Cyd-Bwyllgor Corfforedig
Gogledd Cymru
North Wales
Corporate Joint Committee

PART EXEMPT

CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE
25 September 2026

TITLE: CJC Sub-Committee Membership Changes and Lay Member Appointment
AUTHOR: Mark Watkins, Monitoring Officer

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 This report records changes to Denbighshire County Council's representation on the CJC and its sub-committees and seeks one appointment: Dewi Lewis as a lay member of the Governance and Audit Sub-Committee.

1.2 The Monitoring Officer has made the Strategic Transport and Strategic Planning Sub-Committee appointments under the delegation approved by the CJC on 21 June 2024. They are reported for noting. Appendix 1 records only the changes covered by this report.

1.3 The candidate's curriculum vitae is provided separately as Exempt Appendix 2 (not for publication). The remainder of this report is public.

2. DECISION SOUGHT

That the Corporate Joint Committee is asked to:

2.1 Note that Cllr Hugh Evans, as Leader of Denbighshire County Council, is a member of the CJC and its Economic Well-being Sub-Committee by virtue of that office.

2.2 Note the Monitoring Officer's appointments under the delegation of 21 June 2024 of Cllr James Elson to the Strategic Transport Sub-Committee and Cllr Geraint Lloyd-Williams to the Strategic Planning Sub-Committee, as set out in Appendix 1.

2.3 Appoint Dewi Lewis as a lay member of the Governance and Audit Sub-Committee for four years from the effective date of appointment, subject to completion of the relevant co-option agreement.

3. REASON FOR THE DECISION

3.1 The change in Denbighshire's leadership and Cabinet portfolios requires the CJC's membership records to be updated.

3.2 On 21 June 2024, the CJC authorised the Monitoring Officer to accept written notifications of changes to the Strategic Transport and Strategic Planning Sub-Committees and appoint

replacement co-opted members, provided the appointments are reported at the next CJC meeting. This report fulfils that reporting requirement.

3.3 A vacancy has arisen among the three lay members of the Governance and Audit Sub-Committee. The proposed replacement appointment is reserved to the CJC.

4. BACKGROUND AND RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 Denbighshire County Council announced its revised leadership and Cabinet portfolios on 8 September 2026. Cllr Hugh Evans became Leader; Cllr James Elson holds the Environment and Transport portfolio; and Cllr Geraint Lloyd-Williams holds the Housing and Local Development Plan portfolio.

4.2 Cllr Hugh Evans's CJC membership follows from his office as Leader. As a Council Member of the CJC, he is also a member of the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee. Neither position requires a fresh CJC appointment.

4.3 For the purposes of the Strategic Planning Sub-Committee's Planning Policy portfolio requirement, responsibility for the Local Development Plan has been treated as the relevant planning-policy function. On that basis, the Monitoring Officer has appointed Cllr Geraint Lloyd-Williams under the existing delegation and has similarly appointed Cllr James Elson to the Strategic Transport Sub-Committee. These appointments are recorded in Appendix 1.

4.4 The Governance and Audit Sub-Committee comprises six elected members and three lay members. The CJC appoints its lay members for a four-year term under the established appointment arrangements.

4.5 The proposed appointment follows the vacancy arising from Carys Edwards's resignation. Cyngor Gwynedd's Governance and Audit Committee nominated Dewi Lewis on 9 July 2026. He is a lay member and Vice-Chair of that Committee and has previous local government and community development experience relevant to the CJC's governance and audit functions. The CJC is asked to determine his appointment.

4.6 The candidate's CV contains private contact details and other sensitive personal information. It is provided separately as Exempt Appendix 2. If Members need to discuss that information, the CJC must resolve to exclude the press and public for that part of the item.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The lay-member appointment requires routine Democratic Services and legal administration. Any remuneration and expenses will be met in accordance with the CJC's approved arrangements, subject to confirmation by the Section 151 Officer.

6. CONSULTATION

6.1 Denbighshire County Council's revised Cabinet portfolios and notifications have informed the Monitoring Officer's delegated appointments. Written notifications and appointment records should be retained with the CJC's governance records.

6.2 Cyngor Gwynedd's Governance and Audit Committee nominated Dewi Lewis on 9 July 2026. The vacancy, candidate's eligibility and consent, and any other nominations should be confirmed before the CJC considers the appointment.

7. INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

7.1. Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

In developing the recommendations in this report, regard has been had to the well-being duty arising under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. No specific adverse implications have been identified.

7.2. Equality Act 2010

The Public Sector Equality Duty and socio-economic duty have been considered. No specific adverse implications have been identified.

7.3. Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011

Consideration has been given to the Welsh language implications of the recommendations in this report. No adverse implications have been identified.

7.4. Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty

Not applicable

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1. Sections 5.2.1, 5.8.3 and 5.9.3 of the CJC Constitution provide the sub-committee appointment framework and relevant Transport Policy and Planning Policy portfolio requirements. The 21 June 2024 resolution delegates replacement appointments to the Monitoring Officer on written notification, subject to reporting them to the next CJC meeting. The CJC is asked to note, not remake, the appointments to the Strategic Transport and Strategic Planning Sub-Committees.

8.2. Section 5.11.3 of the Constitution and the Governance and Audit Sub-Committee Terms of Reference provide for six elected and three lay members, with appointments made by the CJC. The proposed four-year term is consistent with the existing lay-member appointment arrangements. Eligibility, consent and the vacancy should be verified before the decision is taken.

8.3. Existing appointments continue on their individual terms and are not renewed merely because a new municipal year has begun. Democratic Services will maintain the full membership register separately; it need not be appended to this report.

8.4. The Monitoring Officer has reviewed Exempt Appendix 2 and considered the public interest in disclosure against the public interest in maintaining the exemption. The appendix contains personal information about the proposed appointee, including information of a sensitive nature. Having regard to paragraph 12 of Part 4 and paragraph 21 of Part 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as applied to the CJC by regulation 26 of the Corporate Joint Committees (General) (No. 2) (Wales) Regulations 2021, the Monitoring Officer is satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

8.5. The public interest in transparency is addressed through the public report's identification of the nominee and his relevant experience. Exempt Appendix 2 is accordingly withheld from publication and must be marked "Not for publication" in accordance with regulation 18(7). If discussion of the exempt information is necessary, the CJC must first pass a resolution under regulation 16(6) and (7) excluding the public for that part of the item.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Section 151 Officer should confirm that the appointment's remuneration and expenses can be met within existing approved budget provision.

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1	Changes to membership and appointment requiring decision
EXEMPT Appendix 2	Dewi Lewis CV — not for publication

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

North Wales CJC Constitution; CJC resolution of 21 June 2024 on Planning and Transport co-options.

CJC Governance and Audit Sub-Committee appointment report, 17 January 2025; Cyngor Gwynedd Governance and Audit Committee decision, 9 July 2026; Denbighshire Cabinet announcement, 8 September 2026

STATUTORY OFFICERS RESPONSE:

i. Monitoring Officer:

"I am satisfied that the recommendations are consistent with the CJC's Constitution and the relevant statutory framework.

I am also satisfied that the treatment of Appendix 2 as exempt information is justified under the applicable access-to-information provisions, having considered the relevant public-interest test."

ii. Section 151 Officer:

"A budget has already been established for the democratic costs arising from the matters outlined in the report. I have no objection to the decision sought."

APPENDIX 1
Changes to membership and appointment requiring decision

This schedule records only the changes addressed by this report. The full CJC membership register is maintained separately by Democratic Services.

Changes to be noted (no further appointment by the CJC):

- Cllr Hugh Evans — CJC and Economic Well-being Sub-Committee: membership arising from his office as Leader of Denbighshire County Council.
- Cllr James Elson — Strategic Transport Sub-Committee: appointed by the Monitoring Officer under the delegation of 21 June 2024.
- Cllr Geraint Lloyd-Williams — Strategic Planning Sub-Committee: appointed by the Monitoring Officer under the delegation of 21 June 2024, on the basis of his responsibility for the Local Development Plan.

Appointment for decision:

- Mr. Dewi Lewis — Governance and Audit Sub-Committee lay member, for four years from the effective date of appointment.