

## Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28 – Year 3 Actions

### A Prosperous Gwynedd: Strengthening the economy and supporting the residents of Gwynedd to earn a decent wage

Department	Project	What we want to achieve during the <b>THIRD</b> year 2025-26 (milestones):	A BRIEF update on progress against the milestones to date (specify date)	Has the milestone been completed / is it likely to be completed by the end of the financial year? (Yes/No)
Economy and Community	Promoting our culture and a sustainable visitor economy	1 We will have implemented the Gwynedd and Eryri Visitor Economy Plan 2035 work programme and targeted resources to promote the new objectives.	1. A work plan is in place with funds such as SPF 2 and Visit Wales's Brilliant Basis Fund targeted in terms of resources to implement the objectives.	1. Yes
		2 We will have considered national legislation on the Visitor Levy and consulted through the Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 Partnership (G&E 2035).	2. Discussions took place in the Leadership Team in September 2025. Discussions have taken place with the Welsh Revenue Authority and the Welsh Government as well as other local authorities. A report will be submitted to the Full Council, March 2026 to approve a formal consultation process.	2. Yes
		3 We will have promoted and monitored the use of 4 Aros-fan sites across Gwynedd and evaluated the pilot scheme	3. Since June 2024, 3,518 overnight parking bookings have been made at Arosfan sites (1,256 Cricieth / Pwllheli / Caernarfon and 2,262 Llanberis). Enforcement proceedings have been brought	3. Yes

		<p>4 We will have supported Gwynedd's communities and businesses to promote and celebrate culture locally through the 'Diwylliesiant 2' project.</p> <p>5 We will monitor and implement new plans to provide services at Storiell, the Lloyd George Museum and Neuadd Dwyfor, and work with partners in the cultural sector to identify priorities for the future.</p>	<p>against 96 vehicles that had parked in unauthorised places. Discussions have begun in relation to developing a further Arosfan site in Tywyn. An evaluation report is being prepared to be presented to the Cabinet during 2026.</p> <p>4. Grants worth almost £300,000 have been offered to 69 organisations across Gwynedd to support cultural activities and healthy living. The activities of the Diwylliesiant 2 project are underway with the Cultural Services, the Byw'n Iach company, as well as Antur Waunfawr and the Llyn Eco-museum. An Eco-museum pilot scheme underway in Bangor and Blaenau Ffestiniog.</p> <p>5. The Lloyd George Museum improvements completed, and the museum reopened. A review of the spaces and an audience development commission is in progress. Exterior improvements to Storiell are being undertaken, and a second Art exhibition (The Gallery of Contemporary Art) has been held. Audience Development Plan completed. Arrangements are</p>	<p>4. Yes</p> <p>5. Yes</p>
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		<p>6 We will have supported the communities of Gwynedd to take advantage of the slate industry's world heritage designation, securing Heritage Lottery funding for LleCHI LleNI projects, and funding from the Shared Prosperity Fund and the Levelling-up Fund, including work at:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ogwen – contractors on The Old Post site, complete the upgrade of connecting route to Penrhyn Quarry, official opening of Neuadd Ogwen</li> <li>2. Dinorwig – contractors on the site of The Slate Museum and Parc Padarn</li> <li>3. Blaenau Ffestiniog – official opening, the connecting route, official opening of Aelwyd yr Urdd, contractors on the Church St site</li> <li>4. Public Art – official opening made in 6 towns</li> </ol>	<p>underway for registering a charitable company to support Storiel.</p> <p>Neuadd Dwyfor improvements are coming to fruition, with visitor numbers and a nomination as BIFA's Best Cinema of the Year. A culture sector meeting was held on 15 October to discuss vision and objectives.</p> <p>6. Major projects are underway across the slate landscape. Last quarter's performance report can be seen <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>The Llewyrch o'r Llechi Project (funded through UK Government funding) has been extended to complete the work. All elements of the programme are now underway.</p> <p>The National Slate Museum has been successful in attracting significant match funding through the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Welsh Government to complete their funding package. Impressive public art installed in 4 of 6 locations.</p> <p>Town centre improvements being carried out.</p> <p>Extremely popular activities are conducted through LleCHI LleNI</p>	<p>6. Yes</p>
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<b>Economy and Community</b>	<b>Regenerating communities and town centres</b>	<p>1 We will have reviewed and updated the Local Regeneration Plans for each of the 13 local regeneration areas; including local arrangements to co-ordinate them</p> <p>2 A Cross-departmental Group will meet quarterly to ensure collaboration arrangements between the local regeneration plans and the Council's strategic projects</p>	<p>1. The Local Regeneration Plans are updated regularly. Reports were submitted to the Area Forums during Spring 2025.</p> <p>2. A cross-departmental group has been established for the Gwynedd Ni Town Centres Plan 2025/6; and a Community Resilience SPF scheme is supporting hubs in all local areas. There are plans to review wider cross-departmental arrangements through the Assistant Heads Forum.</p>	<p>1. Yes</p> <p>2. Yes</p>

		<p>3 We will have supported and enabled partners to implement a package of regeneration projects across the communities of Gwynedd by administering the Supporting Communities Key Fund (through SPF funding) during the 2025/26 period</p> <p>4 We will have developed a package of investment proposals to upgrade the County's town and village centres as part of the Gwynedd Ni Regeneration Plan during 2025/26, targeting a Shared Prosperity Fund grant</p> <p>5 We will attract additional investment to regenerate Gwynedd's town centres by targeting the Welsh Government's Transformation Programme</p> <p>6 We will have brought more empty buildings back into use through Cyngor Gwynedd's Empty Properties Programme</p>	<p>3. We managed to secure £800k of funding from the Shared Prosperity Fund for a Key Fund. The fund has been allocated and the local projects are being implemented and will be completed during 2025/6.</p> <p>4. £1.3m of Shared Prosperity Fund funding was secured for a thriving places activity package. The projects are being implemented and will be completed during 2025/6.</p> <p>5. A Transforming Towns grant has been secured for the Porthmadog Community Centre, Cob Crwn, and Llety Arall projects. Preparatory funding has been secured for the Bangor Roman Camp scheme, and the Slate Quay.</p> <p>6. The empty Properties programme is operational; and £995k secured for the now operational Bangor High Street empty properties pilot scheme.</p>	<p>3. Yes</p> <p>4. Yes</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6. Yes</p>
<b>Economy and Community</b>	<b>Creating the best possible circumstances in Gwynedd for community</b>	<p>1. We will have provided a programme of support to assist businesses and social enterprises during 2025/26 using funding from the additional year of the Shared Prosperity Fund.</p>	<p>1. Over £900,000 of financial support available to Gwynedd's businesses and social enterprises in 2025/26.</p>	<p>1. YES</p>

	enterprises and businesses to thrive, and support the people of Gwynedd into work	<p>2. We will have managed the transition year of the ARFOR programme in Gwynedd and the region</p>	<p>181 businesses attended advice sessions on making an application for support.</p> <p>202 applications received across two application cycles requesting £1.9M of support (208% of the budget).</p> <p>45 businesses have received an offer of support following the first round of applications. Assessment of the second round of applications is continuing.</p> <p>2. £500,000 of Welsh Government funding secured for the transition year. Cyngor Gwynedd is continuing to manage the programme locally and on behalf of the region.</p> <p>Agreement by the 4 counties and the Welsh Government to focus 2025/26 activities on the recommendations of the ARFOR 1 and 2 independent evaluations; implement a small number of key interventions (likely to include themes on youth and migration); transfer the lessons learnt to mainstream work and consider the</p>	<p>2. YES</p>
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			findings and recommendations of the Commission for Welsh-speaking Communities' report, and the Government's response.	
		3. We will have run a programme to celebrate and promote the success of Gwynedd's businesses and enterprises, including holding a week of activities during the autumn term	<p>3. Business Week 2025 was held in October.</p> <p>Seven events were held by the Council and our partners across Gwynedd.</p> <p>Over 5,000 viewed information about the week through our <a href="#">social media</a>.</p> <p>As well as the Business Week our programme of visits to businesses continues, and we continue to share news of local successes through the business bulletin and our social accounts.</p>	3. YES
		4. We will have ensured advice for Gwynedd businesses and enterprises that responds to their concerns	<p>4. Our programme of drop-in sessions for businesses and enterprises is ongoing and is an important means of gathering feedback about local needs.</p> <p>Using feedback from individual businesses and the results of the 2024 Business Survey we have</p>	4. YES

			<p>provided advice and training that responds to their concerns under the banner of 'Listen and Act'. The <a href="#">Business Survey 2025</a> is being launched and is currently live.</p> <p>Topics that have recently been covered by events organised by the Council include the basics of human resources, cyber security, and well-being in the workplace.</p>	
	<p>5. We will have started construction of 10 new business units in Minffordd during the second quarter of 2025/26</p>	<p>5. Construction of the units continues; the steel frames of the first units are being installed.</p> <p>Signs are being erected and a site visit will be arranged to promote the development as a result.</p> <p>The units will be ready September 2026.</p>	5. YES	
	<p>6. We will have worked with partners across north Wales to ensure Gwynedd benefits from the North Wales Growth Deal</p>	<p>6. We continue to support the North Wales Growth Bid schemes, paying particular attention to the schemes that offer the greatest benefit to Gwynedd in the Digital Programme, the Energy Programme, the Agri-food Tourism Programme and the Land and Property Programme:</p>	6. YES	



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A joint venture between the Welsh Government and Ambition North Wales has been established and the procurement process has begun to deliver the Parc Bryn Cegin scheme.</li> <li>• The first phase of the Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub has been approved to establish a centre for developing a Welsh sheep milk market.</li> <li>• The Visit Wales Academy has been launched to support businesses in the leisure and catering sector.</li> <li>• We are continuing to develop the details of the Responsible Adventure Tourism Scheme.</li> <li>• The business case for establishing the Trawsfynydd Science Park is making good progress.</li> </ul>	
	7. We will have agreed a new Economic Strategy for Gwynedd for the period 2025-28 and prepared bids for resources to implement its priorities	7. A draft strategy was submitted to the Education and Economy	7. YES	

		<p>Scrutiny Committee on 16 October to receive their feedback.</p> <p>The strategy was then cascaded to key partners within the county for further input into the draft.</p> <p>Further revisions to the document are being completed prior to drawing up the final document, with a view to adopting it in the new year.</p>	
	<p>8. We will have provided support for Gwynedd residents to return to work and to increase their ability to earn a good salary</p>	<p>8. Delivery of the Communities for Work Plus programme (Welsh Government funding) continues. The 2025/26 performance is ahead of schedule so far with 145 already having secured work following our help.</p> <p>Work to help local people earn a better salary has resumed (SPF funding) and 48 have received support to improve their skills or overcome a barrier that prevented them from working more.</p> <p>We are continuing to work with other north Wales counties to plan the implementation of the Connect</p>	<p>8. YES</p>

to Work (DWP funding) programme in the region.

## **A Caring Gwynedd: Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities**

Department	Project	What do we want to achieve during the <b>SECOND</b> year 2024-25 (milestones):	A BRIEF update on progress against the milestones to date (specify date)	Has the milestone been completed / is it likely to be completed by the end of the financial year? (Yes/No)
Cross-departmental	Supporting People's Well-being	1. Establish two Supporting People Hubs in two new areas.	1. Discussions have been held in Bro Peris (Menter Fachwen); and Porthmadog.	Partially
		2. Organise training for the Hubs' employees and volunteers on supporting individuals.	2. Well-being of Wales training has been commissioned.	Yes
		3. Appoint Well-being Champions jobs and host cost-of-living events, various drop-in sessions.	3. Appointments made to the Well-being Champions posts	Yes
		4. Work with a volunteer partner to provide numeracy and budgeting support to residents.	4. We are working closely with CAB to advise and provide an outreach service at the hubs.	Yes
		5. Complete the Digital Inclusion Project to provide practical help to teach people to get on-line and distribute IT equipment.	5. We are working closely with Ability Net to offer mentoring and support to individuals with digital systems.	Yes
			6. A Capital and Revenue Fund has	

		6. Run a Food Scheme to include establishing a grant fund for food and feeding schemes by community groups; community cooking courses in conjunction with the Health Board, and the creation of community gardens and allotments.	been established to support feeding projects in the communities.	Yes
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