
THE CABINET 10/06/25

Present-

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

Also present-

Dafydd Gibbard (Chief Executive), Geraint Owen (Corporate Director), Iwan Evans (Monitoring Officer), Llyr B Jones (Assistant Head of Economy and Community), Bryn Pritchard-Jones (Maritime Service Manager), Dafydd Wyn Williams (Head of Environment Department), Roland Thomas (Assistant Head of Environment Department), Gareth Jones (Assistant Head of Environment Department), Heledd Fflur Jones (Planning Policy Team Leader), Dylan Griffiths (Economic Development Service Manager), Sioned Williams (Head of Economy and Community Department), Ian Jones (Head of Corporate Services Department), Huw Ynyr (Assistant Head of Finance – Digital) and Annes Sion (Democracy Team Leader).

1. APOLOGIES

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting, and it was highlighted that this week was Carers Week, and all the carers in the county were thanked for their work.

No apologies were received.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declaration of interest was received, but Cllr. Llio Elenid Owen sat as a Local Member for item 6 – Dinas Dinlle Car Park Management Plan and as a result did not have a vote on the matter.

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 OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 MAY 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2025 were accepted as a true record

6. DINAS DINLLE CAR PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

The report was submitted by Cllr. R. Medwyn Hughes.

DECISION

Agreed to commence a process to make a permanent off-street parking order at Dinas Dinlle Car Park and delegate the authority to the Head of Economy and Community in consultation with the Cabinet Member and the Head of Legal Services, to prepare an order which will make the experimental order permanent, and then place a notice of this in the press in accordance with Regulations 22 and 23 of the Regulations.

DISCUSSION

A report was submitted stating that it was for the establishment of new arrangements for the permanent payment for parking at Dinas Dinlle Car Park. It was explained that Cabinet had approved moving forward with the implementation of savings schemes which included the introduction of parking charges on Dinas Dinlle beach.

It was expressed back in 2022/23 that the department had identified resources to carry out work to upgrade the car park and was successful in attracting a grant from the Welsh Government's Brilliant Basics programme. It was noted that work had been carried out to resurface, adapting the entrances, marking parking bays, providing a bus stop, landscaping and upgrading facilities. It was stressed that the investment was very important as the beach as very popular and attracted many local visitors and tourists.

It was explained that a trial period had been held in the summer of 2024 where parking fees were to be paid for a temporary period, and following the trial a public consultation had been organised to invite feedback from residents, local businesses, users, statutory organisations and local groups. Llandwrog Community Council was thanked for its input throughout the period. The main points following this period and the recommendations for developing better arrangements were highlighted which included

- Introduction of seasonal fees between 1 March and 31 October
- Introduction of a season ticket for a reasonable fee
- Introduction of a free hour as a part of the proposed fees structure.

The next steps on the journey were highlighted which were to commence legal action for the introduction of an Off-Street Parking Order, and as part of the process consultations with statutory and local organisations as well as a public consultation period would be undertaken.

The Local Member noted that the beach was extremely popular, and thanked Llandwrog Community Council for responding to all consultations. Thanks were given that the recommendations following the trial period included an affordable season ticket and that fees would be charged between 9:00 and 17:00. The upgrades that had been done were highlighted emphasising that the facilities were much better. The need to ensure that funds were earmarked to maintain the standard of the car park was noted. The need for a cycle path that would be

useful and safe for people to be able to get to Dinas Dinlle by bike or on foot was noted.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- The decision was supported stating the need to maintain the standard of the site and ensure that funds were earmarked to do this.
- It was expressed that the decision was not an easy one but part of a number of difficult decisions to secure services across the county. It was welcomed that the standard of the car park was much higher and ensured that the location was more accessible for users. Thanks were given for making the first hour free, which gave people the opportunity to go for some fresh air on the beach without having to pay.

7. WASTE AND RECYCLING STRATEGY

The report was submitted by Cllr. Craig ab Iago.

DECISION

Approve the right to take the Waste and Recycling Strategy to public consultation, so that we receive feedback from the residents of Gwynedd.

DISCUSSION

The report was submitted stating that the document was a request for permission to enter a public consultation. Pride was noted about the content of the document, explaining that the strategy had been led by former Cabinet member Cllr. Dafydd Meurig. It was explained that the strategy highlighted what the department's principles were on waste and recycling along with how it would be possible to act in accordance with these principles. It was stressed that there was an environmental crisis and that there was a need to look more widely than the Council to solve it.

It was expressed that there were obvious problems seen internationally with clothing companies dumping tonnes of waste annually. It was explained that the national target was to recycle 70% but it was questioned why more should not be recycled.

Looking nationally, it was noted that there was no obvious plan to be seen, but that north Wales councils were working together to incinerate non-recyclable waste to generate electricity. The need to see waste as a resource was highlighted.

The Head of Department added that the strategy set out the principles of the service following a change of department about a year and a half previously. Priorities were identified which included improving customer care, tackling sickness levels, managing overspend and meeting the national target of 70%. It was explained that sickness levels were now falling, the level of customer care had increased, and the number of complaints and service overspending had decreased.

It was noted that the Council had failed to meet its target this year and therefore needed the strategy in order to set a clear path on how to achieve the target next year. It was highlighted that 57% of the county's waste currently was bin waste that could be recycled. It was noted that there were 6 objectives within the strategy to assist in reducing waste and meeting targets. It was stressed that presenting the strategy today was the start of the journey in order to be able to go to public consultation.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- The report was supported by stating the emphasis needed on educating residents, highlighting that residents needed to be a partner with the Council. Thanks were given for the equality report which gave fair and considerate representations of the needs of older people or people with disabilities.
- Thanks were given for a simple and easy to read and understand report.
- It was asked how the department was going to carry out the consultation and asked if the recycling boxes remained fit for purpose as more and more cardboard reached people's homes. It was noted that the department was working with the communications department to try to get a high number of responses, and they would also go to communities and to specific groups as well. With regard to recycling carts, it had been noted that recycling vehicles were designed for the size of the boxes currently available, and it may be necessary to educate which cardboard to put in the cart and when the recycling centres needed to be used.

8. SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE (CONSULTATION VERSION): MANAGING THE USE OF DWELLINGS AS HOLIDAY HOMES (SECOND HOMES AND SHORT-TERM HOLIDAY LETS)

The report was submitted by Cllr. Craig ab Iago.

DECISION

To approve the suggested changes to the Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) following a period of public consultation as included in the Consultation Report (Appendix 1), incorporated in the amended version of the Guidance (see Appendix 2).

To adopt the SPG: Managing the Use of Dwellings as Holiday Accommodation (Second Homes and Short-term Holiday Lets), to be used as a material planning consideration when making planning decisions in the Gwynedd Local Planning Authority Area.

To delegate powers to the Head of Environment Department to make any non-

material modifications that may be required to the SPG before it is published in its final form.

DISCUSSION

The report was submitted noting that it required approval of the recommendations from the public consultation carried out and the adoption of the Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG). It was explained that the item had been discussed back in February, and the officers had been asked to further explain what had been identified in the consultation and what the department was adopting.

The Assistant Head of the Environment Department noted that a public consultation had now taken place, and consideration had been given to the comments submitted. It was clarified that the SPG needed to be adopted in order for it to be used in determining planning applications.

It was clarified that since the Article 4 direction had come into force in September last year, a planning application was required when converting a main dwelling space into a second home or short-term holiday accommodation. It was reiterated that the Article 4 direction had come into force after the Council had adopted the Local Development Plan. As a result of this, it was noted that the SPG was an interim guide to fill the policy gap until a Local Development Plan had been created and adopted in order to address the issues.

It was expressed that a public consultation had taken place over a six-week period, and that 28 valid comments had been received from 24 respondents. It was noted that many of the comments focused on the Article 4 direction rather than the guidance specifically. It was explained that the type of comments included the suitability of some houses as a primary dwelling and consequently flexibility in terms of second homes. It was noted that giving flexibility so soon could lead to the undermining of Article 4. It was explained that each comment had been carefully considered but that none of the comments had resulted in fundamental changes to the guidance, only minor changes. It was explained that the responses to the consultation as well as the draft guidance had been further considered by the Policy Working Group which had indicated support for the response to the responses and for the draft supplementary plan.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- The challenge of finding a balance between supporting the tourism economy and protecting local people's access to housing was highlighted and it was asked how it would be possible to strike the right balance. It was noted that such comments had permeated through the public consultations and that this needed to be given close consideration when creating a new Local Development Plan along with the more detailed policies that would be required. The need to intertwine the two objectives was explained.

9. 2025-26 SHARED PROSPERITY FUND PLANS IN GWYNEDD

The report was submitted by Cllr. R. Medwyn Hughes

DECISION

To agree to commit up to £7,901,000 from the Gwynedd 2025/26 allocation from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to the 14 schemes listed in the report.

To authorise the Head of Economy and Community Department - in consultation with the Head of Legal Service, the Head of Finance Department and the Chief Executive - to confirm the details and the financial contribution.

DISCUSSION

The report was presented stating that the fund was financed by the UK Government in order to develop the economy and communities as part of the schemes created to secure funding after leaving Europe. It was highlighted that the Council had 3 roles in dealing with the fund; the Council was the lead body for north Wales, it decided on which schemes were funded here in Gwynedd and led on projects as well. It was noted that £8.19m was available for Gwynedd, with £7.9m available for projects.

It was explained that the projects that had been presented had been before the fund panel and had been discussed in the Leadership Team, and as a result had been scrutinised in detail. It was expressed that the projects brought the greatest value to the residents of Gwynedd.

The Economic Development Services Manager added that the package of projects that had been proposed were ones that build on what had been learned along with the successes over the past three years. It was explained that this year was a period of financial transition and that the schemes had been fairly spread geographically and in terms of cohorts of society in Gwynedd. It was noted that seven schemes were in operation in Gwynedd alone with a further seven schemes operating in conjunction with other counties. Attention was drawn to projects that were smaller funds to support a range of smaller schemes for people across Gwynedd.

Observations arising from the discussion:

- Thanks were given for the report and pride was noted in seeing specific schemes to work with young people along with partnerships with communities in order to grow and develop them.
- It was highlighted that the schemes had clearly been scrutinised and that it was good to see balanced projects. The need for funding for more than short periods of time was noted as well as the need for long-term projects.
- It was asked if the language had been taken into account when deciding on plans. It was explained that the language was central to all decisions and that there were conditions in terms of receiving funding from the fund to comply with the Council's language policy as well as the promotion of the language. It was noted that many of the schemes were to develop employment opportunities, and therefore the language was an integral part as well as contributing to the development of the

language.

10. CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAM

The report was submitted by Cllr. Nia Jeffreys.

DECISION

To approve the Forward Work Programme included with the meeting papers.

11. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the discussion on the following item due to the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 14, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 - information about the financial or business transactions of any specific person (including the authority that retains that information). It was explained that there was an acknowledged public interest in openness in relation to the use of public resources and related financial issues. It was also acknowledged that there are occasions, in order to protect the financial interests of public authorities that matters related to commercial information need to be discussed without being publicised. This would be contrary to the wider public interest of securing value for money and the best overall outcome.

12. GUIDANCE ON THE ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING SYSTEM

The report was submitted by Cllr. Huw Wyn Jones and Cllr. Llio Elenid Owen.

DECISION

To approve the implementation of the first step of the DSB5 - Organisation Management System in the Digital Plan project, in order to meet the needs of Human Resources and Payroll, but to delay the development of a new financial management system until further approval is received from the Cabinet.

To approve the release of £1.2m of resources from the Transformation Fund as a one-off contribution towards the costs of developing the new Payroll / Human Resources system.

DISCUSSION

The item was discussed

The meeting commenced at 1.00 pm and concluded at 2.10 pm

CHAIRMAN