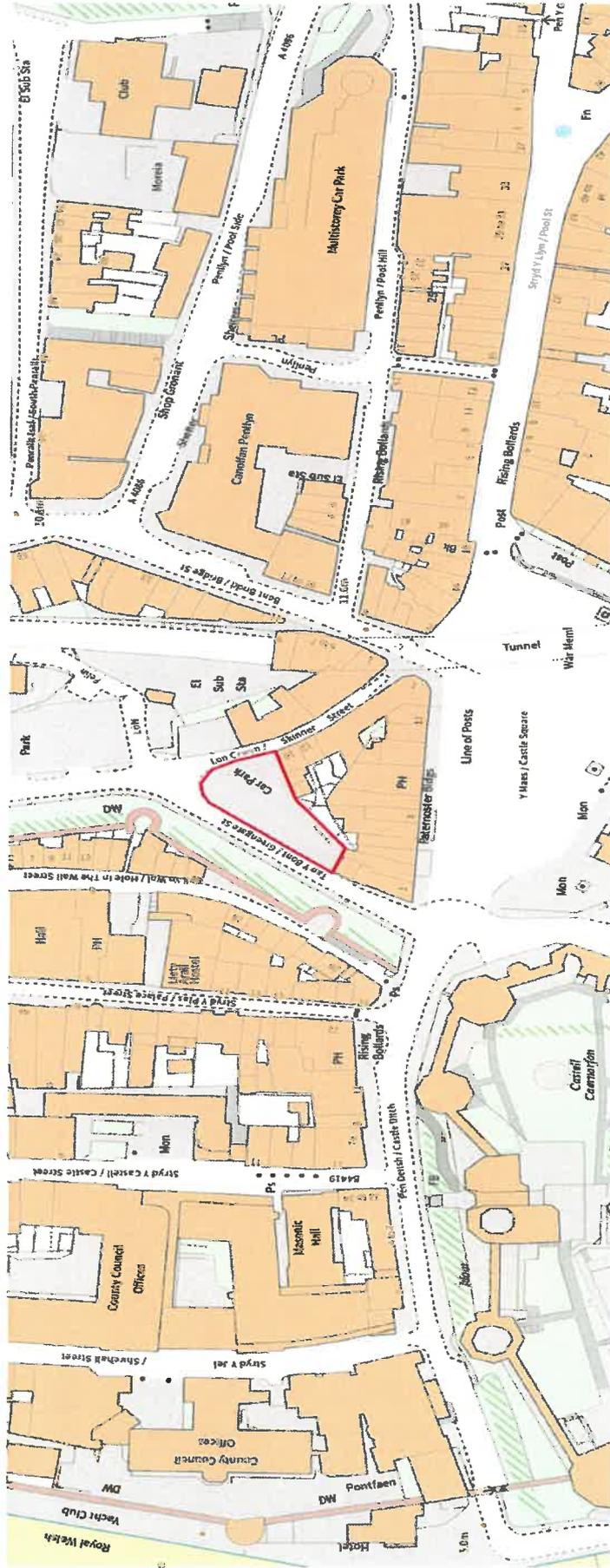


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Tan y Bont, Caernarfon, LL55 1RB - Greengate Car Park, Caernarfon, LL55 1RB

Hawffraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW021** Plan Number

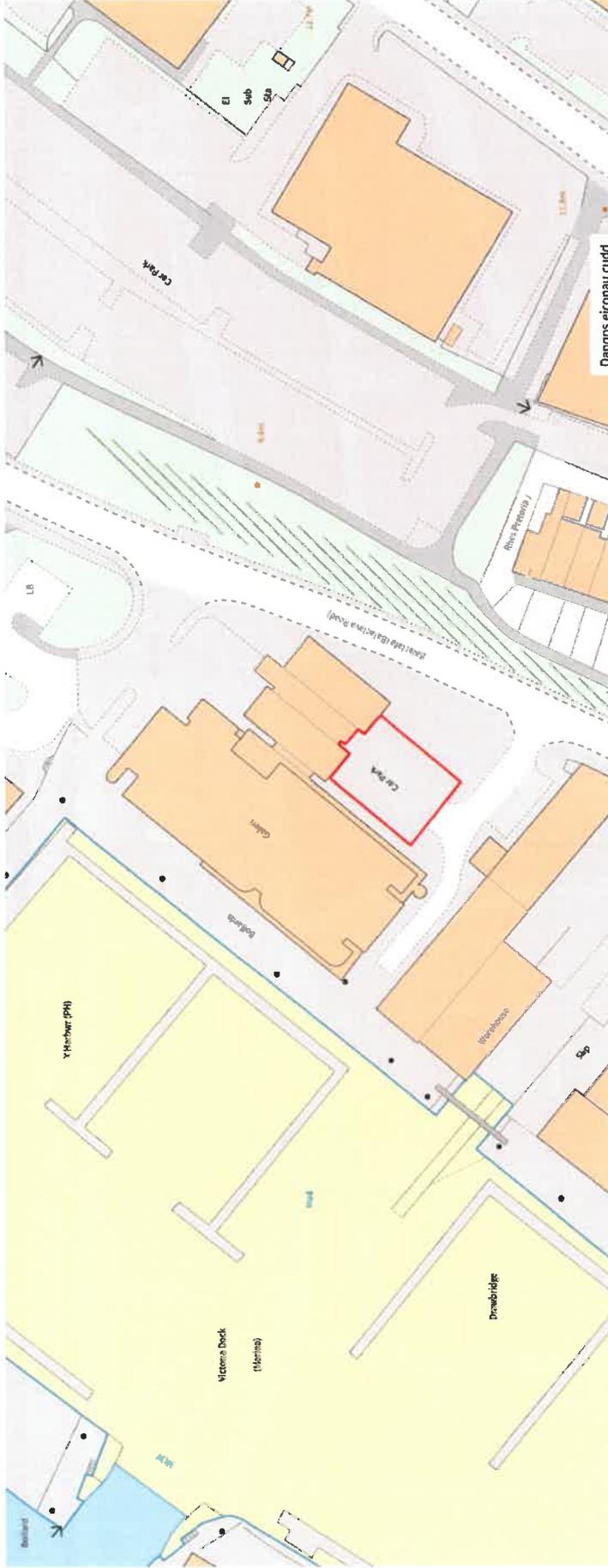


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Y Galeri, Caernarfon, LL55 1SQ – Y Galeri Car Park, Caernarfon, LL55 1SQ

Hawffraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun GW022 Plan Number

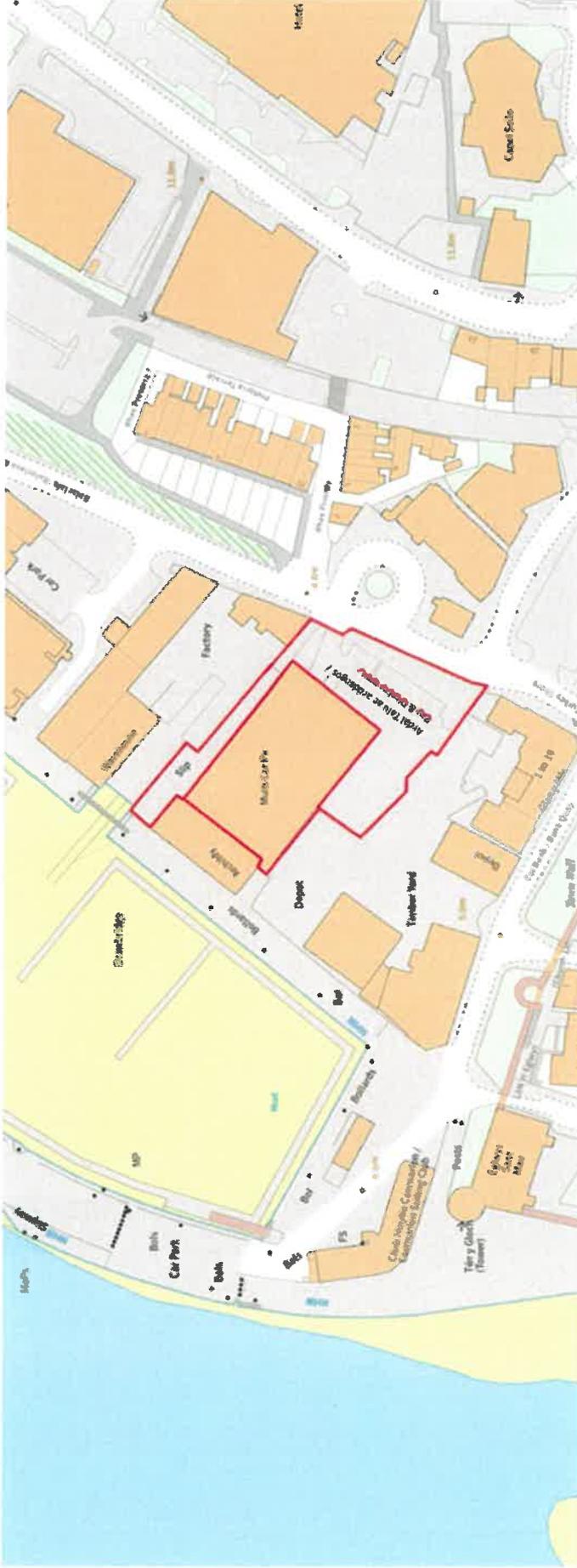


Gorchymyn Cynllun Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Aml lawr Doc Fictoria, Caernarfon, LL55 1SQ - Victoria Dock Multi Storey Car Park, Caernarfon, LL55 1SQ

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW023** Plan Number

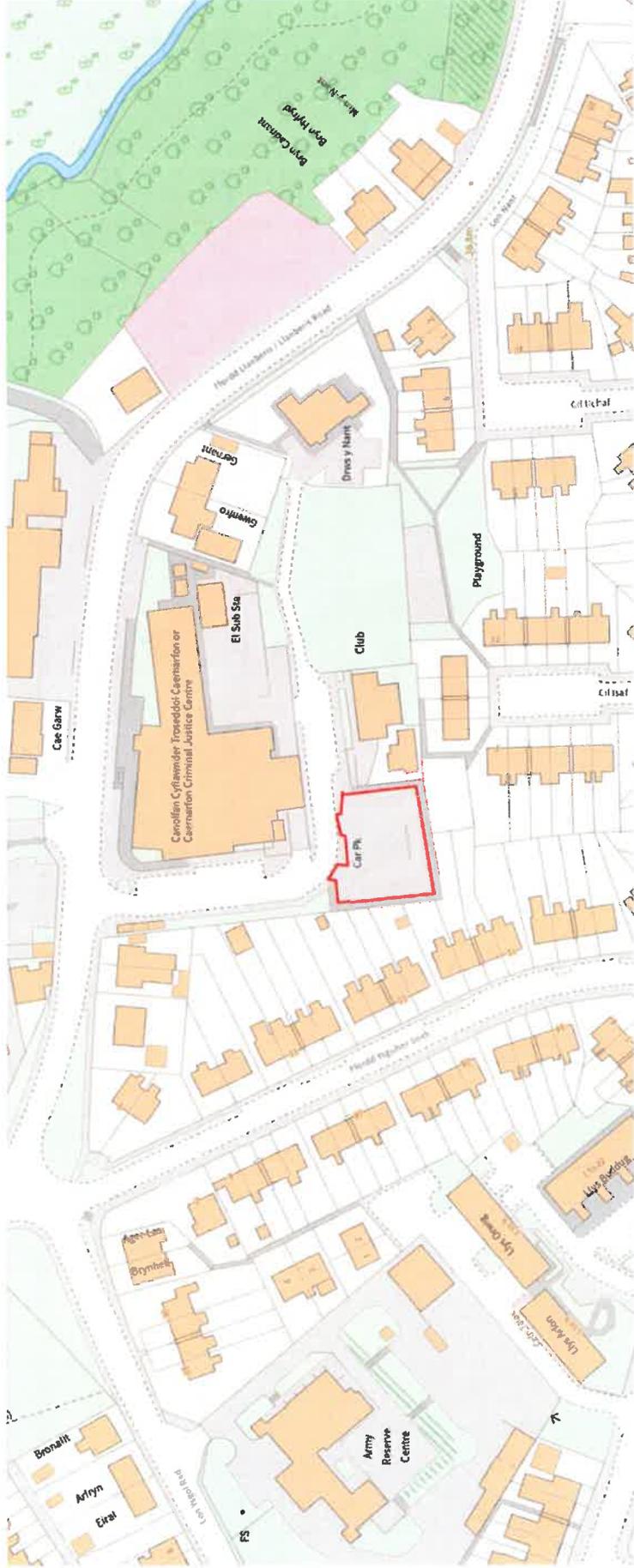


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Canolfan Cyfiawnder Caernarfon, Ffordd Llanberis, LL55 2DF - Caernarfon Justice Centre, Llanberis Road, LL55 2DF

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW026** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cynllun Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Aberistedd, Criccieth, LL52 0EN - Aberistedd Car Park, Criccieth, LL52 0EN

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordians AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun GW027 Plan Number

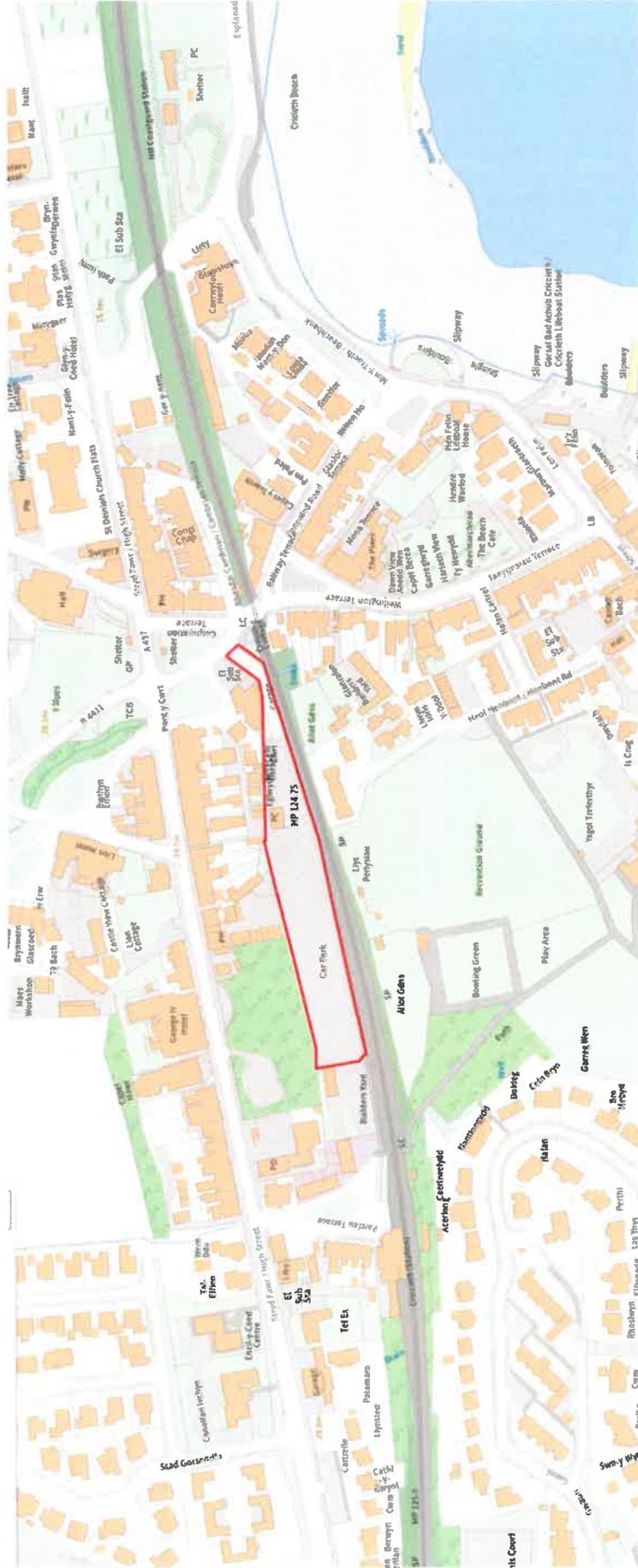


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Y Maes, Criccieth, LL52 0HS - Y Maes Car Park, Criccieth, LL52 0HS

Hawffrinf y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun GW028 Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Meysydd Parcio Morannedd LL52 OHT a Rhodfa'r Mor LL52 OHT, Criccieth - Morannedd LL52 OHT and Rhodfa'r Mor LL52 OHT Car Parks, Criccieth

Hawffraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwng Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW029** Plan Number

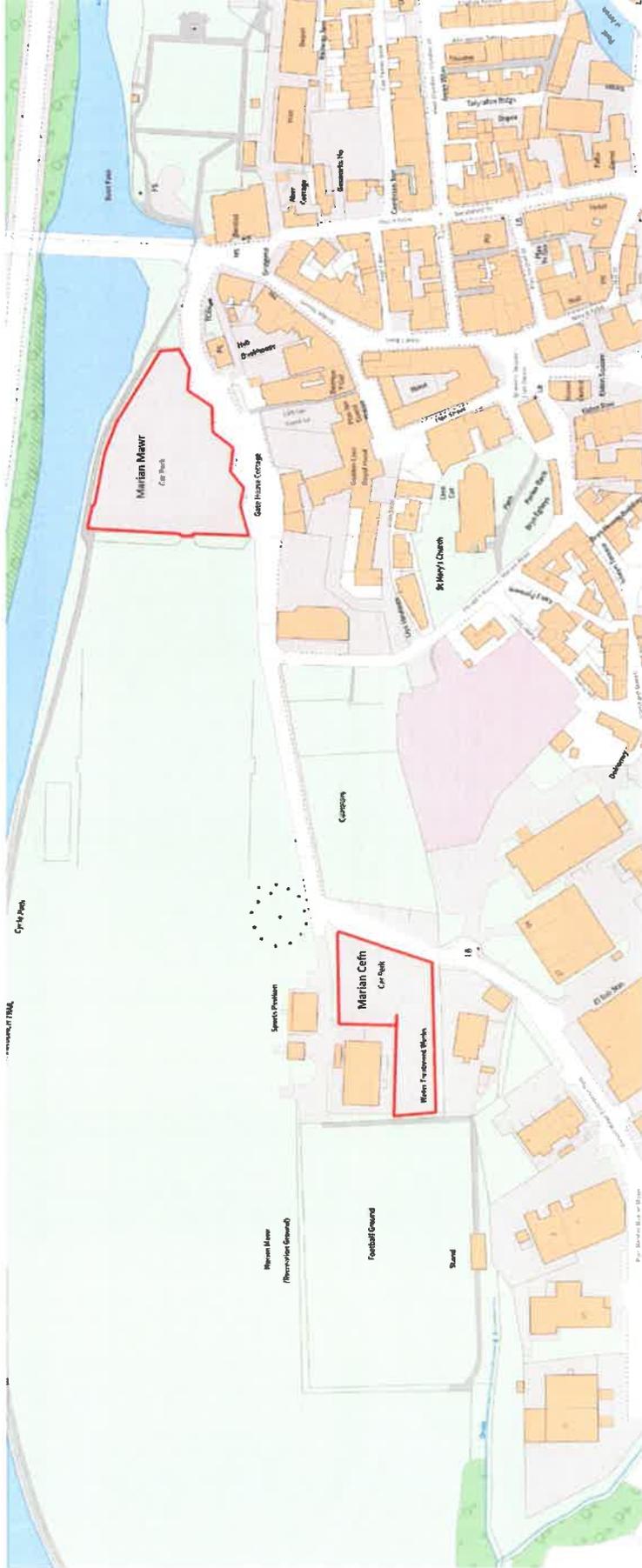


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Meysydd Parcio Marian Mawr LL40 1DL a Marian Cefn LL40 1UU, Dolgellau – Marian Mawr LL40 1DL and Marian Cefn LL40 1UU Car Parks, Dolgellau

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW030** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Bron y Graig Isaf, Harlech, LL46 2SR - Lower Bron y Graig Car Park, Harlech, LL46 2SR

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW033** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cynllun Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Bron y Graig Uchaf, Harlech LL46 2SR - Upper Bron y Graig Car Park, Harlech, LL46 2SR

Hawffruint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW034** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cynllun Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Min y Don, Harlech, LL46 2UG - Min y Don Car Park, Harlech, LL46 2UG

Hawffraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordians AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW035** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Y Traeth, Llandanwg, LL46 2SD - Beach Car Park, Llandanwg, LL46 2SD

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW038** Plan Number

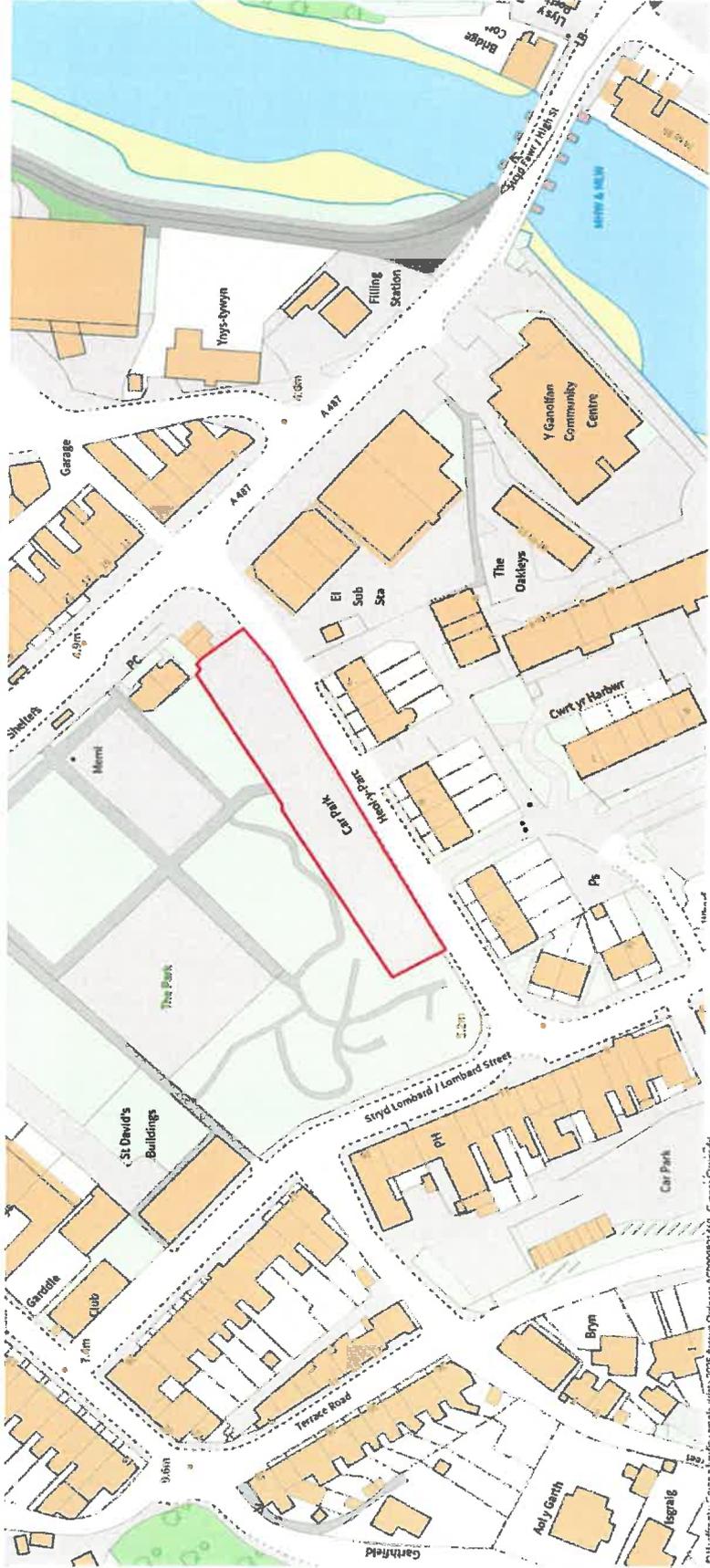


Gorchymyn Cynllun Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Heol y Parc, Porthmadog, LL49 9AR - Heol y Parc Car Park, Porthmadog, LL49 9AR

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW039** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Stryd Lombard, Porthmadog, LL49 9AP - Lombard Street Car Park, Porthmadog, LL49 9AP

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW040** Plan Number

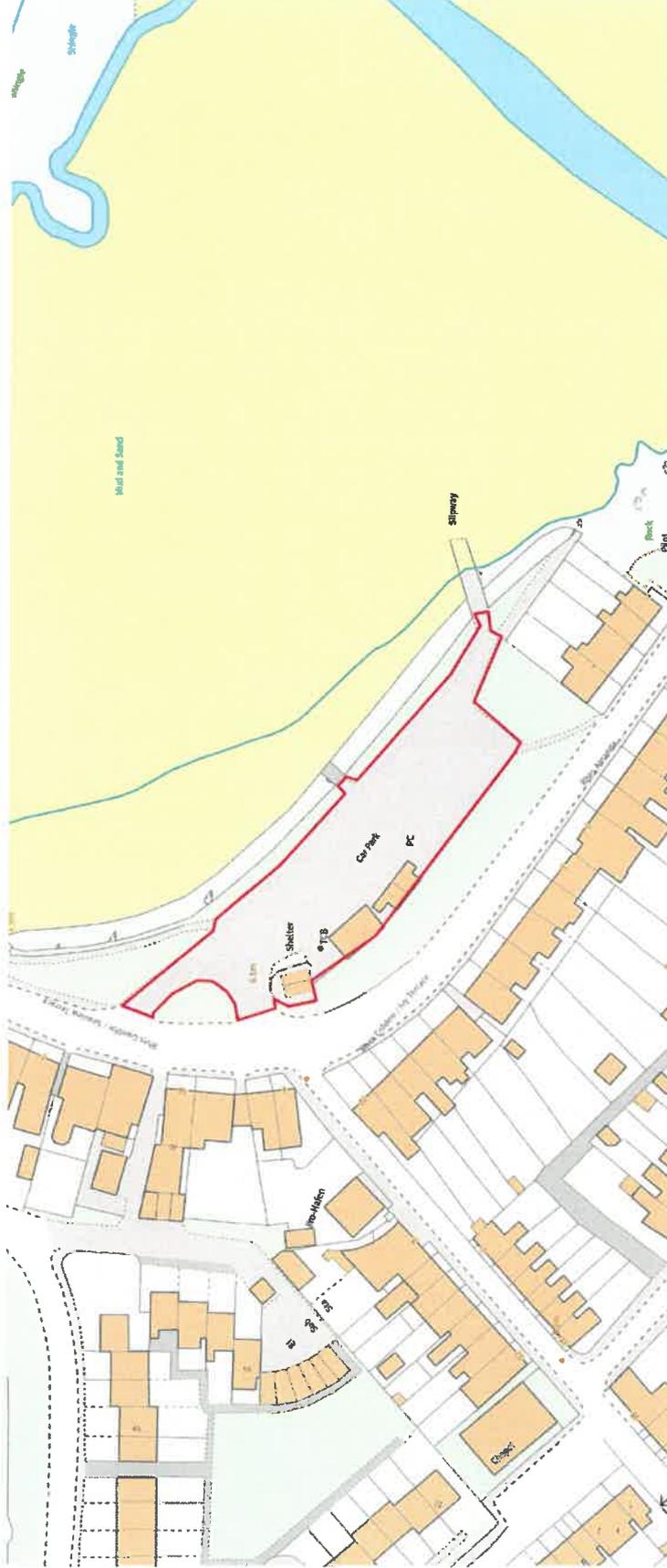


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



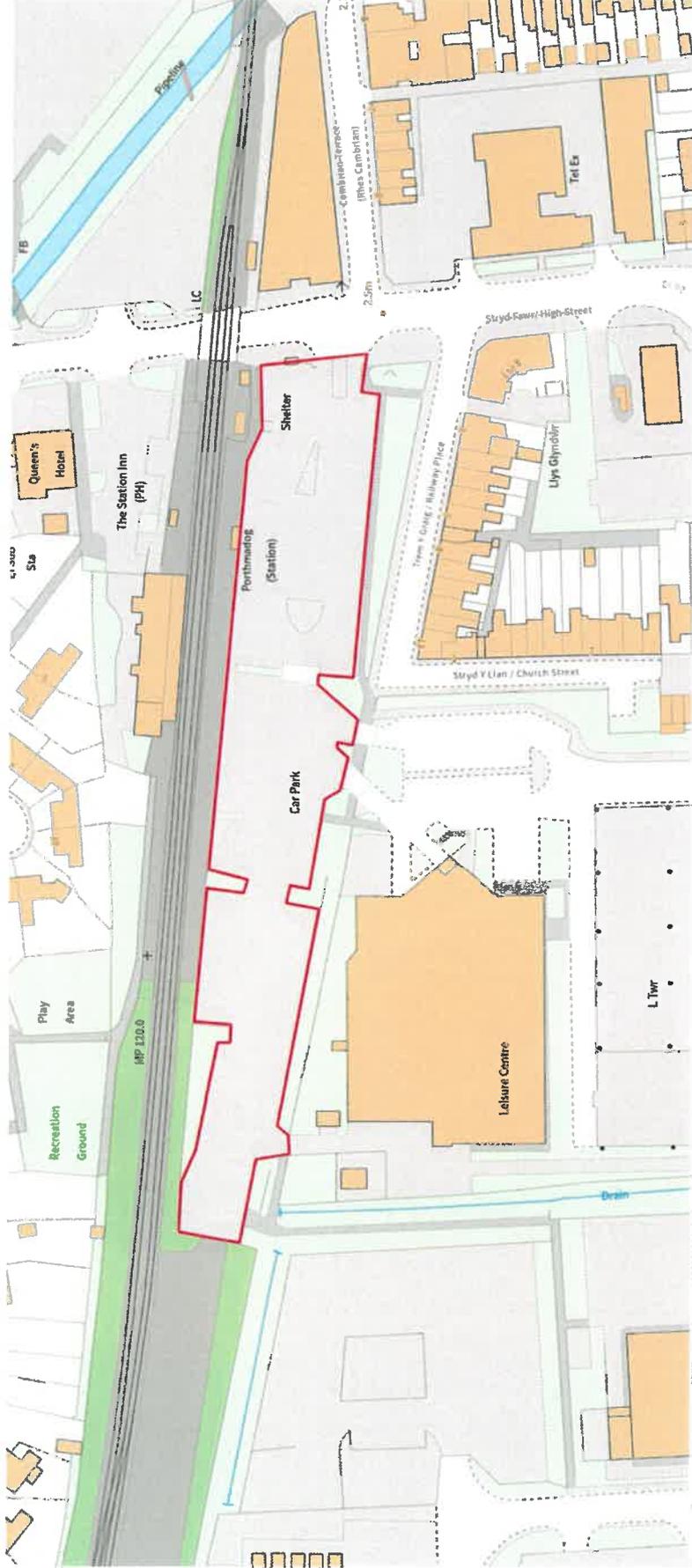


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Iard yr Orsaf, Porthmadog, LL49 9HX - Station Yard Car Park, Porthmadog, LL49 9HX

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW043** Plan Number

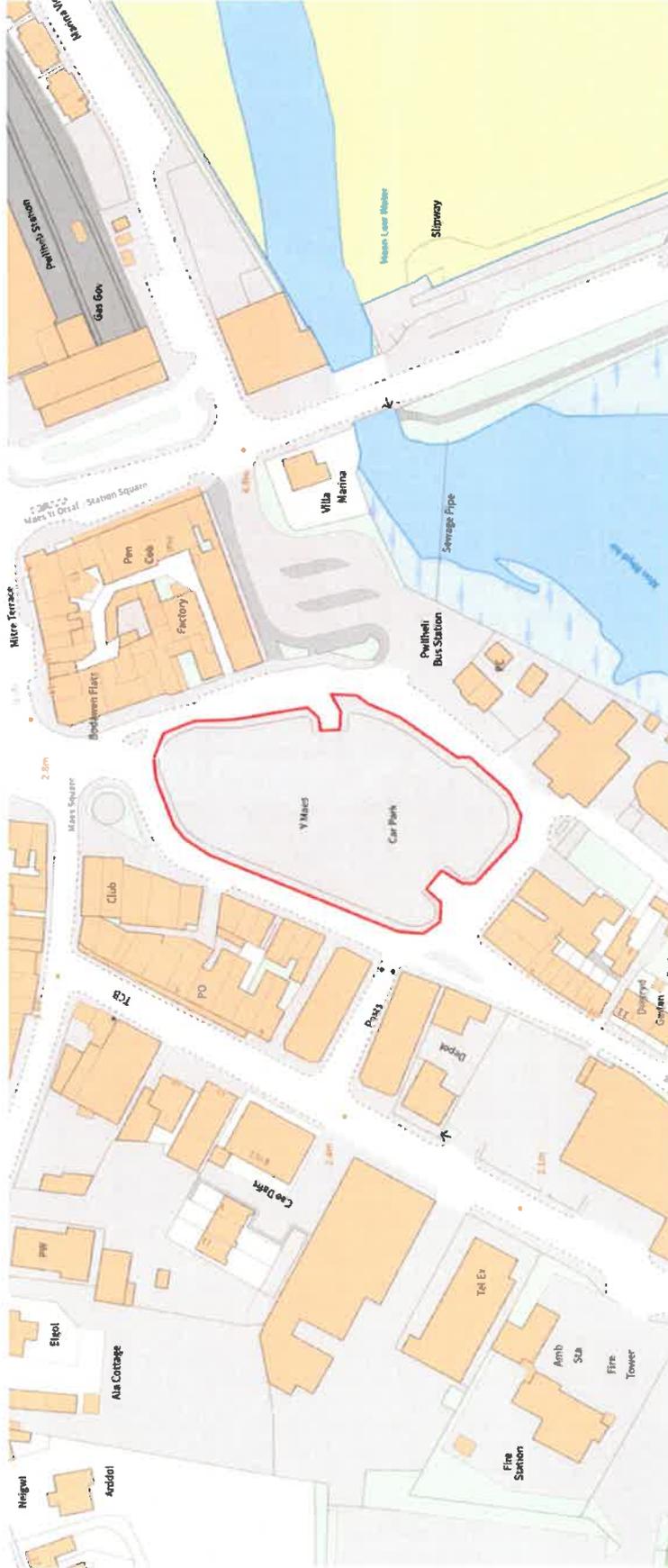


Gorchymyn Cynllun Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Y Maes, Pwllheli, LL53 5HA - Y Maes Car Park, Pwllheli, LL53 5HA

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW044** Plan Number

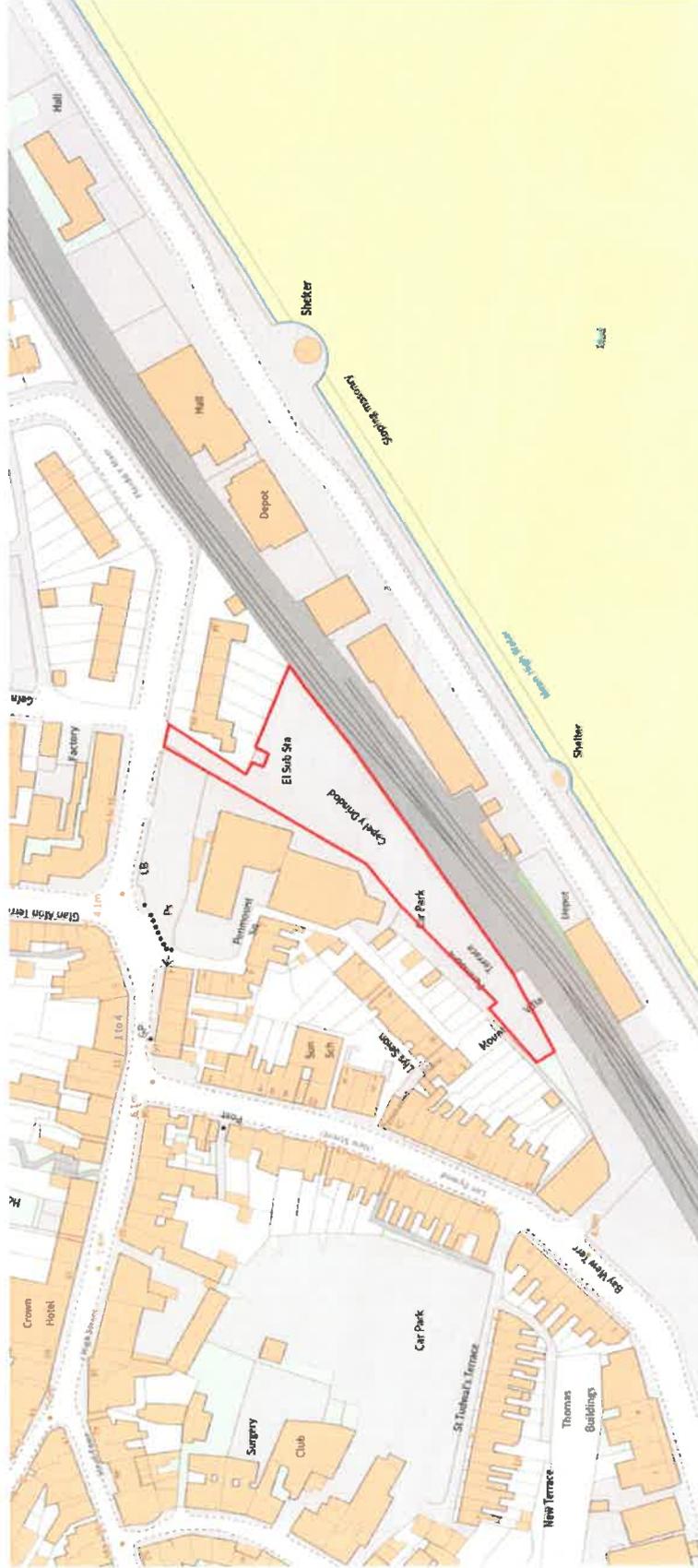


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Penmount, Pwllheli, LL53 5HU - Penmount Car Park, Pwllheli, LL53 5HU

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW048** Plan Number

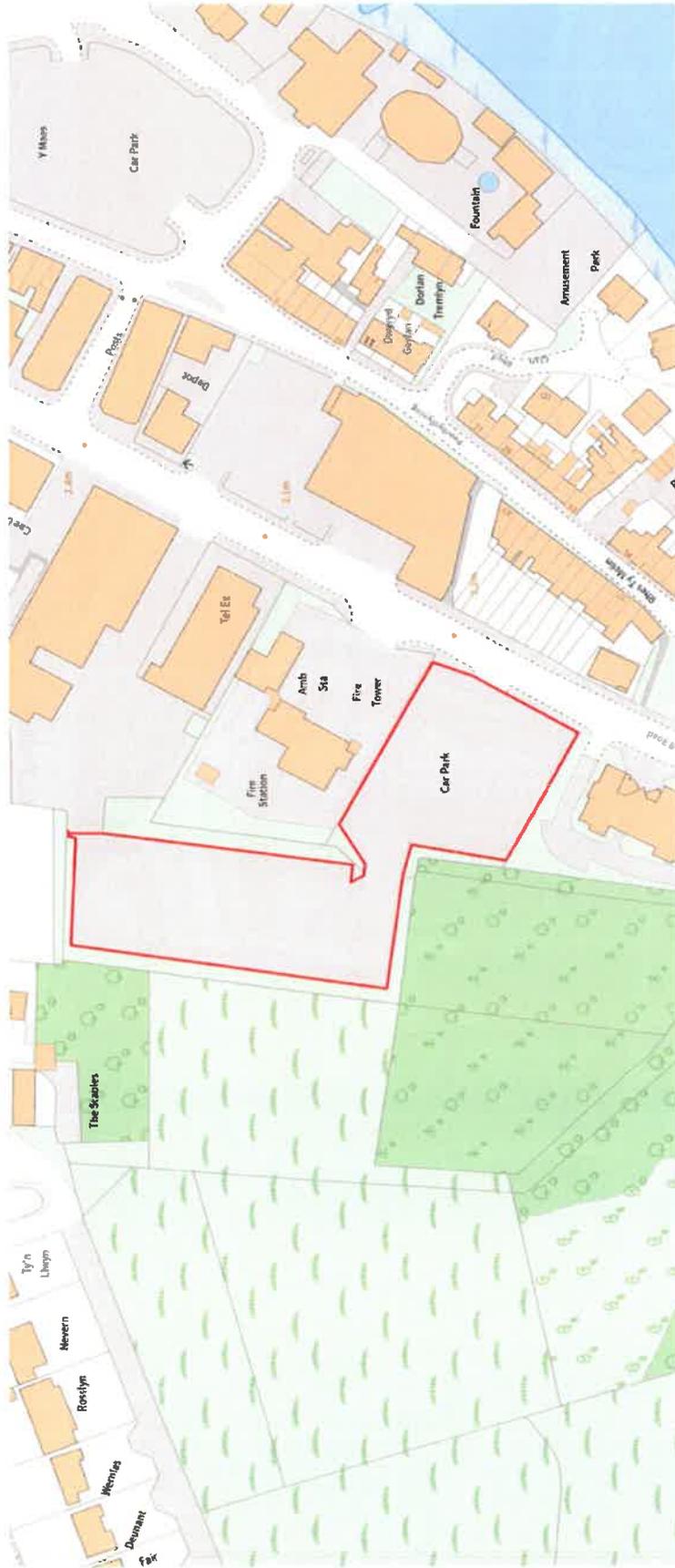


Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Ffordd Caerdydd, Pwllheli, LL53 5NF - Cardiff Road Car Park, Pwllheli, LL53 5NF

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwng Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW050** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Rhodfa'r Mor, Tywyn, LL36 0DE - Rhodfa'r Mor Car Park, Marine Parade, Tywyn, LL36 0DE

Hawfrait y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW051** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Ffordd y Gogledd, Pwllheli, LL53 5YR - North Road Car Park, Pwllheli, LL53 5YR

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW052** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Effective from date:



Maes Parcio Storiel, Bangor LL57 1DT – Storiel Car Park, Bangor, LL57 1DT

Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2025 Arolwg Ordnans AC0000821460 – Crown copyright and database rights 2025 Ordnance Survey AC0000821460

Rhif Cynllun **GW053** Plan Number



Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd
(mannau parcio oddi ar y Stryd)
(Cydgrynhoi)
2026

Dyddiad daw i rym:

Gwynedd Council Order
(Off Street Parking Places)
(Consolidation)
2026

Effective from date:

Gorchymyn Cyngor Gwynedd (Mannau
Parcio Oddi ar y Stryd) (Cydgrynghoi)2026
(y Gorchymyn)

Datganiad o Resymau Cyngor Gwynedd
(y Cyngor) i wneud y Gorchymyn

1. Mi fydd y Gorchymyn yn awdurdodi'r Cyngor reoli parcio ar y meysydd parcio perthnasol, a hefyd bydd yn caniatáu'r Cyngor i godi ffioedd parcio dynodedig am ddefnydd y manau parcio. Nid oes bwriad yn bresennol i gynyddu maint y ffi.
2. Wrth wneud y Gorchymyn bydd amodau parcio'r meysydd parcio yn cael eu cysoni, fel bod amodau pob maes parcio'n gyffredin. Ar hyn o bryd mae'r amodau'n amrywiol. Wrth gysoni'r amodau mi fydd yr amodau'n dod yn gliriach i'r defnyddwyr, ac mi fydd hyn o fudd iddynt, ac i'r Cyngor.
3. Fe grëwyd pob maes parcio er mwyn osgoi neu liniaru tagfeydd traffig ar y priffyrdd ger y meysydd parcio.
Dyddiedig: 12fed o Dachwedd 2025



Iwan G. Evans, Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth
Cyfreithiol, Swyddfeydd y Cyngor, Stryd y
Jêl, Caernarfon , Gwynedd LL 55 1 SH (
Cyfeirnod 2442521.drj)

Gwynedd Council (Off Street Parking
Places) (Consolidation) Order 2026 (the
Order)

Gwynedd Council's (the Council's or
Council) Statement of Reasons for
making the Order.

1. The Order will authorise the Council to manage parking at the relevant car parks. It also allows the Council to charge prescribed parking fees for the use of parking places. Currently there is no intention to increase the amount charged.
2. In making the Order the parking conditions for the car parks will be consistent, and all car parks shall have common conditions. Currently the conditions are various. Consolidating the conditions will give clarity and be of benefit to both users and the Council.
3. Each car park was created in order to avoid or alleviate traffic congestion on the highways situated by the car parks.
Dated: 12th November 2025.



Iwan G. Evans, Head of Legal Services,
Council Offices, Stryd y Jêl, Caernarfon ,
Gwynedd LL 55 1 SH (Reference:
2442521.drj)

Atodiad C – Appendix C

	Summary of feedback	Comments / Council Response
Caernarfon Town Council	<p>Town Council is concerned about the impact of the extended charging period on people needing to go to shops and residents.</p> <p>Specific reference to not changing the enforced hours in the Victoria Dock car park (Shell Site) due to use by people attending the surgery.</p>	<p>Thanked them for their feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.</p> <p>It was highlighted that the Victoria Dock car park (Shell Site) is not affected by the proposed changes. The minimum waiting period of 4 hours is already in place at this location, and there are no plans to change it.</p>
Bethesda Community Council	<p>Community Council considers that Cae Star car park charges should be abolished altogether. They are of the opinion that car park use has decreased since the introduction of charges and believes that a reduction in the number of motorists parking on yellow lines on the high street would decrease if the car park was free.</p>	<p>Thanked them for the feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.</p> <p>I would like to highlight that this car park contributes vital income to the Council. This contributes not only for the maintenance, conservation and management of the resource but also to fund essential services that are widely used by communities across the County, including the residents of Bethesda themselves. This income is part of our efforts to maintain services in extremely challenging financial circumstances.</p> <p>We must ensure that our policies are fair and consistent across the County, in order to uphold principles of financial consistency and sustainability.</p> <p>In addition, unlike many other towns, Bethesda already has two free car parks available to the public, offering an alternative for those wishing to avoid parking costs.</p> <p>Note – the Council offers an annual or local parking ticket which proves value for money (as little as 40p per day).</p>

Barmouth Town Council	Thanks for the information - no comments.	Thanked them for the feedback received.
Criccieth Town Council	<p>Town Council recommends offering 1 hour free to everyone in Y Maes car park to encourage more people to shop on the high street and park off the street.</p> <p>Also opposing the change to the fee structure of long stay car parks because many locals and visitors use the car parks for walks. Concern would be an increase in the number of people parking on the street or not visiting at all.</p> <p>There was a specific reference to a reduction in the money received by the Town Council through the 10% scheme.</p>	<p>Thanked them for the feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.</p> <p>With relevance to the 10% income scheme: It was highlighted that there is no certainty that the level of income will remain the same or increase from one year to the next, as a number of factors can influence the number of people using the car parks. The weather, changes in travel patterns, and local issues such as the availability of parking at nearby locations or the number of people buying an annual parking ticket can all have a significant impact. For example, this year there has been a noticeable pull to beaches and lakes over the summer due to the dry weather, and there have been parking problems in some new locations as a result.</p>
Cyngor Cymuned Llanfair	The Community Council opposes the changes to the fees and time due to the potential impact on a neighbouring café and local residents who use the car park to take a walk to the beach.	Thanked them for the feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.
Councillor Gwilym Evans, Llanberis	The councillor kindly requested to keep the payment period the same in order to alleviate the impact on local residents.	<p>Thanked the Councillor for the feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.</p> <p>Note – the Council offers an annual or local parking ticket which is proof of value for money (as little as 40p per day).</p>

Equality Impact Assessment

Refer to the How to Make an Equality Impact Assessment *leaflet* for help completing this form. You are also welcome to contact Delyth Williams, Policy and Equality Officer on ext 32708, or DelythGadlysWilliams@gwynedd.gov.wales, for further assistance.

The Council is required (under the Equality Act 2010) to consider the effect 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 foster good relationships. An Equality Impact Assessment must therefore be carried out in a timely manner before a decision is made on any material change (i.e. which has an impact on people with a protected characteristic).

I Details

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

Parking Plan Update Report 2026

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

The proposed changes aim to:

2. Implement due savings plans that require further consideration.

2.1 Modification of Band 2 long stay parking fee structure.

2.2 Extend enforcement hours in short-stay car parks.

These changes are necessary to address a significant budget shortfall faced by Gwynedd Council's Environment Department.

I.3 Who is responsible for this assessment?

Gerwyn Jones, Assistant Head – Department of Environment
Ceri Thomas – Parking and Street Works Manager

1.4 When did you start the assessment? What version is this?

Equality issues have been taken into account as the proposals are developed. These are included in this assessment prepared in January 2026.

2) Activism

2.1 Who are the partners who will have to work with them to carry out this assessment?

Parking Service

Finance Department

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?

The consultation process and the issuance of a press notice are part of the procedure and members of the public can make their comments or objections or give a positive opinion through this statutory process.

It is imperative that the Council advertise the proposed changes in the local newspapers as well as display the information (including the new fees) in a prominent position in the affected car parks.

There will be no change to a parking scheme for disabled people.

2.3 What was the outcome of the engagement?

	Summary of feedback	Comments / Council Response
--	---------------------	-----------------------------

Caernarfon Town Council	Town Council are concerned about the impact of the extended charging period on people needing to go to shops and residents. Specific reference to not changing the enforced hours in the Victoria Dock car park (Shell Site) due to use by people attending the surgery.	<p>Thanked them for the feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.</p> <p>It was highlighted that the Victoria Dock car park (Shell Site) is not affected by the proposed changes. The minimum waiting period of 4 hours is already in place at this location, and there are no plans to change it.</p>
Bethesda Community Council	Community Council considers that Cae Star car park charges should be abolished altogether. He claims that car park use has decreased since the introduction of charges and believes that a reduction in the number of motorists parking on yellow lines on the high street would decrease if the car park was free.	<p>Thanked them for the feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.</p> <p>I would like to highlight that this car park contributes vital income to the Council. This contributes not only for the maintenance, conservation and management of the resource but also to fund essential services that are widely used by communities across the County, including the residents of Bethesda themselves. This income is part of our efforts to maintain services in extremely challenging financial circumstances.</p> <p>We must ensure that our policies are fair and consistent across the County, in order to uphold principles of financial consistency and sustainability.</p> <p>In addition, unlike many other towns, Bethesda already has two free car parks available to the public, offering an alternative for those wishing to avoid parking costs.</p> <p>Note – the Council offers an annual or local parking ticket which is proof of value for money (as little as 40p per day).</p>
Barmouth Town Council	Thanks for the information - no comments.	Thanked them for the feedback received.
Criccieth Town Council	Town Council recommends offering 1 hour free to everyone in Y Maes car park to encourage more people to shop on the high street and park off the street.	Thanked them for the feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.

	<p>Also opposing the change to the fee structure of long stay car parks because many locals and visitors use the car parks for walks. Concern would be an increase in the number of people parking on the street or not visiting at all.</p> <p>There was a specific reference to a reduction in the money received by the Town Council through the 10% scheme.</p>	<p>With relevance to the 10% income scheme: It was highlighted that there is no certainty that the level of income will remain the same or increase from one year to the next, as a number of factors can influence the number of people using the car parks. The weather, changes in travel patterns, and local issues such as the availability of parking at nearby locations or the number of people buying an annual parking ticket can all have a significant impact. For example, this year there has been a noticeable pull to beaches and lakes over the summer due to the dry weather, and there have been parking problems in some new locations as a result.</p>
<p>Cyngor Cymuned Llanfair</p>	<p>A Community Council opposes the changes to the fees and time due to the potential impact on a neighbouring café and local residents who use the car park to take a walk to the beach.</p>	<p>Thanked them for the feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.</p>
<p>Councillor Gwilym Evans, Llanberis</p>	<p>The councillor submits a request to keep the payment period the same in order to alleviate the impact on local residents.</p>	<p>Thanked them for the feedback received and appreciate the time taken to submit the comments. Full consideration will be given to all feedback received before implementing any change.</p> <p>Note – the Council offers an annual or local parking ticket which is proof of value for money (as little as 40p per day).</p>

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

Financial reports identify the budget shortfalls. These schemes contribute towards the Council's funding gap.

Previous parking fee structure reviews.

Fee comparisons with neighbouring Local Authorities.

2.5 Are there any boxes in the evidence that need to be collected?

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 or service or proposed changes will have on people with these characteristics? Feel free to add other features if you wish.

Telugu	What kind of impact? *	In what way? What is the evidence?
Race (including nationality)	Neutral	A change to the fee structure is likely to affect local residents and visitors alike.
The Welsh language	None	We will continue to ensure that signage and any new software are bilingual.
Disability	Positive	No changes to the blue badge scheme are proposed so it does not anticipate a specific impact for disabled people.
Gender	None	Nothing predicts a gender-specific effect.
Age	Positive	It seems that more elderly people tend to be disabled so a higher percentage of older people will not pay for parking.
Sexual orientation	None	Nothing predicts a specific effect in terms of gender orientation.
Religion or belief (or lack of belief)	None	Nothing predicts a specific effect in terms of religion or belief (or lack of belief).
Gender reassignment	None	Nothing predicts a specific effect in terms of gender reassignment.
Pregnancy and maternity	None	None predict a specific impact in terms of pregnancy and maternity.
Marriage and civil partnership	None	Nothing predicts a specific impact in terms of marriage and civil partnership.

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 and pregnancy and maternity. The Council must pay due attention to the way in which any change affects these duties.

General Duties of the Equality Act	Does it have an effect?*	In what way? What is the evidence?
Removing unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Yes	<p>It is true to say that families who have a disabled person in the family tend to be poorer.</p> <p>We as a Council will continue not to charge disabled people a parking fee so that they can access shopping and other services as usual.</p>
Promoting equal opportunities	Yes	<p>An increase in the parking structure can make things more difficult for those with the small salaries.</p> <p>It must also be borne in mind that the Council offers an Annual Parking Pass. The ticket allows holders to park in any long-stay parking lot throughout the County without a time limit. In line with this review, there is a recommendation to increase the cost for this ticket from £140 to £145 per annum (to accommodate inflation). Ticket holders who use the car park on a daily basis would pay £12.08 per month, which is equivalent to 40p per day. We believe that the token continues to offer value for money.</p> <p>This can be a suitable solution for people on low wages.</p> <p>We are also offering residents a parking ticket to buy for £75 a year. We appreciate that the shortage of parking spaces outside homes is a problem due to an increase in the number of vehicles. This ticket offers residents parking in the Long Stay car park nearest to their home.</p>
Building good relationships	Yes	<p>While keeping the blue badge scheme the same and parking remains free for disabled people, they continue to be able to get out and socialize with the community.</p>

4) Analysis of the results

4.1 Is the policy therefore likely to have a significant, positive impact on any of the equality features or the General Duty? What is the reason for this?

No changes to the blue badge scheme will be proposed. Blue badge holders continue to have free parking in our car parks and are allowed to park on double yellow lines for a period of up to 3 hours.

While keeping the blue badge scheme the same, they continue to be able to go out and socialize with the community without having to worry about additional costs.

4.2 Is the policy therefore likely to have a significant, negative impact on any of the equality features or the General Duty? 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	

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

Not applicable.

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

5) Monitoring

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

We will continue to monitor the use of our car parks.

CYNGOR GWYNEDD - Report to Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet



Title of Item:	Pride in Place Impact Fund:
Cabinet Member:	Councillor R. Medwyn Hughes, Cabinet Member for the Economy
Relevant officer:	Llŷr B. Jones, Assistant Head of Economy and Community
Date of meeting:	10 February 2026

1. Decision Sought:

- 1.1. That the Cabinet agree to direct the £1.5 million coming to Gwynedd from the UK Government's Pride in Place Impact Fund to the Schemes listed in Appendix 2 of the report
- 1.2. That the Cabinet authorise the Head of Economy and Community Department, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Economy and the Head of Finance, to confirm details of the proposed package of schemes to be supported, ensuring operational arrangements in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Fund.

2. The reason why the Cabinet needs to make the decision:

- 2.1. On 25 September 2025 the Council received a letter from the UK Government's Secretary of State for Wales and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government confirming that £1.5 million had been earmarked for Gwynedd from their Pride in Place Impact Fund. The funding was allocated on the basis of £750,000 in 2025/6 and £750,000 in 2026/7.
- 2.2. The Cabinet is required to agree the use of the money coming to Gwynedd from the Fund.

3. Introduction and Rationale

3.1. Background / Introduction

- 3.1.1. In September 2025 the UK Government announced the Pride in Place Impact Fund which will invest £150 million across the UK by March 2027 to try and restore pride in local communities.

3.1.2. The Fund is offering £1.5 million to 95 areas in the UK. In Wales, all local authorities will receive £1.5 million (with the exception of Bridgend County Borough Council which will receive £3 million).

3.1.3. There are 3 main objectives for the Pride in Place Impact Fund, namely:

- i. **Community spaces:** create, extend, improve or refurbish existing community facilities and enable community establishments to take control or ownership of under-used but valued local assets.
- ii. **Public spaces:** enhance the physical environment in public spaces - for example green areas, new or better public squares, better outdoor play, sports and recreation places, installation of street furniture, public art or way-finders.
- iii. **High street and town centre revitalisation:** making spaces more attractive and welcoming where people gather and which encourage economic activity – for example shop front improvements, adaptations that bring premises back into use, improvements to appearance, public art, pathways and creating or improving the infrastructure for regular markets.

3.1.4. The money of the Pride in Place Fund is 100% capital funding. Of the £1.5 million, £750,000 is for 2025/6 and £750,000 for 2026/7, so the window for delivery is limited.

3.1.5. Local authorities will receive the money and be accountable for its use, working with local stakeholders to ensure interventions that meet local needs. The terms of the funding also allow grants to organisations with legal status to carry out projects.

3.2. Rationale and justification for recommending the decision

3.2.1. In November 2025, further information and guidance was received from the UK Government, including the Fund's reporting and monitoring arrangements.

3.2.2. In parallel, the Economy and Community Department is undertaking an exercise to identify potential schemes for the Fund.

3.2.3. The exercise involves several considerations, including:

- Objectives, guidance and size of the Pride in Place Impact Fund
- Implementation period (which favours more mature schemes)
- Geographical distribution across the County
- Potential opportunities for using the money to attract additional resources maximising the potential investment

- 3.2.4. As part of the work, a cross-departmental consultation was organised to consider potential schemes from across the Council.
- 3.2.5. Consideration was also given to the range of projects currently being implemented through other funding programmes such as including the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF), the Levelling Up Fund and the Welsh Government's Transforming Towns Programme.
- 3.2.6. Appendix 1 contains a summary of regeneration projects that have secured grants through the Regeneration Programmes Service or Community Support Service during the 2022/3 – 2025/6 period. The total grants administered is £32m, supporting £53m worth of projects across the County.
- 3.2.7. It should be noted that the list of schemes at Appendix 1 is limited to grant schemes administered by the Regeneration Programmes Service and the Community Support Service only. The list therefore does not include schemes that are administered or implemented directly by other Services/Departments of the Council, or by strategic partners. This relatively limited information therefore does not offer a sufficient basis for comparing local areas.
- 3.2.8. One of the priorities of the Council Plan 2023-28 is the Community and Town Centre Regeneration Plan which includes the establishment of a regeneration framework for the County, as well as the development of town centre action plans. As part of the regeneration framework, local regeneration plans have been developed for 13 catchment areas across the County, and the work has highlighted core principles including
- Contribution of local organisations and groups to local regeneration schemes
 - Spreading investment and opportunities to all parts of Gwynedd

3.3. Consideration of proposals for Pride in Place Impact Fund

- 3.3.1. The Pride in Place Impact Fund is offering an allocation of £1.5 million of capital funding to be spent by the end of March 2027. The implementation timeframe is therefore relatively tight, and the available budget is not very substantial.
- 3.3.2. The cross-departmental consultation has highlighted several projects that are currently being developed by the Council, but without resources to deliver them. There is currently uncertainty about financial programmes for 2026/7 and beyond, and therefore the Fund offers a resource for next year.

3.3.3. Nonetheless, a package of proposals for the Fund is included as Appendix 2. The proposed package includes an allocation from the Fund for the following activities/projects:

- **City, Town and Community Councils Fund** - that builds upon an experimental scheme this year by establishing a fund for local councils to disseminate the benefit to all areas of Gwynedd, supporting improvements at a very local level that respond to local needs.
- **Infrastructure and urban paths scheme** - to improve the condition of paths and urban links across the County (detailed proposals are currently being prepared)
- **Bangor City Centre Regeneration Programme** - that has been identified as a strategic priority because of the changes and challenges facing the High Street area. The proposals include a package to improve High Street properties, Ffordd y Coleg street improvements and implement improvements near Ffordd Deiniol to improve the area's appearance and strengthen urban linkages.
- **Town Centre Improvement Schemes** - including a package to improve premises and a signage and interpretation scheme as part of the Pwllheli Town Centre Improvement Scheme; re-surfacing in Eldon Square in Dolgellau; and improvements to public toilets in Barmouth.
- **Improvements to Libraries** - including schemes to transform the Caernarfon library and upgrade the library in Blaenau Ffestiniog enhancing facilities offered in these important community resources.
- **Reserve schemes** – the proposals also include reserve schemes, should an underspend or other opportunity arise.

3.3.4. The proposed package seeks to respond to local issues and needs identified through the Community and Town Centre Regeneration Plan and seeks to maximise available resources. There is an opportunity to use the fund to complement other sources of funding such as Transforming Towns, Lottery programmes and the Council's capital resources meaning that the value of the proposed package is greater than the Fund's allocation. There is also a purposeful effort to spread investment across the County – through the Town and Community Councils Fund, as well as important projects in towns across Gwynedd.

3.3.5. By responding to local needs, the proposals contribute to the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and to the duty of sustainable development by promoting the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales. It is intended to implement the Pride in Place Impact Fund as part of the regeneration framework, ensuring that arrangements for cooperation with local organisations; integration with local regeneration planning, to be inclusive, contribute to the preventative work of public bodies and respond to short term and long-term needs.

3.3.6. An Impact Assessment on the Characteristics of Equality, the Welsh Language and Socio-Economic Impact has been provided in Appendix 3. No negative impacts have been identified for the proposals, and it is anticipated that the plans would lead to positive impacts.

3.4. Next Steps

3.4.1. Subject to receiving Cabinet support, appropriate arrangements will need to be put in place for the proposed package. Full details of each individual scheme will need to be prepared and submitted to the UK Government in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Fund.

3.4.2. The UK Government has already set up a dedicated portal for reporting on and administering the Pride in Place Impact Fund. In addition, the Department will establish cross-departmental arrangements for coordinating the Fund and prepare standard documents such as a risk register and communication plan.

4. **Observations of the Statutory Officers**

4.1. **Chief Finance Officer**

Officers of the Finance Department have worked closely with the Economy and Community Department on the financial aspects of the regeneration schemes that are outline in the report. I am satisfied that robust arrangements are in place for the governance and administration of these schemes, and I am confident that this will continue should the Cabinet adopt the decision sought.

4.2. **Monitoring Officer**

It is appropriate that Cabinet considers the allocation of this grant. I am satisfied with the propriety of the decision sought and that the delegation is proportionate.

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1: Summary of projects supported through the Regenerating Communities and Town Centres Plan 2023-26

Appendix 2: Proposed Pride in Place Impact Fund proposals

Appendix 3: Impact Assessment on Equality, Welsh Language and Socio-Economic Impact

Schemes supported through the Regenerating Communities and Town Centres Project 2023-2028

Name of Group/Organisation	Project Name	Grant	Project Value	Phase	Administered by Regeneration Programmes Service / Community Support Service				
					Transforming Towns Programme	Levelling Up Fund	Gwynedd Ni Regeneration Fund	Brilliant Basics Fund	Cist Gwynedd
County Plans									
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Small Properties Improvement Grants (Gwynedd Town Centres)	£500,000	£714,304	2022/23	✓				
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Empty Properties Window Vinyls (Gwynedd Town Centres)	£25,583	£25,583	2023/24			✓		
Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	Smart Street Furniture Scheme (Gwynedd Town Centres)	£67,450	£67,450	2025/26			✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Slate Valley Schemes (Miscellaneous)	£125,000	£125,000	2025/26			✓		
Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	Improvements to Playing Fields (Miscellaneous)	£76,000	£76,000	2025/26			✓		
Environment Department	Bus Station Improvements (Miscellaneous)	£30,000	£30,000	2025/26			✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Preparatory work on capital schemes	£592,791	£600,148	2023/24/25/26			✓		✓
Bangor Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£10,500	£10,500	2025/26			✓		
Bangor University	College Park, Bangor	£1,070,257	£2,050,082	2022/23	✓		✓		
Cwmni'r Frân Wen	Nyth, Bangor	£1,039,430	£3,916,888	2022/23	✓				
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Phase 1 Health and Well-being Centre	£992,230	£992,230	2024/25	✓				
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Bangor Signage Scheme	£45,861	£60,000	2024/25	✓		✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Public Art Scheme	£7,530	£7,530	2024/25			✓		
Bangor City Council	Bangor Environmental Improvements	£101,975	£146,275	2024/25	✓				
Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	Roman Camp Schemes, Bangor	£24,073	£40,000	2025/26	✓		✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Bangor Property Regeneration Scheme (BEPI)	£996,115	£2,256,657	2025/26	✓				
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	External improvements to Storiell	£139,860	£199,800	2022/23	✓				
Grŵp Llandrillo Menai	Tŷ Cyfle, Bangor	£52,366	£1,199,946	2024/25	✓				
Adults Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	CCTV Upgrade Scheme	£139,530	£139,530	2024/25			✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Pontio and Storiell Link	£40,000	£40,000	2025/26	✓				
Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	Bible Gardens Wall Upgrade	£20,000	£20,000	2024/25			✓		
Nantporth CIC	New rooms and toilets	£25,000	£520,000.00	2025/26			✓		
Maestryfan Community Group	Maestryfan Playing Field	£10,000	£26,142	2023/24					✓
Tregarth Centre	Safeguarding the site	£3,200	£3,200	2023/24					✓
Caernarfon Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£16,100	£16,100	2025/26			✓		
Housing and Property Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Mona Building Upgrade	£218,887	£818,887	2024/25	✓				
Galeri Caernarfon Cyf	Empty Properties Scheme	£500,000	£1,190,000	2024/25	✓		✓		
Galeri Caernarfon Cyf	Canvas Scheme	£50,000	£110,700	2023/24	✓				
Caernarfon Harbour Trust	Slate Quay Environmental Improvements	£10,500	£15,000	2025/26	✓				
Llety Arall	Llety Arall improvements	£115,570	£165,100	2025/26	✓		✓		
Adults Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	CCTV Upgrade Scheme	£136,365	£136,365	2024/25			✓		
Housing and Property Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Menai Bank Development, Caernarfon	£824,876	£824,876	2024/25	✓				
Housing and Property Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Developing Lle Da	£665,000	£950,000	2022/23	✓				
Housing and Property Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Cyngor Gwynedd Headquarters Property Improvements	£163,728	£163,728	2024/25			✓		

Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	Y Maes, Caernarfon Improvements	£50,000	£50,000	2025/26			✓		
Noddfa Centre	Noddfa Centre Improvements	£100,678	£100,678	2024/25			✓		✓
Capel Caersalem	Improving the exterior space of Capel Caersalem	£5,910	£5,910	2024/25					✓
Dyffryn Ogwen Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£20,935	£20,935	2025/26			✓		
Environment Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Llwybr Ogwen to the Slate Landscape	£1,901,908	£2,261,908	2022/23		✓			
Partneriaeth Ogwen	Development of Yr Hen Bost	£1,946,121	£2,804,293	2022/23	✓	✓			
Partneriaeth Ogwen	Tregarth Community Centre Mural	£5,000	£5,000	2022/23		✓			
Adults Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	CCTV Upgrade Scheme	£3,748	£3,748	2024/25			✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Bethesda Town Centre Regeneration Wales Slate	£489,614	£489,614	2022/23		✓			
Cwmni Tabernacl Cyf.	Neuadd Ogwen Upgrade	£648,973	£701,092	2022/23		✓			
Cwmni Tabernacl Cyf.	Tafarn y Fic	£47,540	£67,516	2022/23	✓				
Dyffryn Peris Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£44,021	£44,021	2025/26			✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Gilfach Ddu, Parc Padarn Improvements	£2,207,000	£2,783,000	2022/23		✓	✓	✓	
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Llanberis Town Centre Regeneration (Wales Slate)	£469,936	£469,936	2022/23		✓			
Llanberis Town Council	Outdoor gym	£24,678	£24,678	2022/23		✓			
Museum Wales	Development of the National Slate Museum (Phase 1)	£6,200,000	£12,400,000	2022/23		✓			
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Llanberis Events Infrastructure	£30,000	£30,000	2024/25			✓		
Y Bedol Community Initiative	Caffi Y Bedol	£28,994	£28,994	2024/25			✓		
Antur Nantlle Cyf	Rhyd Ddu Outdoor Centre Upgrade	£65,000	£111,715	2025/26			✓		
Pwyllgor Pentra Deiniolen	Purchase and regeneration of Yr Hen Lyfrgell, Deiniolen	£100,000	£100,000	2025/26			✓		
Bro Lleu and Nantlle Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£29,347	£29,347	2025/26			✓		
Adra	Tŷ Gwyrddfai Scheme	£230,000	£729,000	2022/23	✓		✓		
Siop Griffiths	Cymru Fydd, Penygroes	£158,373	£237,560	2022/23	✓				
Talysarn FC Celts	Gloddfa Glai	£74,500	£329,332	2024/25			✓		
Neuadd Llanllyfni	Hall Upgrade	£23,509	£23,509	2024/25			✓		
Theatr Bara Caws	Development of Centre	£30,000	£30,000	2025/26			✓		
Neuadd Clynnog	Neuadd Clynnog Community Playground	£10,700	£10,700	2023/24					✓
Siop Griffiths	Dyffryn Nantlle Green Hub	£2,154	£2,154	2024/25					✓
Neuadd Groeslon	Developing the Hall kitchen	£6,964	£6,964	2025/26					✓
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Penygroes Town Centre Regeneration (Wales Slate)	£180,396	£180,396	2024/25			✓		
Gwynedd Council Economy and Community Department	Glynllifon business units and paths developments	£125,000	£125,000	2024/25			✓		
Pen Llŷn Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£27,649	£27,649	2025/26			✓		
Economy and Community Department	Upgrade the road to Abersoch beach	£30,000	£30,000	2025/26			✓		
Llanengan Community Council	Ysgol Abersoch	£9,850	£31,630	2024/25			✓		
Nefyn Town Council	Safeguarding the Penrallt path	£120,424	£134,424	2024/25			✓		
Melin Daron	Melin Daron Scheme (Phase 2)	£91,666	£445,000	2024/25			✓		
O Ddrws i Ddrws	Fflesci Llyn	£75,000	£95,761	2024/25			✓		
Menter Rabar	Upgrading the old ysgol Abersoch	£58,991	£98,991	2025/26			✓		
Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	Y Bont Public Toilets, Abersoch	£85,843	£85,843	2025/26			✓		
Aberdaron Playground Committee	Aberdaron Playground Inclusive Equipment	£5,000	£21,660	2023/24					✓
Pwllheli Area									

Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£21,698	£21,698	2025/26			✓		
Menter y Tŵr	Tŵr Scheme, Pwllheli (Phase 1)	£282,727	£854,911	2024/25	✓		✓		
Adults Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	CCTV Upgrade Scheme	£126,490	£126,490	2024/25			✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Pwllheli Beach	£100,000	£120,000	2025/26			✓	✓	
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Pwllheli Interpretation Panels	£14,656	£14,656	2024/25			✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Cei'r Gogledd Upgrade	£284,631	£284,631	2024/25			✓		
Canolfan Llithfaen AONB	Canolfan Llithfaen	£200,000	£343,653	2024/25			✓		
Pwllheli FC	Pwllheli Football Club Community Hub	£107,757	£163,672	2024/25			✓		✓
Menter y Plu	Menter y Plu	£169,800	£197,100	2024/25			✓		
Porthmadog and Penrhyndeudraeth Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£38,954	£38,954	2025/26			✓		
Environment Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Cob Crwn Improvements	£55,400	£130,000	2025/26	✓		✓		
Y Ganofan Committee	Improvements to y Ganolfan Porthmadog	£205,607	£315,152	2025/26	✓		✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Morfa Bychan Beach Entrance	£60,000	£260,000	2025/26			✓	✓	
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Porthmadog Town Centre Regeneration (Wales Slate)	£207,491	£207,491	2024/25			✓		
Adults Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	CCTV Upgrade Scheme	£2,978	£2,978	2024/25			✓		
Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	Maes Cricieth Upgrade	£99,999	£99,999	2024/25			✓		
Porthmadog FC	Upgrading and sustainability	£67,797	£67,797	2024/25			✓		
Cyfeillion Croesor	People and Buildings - Exploring Options	£21,900	£32,900	2024/25			✓		
Morfa Bychan Recreation Centre	Morfa Bychan Playing Field	£25,000	£25,572	2024/25			✓		
Neuadd Morfa Bychan	External work	£10,796	£11,796	2024/25			✓		
Deudraeth Cyf	Upgrading the first floor of the former HSBC building	£21,686	£24,186	2025/26			✓		
Neuadd Pentrefelin	Improvements to the Hall	£30,720	£30,720	2025/26			✓		
Neuadd Cricieth	Improvements to the Hall	£4,998	£4,998	2025/26					✓
Bro Ffestiniog Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£19,569	£19,569	2025/26			✓		
Welsh Government	Ffestiniog Path to the Slate Landscape	£1,782,186	£2,030,769	2022/23		✓			
Antur Stiniog	Town Centre Property Developments	£1,369,654	£1,584,654	2022/23	✓	✓			
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Blaenau Ffestiniog Town Centre Regeneration (Wales Slate)	£435,612	£435,612	2022/23		✓			
Blaenau Ffestiniog Town Council	MUGA Blaenau Ffestiniog	£59,002	£59,002	2022/23		✓			
Antur Stiniog	Aelwyd yr Urdd	£32,500	£45,000	2022/23	✓				
Antur Stiniog	22/23 Market Street, Blaenau Ffestiniog	£70,000	£100,000	2022/23	✓				
South Eryri Search and Rescue Team	Garage development	£64,000	£78,000	2024/25			✓		
Blaenau Ffestiniog Social Centre	Soft Play Equipment	£3,500	£3,804	2024/25			✓		
Bro Ffestiniog Rugby Club	Floodlighting Development	£60,000	£78,000	2025/26			✓		
Gwallgofiaid	Iard Clinic	£10,000	£27,839	2023/24					✓
Cor Meibion Prysor	Upgrading of Capel Bach	£10,000	£10,000	2024/25					✓
Ardudwy Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£23,132	£23,122	2025/26			✓		
Dyffryn Ardudwy Community Council	Llidiart Car Park	£66,095	£66,095	2024/25			✓		
Harlech and Ardudwy Leisure	Keeping Afloat Scheme	£28,300	£138,180	2024/25			✓		
Dragon Theatr	Building sustainability upgrade	£10,000	£12,600	2023/24					✓
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Public Art Scheme	£51,135	£51,135	2024/25			✓		
Highways, Engineering and YGC Department	North Promenade Public Toilets, Abermaw	£94,144	£94,144	2025/26			✓		
South Gwynedd Foodbank	Kitchen and toilet upgrades	£9,390	£9,390	2025/26					✓

Bala Penllyn Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£32,417	£32,417	2025/26			✓		
Cwmni Pum Plwy Penllyn	Canolfan Bro Tegid	£208,721	£363,027	2024/25	✓		✓		
Bala Family Centre	Phase 2 - Bala Family Centre	£48,780	£51,781	2024/25			✓		
Bala Hockey Club	Bala Hockey Field Improvement	£10,000	£247,000	2024/25			✓		
Menter Gymunedol Llanuwchllyn	Menter Tafarn yr Eagles	£133,800	£400,000	2024/25			✓		
Neuadd Gywair Committee	Improving Llangywer community facilities	£13,217	£13,217	2024/25			✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Public Art Scheme	£10,858	£10,858	2024/25			✓		
Llandderfel Social Centre	Car park and charging point	£73,415	£85,519	2024/25			✓		
Bala Golf Club	Bala Golf Club Solar Panels	£5,000	£19,490	2023/24					✓
Menter Gymunedol Llanuwchllyn	Improvements to the Tafarn yr Eagles, Llanuwchllyn	£6,705	£6,705	2024/25					✓
Dolgellau Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£36,201	£36,201	2025/26			✓		
Cwmni Tŷ Siamas	Tŷ Siamas Building Upgrade	£43,633	£43,633	2024/25			✓		
Brithdir Village Hall	Improvements to Brithdir Village Hall	£22,704	£24,995	2024/25			✓		
Seren Bach Nursery	Erection of extension and upgrading of facilities	£90,000	£108,029	2025/26			✓		
Llanfachreth Village Hall	Phase 2 Village Hall Improvement Project	£10,482	£20,482	2025/26			✓		
Neuadd Rhyd y Gorlan	Installing a new kitchen	£6,800	£6,800	2023/24					✓
Neuadd Rhydymain	Meeting Room Improvement Project	£9,996	£9,996	2024/25					✓
Llanfachreth Village Hall	External developments	£10,000	£10,000	2025/26					✓
Bro Dysynni Area									
Catchment Town and Community Councils	Various schemes by Town and Community Councils	£40,425	£40,425	2025/26			✓		
Byw'n Iach	Tywyn Synthetic Pitch	£47,000	£374,269	2025/26			✓		
Economy and Community Department, Cyngor Gwynedd	Tywyn Town Centre Regeneration (Wales Slate)	£171,267	£171,267	2024/25			✓		
Economy and Community Department	Aberdyfi Jetty Upgrade	£50,000	£136,000	2025/26			✓		
Menter y Glan	First Floor, Glan yr Afon	£197,732	£230,732	2024/25			✓		
Canolfan, Bryn-crug Community Group	Installing a new kitchen	£8,682	£8,682	2025/26					✓
	TOTAL	£32,248,339	£53,013,774						

APPENDIX 2: PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUND PROPOSALS: 2025/6 & 2026/7

Schemes	Organisation	Pride in Place Impact Fund:	Total Cost (estimate)	Comments
County Schemes				
Town and Community Councils Fund	Local councils	£400,000	£400,000	Building on the 2025/6 Plan
Infrastructure and urban paths	Highways, Municipal & YGC Department	£240,000	£258,000	Improving the condition of paths and urban links
Bangor City Centre Regeneration Programme				
Bangor Health and Well-being Centre Scheme	Economy and Community Department	£50,000	£850,000	A Strategic Outline Case Prepared
Bangor Properties Improvement Scheme	Economy and Community Department	£75,000	£75,000	Operational in 2026/7
Improving the street appearance of College Road	Highways, Municipal & YGC Department	£76,500	£76,500	Designs prepared
Implementing the Storiel Pontio scheme	Economy and Community Department	£125,000	£300,000	Designs prepared
Town Centre Improvement Schemes				
Pwllheli Properties Improvement Scheme	Economy and Community Department	£75,000	£75,000	Operational in 2026/7
Pwllheli Signage and Interpretation Scheme	Economy and Community Department	£50,000	£200,000	Operational in 2026/7
Eldon Square Improvements, Dolgellau	Department	£50,000	£84,000	Operational in 2025/6
Abermaw public facilities	Highways, Municipal & YGC Department	£75,000	£98,000	Operational in 2026/7
Improvements to Libraries				
Llyfrgell Llawn Bywyd Caernarfon	Economy and Community Department	£100,000	£650,000	Scheme targets Lottery Fund
Blaenau Ffestiniog Library Upgrade	Economy and Community Department	£125,000	£150,000	Preparatory work in 2025/6
Project Management / Co-ordination Fee	Economy and Community Department	£58,500	£58,500	
	Total	£1,500,000	£3,275,000	
Reserve Schemes				
Recycling Bins (County)	Highways, Municipal & YGC Department	£46,800	£46,800	
Tywyn promenade improvements	Economy and Community Department	£30,000	£30,000	
Promenade upgrade (Queen's area) Aberdaron	Economy and Community Department	£25,000	£25,000	
Pwllheli Town Market Scheme	Economy and Community Department	£30,000	£30,000	

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

Please see the sheet *How to Make an Equality Impact Assessment for support to complete this form*. You are also welcome to contact Delyth Williams, Policy and Equality Officer on ext. 32708, or DelythGadlysWilliams@gwynedd.llyw.cymru, for further assistance.

The Council is required (under the Equality Act 2010) to consider the impact that any changes 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 to foster good relationships. Therefore, a timely assessment must be made before a 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 the Welsh Language Standards (Section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011), to consider the impact that any change in policy or procedure (or 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.

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

1) Details

1.1 What is the name of the policy / service in question?

Pride in Place Impact Fund

1.2 What is the purpose of the policy/service that is being created or amended? What changes are being considered?

On the 25th of September 2025, the Council received a joint letter from the Secretary of State for Wales and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government confirming the allocation of £1.5m to Cyngor Gwynedd via the Pride in Place Impact Fund (£750k in 2025/6 and £70k in 2025/7).

As a result of scoping, the Economy and Community Department has formulated a package of proposed projects to allocate the available resources. The proposed package includes an

allocation from the Fund for the following activities/projects:

- **City, Town and Community Councils Fund** - that builds upon an experimental scheme this year by establishing a fund for local councils to disseminate the benefit to all areas of Gwynedd, supporting improvements at a very local level that respond to local needs.
- **Infrastructure and urban paths scheme** - to improve the condition of paths and urban links across the County (detailed proposals are currently being prepared).
- **Bangor City Centre Regeneration Programme** - has been identified as a strategic priority as a result of the changes and challenges facing the High Street area. The proposals include a package to improve High Street properties, Ffordd y Coleg street improvements and implement improvements near Deiniol Road to improve the area's appearance and strengthen urban links.
- **Town Centre Improvement Schemes** - including a package to improve premises and a signage and interpretation scheme as part of the Town Centre Improvement Scheme Pwllheli; re-surfacing Eldon Square in Dolgellau; and improvements to public toilets in Barmouth.
- **Improvements to Libraries** - including schemes to transform the Caernarfon library and upgrade the library in Blaenau Ffestiniog enhancing facilities offered in these important community resources.
- **Contingency Schemes** - the proposals also include contingency schemes, should there be underspend or if another opportunity arises.

1.3 Who is responsible for this assessment?

Llyr B. Jones, Assistant Head Economy and Community

1.4 When did you commence the assessment? Which version is this?

January 2026 – Version 0.1

2) Implementation

2.1 Who are the stakeholders or partners with whom we will have to work to conduct this assessment?

Cyngor Gwynedd Officers
Elected Members
Town and Community Councils

Local Regeneration Groups
Users

2.2 What steps have you taken to engage with people with protected characteristics, regarding the Welsh language or with communities (either due to location or due to need), who are living with a socio-economic disadvantage?

No engagement work has been undertaken thus far with the Pride in Place Impact Fund.

The Economy Department has considered opportunities to support capital projects by allocating monies from the Pride in Place Impact Fund.

Individual Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme, including appropriate engagement arrangements.

2.3 What was the outcome of the engagement?

It is anticipated that specific engagement work will be undertaken for each scheme.

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

Cyngor Gwynedd has received an allocation of £1.5m from the Pride in Place Impact Fund (£750k in 2025/6 and £750k in 2025/7). There are 3 main objectives for the Pride in Place Impact Fund, namely:

- i. Community spaces: create, extend, improve or refurbish existing community resources and enable community establishments to take control or ownership of under used local assets but are appreciated.
- ii. Public spaces: improve the physical environment in public spaces - examples of enterprises include green spaces or new or better public squares, better outdoor play, sports and recreation places, installation of street furniture, public art or finding ways.
- iii. Regeneration of the high street and town centre: make these areas where people congregate more attractive and welcoming and encourages economic activity. Examples of enterprises that can be funded are improvements to shop fronts, adaptations that bring sites back into use, streetscape enhancements, public art, paths and finding ways and create or improving infrastructure for regular markets.

Local authorities act as the accountable body for the Fund, working with local stakeholders to invest in interventions that satisfy local needs.

A Regeneration Framework has been developed for the County - this includes Local Regeneration Plans for 13 catchment areas in Gwynedd. These Plans have been developed bearing in mind the characteristics of each area, and the operational plans that try to respond to local priorities. Also, Placemaking Plans have been prepared for Bangor, Caernarfon, Pwllheli, Porthmadog, Dolgellau and Bala.

There is evidence for specific aspects

- City, Town and Community Councils Fund - a pilot scheme was implemented in 2025/6 with a range of local improvements completed and an evaluation is currently being prepared.
- Infrastructure and urban paths scheme - the condition of some paths and urban links have deteriorated and work is being undertaken by the Highways, Engineering & YGC to develop a package to restore specific spaces.
- Bangor City Regeneration Programme - The High Street is facing a period of change and challenges, and a survey of empty properties has been undertaken during 2025.
- Town Centre Improvement Plans - over the last two years a number of shops have closed in Pwllheli, and a survey of empty properties has been undertaken during 2025. The survey indicates that the condition of Eldon Square in Dolgellau has deteriorated and needs re-surfacing work. The toilets at Cambrian Court, Barmouth have aged and do not satisfy modern expectations in terms of hygiene, accessibility and sustainability.
- Library Improvements - Caernarfon Library, the busiest public library in Gwynedd, needs emergency modernisation to remain accessible and sustainable. Similarly, the library space in Blaenau Ffestiniog needs to be upgraded to make it accessible and sustainable.

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

It will be necessary to prepare detailed proposals for each scheme that receives a grant via Pride in Place Impact Fund. An individual Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme.

3) Identifying the Impact

3.1 The Council must duly address the impact that any changes will have on people with the following equality characteristics. What impact will the new policy/service or the proposed changes in the policy or service have on people with these characteristics?

It is also necessary to consider the impact on Socio-Economic disadvantage and on the Welsh Language.

Characteristics	What type of impact?	In what way? What is the evidence?
Race (including nationality)	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
Disability	None	A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
	Positive	However, it is anticipated that the schemes to improve the quality of paths, improvements to libraries, toilets and local facilities are likely to improve accessibility to sites and have a positive impact on individuals with disabilities.
Gender	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
Age	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
	Positive	However, it is anticipated that the schemes to improve the quality of paths, improvements to libraries, toilets and local facilities are likely to improve accessibility to sites and have a positive impact on individuals with disabilities.
Sexual orientation	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
Religion or belief (or non-belief)	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
Gender reassignment	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
Pregnancy and maternity	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
Marriage and civil partnership	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
The Welsh language	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
Socio-Economic Disadvantage	None	No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.
	Positive	However, it is anticipated that the schemes to improve the quality of paths, improvements to libraries, toilets and local facilities are likely to improve accessibility to sites and have a positive impact.

3.2 The Council has a duty under the Equality 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, pregnancy and maternity. The Council must duly address the way any change impacts on these duties.

General Duties of the Equality Act.	Does it have an impact?	In what way? What is the evidence?
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation.	To be confirmed	A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by giving specific attention to opportunities to contribute positively to this duty.
Promote equal opportunities.	To be confirmed	A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by giving specific attention to opportunities to contribute positively to this duty.
Building good relationships.	Yes	<p>A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by giving specific attention to opportunities to contribute positively to this duty.</p> <p>However, it is anticipated that the projects pack will contribute to the efforts to improve local facilities and to collaborate with a number of groups and local groups.</p>

3.3 How does your proposal ensure that you work in accordance with 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 to promote the Welsh language is taken (beyond providing bilingual services) and increase opportunities to use and learn the language in the community?

A specific assessment will be prepared for each individual scheme.

All the communication arrangements will be totally bilingual with all associated documents available in Welsh and in English.

3.4 What other measures or changes could you include to strengthen or change the policy / practice so as to have a positive impact on people's opportunities to use the Welsh language, and to reduce or prevent any detrimental impacts that the policy/practice could have on the Welsh language?

Further measures and changes will be considered following a specific assessment for individual schemes.

3.5 How does the proposal show that you have given due regard to the need to address inequality due to socio-economic disadvantage? (Please note that this relates to closing the inequality gap, rather than just improving outcomes for everyone).

The package of proposed schemes has been drafted to respond to the needs and priorities within local communities.

It is anticipated that there will be further information deriving from the Equality Assessments that are to be developed for each individual scheme.

3.6 What other measures or changes can you include to strengthen or change the policy / practice to demonstrate 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?

It is anticipated that further information derives from the Equality Assessments that are to be developed for each individual scheme.

3.7 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? (Provide a summary of your findings if you have already considered this as part of the screening process)

By responding to local needs, the proposals contribute to the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and to the duty of sustainable development duty by promoting the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It is intended to implement the Pride in Place Impact Fund as part of the regeneration framework, ensuring that arrangements for cooperation with local organisations; integration with local regeneration planning, to be inclusive, contribute to the preventative work of public bodies and respond to short term and long-term needs.

3.8 In order to comply with the Armed Forces Act 2022, what is the impact of this proposal on those who serve or who have served in the Armed Forces, as well as their families, in terms of housing services and education?

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?

No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.

However, it is anticipated that the schemes to improve the quality of paths, improvements to libraries, toilets and local facilities are likely to improve accessibility to sites and have a positive impact.

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 specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering the impact.

4.3 What should be done?

Please select one of the following:

Continue with the policy / service as it is robust.	Yes
Revise the policy to remove any barriers.	
Suspend and abolish the policy as the harmful impacts are too great.	
Continue with the policy as any harmful impact can be justified.	
No further steps at present, it is premature to decide, or there is insufficient evidence.	

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

No specific impact has currently been identified. A specific Equality Assessment will be prepared for each scheme by considering any negative impact. Should a negative impact be identified, possible mitigation measures will be considered.

4.5 If you are not taking any further action to remove or reduce the negative impacts, please explain why here.

Not relevant

5) Monitoring

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

Arrangements to manage and implement the Pride in Place Impact Fund include:

- Preparing individual Project Plans
- Preparing full Equality Assessments for each scheme
- Prepare quarterly monitoring reports
- Invite and receive comments and feedback from users and stakeholders
- Evaluation report at the end of the period considering the real impact