

Appendix I

What's important to you?

Identifying Priorities for the Gwynedd Council Plan 2018 - 2023



You can take part in this consultation by filling in the questionnaire either on-line - go to www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/ymgyngori or by filling in the paper questionnaire which is available in your local library or the Council's offices in Caernarfon, Pwllheli and Dolgellau.

If you would like to receive this document in a different language or format, please phone 01766 771000 or e-mail equality@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

Introduction

Gwynedd Council's main objective is to put the people of Gwynedd at the centre of everything we do. If we are to provide the most suitable services of the highest possible standard to our residents, we need to know exactly what the actual needs of the people of Gwynedd are, and try to achieve this despite the difficult financial situation which we face.

It must be borne in mind that Gwynedd Council, like every other Council, receives continuing reductions in funding from Welsh Government and other sources to pay for our services. The current financial situation is challenging, but we must look and plan ahead and decide in which fields we wish to focus our scarce human and financial resources.

By March 2018, the Council will publish the *Gwynedd Council Plan 2018-2023*, namely a public document which will note our priorities and everyday work over the period of five years. However, before deciding on the final Plan, we wish to publish this questionnaire in order to gather opinion and information about the possible work which the Council will need to focus on. Therefore, we wish to ask you as the residents of Gwynedd, or partners working with us, what's important to you. **The fundamental question is can we implement all the priorities noted within this document with the resources that will be available? We will consider this when deciding on the content of the *Gwynedd Council Plan 2018-2023*.**

As part of the preparatory work to create the Plan, Elected Members have already been given an opportunity to prioritise the matters they believe are important locally. Those priorities have been noted in the Section on [Local Priorities](#).

The Section on [County-wide Priorities](#) lists the matters prioritised by the Elected Members on a County-wide level and where there is a desire to improve.

However, a great deal of the Council's work is statutory and it is mandatory that we do it, such as safeguarding children and adults or providing education, and therefore this work will continue. The 'day to day' work, such as waste collection, the planning service and provision of libraries will also continue. In addition, in order to maintain services for our residents, we are looking at innovative and alternative ways of providing some services, looking at new models to provide Leisure Facilities and Youth Services in the future. **As this work is already underway, we are not consulting on them at present.**

The purpose of this document is to highlight where the Council wishes to take action beyond this basic work carried out on a day to day basis or where we are of the opinion that more of a priority should be given to a particular field.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act places a responsibility on public bodies to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being and implementing the priorities within this document will contribute to improving the well-being of the residents of Gwynedd. After agreeing on our final priorities, the *Gwynedd Council Plan 2018-2023* document will elaborate on our well-being goals and how our work will contribute to the principles of the Act.

In order for us to have a full picture of the needs of our residents, I urge any individual or organisation or community receiving a service from Gwynedd Council, or a partner that works with us, to fill in this questionnaire. At the end of every section, there will be an opportunity for you to present observations on the content, or offer new ideas.

It is only by hearing the voice of the people of Gwynedd that we can provide what you need today and to the future.

Thank you in advance for your observations; I look forward to reading them.

Dyfrig Siencyn
Leader of Gwynedd Council

Expressing my opinion

You can take part in this consultation by filling in the questionnaire either on-line - go to www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/ymgyngori, or by filling in the paper questionnaire which is available in your local library or the Council's offices in Caernarfon, Pwllheli and Dolgellau.

The questionnaire is split into two main parts -

- County-wide Priorities
- Local Priorities

Within these, there are various units which provide more detail about the specific work field or area. At the end of every section, there will be an opportunity for you to give your observations. You may offer observations on what you have read, or offer new ideas.

County-wide Priorities

For ease, these have been split into different units. The priorities described here are either work already underway or are new developments

Children, Young People and Families
Poverty, Economy, Housing
Financial Planning

Care and Community Well-being
The Welsh Language

Local Priorities

For the purpose of this Plan, Gwynedd has been split into 10 areas as listed below, based on the eight Well-being Areas which have already been identified as part of the Well-being Plan. The Bangor Area has been split into two, namely Bangor and Dyffryn Ogwen and the Caernarfon Area has also been split into two, namely Caernarfon and Dyffryn Nantlle owing to the size of the population and the diversity between the areas.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Bangor Area | 2. Dyffryn Ogwen Area |
| 3. Caernarfon Area | 4. Dyffryn Nantlle Area |
| 5. Llŷn Area | 6. Porthmadog Area |
| 7. Ffestiniog Area | 8. Penllyn Area |
| 9. Dolgellau Area | 10. Tywyn Area |

We want to know what you think are the most important matters which require attention in these individual areas. You may focus on the areas in which you live or work, but it would be useful if you could provide observations about why you believe a matter is important to you.

Then, as a Council, we will consider the ways in which we can respond to the matters arising as part of the process of developing the *Gwynedd Council Plan 2018-2023*.

If you have any additional observations, or if you want to elaborate on previous answers, there is space to do so at the end of the questionnaire. If you have any questions or observations about this questionnaire, please get in touch via the following methods:

Further information:

Please contact the Gwynedd Council Business Support Team:

Tel: 01766 771 000

E-mail: youropinion@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

County-wide Priorities



Children, Young People and Families

Supporting Families Strategy

Offering support and assistance to children and young people who need it has always been a priority for the Council. However, while we are very good at safeguarding those children who need to be safeguarded, we are eager to ensure that we provide appropriate and timely assistance to those who require it. We will review our existing arrangements in this field in order to do more of what works to meet the needs of children and their families. Offering support to some families before matters become serious will be essential in order to help children and families to prosper and to reduce the need for more intense services.

We will ensure that we have a clear vision with key partners such as the Health Board, together with our communities and the Third Sector in order to provide the best outcomes for those children, young people and families who need our support.

Corporate Parenting

The Council is responsible for the safety and welfare of looked-after children and, consequently, the Council has a responsibility to act as a parent for those children. We have a Corporate Parent Panel which has already developed a strategy in order to secure the best opportunities for children and young people under our care and to probe further into some issues such as health, emotional well-being and stability of children and young people. With the increase in the number of looked-after children we will be focusing particularly on ensuring that our children are given every opportunity to succeed in life.

As corporate parents we will aim to improve the opportunities for our children in all aspects of their lives. By listening to and seeking the views of children in our care, we will ensure that the support provided by us meets their needs and that we take action to close any gaps. We will also ensure that those leaving our care are prepared and empowered for life as adults, ensuring that they receive suitable support to assist them to realise their potential. This could include agreeing on arrangements with our Housing partners to ensure that they receive every support to live independently.

Transforming the schools system

We have recently consulted on the sustainability of the education system in Gwynedd and there are general concerns that the existing schools system is not sustainable given the significant challenges ahead.

We have consulted on a series of principles which should be a basis for any future changes and we will establish a scheme to embed those principles in order to ensure a viable education system which will ensure that every child in the county is given a fair opportunity to develop his or her potential.

Strengthening Leadership

Recruiting and retaining head teachers is becoming an increasing problem in Gwynedd. Though we have many good Leaders, there aren't enough qualified leaders at present to ensure the quality of the leadership in our schools, and there aren't enough individuals that have been prepared and developed for the increasing number of various leadership roles.

We have already put together a successful support package; however, we need to continue to strengthen the leadership of our schools as well as identify, train, develop and recruit the best people to lead our schools now and in the future.

We will continue to encourage and promote the professional development of existing leaders in our schools, while committing to the available leadership development programmes. We will also identify and target future leaders, ensuring that they have access to these programmes.

Area Education Offices

For some time now, there has been considerable concern among head teachers regarding their working conditions, as they have to fulfil a number of different roles; as leaders, managers, teachers and administrators. Without exception, Estyn inspections show that effective leadership, together with adequate resources and time, results in a good education and high standards.

We will continue to develop the Area Education Offices in order to develop support and backing for our schools, as well as rationalise and share the management requirements. This will be done by developing the role of the Business and Services Officers to co-ordinate and facilitate partnership work between the schools themselves and between Council departments, in order to reduce the management and administrative workload of head teachers and teachers.

Transforming the provision of Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion

Work has already been completed on transforming the additional learning needs and inclusion service, in order to ensure that children and young people who need it have access to the most suitable support to enable them to fulfil their potential. We will now develop the support in the classroom, pre-school provision, post-16 provision and Special Schools. We will also build on the existing partnership work between our Special Schools and with the authority's mainstream schools in order to improve the learning experiences of children with severe and complex needs.

Bangor Catchment Area

A number of primary schools in the Bangor catchment area (and in particular the Penrhosgarnedd area) are full to bursting.

We have managed to attract funding from Welsh Government to be invested in education provision in the catchment area but we will have to provide half the money. We will review the education provision in Bangor while looking to put a new scheme in place which will improve the provision in the future.

Y Berwyn Catchment Area

The Council has already decided to reorganise education in the Berwyn catchment area in order to rationalise the schools system and improve the education provision and standards.

The construction work is already underway, and we opened an all-weather football pitch at Maes Tegid, Bala which will be a resource for all schools in the catchment area as well as the wider community.

We will complete the work of establishing the Welsh-medium Learning Campus for pupils aged 3-19 on the Ysgol y Berwyn site, Bala which will also offer services for the local community, by September 2019. This involves completing the process of establishing the governing body, completing the construction work and assisting with arrangements for opening the new Learning Campus.

Secondary Sector Language Strategy

The Language Charter has been operational in our primary schools for some years, with the aim of getting more children to use the Welsh language. Welsh Government has now disseminated the use of the charter to other counties in Wales. As a result of the success of the Charter, there have been increasing calls to ensure a successor for it in secondary schools. Evidence from research commissioned by the Education Department proves the need for a plan and a strategy to promote the curricular and social use of the Welsh language in our secondary schools.

We will continue to employ a Secondary Sector Language Strategy Co-ordinator who will provide the appropriate challenge and support to our secondary schools. Every secondary school will have an individual and unique action plan which will reflect the linguistic context of the school and the surrounding community. The young people themselves will also develop a programme of informal and exciting activities for their peers, in order to raise the status and increase the informal opportunities for young people to use the Welsh language socially.

If you have any observations on the aforementioned priorities, please note them here:



Care and Community Well-being

The care services provided by us is generally good, but, an ageing population, dispersed geography, increasing need and ongoing difficulty in recruiting and retaining staff create a challenging situation in the field of health and care. With financial pressures affecting us also, the traditional modes of operation no longer address the actual needs of our people. We have already carried out considerable work on trying to establish different ways of satisfying the demand on us. In recent years, we have been trying to improve the ways we support adults who receive health and care services. Good progress has been made with this work but there is much further work to be done.

In Gwynedd Council, we are committed to finding practical solutions to the challenges ahead. We will continue to work jointly with the Health Board and the Third Sector and will co-ordinate our services on a more local level. This will allow us to work more closely with partners such as volunteers and unpaid carers to try to find the best solutions to the needs of those who require support. This approach will be different to the traditional way of working by investing in preventative services and promoting independent living.

Community Resilience

Over the last five years, we have tried to ensure that the people of Gwynedd are clear regarding the challenge facing them within the care field and in doing so, encouraging and supporting communities to be more resilient. This work has led to preventative solutions which have increased the care options for local people. Our intention over the coming years is to continue to look at opportunities to build on the strengths within our communities and try to co-produce a full range of preventative support in order to make it easier for people to continue to live independently in their communities. This will include working closely with our unpaid carers to try to reach the right solutions in the interests of those who need care.

We will develop preventative services which are aimed at supporting residents, linking people with support within their communities and focusing on five areas during the first year and making them Dementia Friendly. A key part of community resilience is how different generations co-habit and socialise and we will build on the success of the work behind the 'Hen Blant Bach' programme which was an opportunity to look at how bringing nursery-aged children and older people together would work.

Re-designing Care Services

It is important that we work in a way which focuses on what matters to people who receive health and care services. We have been working with the Health Board and trialling new and

innovative ways of working such as the work that's been happening at Ysbyty Alltwen in order to ensure that we achieve this. We are on an ambitious and challenging journey, however, the successes of recent years show the ability we have to develop health and care services which are suitable for the future.

We will continue with this work and establish five local teams jointly with our partners which will ensure effective services focused on the individual and ensure that our arrangements for leaving hospital are effective and are in keeping with what matters to that individual.

As part of our work with our care services providers, we will experiment with new ways of commissioning home care packages and will also invest in our care homes in order to improve our more acute care provision. In addition, we will collaborate with the Health Board in order to strengthen mental health services locally and will look at innovative ways of improving learning disability services.

The Workforce and Recruitment within the Care Field

Recruiting to the Care field is challenging for various reasons and while we have an effective and committed workforce, we must ensure that we have enough workers with the necessary skills to meet the increasing need. Over the years, several recruitment efforts have been made in the field but further attention will be needed in order to ensure that we understand the problem fully and respond in the best way.

Before being able to establish an action plan to resolve the problem, we need to ensure that we really understand the problem, and we will investigate the existing situation in Gwynedd, the pressures on our workforce and for the Council and will look at implementing the solutions which become apparent. We will also work on raising the profile and status of care workers by reviewing existing career paths, so that a career in social care work is a positive career choice and we will promote the care field as a career by disseminating appropriate information to local organisations. We will also review our Apprenticeship scheme within the Council to seek to influence the number of apprentices within the care field.

If you have any observations on the aforementioned priorities, please note them here:



Poverty, Economy, Housing

Working Together against Poverty

Poverty affects a number of residents and communities in Gwynedd with a high percentage of households living below the poverty line.

While we have a number of services which seek to help people to come out of poverty and try to alleviate its impact, over the coming months, we will look at putting new arrangements in place in order to co-ordinate the Council's efforts and those of partners in the field while also looking at the interventions which are likely to be most effective so that they can be focused on.

We will also continue with the work to help residents to gain skills and cope with managing household income and debts, to access on-line information and services and implement schemes which will give work opportunities for people who are not part of the labour market. We will also provide support for people to cope with changes in the welfare and benefits field.

Keeping the Benefits Local

The Council is responsible for buying a number of goods and services and is eager to try to ensure that local businesses can compete and win these contracts in order to ensure that as much of the Council's expenditure as possible remains local.

Much work has already been done and new arrangements have been introduced to buy goods and services in more innovative and efficient ways and steps have been taken in order to facilitate the businesses' ability to compete for contracts. In 2016/17, the Council purchased goods and services which were worth over £59.8million to the local economy.

We are eager to try to build on this work further by trying to increase the Council's expenditure with local businesses and raise awareness and understanding among businesses of the Council's procurement procedures and support them to compete for and win contracts with the Council and beyond.

Creating High Value Jobs (£26,500 + salary)

Low salaries are an obvious characteristic of the county, with the weekly salary in Gwynedd (£410) being the second lowest in Wales, and the low pay at its worst in our rural communities (£375), making them among the lowest in the UK.

In order to address this, one of the Council's main priorities is working with partners in the public and private sectors to create more, better-paid jobs.

We will look at targeting sectors which pay well by creating an environment which supports new businesses, grows existing businesses and attracts additional investment. One way to do this is by creating the conditions to attract investment in strategic sites such as the Trawsfynydd Power Station, Llanbedr Airfield and Parc Bryn Cegin/ Parc Menai. Good work has already started to attract investments to sites at Trawsfynydd and Llanbedr, but this momentum needs to be sustained.

Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig

The nature of our rural economy means that 79% of Gwynedd businesses do not employ more than one person and as there are too many jobs within sectors which don't pay well, there is a threat in terms of the sustainability of our rural communities.

Ensuring digital connectivity for our rural communities, and that the workforce and rural businesses have the skills to take advantage of them are matters which require attention if we are to have prosperous communities.

We have already attracted £4million from the Wales Rural Development Programme to the County to develop innovative approaches and a range of exciting developments in order to target the rural communities.

Our intention is to build on the work which has already been done to transform the rural economy by introducing innovation within traditional sectors (such as agriculture and tourism) giving particular attention to the Dwyfor and Meirionnydd areas.

Implementing the Gwynedd Slate Heritage

Many of the most needy communities in Gwynedd are rich in heritage and are home to existing or proposed World Heritage Sites, such as the former traditional slate areas.

This is an opportunity to use the World Heritage Site designation as a tool to regenerate communities and to increase the value of the tourist industry. We will be looking at realising a programme of regeneration activities in these areas which will lead to an increase in residents' ownership of their heritage, the form and appearance of communities and the quality of tourists' experience.

Increasing the Benefits of Major Events

Public events offer a commercial opportunity for local businesses to provide services locally. By holding events, it is possible to raise the profile of Gwynedd and market it for tourists as an exciting and vibrant place and an ideal location for businesses to invest.

We have already been successful in attracting a number of national and international high-profile events to the County which brought in an investment of £6.7m in 2016/17. We are eager to continue with this and ensure that local businesses benefit from the events. This will lead to an increase in the number of visitors to the County and an increase in the number of opportunities for local companies to work at or offer services to the events.

More Gwynedd residents playing a full part in the world of work

The weekly salary in Gwynedd (£410) is the second lowest in Wales, and is 78% of the UK average (£525). Being outside the world of work and unemployment is higher in Arfon than the county average.

Being outside the world of work could lead to reducing residents' wealth and increasing the demand on public services and preventing this is a key part of the anti-poverty agenda. There are direct benefits from being in work in terms of increasing earnings, but there are also wider benefits in terms of health, children's life opportunities and pride in communities. We will be looking at focusing on a series of activities in order to get more Gwynedd residents into full-time work thereby reducing inactivity and unemployment.

Benefiting from Tourism

Tourism is one of Gwynedd's main economic sectors and the sector contributes £1 billion to the economy annually and employs over 15,000 in the county.

Despite this, visitors put a significant added pressure on the infrastructure of the county's destinations, a cost which is mainly shouldered by Gwynedd residents.

Our intention is to look at the possibility of getting visitors to contribute financially to maintaining and enhancing Gwynedd destinations and raising the standards of the tourism sector. By doing so, we will improve the provision of the county's destinations and increase the standard of the provision for the tourist industry.

A Council which Delivers for Local Businesses

The county's businesses are involved with and receive a service from several of the Council's Departments, including rates, planning, trading standards, building control and procurement.

By adopting an operational approach which places the needs of businesses at the centre and attempts to do away with obstacles, businesses can be supported and encouraged to establish and grow in the county.

Over the coming years, we will review how these services are provided in order to consider whether there is room for improvement and will implement any lessons which become apparent to ensure that businesses are assisted to prosper.

Housing Field

Suitable and Affordable Housing

We know that the foundation for living well is having an affordable, good quality home. Gwynedd Council has committed to securing suitable and affordable housing, together with good quality housing which meet the needs of our residents.

During the year, as a Council we have been working to increase the supply and variety of housing available in order to ensure that they are suitable for the needs of the people of Gwynedd. We must continue to take action in this important field.

In doing so, we will ensure a wide range of advantages in terms of the health and well-being of our residents and will give a foundation for individuals and families to thrive. We are also aware that improving the standard of housing will lead to reducing the pressures on health and care services.

Gwynedd faces several challenges in the housing field including an ageing population and changes in benefits, but opportunities also exist. Our intention is to ensure that we have a detailed understanding of the nature of the demand for housing within our communities in order to prioritise our efforts to generate the biggest social benefits. We will do so by mapping out the demand for housing in our areas which will prepare the way to creating a programme to respond to the demand.

Once we understand the demand, we will consider whether our existing programmes address that need or whether we need to do something different.

We will target areas where different types of houses need to be developed (including extra care housing) particularly for older people and young people.

Identifying and Promoting Housing Schemes and Initiatives

We have been focusing on seeking to prevent homelessness in the first instance by assisting and offering stability to a number of families in difficult times and our general efforts to prevent homelessness have been successful. The picture in terms of the assistance involving housing needs is complex and the challenges which face people vary greatly and, consequently, we must respond in a better way.

Our intention is to improve residents' access to support in relation to housing needs while identifying schemes and initiatives that are available to assist them. We will also reach a decision on the best way of promoting these schemes and initiatives and regarding the need to develop further specific support.

If you have any observations on the aforementioned priorities, please note them here:



The Welsh Language

The Welsh language and public services

At present there is inconsistency in the provision of bilingual services by public bodies in Gwynedd which means that it is not always possible for residents to use the Welsh language naturally when communicating with public bodies.

Some work has already been carried out in order to discover what level every public body is at in terms of their ability to offer the first contact to the citizens of Gwynedd through the medium of Welsh. We will be looking at improving the situation by collaborating with public organisations in the County in order to enable and encourage Gwynedd residents to use the Welsh language when contacting the organisations and ensuring consistency in the provision.

Gwynedd Businesses using the Welsh language

Gwynedd businesses have a role to play in promoting and using the Welsh language and our intention will be to encourage businesses to use the language when offering services.

We will need to consider how the Council will be able to promote this and what activities are likely to be most effective in the field.

Promoting the use of the Welsh language within the Council's services

Gwynedd Council has been prominent in terms of ensuring that services are available through the medium of Welsh and ensuring that the Council's internal work happens through the medium of Welsh. Nevertheless, we acknowledge that we are in a challenging period and that we need to work continually to push the boundaries and make sure that the provision is consistent across all our services.

Work has been underway with four departments within the Council to identify gaps and areas for improvement in terms of the Welsh language provision. Our intention is to build on this work by working with departments to look at the way they respond to the public's demand for Welsh-language services, consider their success in normalising the Welsh language and the ways they could be promoting the use of the Welsh language amongst their users.

If you have any observations on the aforementioned priorities, please note them here:



Financial Planning

Realising Savings

The cuts in funding that the Council receives from the Government means that we must cope with receiving less money to maintain our services. Over the last eight years, we have had to cut £48m from the Council's budget.

Despite this, we have been fairly successful in keeping the effects on the residents of Gwynedd to a minimum, but the cuts have started to take effect by now. There are no signs that the continued cuts in funding from Welsh Government to pay for key services that we provide will come to an end in the near future.

We will, therefore, continue with the work of ensuring that we realise those savings which have already been approved and ensuring that we plan to find savings in the future. During 2018/19, we will develop savings options for 2019/20 onwards in order to respond to the financial challenges facing the Council. Naturally, we will consult with the residents of Gwynedd on those options.

If you have any observations on the aforementioned priorities, please note them here:

Local Priorities

Some of the County-wide Priorities are local in nature, such as developing the education provision in the Bangor and Bala catchment areas, or developing the potential of the former traditional slate areas. In addition to the work which has already been identified, the Elected Members for the various areas in Gwynedd prioritised a number of matters for each local area as ones which require attention or which cause concern in those areas.

Over the coming months, further work will be undertaken in order to consider whether or not we can respond to them.

Priorities for the Bangor Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. There is concern that there is a **high number of houses of multiple occupation (HMOs)** in Bangor, which negatively affect the appearance of the city, with placards displayed throughout the year and an increase in litter. There is also concern that the situation leads to a higher than usual number of empty homes, with the side-effect of this reducing the housing market for local residents.
2. Litter being left behind after **rubbish and recycling collections** makes the city look unkempt, therefore this problem needs to be alleviated.
3. There is a need to consider working with local businesses, Town and Community Councils and partners to **generate an income to improve the appearance of the local area**, which in turn would support local businesses and tradespeople.

Priorities for the Dyffryn Ogwen Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. There is a feeling of a shortage of suitable homes for the local population, including older people and, therefore, **ensuring a sufficient supply of suitable housing**, including extra care housing, is a priority for local people.
2. There is concern that **a lack of public parking spaces for local people** leads to safety problems as well as being inconvenient.
3. Consideration should be given to developing a policy in order to **promote and regenerate the Bethesda High Street** in order to develop the local economy and benefit from an increase in tourism.

Priorities for the Caernarfon Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. One of the main matters which is a cause of concern in the area is **road safety** particularly on Llanbeblig Road, Llanberis Road and the roads near Ysgol Llanberis.
2. There is a desire to improve **the visual image of the area** including **grass that needs cutting, litter and dog fouling**. In addition, there is a strong feeling that the mess that is left behind after **rubbish and recycling collections** makes the area look unkempt, with the general mess in the area disheartening for local people.
3. There is concern that **a lack of public parking spaces for local people** causes safety problems as well as being inconvenient.

Priorities for the Dyffryn Nantlle Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. There is a strong feeling that there is a need to improve **the unkempt appearance of the area** including **grass that needs cutting, litter and dog fouling on streets, footpaths and parks**, which have a negative impact on the area.
2. There is a desire locally to work with the Council to change **the negative image** of Dyffryn Nantlle in order to realise the major potential that exists there.
3. One of the main matters which is a cause of concern in Dyffryn Nantlle is **road safety** in the area, including the general roads of Dyffryn Nantlle as well as King's Road in Penygroes.

Priorities for the Llŷn Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. There is concern locally about **the provision and sustainability of our homes and nursing homes for the elderly** across the County. As the population of Gwynedd becomes older, and their needs become more acute, there is a need to ensure that appropriate care provision is available.
2. There is a perception that there is a lack of **care and health provision** in the area, including nurses, GPs and home carers. The opinion of the local councillors is that we need to work with our partners to attract and retain qualified workers in order to strengthen the health care services in the area.
3. There is a strong feeling that **not cutting grass makes the area untidy**. The local opinion is that overgrown grass has a negative effect on the area's communities and the mess is disheartening for local people.

Priorities for the Porthmadog Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. There is a feeling that attempts should be made to try to attract **more stable, long-term jobs which pay a good salary** in order to improve the economic situation of local residents. The opinion is that the geographical position of Porthmadog, in the middle of the County, offers itself to be an **economic hub** to attract businesses and organisations.
2. The local opinion is that **the condition of the coast path should be improved** in order to attract more walkers and cyclists to the area, which in turn would lead to increasing economic opportunities in the interests of local residents.
3. There is concern about the condition of **redundant sites** in the area such as Bron y Garth, Y Felin, Tŷ Moelwyn, the Coliseum and Hen Danerdy (Tremadog), and **their appearance should be improved** and new appropriate use for these sites should be planned.

Priorities for the Ffestiniog Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. In order to improve the economic situation of the areas, there is local opinion that **more stable jobs which pay a good salary need to be attracted**, including a scheme to **redesign and regenerate the High Street**.
2. There is great concern in the area regarding **the future of the Community Centre**, specifically the future of the Day Centre and the Youth Club.
3. There is a perception locally of a shortage of suitable homes for the older population and, therefore, **ensuring a sufficient supply of suitable housing** is a priority for the area.

Priorities for the Dolgellau Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. Improving **connectivity and standard broadband provision and mobile phone coverage** is a priority for local people.
2. The feeling that there is a **lack of appropriate care provision** in the area is a concern for local people. As the population of Gwynedd grows older, and their needs become more acute, there is a need to ensure that appropriate care provision is available.
3. Due to the perception that there is a shortage of suitable homes for young families, **ensuring a sufficient supply of suitable housing**, is a priority for local people.

Priorities for the Penllyn Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. There is a desire locally for the Council **to collaborate with the Penllyn Partnership** to trial an arrangement in which they would accept responsibility for resources within the community, such as car parks, in order to use the income to maintain local services such as toilets.
2. In order to improve the economic situation of the area, there is local opinion that **more stable jobs which pay a good salary need to be attracted.**
3. A **lack of parking spaces for workers on the Bala industrial estate** is a concern for local people. Other options and locations need to be identified for the workers.

Priorities for the Tywyn Area

The following matters have been identified as the fields which most need attention. What's important to you? Please note your observations at the end of this chapter.

1. There is a feeling locally that there is a **shortage** of qualified workers to fill **jobs such as Home Carers or Carers in homes for the elderly.** This is also true of workers with Welsh language skills. This could lead to problems which mean that we cannot provide the best possible care for our residents at present, or plan the provision adequately for the future.
2. The local opinion is that **the cycle path between Tywyn and Aberdyfi needs to be completed,** in case we miss an opportunity to benefit economically from the tourism industry, and in order to give the best opportunities for local residents to keep fit and health by using the local natural resources.
3. There is a desire locally to **improve the visual image of the area,** as general mess is disheartening for local people and is likely to have a negative effect on tourism. The situation has come about as a result of general problems such as litter, weeds and dog fouling.

If you have any observations on the aforementioned priorities, please note them here:

If you have any further observations, please note them here:

About you:

We would be grateful if you could provide the following information. We collect this information for monitoring purposes only, and every response will be completely confidential.

You can choose not to answer any question or questions if you do not wish to do so.

i) On whose behalf are you completing the questionnaire?

As an individual

On behalf of an organisation or business, please note the name of the organisation or business _____

ii) Please note your Post Code: _____

iii) Please note your sex:

Male

Female

Other - please note: _____

I prefer not to say

iv) Which age group do you belong to?

Under 16 - *if you are under 16, please answer questions i - vii only*

18 – 29

30 – 39

40 - 49

50 – 59

60 – 69

70 or older

I prefer not to say

v) How would you describe your national identity?

Welsh

English

Scottish

Northern Irish

British

Other - please note: _____

I prefer not to say

vi) Describe your ethnic origin:

White

Mixed / several ethnic groups

Asian

Black / African / Caribbean

Other - please note: _____

I prefer not to say

