IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES PROGRESS

Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28 – Year 2 Actions

<u>A Homely Gwynedd:</u> Supporting the people of Gwynedd to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities

Department	Project	What we will achieve during the SECOND year 2024-25 (milestones):	Progress update on the milestones this far (April 2025)	Has the milestone been completed / likely to be completed by the end of the financial year (Yes / No)
Housing and Property	Increasing the supply of housing for local people	1 By the end of the second year, a further 200 houses will be available for Gwynedd residents, and a total of 330 social Housing will have been developed by the end of the period	1 We have succeeded in our ambition of creating 200 extra homes for the residents of Gwynedd during the year, bringing the total of social housing now to 386 which will help almost 1,300 individuals. Other plans to build, develop or recover homes and living units are making good progress — more information can be seen below	1 Yes 2 Yes
		At least two Tŷ Gwynedd sites will be in the construction stage	2 2 sites – the former Llanberis library, and the former Ysgol Babanod Coed Mawr, Bangor are on site and in the building stage	3 Yes, partly

		3 We will have purchased a total of 40 houses from the open market through the Buy to Let Scheme and will have let at least 20 of those to tenants in housing need	46 homes have been purchased through the Buy to Let Scheme, and 16 homes have been let so far with several more ready to be let over the next few months	4	Yes
		4 We will have brought a further 33 empty properties back into use through the help of grants to renovate vacant homes for first time buyers, bringing the total to 100	108 empty homes have been brought back into use through the help of first time buyers' grants so far	5	Yes
		5 Through the Homebuy Scheme, 45 properties will have been bought through the Scheme, helping and enabling people to live in their local communities	62 households have purchased their home through the assistance of the Homebuy Scheme.		
Housing and Property	Dealing with the energy cost crisis and fuel poverty	1 Ensuring that Gwynedd residents make the most of existing schemes such as ECO4 Flex and Welsh Government's Warm Homes Programme, continuing with the goal of referring 300 clients to ECO4 Flex. We will refer clients who are ineligible for the ECO 4 Flex scheme to the Great British Insulation Scheme.	ECO 4: 216 application have been approved with 25 homes seeing an improvement in their EPCs.	1	Yes
		2 Ensure that Gwynedd residents are aware of all benefits available to them by collaborating with internal and external partners.	Over the past two months we have helped 825 people. This includes advising people over the phone, assisting people in events across the county, as well as home visits	2	Yes
		3 Maximise the claiming of funding that is released to help with the cost of living, for example the funding given by Welsh	We have distributed 656 energy vouchers to residents in housing need who are on pre-payment meters in Gwynedd, which are worth £24,719.	3	Yes

		Government to the charity Fuel Bank Foundation (FBF).		From the beginning we have distributed 5,671 worth £236,055 — money that has gone directly to some of the county's most vulnerable residents. Please note that Adra, Grŵp Cynefin and North Wales Housing handle their own calls for their tenants so this has meant a decrease in calls that are processed by the Team.		
		4 Refer residents who contact us for additional assistance to the Food Banks, Canllaw, Telecare, the Council's Empty Homes Grants and loans, Gwaith Gwynedd, Priority Services Register, Dŵr Cymru, Community Hubs and also refer to the Smart Energy Meters service.	4	Over the past two months we have helped 825 people. This includes advising people over the phone, assisting people in events across the county, as well as home visits. It also includes referring people to Nest and ECO applications	4	Yes
	Ensuring that no- one is homeless in Gwynedd	 We will have completed the following developments: 35 College Road, Bangor 137 High Street, Bangor 20 Ala Road, Pwllheli 	1	The building phase for 137 High Street, Bangor has completed; Tenants are in at 20 Ala Road; Recovery work for the defects left by the former contractors at 35 College Road continues – following a review at the beginning of the year, the necessary work has been identified and is nearing the end. Once the sign- off by the company and Building Control is received, we will be able to transfer the building to the Homelessness Service.	1	
					2	No

1	We will have completed the final phase of the		Come delays were experienced with		
	Lle Da building (Gisda and NatWest's old building on the Maes, Caernarfon) i.e. the		Some delays were experienced with the project due to lease and SLA matters. The building work on the		
	café and the young people's hub		café and young people's hub continues and will be completed in a		
3	• •		few weeks.		
	to Leasing Schemes Wales, and will have let at			3	No
	least 30 properties to individuals and families		12 further properties have been		
	in housing need		attracted so far, and 28 properties have been let helping 65 individuals.		
4					
	Government's former offices in Penrallt,			4	Yes
	including feasibility studies and will have		The purchase has completed and		
	prepared a planning application for the		significant background work has been		
	development		done in order to submit a planning		
			application, such as structural		
_			surveys, feasibility studies etc	_	.,
5				5	Yes
	buildings to further increase our temporary		A building has been purchased in		
	accommodations options		Caernarfon and discussions continue		
			to purchase a building in Bangor,		
			drawing on funding support from Welsh Government for some		
	We will have set up the One Step Shep (elements		
6	We will have set up the One Stop Shop (i.e. a new system which will be able to respond to		elements	6	No
	residents' needs when making housing related	6	Final steps are underway to prepare	U	NO
	enquiries all in one place).		to launch the One Stop Shop, and a		
	, ,		draft of the new website has been		
			completed, and work on systems is		
			almost complete. Communication		
			arrangements are being prepared in		
			preparation for launch		
		1	preparation for launch		

<u>An Efficient Gwynedd:</u> Putting the residents of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently

Department	Project	What we will achieve during the SECOND year 2024-25 (milestones):	Progress update on the milestones this far (April 2025)	Has the milestone been completed / likely to be completed by the end of the Financial year (Yes / No)
Housing and Property	Adopting a Property Assets Management Plan to ensure that our estate is fit for purpose for future working	1 We will prepare a new Property Assets Management Plan incorporating the draft policies which have been reviewed, and conclusions following discussions with Departments with regards to assets that are surplus to requirements.	1 Work on reviewing policies has completed and discussions have been held with the majority of Departments. It is the intention to look at reforming the deputised rights thresholds for procuring and disposing, and this will need to be addressed in the reformed Policies.	1 Yes, in part. (A Draft Plan will be in place but amendments and a decision to adopt will e needed)
		2 The work to make adaptations to the Headquarters in Caernarfon will begin to enable us to relocate staff from nearby offices such at Mona, Block A and Plas Llanwnda.	2 The work of adapting departmental space in the Headquarters building has completed so that nearby office staff can be relocated.	2 Yes
		3 We will assess our requirements for the Ffordd y Cob and Penarlâg offices, and begin planning and adapting so that we are able to address the needs of the Hybrid working arrangements.	3 Initial works has commenced in order to identify our requirements for office space in Ffordd y Cob and Penarlâg, and options for maximising the use of space at these sites by combining alternate uses is underway.	3 Yes