



Well-being and Future Generations Impact Assessment Report – Draft Education Strategy

- September 2023

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1. INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

- **TOMORROW'S GWYNEDD** – Giving our children and young adults the best possible start in life.
- **A PROSPEROUS GWYNEDD** – Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd in earning a deserving salary
- **A HOMELY GWYNEDD** – Supporting the people of Gwynedd to live in suitable and affordable housing in their communities
- **A CARING GWYNEDD** – Supporting the people of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in the communities
- **A WELSH GWYNEDD** – Ensuring that we give our residents every possible opportunity to use the Welsh language in the community
- **A GREEN GWYNEDD** – Protect the county's natural beauty and respond positively to the climate change crisis
- **AN EFFICIENT GWYNEDD** – Putting the people of Gwynedd first by treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently.

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

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

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

1. Context

The original Strategic Programme "**Towards 2025: The Future of Education and Training for Children and Young People in Gwynedd**" was published in 2010 to set a direction for the field of education and training in Gwynedd up to 2025. The new Education Strategy draft builds on the foundations of the Strategic Programme for the next decade up to 2032.

2. HOW DOES THE PROPOSAL MEET GWYNEDD COUNCIL'S WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES?

Objectives	Details:
<p>TOMORROW'S GWYNEDD Giving our children and young adults the best possible start in life.</p>	<p>Positive impact. The draft Strategy contributes positively to this well-being objective through the objective, 'Right to Education and Training'. The purpose of this objective is to ensure that all children and young people can access education and training of the highest possible quality that enables them to flourish and fulfil their potential</p>
<p>A PROSPEROUS GWYNEDD Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd in earning a deserving salary</p>	<p>No negative impact</p>
<p>A HOMELY GWYNEDD Supporting the people of Gwynedd to live in suitable and affordable housing in their communities</p>	<p>No negative impact</p>
<p>A CARING GWYNEDD Supporting the people of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in their communities</p>	<p>No negative impact</p>
<p>A WELSH GWYNEDD Ensuring that we give our residents every possible opportunity to use the Welsh language in the community</p>	<p>The draft Strategy contributes positively to this well-being objective through the objective, 'Expanding and strengthening our Welsh and bilingual provision'. The purpose of this objective is to try to ensure that all children and young people benefit from first class Welsh and bilingual education provision, together with access to specialist support and services through the medium of Welsh which enable them to succeed, thrive and achieve their aspirations for the future.</p>
<p>A GREEN GWYNEDD Protect the county's natural beauty and respond positively to the climate change crisis</p>	<p>The draft Strategy contributes positively to this well-being objective through the objective 'High quality Sustainable Learning Environment'. The purpose of this objective is to develop inspiring learning environments, whilst protecting our natural environment. Therefore, when moving forward, new school buildings will have to be innovative, contemporary, environmentally friendly, and efficient in terms of resources, taking into account the effect of energy and carbon. We are also committed to ensuring that there is a green and environmentally friendly ethos for all our schools by monitoring and reducing energy consumption, together with the integration of active travel. Furthermore, at the core of our new curriculum is our aim to support learners</p>

	to be principled, informed citizens who are committed to the sustainability of the planet.
AN EFFICIENT GWYNEDD Putting the people of Gwynedd first by treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently	No negative impact

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

Aim	Does the proposal contribute to this aim?	Measures to mitigate negative effects on this goal:
<p>A prosperous Wales An innovative society that uses resources prudently, educated people, that create wealth and work.</p>	<p>This draft Strategy is intended to benefit all children and young people in Gwynedd. It will try to address some challenges that are likely to face the system now and in the future such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and strengthen our education and training provision and so enabling the children and young people of Gwynedd to reach their full potential and to cultivate the qualifications and skills that enable them to live and thrive. • Maintain and strengthen the Welsh language in every aspect of school life and the communities served due to the results of the 2021 Census. • Ensure excellent welfare support services for Gwynedd's children and young people to help them overcome obstacles and reach their full potential. • Strengthen leadership at all levels and respond to the challenge of recruiting teachers and assistants in our schools. • Ensure the viability and resilience of our schools when there is a reduction in learner numbers due to low birth rates, an aging 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 carbon-free over the next period. • Responding to the challenge of maintaining the education system in an unprecedented period of cuts to Local Authority budgets. 	<p>No negative impact</p>
<p>A resilient Wales A nation that maintains and enhances biodiversity and healthy ecosystems that support resilience and adaptability to change (for example climate change).</p>	<p>The draft Strategy contributes positively to this goal through the 'High Quality Sustainable Learning Environment' objective. The purpose of this objective is to try to ensure that Gwynedd schools offer a safe, inspiring and sustainable first-class learning environment for the county's learners and teachers and are institutions that have a strong connection with their communities.</p>	<p>No negative impact</p>
<p>A healthier Wales A society where people's physical and mental well-being is the best possible and people understand what affects their health.</p>	<p>The draft Strategy contributes positively to this goal through the objective, 'Learner Health and Wellbeing'. The purpose of this objective is to try to ensure that all children and young people in Gwynedd are ready to learn and are able to benefit fully from</p>	<p>No negative impact</p>

	the education and training available and can have easy access to support to improve their emotional, mental and physical well-being.	
<p>A more equal Wales A society that enables people to achieve their potential regardless of their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances).</p>	The draft Strategy contributes positively to this goal through the 'Right to Education and Training' objective. The purpose of this objective is to try to ensure that all children and young people can access education and training of the highest possible quality that enables them to flourish and fulfil their potential.	No negative impact
<p>A Wales of cohesive communities Attractive, viable and safe communities that are well connected.</p>	The draft Strategy contributes positively to this goal through the 'High Quality Sustainable Learning Environment' objective. The purpose of this objective is to try to ensure that Gwynedd schools offer a safe, inspiring and sustainable first-class learning environment for the county's learners and teachers and are institutions that have a strong connection with their communities.	No negative impact
<p>A Wales with a vibrant culture where the Welsh language flourishes An association that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language and encourages people to participate in the arts, sports, and leisure activities.</p>	The draft Strategy contributes positively to this goal with the objective of, 'Expanding and strengthening our Welsh and bilingual provision'. The purpose of this objective is to try to ensure that all children and young people benefit from first-class Welsh and bilingual education provision, together with access to specialist support and services through the medium of Welsh which enable them to succeed, thrive and achieve their aspirations for the future.	No negative impact
<p>A Wales responsible on a worldwide level A nation that, as it does anything to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales, considers whether doing such a thing could contribute positively to global well-being.</p>	It is not anticipated that the proposal would be likely to have an impact on this aim.	No negative impact

4. PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Principles of sustainable development	Does the proposal consider the principle?
<p>Long term Balancing short-term needs with long-term ones and planning.</p>	<p>The strategy sets a long-term vision that will set a direction for the education and training field in Gwynedd up to 2032.</p>
<p>Prevention Allocate resources for preventing problems from occurring or getting worse. We will address problems by preventing and intervening early rather than by reacting.</p>	<p>This draft Strategy is intended to benefit all children and young people in Gwynedd. It will try to address some challenges that are likely to face the system now and, in the future, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and strengthen our education and training provision and so enabling the children and young people of Gwynedd to reach their full potential and to cultivate the qualifications and skills that enable them to live and thrive. • Maintain and strengthen the Welsh language in every aspect of school life and the communities served due to the results of the 2021 Census. • Ensure excellent welfare support services for Gwynedd's children and young people to help them overcome obstacles and reach their full potential. • Strengthen leadership at all levels and respond to the challenge of recruiting teachers and assistants in our schools. • Ensure the viability and resilience of our schools when there is a reduction in learner numbers due to low birth rates, an aging 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 carbon-free over the next period. <p>Responding to the challenge of maintaining the education system in an unprecedented period of cuts to Local Authority budgets.</p>
<p>Integrating Having a positive impact on people, the economy, the environment and culture.</p>	<p>This draft Strategy is intended to benefit all children and young people in Gwynedd. It will try to address some challenges that are likely to face the system now and, in the future, as stated above.</p>
<p>Co-operating Working with other partners to provide services.</p>	<p>During the 2023 Summer Term, the Education Department held an informal discussion with the Cabinet members on the draft vision and objectives for the Education Strategy. At that meeting, it was agreed with the Cabinet Members to scrutinize the draft version of the Education Strategy receiving comments from the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee for consideration by the Department and the Cabinet Member for Education before taking any further action. A draft outline of the steps intended to be taken by the Department to ensure the input of key stakeholders to the vision and objectives of the draft Strategy is included in the report summary.</p>
<p>Contents (Communications and Engagement) Involve the people of Gwynedd in realising our plan and ensure that those people reflect the diversity of the area.</p>	<p>A draft outline of the steps intended to be taken by the Department to ensure the input of key stakeholders to the vision and objectives of the draft Strategy is included in the report summary.</p>

5. CONCLUSIONS

Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, the 7 goals of the well-being act and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it is concluded that it is not anticipated that any negative effects will arise from the draft Strategy. The aim of the draft Strategy and its basic intention is to ensure an education system that puts the needs of all our learners at the centre of our provision, by maintaining and strengthening our education and training provision to enable the children and young people of Gwynedd to reach their full potential and to build upon the qualifications and skills that enable them to live and thrive.

