



CORRESPONDENCE FILE 1

GP&P Meeting

Pages 1 - 55

13 Chwefror / 13th February 2025

Please see attached Summary Paper from North & Mid Wales Association

They are seeking the Council's views on the following:

Part 3 reduction of Councils from 737 to 150

Their suggestion by the Association is the following:

The Executive suggests that we consider three types of local council

- a) Larger councils could remain much as they are now
(budgets of over £200k)*
- b) Medium councils to combine in urban areas
where there is a common interest
(budgets of over £100k)*
- c) Smaller councils to cluster in more rural areas
with a system to deliver services jointly. (budgets under £100k)*

Consultation of members

The Association is asking its member councils for its views on this subject. Any responses need to be with the Association secretary no later than 28th February 2025.

The basic questions for you are:

Question	YES	NO	Don't know
Do you think the suggested way forward is a basis for further work?			
Do you think the issues identified are right?			
Do you think a reduction to 150 councils is the right way forward?			
If not how many do you think would be right?			

Please do give us your written views so we can fully understand and make sure they are included in the paper going forward.

All views will be included in the consultation document with any report.

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SUMMARY PAPER

TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL REVIEW

1. Introduction

The changes to town and community councils have been on the 'cards' for some years. The momentum to progress more quickly is beginning to build.

There are now 5 regions (CCJ's) in place over Wales and the county councils all appear to be in financial crisis.

This paper looks at what might be a way forward to achieving this.

2. Town and Community Council review

The programme for completion by the Association of the paper for Welsh Government is:

January 2025	Identify the views and issues from the members. (issues and ideas) – Completed on 24 th January
February 2025	Consult member councils
March 2025	To complete the document with consultation. (Preparation of a paper) (Discussion by email and meetings).
April 2025	To agree at the main meeting the document For presentation to Welsh Government. (Final document).

3. The issues

The issues with regard to the reduction of Town and Community Councils from around 737 down to around 150 have been identified as follows (I am sure there are more):

Basis

It was recognised that one size does not fit all with towns (urban) being very different from villages (rural) Any plan for the future needs to reflect this.



Size of council

At present town and community councils vary from Barry (pop 50,000) to small rural councils (pop 500).

Precept under £10k	209	
Precept 10-20k	142	Total very small councils 351 (48%)
Precept 20-50k	155	
Precept 50-100k	81	Total mid-size councils 236 (32%)
Precept 100-200k	67	
Precept over 200k	83	Total larger councils 150 (20%)

Wales has a population of 3.2m and has 737 local councils, average population 4,300. If there were 150 town and community councils the average rises to approx. 20,000 population.

Identity

Towns and communities being joined raises the concern of loss of identity
Smaller councils may feel overrun by larger councils and feeling they may lose control of their communities.

Representation

Representation within communities was considered important and should be protected

Legislation

It was felt that the only way combining councils or clustering councils would work was via legislation – it was recognised that many would not take part if not

Culture

Many communities have diverse cultures to others and this becomes an issue if councils were combined as opposed to clustered.

Service delivery

The service delivery of more (handed down from County Councils) will give rise to issues of what each community wants. All vastly different in their views.



Service delivery of the level envisaged will require larger unit to enable it to happen.

The county councils have already intimated that they are looking to only do those things which they have a duty to. This will leave many services on the ground to be delivered by others (Town or Community Councils and the community).

Financial

Each council has various levels of reserves and some may not be happy to combine with a council with less funds

Council tax will rise whatever the outcome as they will even up over the cluster or group

VAT

The VAT status of councils would change with partial exemption not being an option once the council budget rise to the level expected.

Seats

If councils were to be combined the allocation of seats (of which there are likely to be less) will be an issue depending upon how they are calculated.

Councillors and payments

With larger councils and with the workload it is expected that councillors would need to be paid when a new system arrives. This has a cost implication.

Services and council tax

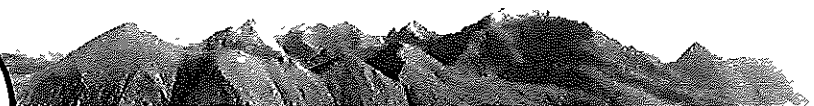
Councils may have two parts to their council tax. One part for their own area and part for joint services. Some may not wish to pay for a service on a collective basis if they do not receive it

Town Clerk and staff

The cost of making staff redundant (less Town Clerk's required) – where is it met from?

We are sure you may have more to add.

CFI 104

**4. Suggested basis for the next stage**

The Executive suggests that we consider three types of local council

- a) Larger councils could remain much as they are now
(budgets of over £200k)
- b) Medium councils to combine in urban areas
where there is a common interest
(budgets of over £100k)
- c) Smaller councils to cluster in more rural areas
with a system to deliver services jointly. (budgets under £100k)

Consultation of members

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The basic questions for you are:

Question	YES	NO	Don't know
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Do you think the issues identified are right?			
Do you think a reduction to 150 councils is the right way forward?			
If not how many do you think would be right?			

Please do give us your written views so we can fully understand and make sure they are included in the paper going forward.

All views will be included in the consultation document with any report.

FURTHER INFORMATION

You can find more detail within the following (which are made available to you):

- i) Association Executive Meeting minutes January 2025
- ii) Association Quarterly Meeting minutes January 2025
- iii) Copy of the slides used in the presentation to the Association in January 2205

NORTH & MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

MINUTES

of a special meeting of the Executive held on
Friday 17th January 2025 at 10.30am by Zoom.

Present were

Cllr Ian Hodge Chair	Holywell Town Council
Cllr Norma Davies	Flint Town Council (part of time)
Cllr Michael Davies	Beaumaris Town Council
Cllr Lynette Edwards	Caerswys Community Council part of time)
Cllr Bernise McLoughlin	Towyn and Kinmell Bay Town Council
Cllr Peter Morton	St Asaph City Council
Robert Robinson Secretary	Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

Apologies received

Cllr Joan Butterfield President	Rhyl Town Council
Cllr Patrick Heeson	Mostyn Community Council
Cllr Ted Palmer	Flint Town Council

1. Welcome by the Chair

The meeting received a welcome from the Chair.

2. Introduction

The purpose of the meeting was to pre-plan for the main meeting to be held on Friday 24th January 2025. To start the process the secretary gave a short presentation on the subject in (3) below.

3. Town and Community Council review

The programme for completion of the Association paper for Welsh Government is:

January 2025	Identify the views and issues from the members. (issues and ideas)
February/March 2025	To complete the document with consultation. (Preparation of a paper). (Discussion by email and meetings).
April 2025	To agree at the main meeting the document For presentation to Welsh Government (Final document).

The issues with regard to the reduction of Town and Community Councils from around 737 down to around 150 were identified as follows.

Basis

It was recognised that one size does not fit all with towns (urban) being very different from villages (rural). Any plan for the future needs to reflect this

Size of council

At present town and community councils vary from Barry (pop 50,000) to small rural councils (pop 700)

Wales has a population of 3.2m and has 737 local councils, average population 4,300. If there were 150 town and community councils the average rises to approx. 20,000 population.

Identity

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Representation

Representation within communities was considered important and should be protected.

Legislation

It was felt that the only way combining councils or clustering councils would work was via legislation – it was recognised that many would not take part if not.

Culture

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Service delivery

The service delivery of more (handed down from County Councils) will give rise to issues of what each community wants. All vastly different in their views

Service delivery of the level envisaged will require larger unit to enable it to happen.

The list of services that are likely to be devolved to others has been issued at a previous meeting and will be included in the presentation

Financial

Each council has various levels of reserves and some may not be happy to combine with a council with less funds.

Council will rise whatever the outcome

VAT

The VAT status of councils would change with partial exemption not being an option once the council budget rise to the level expected.

Seats

If councils were to be combined the allocation of seats (of which there are likely to be less) will be an issue depending upon how they are calculated.

Councillors and payments

With larger councils and with the workload it is expected that councillors would need to be paid when a new system arrives. This has a cost implication.

Services and council tax

Councils may have two parts to their council tax. One part for their own area and part for joint services. Some may not wish to pay for a service on a collective basis if they do not receive it.

Town Clerk and staff

The cost of making staff redundant (less Town Clerk's required) – where is it met from?

4. Possible way forward for discussion

The executive general view is:

One size will not fit all.

Whatever is taken forward it will need to be backed by legislation.

Three levels of councils maybe right as follows:

Larger councils – leave along (i.e. over 20,000 population)

Combine councils where the areas are more urban.

Cluster councils where the councils are more rural

5. Way forward

Following the meeting on 24th January 2025 the secretary is to prepare a paper in draft for consultation and further discussion.

6. Details and circulation

The secretary is to circulate these details in advance of the meeting on 24th January 2025. The presentation should include the above to aid discussion and gaining of the views of members.

Members are to be asked at the next meeting for their views on the issues and to put forward any thoughts on a possible solution.

7. Banking

The Secretary confirmed that internet banking was almost complete with Lloyds Bank with a single signatory. Once this is in place it is easy to add signatories to bring in line with the Association constitution.

Feedback for Abergele Town Cllrs to take to the NMWALC meeting 24/0125

One size doesn't fit all and it's remarkable the needs and difference between ATC and Rhyl y Foel and Llanddualas on which I serve as the lay county member, they are a small well very run community council with their community at the heart that would lose interest and members if swallowed up by Abergele or Colwyn Bay and this would be detrimental

It would possibly work in the rural south areas of low population as their needs would be similar and the power to raise capitation and precept for multi clustered community councils with only one running cost would be a saving and a way forwards to give them a bigger voice with the county, also the audit office has previously complained that getting the annual financial information is problematic from our smaller councils

I've just read the minutes and one of my observations on the possible combination of rural and urban councils is - I attended an online meeting regarding this and it became very evident that as a town council we are using the technology available to us but there are rural councils who are not, ie do not use iPads, do not have screens available for hybrid meetings etc. This isn't a major issue but there would be some financial implication and I felt there could be resistance to moving towards this from some councillors.

Another observation I have is that at this present time we are seeing CCBC pushing more and more down the line to us and should there be changes in how local councils work we could be expected to take on responsibilities, duties and workload that perhaps we could struggle to meet both financially and physically. This could result in both county and town councils not performing well which could be a disaster for residents.

I also share the financial concerns of who will foot the bill of any changes, ie possible redundancies

This is something we have already started to discuss. We are of the size that will probably mean we will take in smaller community councils from rural areas Councils need constant renewal so it will be good to see those wishing to retire will be more able to do so leaving spaces for younger members Job evaluations will need to be conducted in light of the additional work amalgamation will result in. I feel we are well placed at ATC to embrace the proposed changes.

I take the view that a rationalisation of Town and Community Councils is a positive change. Identities can grow to cover populations of 20,000 where communities are merged/integrated. I do not perceive that people locally or nationally will be populating the "barriers" in opposition.

Change always causes some pain and hurt to someone, I will be concerned to ensure staff welfare. There are likely to be redeployments and redundancies but if managed effectively and efficiently harm to individuals can be minimised it will never be totally pain free.

CFI PG 9

There will need to be some rationalisation of assets and buildings in some cases.

I suspect there will be additional costs initially but presumably the plan longer term is to minimise or reduce costs and therefore save taxpayers money.

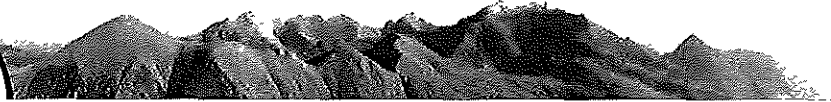
I also suspect part of the motivation from Government to make change is the "messiness" and "riskiness" of the present system with lots of media reports of things going wrong in these small councils involving investigations, inquiries, reviews, Ombudsman, Audit Wales and even criminal activity.

We as a Town Council have not formulated a collective view on this so I assume this is not an easy task for Shirley, Andrew, and Paul to provide an ATC view just a set of individual councillor's representations.

Rural communities have many challenges to face and merging several Community Councils will I suspect had some additional problems and solve others re efficiency and effectiveness.

My concern would be that further challenges will arise if these changes are staggered over a too lengthy period. My exhortation would be to get on with it as quickly as possible

I hope these thoughts and opinions are useful. No resident has approached me about this matter, so I assume this means they are unaware or apathetic about what is happening!



MINUTES

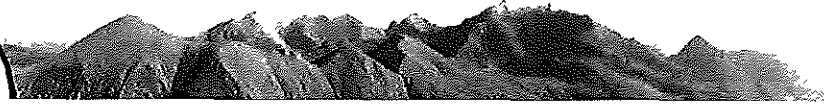
**of the quarterly meeting of the Association to be held on
Friday 24th January 2025 at 10.30am
by Zoom (due to severe weather conditions)**

Present were

Cllr Ian Hodge Chair	Holywell Town Council
Cllr Norma Davies Vice Chair	Flint Town Council
Cllr Vivienne Blondek	Buckley Town Council
Cllr Michael Davies	Beaumaris Town Council
Cllr Lynette Edwards	Caerwys Community Council
Cllr Paul Fletcher	Abergele Town Council
Cllr Patrick Heesom	Mostyn Community Council
Cllr Carol Holliday	Prestatyn Town Council
Cllr Sharon Jones	
Cllr Shirley Jones-Roberts	Abergele Town Council
Cllr Alan Manship	Connah's Quay Town Council
Cllr Jayne Morris	
Cllr Peter Morton	St Asaph City Council
Cllr Alan Owen	Connah's Quay Town Council
Cllr Debbie Owen	Connah's Quay Town Council
Cllr Helen Roberts	Conway Town Council
Cllr Jackie Webster	Conway Town Council
Robert Robinson Secretary	Llanfair Caereinion Town Council

Apologies for absence

Cllr Joan Butterfield	President & Rhyl Town Council
Jane Chamberlain-Jones	Rhyl Town Council
G Gareth Nickels	Rhyl Town Council
Cllr Loraine Rathbone	Buckley Town Council
Cllr Ted Palmer	Holywell Town Council
Cllr Berrnise McLoughlin	Towny and Kinmell Bay



1. Welcome

The meeting received a welcome from the Chair.

2. Minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting

The meeting considered and approved the minutes of the last quarterly meeting held in October 2024.

3. Actions taken from the last meeting

The meeting noted the actions from the last meeting as set out below:

Subject	Status
Publish minutes of the meeting	Completed
Prepare letter to Welsh Government and publish on website and email to members by 8pm same day of the meeting for comment by 10.30pm.	Completed
Publish letter to Welsh Government on Town & Community Council review	Completed
Complete bank mandate	On the agenda

4. Independent Review panel for Wales

The IRPW has passed a list of councils who have not submitted their annual return. The secretary has contacted each of the member councils to remind them to do it. If a return is late or not received the secretary is informed that it will lead to a qualified audit.

5. Executive

The meeting noted the executive meeting minutes from the meeting held in December 2024.

6. Finance and governance

The current bank balance is £4,402 22p.

Internet banking is very close to being in operation



7. Transport update

The meeting received an update regarding transport. A copy of the letter received from the Chief Executive of TFW is attached to these minutes at APPENDIX B

A report was given regarding the TFW meeting in Cardiff – the main thing to note is that Shotton Station is down for refurbishment.

The secretary reported on the letter from TFW, a copy is attached at appendix B.

A TFW officer (disabled) may wish to travel the line with the Association along the North Coast, Cllr Ian Hodge, Cllr Norma Davies and Cllr Helen Roberts to attend.

8. Town and community council review

The meeting received a short presentation on the subject of the Town and Community Council review by Welsh Government

The Association is to look at how it all might work and to send their findings and views as part of the consultation process.

The slides are to be circulated to the member councils following the meeting.

The points made by members at the meeting were (in no particular order):

General

- i) Local councils fear of change, voice of the people important
- ii) Working on this drains resources
- iii) Whole system of local government needs looking at
- iv) IRPW has not delivered on its objectives so far
- v) Why 150 councils? No basis offered. Maybe 300 more acceptable
It was noted that Cardiff has many areas with no community council
- vi) Difficult to see the positives at this stage
- vii) On the basis of 150 councils (Ave £20,000 pop) Anglesey would be just one council – not sure that works
- viii) Future of County Councils was considered taking into account the introduction of 5 regions and the increase in Welsh Government members.
- ix) Local councils are all very different in culture, language, workload, facilities and area.
- x) Some apathy among councils who just wish to sit and wait to see what happens.



Councillors

- a) Would councillors with more work and responsibility still be volunteers. It is difficult to get new councillors now.
- b) Payment of salaries to councillors will come as a cost to residents

Democracy

- a) Voice slowly being taken away from the people
- b) Wish to keep local democracy
- c) Fewer councillors mean less representation

Cost

- i) Cost v benefit analysis needs to be thought about
- ii) Concern that expensive county council staff would relocate by legislation to the revised local councils coming with a cost implication

Governance

- i) *Councils should be able to comply with governance rules*
- ii) *Audit Wales report noted*
- iii) *Poor governance in smaller councils a real issue*
- iv) *2/3 of seats not contested or co-opted*

Ability

- i) Councils will need expertise and more staff – all come at a cost
- ii)

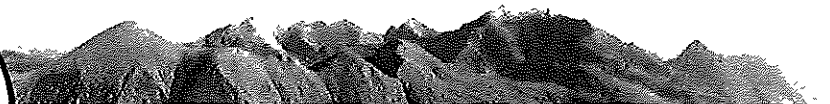
Issues with combining or clustering councils

- a) Council tax levels between councils (some will fall and some will rise)
- b) Conflicts of interest between communities on specific subjects

Sustainability

- i) The Association had a visit from Denbighshire Council who outlined the services that might come down to the local councils. These services were not considered a statutory duty so would need to be run by others. They included.

- Library provision
- Playgrounds
- Open spaces
- Sports facilities
- Leisure facilities
- Litter bins



Continued...
Street cleaning
Youth provision
Car parks (likely the free ones)
Bus shelters
Street furniture
Burial grounds
Community buildings

Other information

- i) It was noted that there are approx. 737 local councils of which approx. there are:

Precept under £10k	209	
Precept 10-20k	142	Total very small councils 351 (48%)
Precept 20-50k	155	
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Way forward

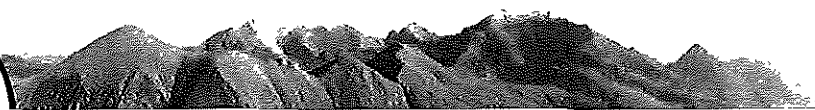
- i) The Association Executive report a good starting point
- ii) Where councils have clustered it has generally worked well
- iii) OVW or the Association was not relevant to the discussions today.
- iv) Secretary to provide a summary to member councils to respond to by end of February The summary to include the three options listed below.
- v) The secretary is happy to do Zoom presentation to member councils if they wish.

The chart from Audit Wales is attached at appendix A

The Association Executive report on the subject is set out below:

Introduction

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Town and Community Council review

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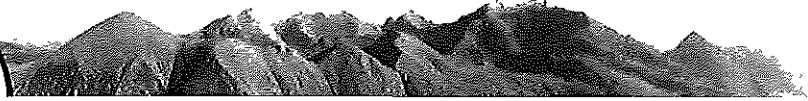
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Town Clerk and staff

The cost of making staff redundant (less Town Clerk's required) – where is it met from?



Possible way forward for discussion The executive general view is.

One size will not fit all

Whatever is taken forward it will need to be backed by legislation.

Three levels of councils maybe right as follows:

Larger councils – leave along (i.e. over £200,000 budget)

Combine councils where the areas are more urban (over £100,000 budget)

Cluster councils where the councils are more rural with smaller budgets.

9. New boundaries for Senedd elections

The meeting noted the new boundaries for Senedd elections.

10. Consultation on compulsory purchase rules

Changes to the power to limit compensation payable for the prospects of planning permission ('hope value')

*Do you agree that directions to remove compensation payable for prospective planning permissions ("hope value") should be allowed to be included in CPOs made on behalf of **parish/town or community councils** by local authorities under section 125 of the Local Government Act 1972 where the schemes underlying the orders are providing affordable or social housing?*

The meeting **AGREED** that the secretary should write supporting the proposals.

11. Date of next meeting

To note the date of the next meeting on Friday 11th April 2025 at 10.30am – Beaumaris.

If there is a need to change this meeting or to call any interim meetings the secretary will liaise with the Chair and make arrangements.

**12. Actions to be taken forward**

The actions to be taken forward from the meeting are:

Ref	Item	Action by
1	Issue minutes for comment	Secretary
2	After comments received to publish minutes	Secretary
3	Complete internet banking	Secretary
4	Future of local councils: <i>Circulate the slides from the meeting</i> <i>Circulate a summary of the meetings notes on the subject</i>	Secretary
5	Send letter in support of new compulsory purchase rules proposed	Secretary
6	Arrange for the next full meeting to be on the 11 th April at Beaumaris in consultation with Cllr Michael Davies	Secretary & Cllr Michael Davies

Exhibit 2: Qualified audit opinions 2022-23

Income/expenditure	Number of councils	Audits completed	Qualified Opinions	Qualified opinions % of completed audits	Full audits completed	Qualified Opinions Full audits	Qualified Opinions % of full audits
Less than £10,000	209	191	104	54%	62	37	60%
£10,001 - £20,000	142	125	72	58%	37	23	62%
£20,001 - £50,000	155	146	58	40%	48	21	44%
£50,001 - £100,000	31	77	35	45%	26	16	62%
£100,001 - £200,000	57	63	36	57%	19	15	79%
More than £200,000	83	79	32	41%	24	13	54%
Total	737	681	337	49%	216	125	58%

Source: Audit Wales analysis of 2022-23 audit outcomes. These include councils where the audit work has been completed but are to be reviewed prior to certification. The proposed draft opinions are subject to review before issue to councils.

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APPENDIX B



**TRAFNIDIAETH
CYMRU
TRANSPORT
FOR WALES**

3 Llys Cadwyn
Pontypridd,
CF37 4TH,
029 2167 3434
trc.cymru

3 Llys Cadwyn
Pontypridd
CF37 4TH
029 2167 3434
tfrwales

20 January 2025

Russell George MS
Member of the Senedd for Montgomeryshire

Dear Russell,

Firstly, may I take this opportunity to apologise for the delay in this letter being sent to you. The North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils have been in communication with the Stakeholder manager for North and Mid-Wales at Transport for Wales (TFW), and I'm aware that meetings and conversations have been taking place between members of the group and TFW on the issues raised during our previous meeting. I would also like to thank the North & Mid Wales Association for their continued patience, understanding and support as we continue to improve service provision and facilities along the Cambrian line.

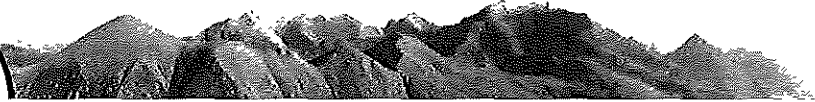
I am pleased to say there has been progress on some of the points raised during our meeting and I believe a follow up meeting has been scheduled to take place between TFW and the group in early February 2025. I'd like to provide an overview of the actions as follows:

A	Welshpool Station footbridge - Maintenance and winter gritting programme.	The ownership of the bridge and footpath has now been confirmed, and an agreement is in place between Powys County Council, NMWTRA and Network Rail for the maintenance and winter gritting of the bridge, ramp and footpath. We are working with them to have a sign placed near the footbridge with information/contact details for passengers to report issues of damage, litter etc.
B	Welshpool Station improvements	See above (A) – conversations have also been taking place with Network Rail Wales and Borders.
C	Prestatyn Station overcrowding	We will be asking for security to be in place at peak times to assist with overcrowding. We did this last year, and it worked well.
D	Trains between Chester and Shrewsbury	To be discussed at the meeting scheduled for the 12 th of February 2025 at Shrewsbury Satlon with Colin Lea and Steve Whitley
E	Main Line train formations	To be discussed at the meeting scheduled on the 12 th of February 2025. As above
F	Station audit– produced by the RUG	The audit was incredibly insightful and provided TFW with a rich understanding of the challenges and opportunities along the Cambrian line. TFW has a thorough station audit programme and a dedicated



Cwmnï Cyllynwydd Warrant Cefnogaeth y Gŵylfwrdd. 501
Cwmnï 09470013 Cylfa a Stryd y Gŵylfwrdd, 3 Llys Cadwyn,
Pontypridd, CF37 4TH

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		team who continuously monitor and review all aspects of our service provision along the line. The findings from the survey will assist that team.
G	Accessibility update/meeting	The Chair of TfW's Accessibility Panel, Robert Gravelle, provided an overview at the TLG meeting held in November 2024 of the work and procedures in place to ensure all passenger have confidence to travel - including those with additional accessibility requirements.
H	Deganwy crossing (Llandudno branch)	A dedicated Deganwy Crossing task group has been setup and is being led by Network Rail Wales and Borders along with input by TfW and Avanti West Coast. Details have also been updated at recent Rail User Group meeting.
I	Meeting with Colin Lee (TfW)	A meeting with Colin Lee had to be postponed in October 2024. This has been rearranged to take place on Wednesday 12 th February 2025.
J	Ministerial meeting to discuss rail survey and A55	We are working with WG officials on this.
K	Cambrian Lines - 197 stock Introduced.	New Class 197 trains are due to enter service on the Cambrian Line – subject to CAF deliveries - in 2025 following a period of ERTMS testing. Furthermore, we are looking to introduced 197s onto the Shrewsbury-Birmingham line in Spring 2025 to alleviate overcrowding and Class 158 rolling stock challenges.
L	Overcrowding	See above (K)
M	Signage at Shrewsbury and Birmingham stations	Shelley and Kim met with Robert and Trevor at Shrewsbury Railway Station on the 2 nd October to discuss signage at Shrewsbury. It was agreed that during the summer months, signage boards will be placed to signpost passengers to the correct carriages. There will also be better promotion of the availability of travel companions at the station who can offer assistance. There is also scope to place floor marker lines to further assist.



Cwm Cylwyn a gdirwy Warrant Cefnstrwyd yng Nghymru. Ffôn Cwm 01476613 Cylw a Strydillia Cefnstrwyd 3 Llys Cadwyn, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH

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NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

CYHDEITHAS CYNGHORAU TREF A CHYHDEITHASAU WYNYAF GOGLEDD CYMRU



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tfw.wales

Once again, I'd like to thank the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils for their continued challenge and advice to Tfw. I hope the details above are helpful and should you require any further details, please do not hesitate to contact.

Kind regards,

James Price
Chief Executive Officer, Transport for Wales



North & Mid Wales Association of Local councils

Quarterly Meeting 24th January 2025

1

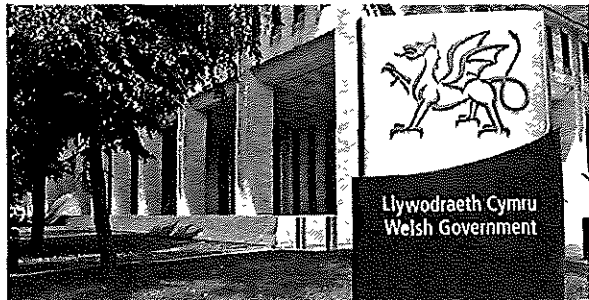
Visit to Welsh Government - Committee

Invite to Cardiff

Evidence from the Association

The review

What we do now



2

CF1 9J 24

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils
Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the
 community and town council sector

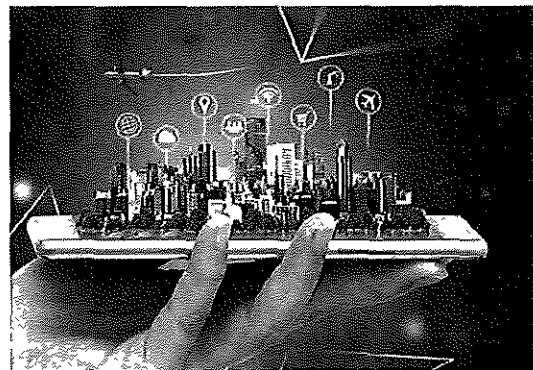
There is a move to try and combine Councils and reduce the current councils from 735 to maybe as little as 150 (number given by Minister at meeting with Welsh Government).

The Welsh Government Senedd Committee is receptive to receiving further evidence from the Association including how Town and Community Councils go forward from here – to include amalgamating or clustering ideas.

3

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils
Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the
 community and town council sector

What is the reason behind the need for less Town and Community Councils?

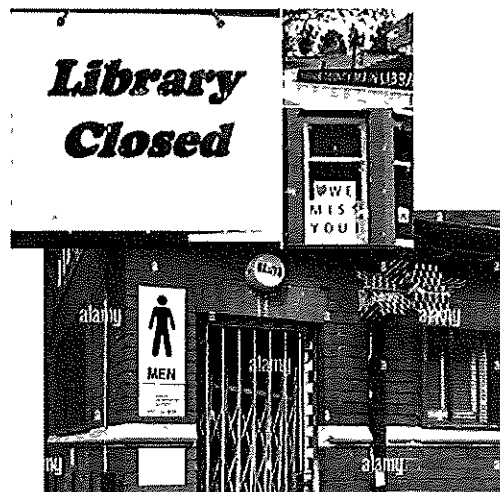


4

CK1 Pg 25

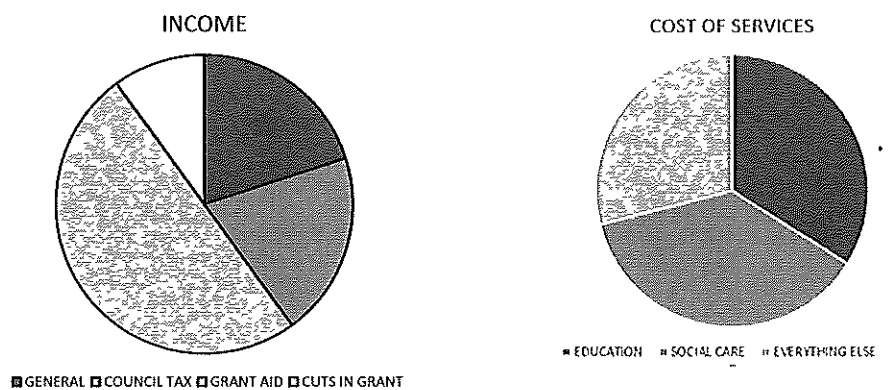
WHAT HAS CAUSED ALL THIS?

COUNTY COUNCIL REVIEW
FIVE REGIONS
LOCAL COUNCIL GOVERNANCE
COSTS
REPRESENTATION



5

LETS LOOK AT THE COUNTY COUNCIL FIGURES

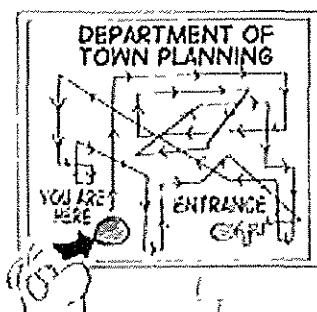


6

CF-1 pg 26

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils
Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector

Is the sector fit for purpose in an evolving local government landscape?



7

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils
Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector

Exhibit 2: Qualified audit opinions 2022-23

Income/expenditure	Number of councils	Audits completed	Qualified Opinions	Qualified opinions % of completed audits	Full audits completed	Qualified Opinions Full audits	Qualified Opinions % of full audits
Less than £10,000	209	191	104	54%	62	37	60%
£10,001 - £20,000	142	125	72	58%	37	23	62%
£20,001 - £50,000	155	146	58	40%	48	21	44%
£50,001 - £100,000	81	77	35	45%	26	16	62%
£100,001 - £200,000	67	63	36	57%	19	15	79%
More than £200,000	83	79	32	41%	24	13	54%
Total	737	681	337	49%	216	125	58%

Source: Audit Wales analysis of 2022-23 audit outcomes. These include councils where the audit work has been completed but are to be reviewed prior to certification. The proposed draft opinions are subject to review before issue to councils.

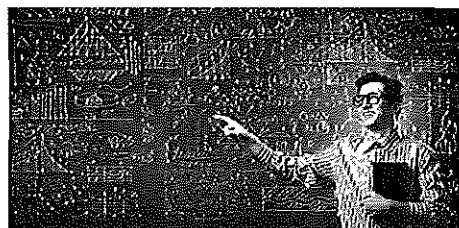
8

CK1 B 27

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils

So how do we go from here?

- Issues and ideas and views
- Draft paper for discussion
- Final paper before adoption

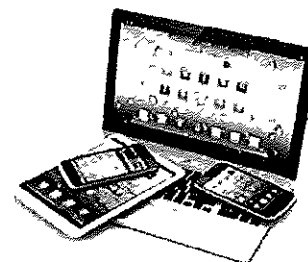


9

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector

Issues

- Retaining identity
- Loss of local representation
- Size (to small to do much)
- Larger councils dominating smaller councils
- Land area and distances
- VAT implications
- Council tax levels between councils



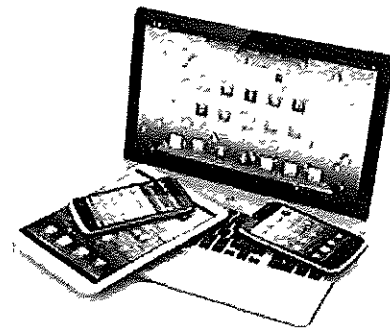
10

CF1 Pg 28

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils
Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the
community and town council sector

Issues

- Culture and language
- Staff and redundancy
- Cost of admin and councillors
- Finances – who has more money?
- Whatever happens it will cost more

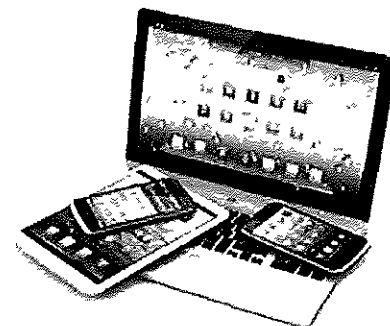


11

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils
Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the
community and town council sector

Maybe four things to consider:

- i) The need to change
- ii) The idea of combining councils
- iii) The idea of clustering councils
- iv) The idea of a mixture of both



12

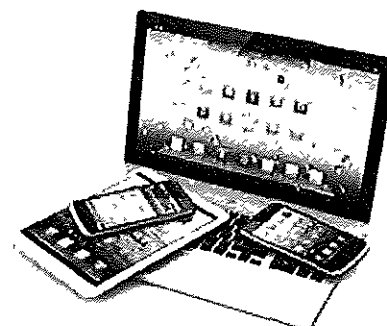
CF1 P0 29

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils
Inquiry into the role, governance and accountability of the
 community and town council sector

Suggestion:

Have three types of local council

- a) Larger councils could remain much as they are now
 (budgets of over £200k)
- b) Medium councils to combine in urban areas
 where there is a common interest
 (budgets of over £100k)
- c) Smaller councils to cluster in more rural areas
 with a system to deliver services
 (budgets under £100k)



13

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils
 Funding of town and community councils

Town and Community Council funding:

- Often made up of
 - 80% precept
 - 10% other income
 - 10% grants

VAT – action already being followed up

Future funding:

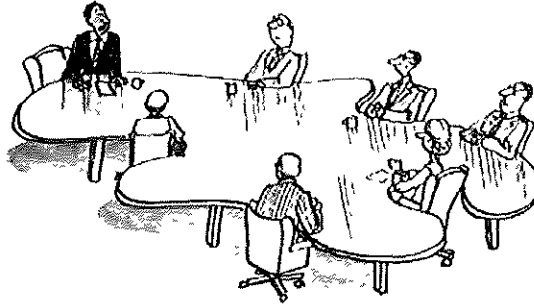
- * Precept
- * Grants
- * Direct funding



14

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North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils



"This is just one piece of the revenue puzzle."

Over to you

15

North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils



**QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION
24th January 2025**

16

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NORTH & MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS



MINUTES

Of a meeting of the North Wales Coast and Cambrian Lines Transport Committee

Held on

Friday 10th January 2025 at 10.30am by Zoom

Present were

Cllr Ian Hodge	Chair
Cllr Norma Davies	Vice Chair
Gail Jones	Transport for Wales
Nick Smith	Avanti Trains
Cllr Jeremy Barnes	Carno Community Council
Cllr Vivienne Blondek	Buckley Town Council
Cllr Michael Davies	Beaumaris Town Council
Angus Eickhoff	SARPA
Cllr John Ellison	Carno Community Council
Cllr Dr Ben Gwalchmai	Welshpool Town Council
Cllr Patrick Heesom	Mostyn Community Council
Ken Law	Welshpool Facebook rail users group
Cllr Ian Lifford	
Cllr Peter Morton	City of St Asaph Council
Cllr Michael Pearce	Llandudno Town Council
Cllr Lorraine Rathbone	
Robert Saxby	Rail Future
Cllr Jeff Smith	Aberystwyth Town Council
Cllr Andrew Wallbank	Caersws Community Council
Cllr Jackie Webster	Conway Town Council
Dylan Wilson Lewis	Rail Future
Cllr Alun Williams	Ceredigion Council
Robert Robinson	Secretary

Apologies received

Cllr Trevor Roberts
Cllr Andrew Wood

NORTH & MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS



1. Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a correct record.

3. Transport for Wales

The following were discussed at the meeting with regards to Transport for Wales:

No	Heading	Details	Action to be taken forward
1	Cambrian lines work	Rail closures for works 17 th March to 2 nd April between Machynlleth and Shrewsbury.	TFW to issue full information including bus times to the Secretary
2	Community Rail	A community rail officer is about the appointed.	Noted.
3	Rail 200	Details of the rail 200 event in Aberystwyth on 23 rd January are online.	Noted. The Secretary is attending for the Association.
4	Newtown (Powys) Station	Lifts installation almost complete. A question was asked about the Wesh Language (this held up the Machynlleth lift opening).	Noted.
5	Road closure near Llanbrynair	With the line closures (see 1 above) and the road closed a question was asked about how children get to school with both the bus and rail access impeded.	TFW are aware of the situation.
6	Timetabling meeting	A meeting has been set up to clarify timetabling and train formations between Shrewsbury and Chester once the hourly service is in place on the Cambrian Line.	Secretary

NORTH & MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS



7	Welshpool station bridge	The agreement between the parties is in place and signed. This covers gritting, cleaning and maintenance. A sign is to be placed in a clear position at the station with contact details for reporting.	TFW
8	Letter from TFW	The letter due from TFW following a meeting with TFW and WG was to be issued 30/9/25. Nothing to date has been received. The letter was written from the NWA to TFW and as such the reply should be to NWA with a copy to WG. This is to be arranged.	TFW
9	Tallerdig incident	It was reported that one set is now not coming back into service and the other set involved not for an extensive time. This is 2 sets short from 21 units. The 197 sets are not now due until 2026 – maybe even later.	Noted
10	Shrewsbury station	Station ambassadors are working in general. Some information points are to be installed on platforms 4 to 7.	Noted
11	Shrewsbury station (trains reversing out of station)	The station is to have markings on platforms 4 and 5 to give a better indication as to which carriages are for which destination. The trains are set up to take cards in the doors for destinations and this would be a quick and easy fix.	Idea of manual destination cards to be noted.
12	Sports matches Cardiff to Shrewsbury	The question was asked about reinforcing train services on days when sports take place in Cardiff.	Gail to take forward request to TFW.

NORTH & MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS



		It was noted that the loco hauled stock does not run on Sundays and perhaps could be considered for use.	
13	Gobowen Landslip	Work to re-open the line between Chester and Shrewsbury is still taking place.	Noted.
14	Welshpool Station (first train in morning)	The first train of the day out of Welshpool comes from Aberystwyth and splits with two cars going on to Shrewsbury and two back to Aberystwyth. The split is fine, however often nothing happens for quite a while and the train leaves late. This causes missed connections in Shrewsbury for commuters,	Secretary to see if he can gain dates when this is prevalent.
15	Prestatyn Station	It was reported that security guards are still on the station. When the trains are full they stop passengers getting on board. A report on this to follow when the chair passes through.	Chair.
16	Welshpool Station	Painting of handrails on bridge at Welshpool changing colour to red to be taken forward to meet dementia and visually impaired.	TFW

4. Avanti Trains

The following were discussed at the meeting with regards to Avanti Train services:

No	Heading	Details	Action to be taken forward
1	Presentation	A short presentation was given by Nick Smith.	Noted.
2	Performance	Performance is still not good. See chart at appendix A. Winter periods cause issues of illness, annual leave and engineering works.	Noted.

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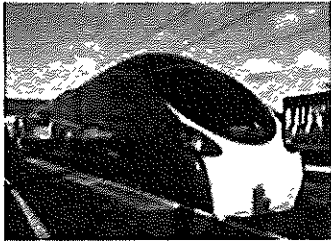
3	Weekend trains to Holyhead	It was noted that when engineering works take place at weekends trains to Holyhead start from Chester. It was asked if Avanti could consider at least two trains a day through to Holyhead on these days.	Avanti to consider.
4	Electricity prices	The cost of electric and its affect on the railway was questioned. DofT does pay for some of this.	Noted.
5	Carbon footprint	The carbon footprint has improved with 2/3 of the journey from Holyhead to London now being electric and not diesel all the way.	Noted.
6	Funding and grant	Revenue on the railway is good. Some payments back to government have been made to offset some of the subsidy by government.	Noted.
7	Deganwy Crossing	An update was given on the work with regard to this crossing. Work is ongoing.	Noted.

5. Other items discussed

The following were also discussed at the meeting.

No	Heading	Details	Action taken forward
1	Holywell Station	Meeting with Ken Skates arranged to meet Flintshire and Holywell Councils regarding the station re-opening.	Chair.
2	South Wales and North Wales Train links	Cllr P Morton asked for information on any links between the metro in South Wales and the North Wales train services.	See note at appendix C.
3	Liaison groups	The effectiveness of these groups has been questioned by	TFW

NORTH & MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS



		TFW and Lee Waters of Welsh Government is considering a new remit to make them more effective. TFW to report back when more information known.	
4	Holyhead to Euston weekend trains	Consideration to be given (when trains restricted on weekends) to having two trains from Holyhead to Euston direct.	Avanti.
5	Bangor to Porthmadog line	R Saxby had sent to the WG a copy of a feasibility study. He has had no response. An update was given by A Williams in that a formal feasibility study is due to be completed about now. The meeting AGREED to support the re-opening of this line.	Letter of support to be sent to WG when required. Pictures and papers from R Saxby to be added to minutes of this meeting.
6	Surveys	A plan for 2025 surveys can be completed following the meeting noted in (6) under item 3.	Secretary.
7	Carno Station	Update given to the meeting on the campaign to re-open Carno Station.	Noted.
8	Buses	A consultation took place last March 2024 seeking views on bus services. Powys has reviewed its service provision and a final timetable is now out for consultation. Much improved.	Noted.

6. Date of next meeting

The dates for the next transport meetings are:

North Wales Coast Transport

Friday 7th March 10.30am by Zoom.

Cambrian Lines Transport

Friday 14th March 11.15am by Zoom or in person at Aberystwyth Town Council

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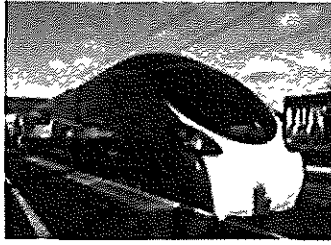


7. Actions taken forward

The following actions to be taken forward from the meeting:

No	Heading	Action	By
1	Minutes	Draft minutes to be circulated before publication	Secretary
2	Minutes	Publish minutes on the web site	Secretary
3	Chester-Shrewsbury train timetable	Meeting with TFW regarding timetabling.	Secretary
4	Surveys	Action from previous meeting to meet WG regarding the A55 and survey results. Meeting agreed, date to be set.	Secretary
5	Cambrian rail closures	Full details including bus service times to be issued to the secretary.	Secretary
6	Rail 200	The secretary is attending the event to celebrate 200 years of passenger rail travel in Aberystwyth on 23 rd Jan 2025.	Secretary
7	TFW Letter	See (8) under item 3. Letter to be addressed to the NWA.	Secretary
8	Shrewsbury station (trains reversing out of station)	The station is to have markings on platforms 4 and 5 to give a better indication as to which carriages are for which destination. The trains are set up to take cards in the doors for destinations and this would be a quick and easy fix.	Idea of manual destination cards to be noted.
9	Bangor to Porthmadog line	R Saxby had sent to the WG a copy of a feasibility study. He has had no response. An update was given by A Williams in that a formal feasibility study is due to be completed about now. The meeting AGREED to support the re-opening of this line. See appendix B for pictures and papers.	Letter of support to be sent to WG when required. Pictures and papers from R Saxby to be added to minutes of this meeting.

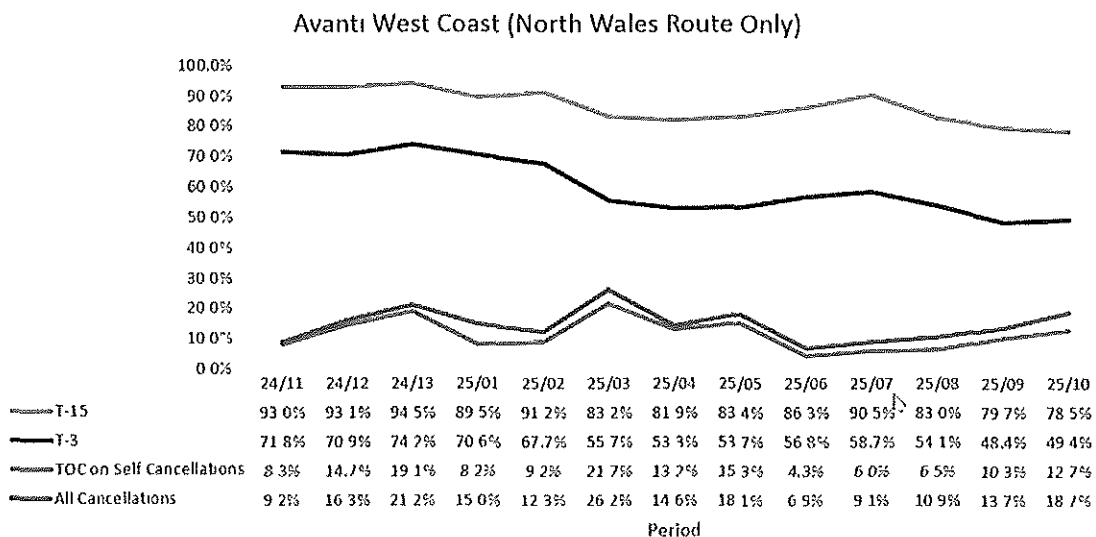
NORTH & MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS



10	Holyhead to Euston weekend trains	Consideration to be given (when trains restricted on weekends) to having two trains from Holyhead to Euston direct.	Avanti.
11	Bangor to Porthmadog line	R Saxby had sent to the WG a copy of a feasibility study. He has had no response. An update was given by A Williams in that a formal feasibility study is due to be completed about now. The meeting AGREED to support the re-opening of this line.	Letter of support to be sent to WG when required. Pictures and papers from R Saxby to be added to minutes of this meeting.
12	Surveys	A plan for 2025 surveys can be completed following the meeting noted in (6) under item 3.	Secretary.

APPENDIX A

Performance – North Wales



CFI Pg 59



APPENDIX B

Initial Feasibility Study

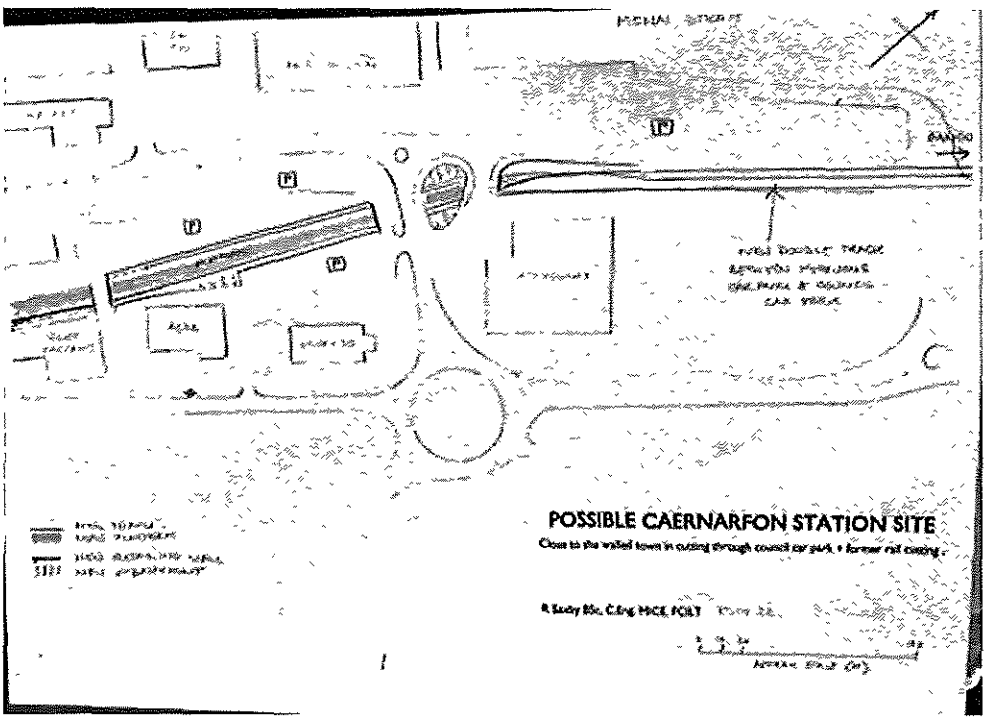
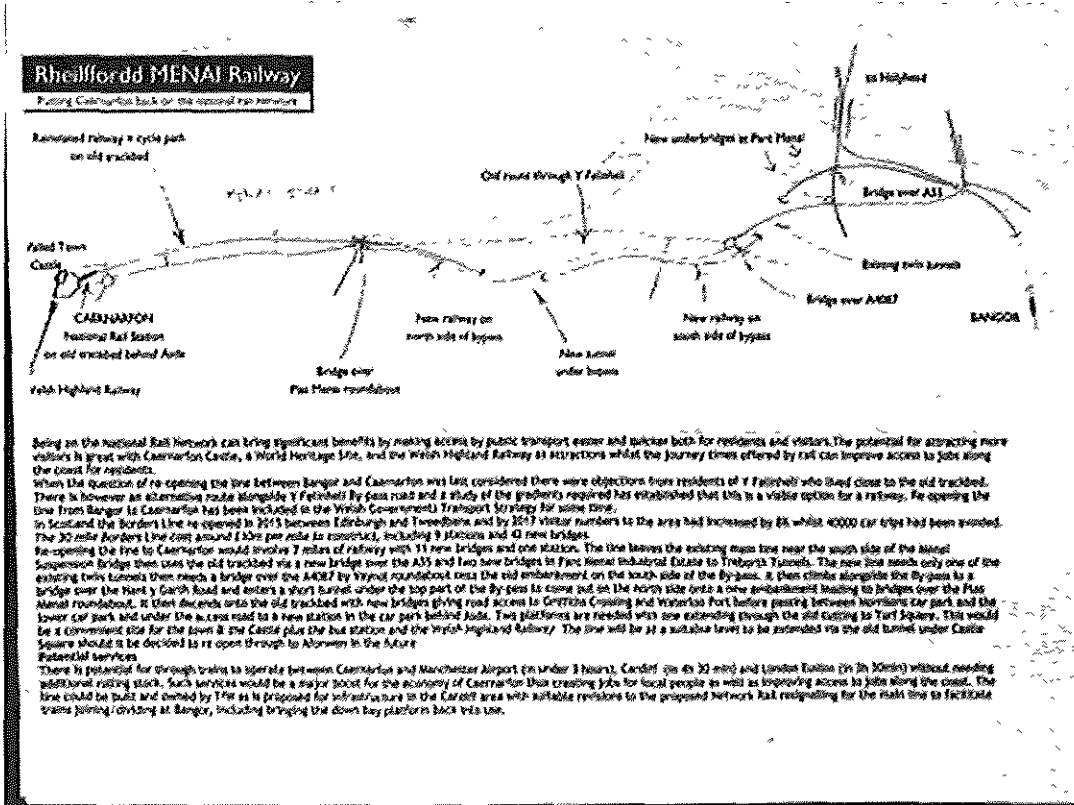
Bangor - Caernarfon Railway



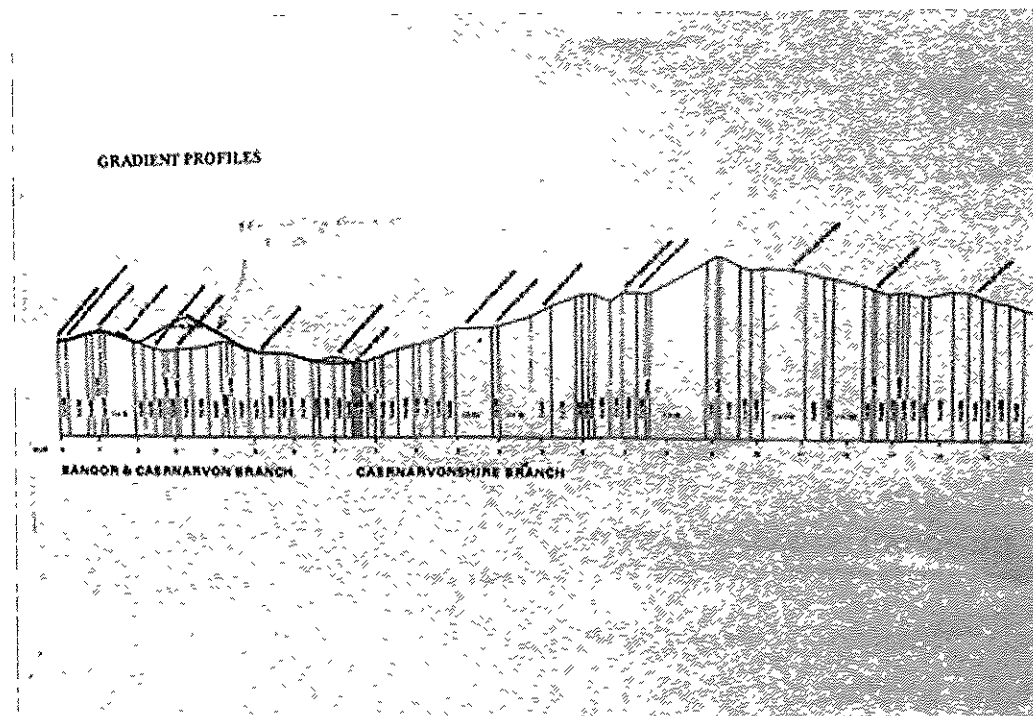
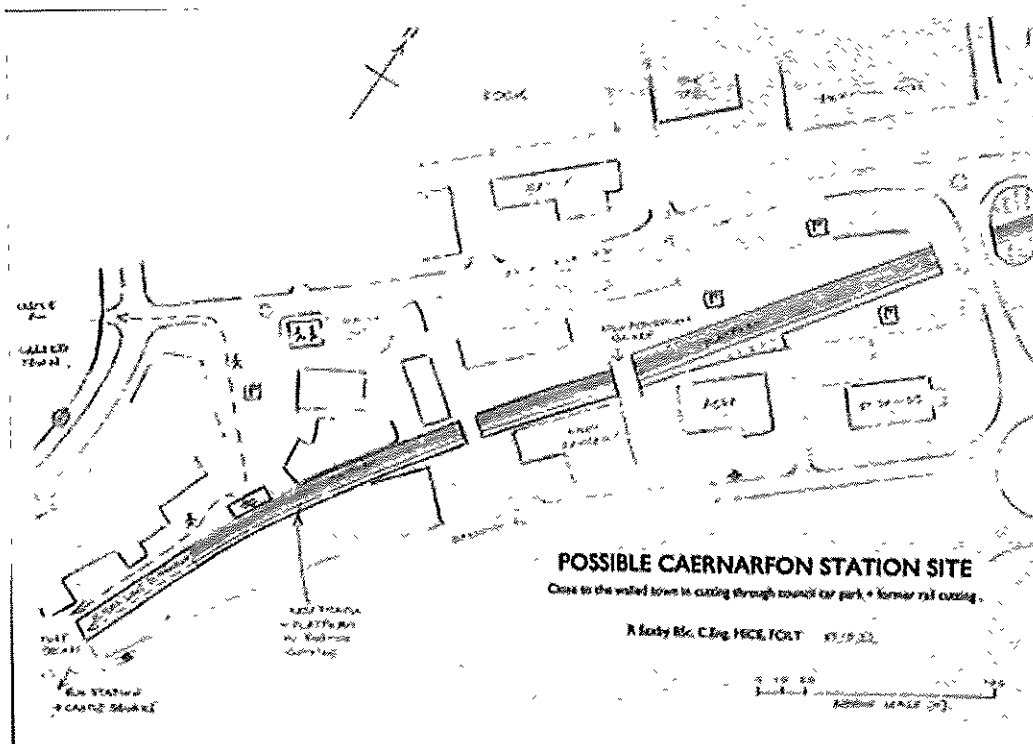
Trains would enter Caernarfon where the grass bank is north of Morrisons to a new station site close to the bus station and the walled town.

R Saxby BSc, C.Eng, MICE, FCILT

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NORTH & MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS



APPENDIX C

197 UNITS AND TRAINS (METRO AND ANY LINK WITH NORTH WALES)

Currently there are different train sets operating on different parts of the Welsh rail network.

Over the next few years the following will apply:

North Coast, Cambrian, Borders and out to Fishguard – class 197 units

Metro (valleys only) – class 231, 398 and 756

Wrexham – Bidston line – class 230

Extra trains to Manchester Piccadilly from Cardiff – loco hauled

The direct trains from Manchester Piccadilly to Fishguard run now and will continue.

Full details of TFW train stock and lines they cover can be found at

www.tfw/sites/default/files/2022-01/Fleet%Access20%20Specification_English_V1.pdf

or search – *TFW a guide to our fleet of trains*

ATC Deputy Clerk

From: ATC Clerk
Sent: 03 February 2025 13:08
To: ATC Deputy Clerk
Subject: FW: Hysbysiad Gwaith Ffordd A55 Pont Primrose Bridge Works Notice

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Ryan

Can you add to your next Agenda for info please?

Kind regards

Mandy

From: Communications <Communications@nmwtra.org.uk>
Sent: 03 February 2025 13:00
Cc: Communications <Communications@nmwtra.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Hysbysiad Gwaith Ffordd A55 Pont Primrose Bridge Works Notice

Mae'r Neges hon Gan Anfonwr Allanol / This Message Is From an External Sender

Daeth y neges hon o'r tu allan i'ch sefydliad / This message came from outside your organization

Pnawn da oll / Good afternoon all,

Mae manylion ychwanegol wedi'i ychwanegu am yr wythnos nesaf:
[A55 Cyffordd 24 i Gyffordd 25 - Atgyweiradau Pont Primrose Hill | Traffig Cymru](#)

Additional details regarding this project have been added relating to work taking place this week:
[A55 Junction 24 to Junction 25 - Primrose Hill Bridge Repairs | Traffic Wales](#)

Cofion cynnes / Kind regards,
Ewan Carter



☎ 0300 123 1213 <https://traffic.wales> | <https://traffig.cymru>

📧 [@TrafficWalesS](#) | [@TrafficWalesN](#) | [@TraffigCymruD](#) | [@TraffigCymruG](#)

✉ communications@nmwtra.org.uk

CF1 PG 45
1

Cymraeg (<https://traffig.cymru/prosiectau-cyfredol/a55-cyffordd-24-i-gyffordd-25-atgyweiradau-pont-primrose-hill>)

(<https://gov.wales>)



(<https://traffic.wales/>)

☎ 0300 123 1213 (tel:0300 123 1213)

✉ contact@traffic.wales (mailto:contact@traffic.wales)

Rydym yn croesawu galwadau'n Gymraeg We welcome calls in Welsh

A55 Junction 24 to Junction 25 - Primrose Hill Bridge Repairs

Home (<https://traffic.wales/>) A55 Junction 24 to Junction 25 - Primrose Hill Bridge Repairs

10 January 2025 Planned road closures North Wales

Share

✕ (<http://www.twitter.com/share?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftraffic.wales%2Fcurrent-projects%2Fa55-junction-24-junction-25-primrose-hill-bridge-repairs>)

f (<https://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Ftraffic.wales%2Fcurrent-projects%2Fa55-junction-24-junction-25-primrose-hill-bridge-repairs>)

@ (<mailto:?body=https%3A%2F%2Ftraffic.wales%2Fcurrent-projects%2Fa55-junction-24-junction-25-primrose-hill-bridge-repairs>)

⚠ Start Date: 26/01/25 | End Date: 02/03/25

Feedback



Work to carry out essential structural repairs to Primrose Hill bridge following a bridge strike that resulted in significant deformation of several primary beams.

Expand all ▼

Close all ▲

▼ What's happening?

The aim of the heat straightening works is to restore full structural carrying capacity.

The works will be undertaken under a full eastbound closure between J24 Abergele and J25 Bodelwyddan

There will be overnight closures seven nights a week between the 26th January and 2nd March 2025 between 20 00 – 06.00.

20:00 10/02/25 - 06:00 11/02/25

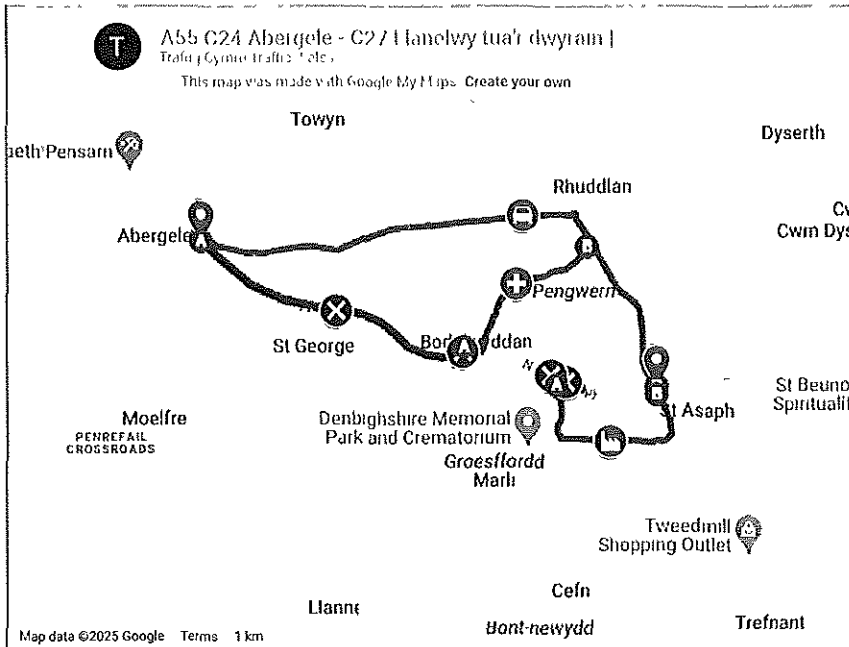
Additional carriageway repairs will be undertaken on Junctions 25 and 26 requiring the closure of the eastbound exit and entry slip roads for one night

CK1 P04 46

▼ Diversions

The works will be undertaken under a full eastbound carriageway closure (between J24 on slip Abergele and J25 Bodelwyddan)

Traffic will be diverted at J24 (Abergele) eastbound off slip, around the A547 roundabout and returning onto the eastbound A55 carriageway via J27 St. Asaph



▼ Get in touch

For further information, please contact Traffic Wales on 0300 123 1213 or via X (<https://x.com/TrafficWalesN>) or Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/TrafficWalesN>)

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CF1 47

ATC Deputy Clerk

From: ATC Clerk
Sent: 27 January 2025 15:34
To: ATC Deputy Clerk
Subject: FW Keeping your community streets safe in Abergele Town Council

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Ryan

Can you add this to your next Agenda for noting please
Kind regards
Mandy

Mandy Evans
Clerc y Dref/Town Clerk
Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

Os ydych wedi derbyn yr e-bost hwn ar gam, anfonwch o a info@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales
If you have received this email in error, please forward it to info@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales

Peidiwch a printio'r neges yma os nad oes angen - Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to
Lleihau Ailddefnyddio Ailgyichu ✓ Reduce Re-use Recycle ♻️

From: Rod King <rod.k@20splenty.org>
Sent: 27 January 2025 15:12
To: ATC Clerk <clerk@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales>
Subject: Keeping your community streets safe in Abergele Town Council

Mae'r Neges Hon Gan Anfonwr Annibynadwy / This Message Is From an Untrusted Sender

Nid ydych wedi gohebu â'r anfonwr hwn o'r blaen. / You have not previously corresponded with this sender.

Hi

First my apologies to Cymraeg speaking Town and Community Councils for providing this only in English. I wanted to get some important information to you quickly about how to challenge your highway authority setting some of your roads back to 30mph which will be 50% higher than their current limit. And I am aware that some Highway Authorities have set deadlines on responses to draft Traffic Regulation Orders that have been raised.

Also, may I commend Welsh drivers for their part in reducing the pace of traffic in Welsh communities. There is clear evidence that 20mph limits in Welsh communities are saving lives, reducing casualties, reducing insurance premiums and making them better places to live, work, play, learn and shop. In fact, in the 9 months prior to setting 20mph there were 39% (489) more casualties on 20mph/30mph roads than in those same months after the default 20mph was set. The Welsh Government and Welsh Local Government Association have won important road safety awards for implementing the default 20mph. And those 489 people not involved in crashes or being injured or killed are walking amongst you now.

1 CK1 PS 48

I am sure that you are aware that under a "Listening program" the Welsh Government invited the public to nominate roads they wished to be set at 30mph instead of 20mph. Considering how some of the media view the 20mph as a controversial subject, then one could have expected hundreds of thousands of nominations. In fact only 10,500 were replies were received which amounts to 1 in 200 or 0.45% of driving license holders in Wales. Hardly a basis for making a change which could have such an impact on any vulnerable road users in a crash. Something that turns a survivable event into fatality.

Some councils have already recognised that the majority of these requests are just wishful thinking, and that they comprise the very roads shared with walkers, cyclist, shoppers, etc which should and will stay at 20mph regardless. Equally there are some roads where it is appropriate that 30mph should set, especially at the edge of settlements where lighting alone dictated a 20mph limit that could, but weren't, set to 30mph in 2023.

However, we have come across some where it is clear that highway authorities have issued a draft Traffic Regulation Order where it may be considered inappropriate by the community.

You will have a clear idea of where the streets are which communities will wish to stay at 20mph rather than be increased to 30mph which would have very few benefits to anyone. We have therefore put together a toolkit on how to challenge a Highway Authority planning to increase a speed limit on a road from 20mph to 30mph. This is at https://www.20splenty.org/w_faq11

This provides background, detail and examples of how Town and Community Councils or members of the public can have their voice heard by highway authorities to ensure that your streets stay as safe as possible by maintaining your 20mph limits.

I do trust that you will find this useful. But if you have any questions, or we can help Abergele Town Council in any way then please contact me.

My best wishes

Rod

Rod King MBE
Founder and Chair
20's Plenty for Us CIC

Tel: 07973 639781
Email: rod.k@20splenty.org
Twitter: [@20splentyforus](https://twitter.com/@20splentyforus)

20's Plenty for Us is a Community Interest Company based in the UK and influencing globally. We support the UN and its call for default 20mph and 30km/h urban and village limits.



20's Plenty for Us

making your place a better place to be



Streets for Life
Love20

unroadsafetyweek.org



20's Plenty CIC is a member of the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety, and of the UK Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety (PACTS)



20splenty.org

CF 123 49

ATC Deputy Clerk

From: ATC Clerk
Sent: 27 January 2025 09:08
To: ATC Deputy Clerk
Subject: FW: Cais i rannu manylion ymgynghoriad trafndiaeth | Request to share public consultation on the future of transport
Attachments: RTP consultation_CYM docx; RTP consultation_Eng docx, Social Media templates.pdf; Social Media graphic.png; Social Media graphic2.png
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mandy

Mandy Evans
Clerc y Dref/Town Clerk
Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

Os ydych wedi derbyn yr e-bost hwn ar gam, anfonwch o a info@abergeletowncouncil.gov.wales
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♻️ Lleihau Ailddefnyddio Ailgyrchu ✓ Reduce Re-use Recycle ♻️

From: Uchelgais Gogledd Cymru | Ambition North Wales <info@uchelgaisgogledd.cymru>
Sent: 24 January 2025 16:33
Subject: Cais i rannu manylion ymgynghoriad trafndiaeth | Request to share public consultation on the future of transport

Mae'r Neges hon Gan Anfonwr Allanol / This Message Is From an External Sender

Daeth y neges hon o'r tu allan i'ch sefydliad / This message came from outside your organization.

<p>Annwyl Gyfaill,</p> <p>Lansiwyd ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar Gynllun Trafnidiaeth Rhanbarthol drafft ar gyfer Gogledd Cymru ar yr 20fed o Ionawr. Mae'r ymgynghoriad 12 wythnos yn gyfle i drigolion, busnesau ac ymwelwyr gael mewnbwn i ddyfodol trafndiaeth yng ngogledd Cymru.</p> <p>O ystyried eich rôl yn cynrychioli ein cymunedau, byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe gallech chi rannu gwybodaeth am yr ymgynghoriad gyda'ch cymuned er mwyn sicrhau bod cymaint â phosibl yn cael cyfle i gyfrannu</p> <p>Er mwyn hwyluso hyn, rydym yn atodi graffeg a chynnwys posib ar gyfer eich rhwydweithiau cymdeithasol, ynghyd â datganiad i'r wasg.</p> <p>Mae'r ymgynghoriad yn rhedeg tan 14 Ebrill 2025, ac mae modd darparu adborth ar-lein, ar e-bost, neu drwy'r post. Mae copiau papur o'r Cynllun Trafnidiaeth Rhanbarthol drafft hefyd ar gael i'w gweld mewn llyfrgelloedd cyhoeddus ym mhob sir.</p>	<p>Dear Colleague,</p> <p>We launched an important public consultation on the dra Transport Plan for North Wales on the 20th of January. Th consultation offers residents, businesses, and visitors the shape the future of transport in north Wales.</p> <p>Given your role in representing our communities, we wol you could share information about this consultation withi community to ensure as many people as possible have th contribute</p> <p>To help you do this, we attach graphics and suggested wc social media channels and a press release.</p> <p>The consultation runs until 14th April 2025, and feedback provided through an online virtual exhibition, via email, o</p>
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EFI Pg 50

I gael rhagor o fanylion a chwblhau'r holiadur ewch i wefan yr ymgynghoriad <https://bit.ly/CTRhGCymgysylltu-rhithwir> neu cysylltwch â northwalesregionaltransportplan@arup.com

Diolch ymlaen llaw.
Cofion cynnes,

Goronwy Edwards

Cyng. Goronwy Edwards
Cadeirydd
Is-Bwyllgor Trafnidiaeth
Strategol

Dafydd Rhys Thomas

Cyng. Dafydd Rhys Thomas
Is-Gadeirydd
Is-Bwyllgor Trafnidiaeth Strategol

Paper copies of the draft Regional Transport Plan are also view at public libraries in each county

For more details and to complete the questionnaire go to consultation website northwalesregionaltransportplan.wales.gov.uk/engage.com or contact northwalesregionaltransportplan@arup.com

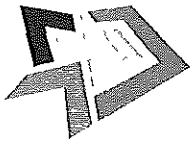
Thank you for considering this request.
Warm regards,

Goronwy Edwards

Cllr. Goronwy Edwards
Chair
Strategic Transport Sub-
Committee

Dafydd Rhys Thomas

Cllr. Dafydd Rhys Thomas
Vice-Chair
Strategic Transport Sub-
Committee



**Uchelgais
Gogledd Cymru
Ambition
North Wales**

Bethan Airey 

Swyddog Arweiniol Cyfathrebu a Ymgysylltu Strategol

Strategic Communication and Engagement Lead

Ffôn symudol / mobile. 07385 223271

Ebost / Email |

Ymarferydd Cysylltiadau Cyhoeddus Achrededig CIPR

CIPR Accredited PR Practitioner



Uchelgais
Gogledd Cymru
Ambition
North Wales

Press release

20 January 2025

Have Your Say on the Future of Transport in North Wales

Getting around much of North Wales can be a challenge. As a largely rural region with rail and road networks often under pressure, there is widespread agreement that local transportation and connectivity need improvement. Today, a 12-week public consultation launches, giving residents, businesses, and visitors the chance to shape the future of travel in the region.

Ambition North Wales, which also serves as the region's Corporate Joint Committee - with responsibility for regional transport planning, strategic land use planning and enhancing economic well-being, is inviting feedback on the draft Regional Transport Plan for North Wales. The document sets out strategic policies and interventions for the next five years, covering all modes of transport, including rail, road, bus, walking, and cycling, and aims to provide better travel options, improve digital connectivity, and reduce environmental impacts.

The consultation represents the collective efforts and expertise of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee, its Transport Sub-Committee and partners, including local authorities, Transport for Wales and the Welsh Government.

Councillor Goronwy Edwards, Chair of the Transport Sub-Committee, said: "This is an opportunity for people to tell us what's important to them and how we can improve transport links across the region. Effective transport systems connect people to essential services, link businesses to employees and customers, and support a thriving economy. I urge residents to get involved and have their say."

Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas, Committee Vice-chair, added: "Good transport links are vital for our communities. They reduce isolation in rural areas, improve access to services like healthcare and education, and boost local economies by attracting visitors and supporting small businesses. This is why we are keen to get as much input as possible so we can work together to create a transport network that works for everyone across the region."

The plan aims to shape transport policy and investment up to 2030, replacing local transport plans and aligning with national priorities. It is seen as essential to ensure that North Wales meets future economic challenges, supports sustainable travel, and contributes to climate goals.

The [consultation](https://northwalesregionaltransportplan.virtual-engage.com) runs until 14th April 2025 – North Wales residents are urged not to miss the opportunity to influence the future of transport in the region by visiting:
northwalesregionaltransportplan.virtual-engage.com

Ends

For media enquiries please contact: Bethan Angharad Airey
BethanAngharadAirey@uchelgaisgogledd.cymru / media@uchelgaisgogledd.cymru / 07385 223271

Notes to editors

CK1A52

1. The consultation runs from 20th January 2025 for 12 weeks. Responses should be submitted by 23:59pm on 14th April 2025.
2. Ambition North Wales is responsible for supporting the delivery of the region's Growth Deal and is also the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) – with responsibilities for regional transport planning, strategic land use planning, and enhancing economic well-being.
3. The CJC includes representative members from the six councils of Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey, and Wrexham, as well as Eryri National Park Authority for planning matters. As the CJC, Ambition North Wales is seeking views on the draft North Wales Regional Transport Plan, which outlines our strategic policies and interventions for the next five years across various modes of transport. The aim is to publish and adopt our Regional Transport Plan in the Summer 2025.
4. The draft plan and consultation questionnaire are available online in a virtual exhibition room. Responses can also be emailed to northwalesregionaltransportplan@arup.com or sent by post to:
FREEPOST UGC / ANW.

Paper copies of the consultation document are available at public libraries in every county. Accessible formats can be requested by emailing northwalesregionaltransportplan@arup.com or calling 01172 405 350.

ATC Info

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 February 2025 07:38
To: ATC Info
Subject: Litter

Mae'r Neges hon Gan Anfonwr Allanol / This Message Is From an External Sender

Daeth y neges hon o'r tu allan i'ch sefydliad / This message came from outside your organization.

Good morning I would like to raise again the issue pertaining to the recycling containers which I have reported numerous times to Conwy over the years as being unfit for purpose. Conwy need to take responsibility for these and the chaos in terms of litter everywhere following high winds. I don't have the answer but what I have is the common sense to realise that in high winds one does not put out their recycling. I have been outside this morning with a neighbour picking up glass, paper well basically everything one places into their recycling. In addition, black bins were overturned, recycling containers in the road, gardens and trolley's where they shouldn't be. Why do we have to put up with this? I would appreciate it please if our county councillors address this as a matter of urgency and endeavour to come up with a viable solution with Conwy rather than myself and others making the same complaints and then being fobbed off. Please can this be placed on your agenda as soon as possible and I would like to be updated regarding progress, thank you.

Our town is a mess our roads are a disgrace and this continuous issue with recycling just adds to everywhere looking untidy. I would like to emphasise too that any glass strewn around is dangerous to all, pets, and our vehicles as potentially one could get a puncture just driving out of one's estate. These points I make are facts and need addressing please. Could this email also be shared with Conwy as I have tried to report via their website but with issues preventing me in doing so.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

NORTH WALES AUCTIONS

ABERGELE ANTIQUE CENTRE
CORNER OF BRIDGE ST & LLYS GELE
ABERGELE
CONWY
LL22 7HA
Tel. 01745 343363

www.northwalesauctions.co.uk

STATEMENT

To: ABERGELE TOWN COUNCIL
UNITED KINGDOM

Auction: S241124
Sale of Large Insects and Rodent,
Scratch Built from ...

Date: 24/11/2024

Statement No: 2

Vendor Ref: C1000

Lot	VAT	Description	Hammer	VAT	Commission	
8	NO VAT	Pair of approximately 5 ft tall 'Welsh Ghost Lady' forms, made from repurposed chick wire	£ 22.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	
9	NO VAT	Approximately 9 ft long 'Stag Beetle' made from mixed repurposed and sustainable materials - all proceeds from this lot are to be distributed amongst local good causes	£ 22.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	
10	NO VAT	Approximately 9 ft long 'Acorn Weevil' made from mixed repurposed and sustainable materials - all proceeds from this lot are to be distributed amongst local good causes	£ 30.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	
11	NO VAT	Nearly 10 ft long 'Grasshopper' made from mixed repurposed and sustainable materials - all proceeds from this lot are to be distributed amongst local good causes	£ 20.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	
12	NO VAT	Approximately 10 ft long 'Spider (body)', when the legs are attached making the width near 18 ft. Made from mixed repurposed and sustainable materials - all proceeds from this lot are to be distributed amongst local good causes	£ 22.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	
13	NO VAT	Approximately 9 ft long 'Rat', when the tail is attached makes the total length near 19 ft. Made from mixed repurposed and sustainable materials - all proceeds from this lot are to be distributed amongst local good causes	£ 34.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	
Charge		Amount	VAT	£ 150.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Commission (VAT inc)		£ 0.00				
Donation for Fundraising		£ 1.00	£ 0.00			

CF1 B55